



ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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TRANSMITTAL AND REPORT MEMORANDUM

Date: September 27, 2011
TO: Island County Planning Commission
REGARDING: Island County Comprehensive Plan Parks and Recreation
Element Update

FROM:

Joantha Guthrie – for William E. Oakes, P.E., Public Works
Director – Project Manager

INTRODUCTION TO PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The following amendment is submitted by Island County Public Works and proposes to replace the adopted Island County Comprehensive Plan Parks and Recreation Element (Plan). The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) established mandatory elements that must be included within a Comprehensive Plan and optional elements that a jurisdiction may choose to include. The Parks, Recreation and/or Open Space plans are listed as optional elements.

Island County first adopted a GMA Parks and Recreation Plan in 1998. The 1998 Plan was a continuation of prior park planning efforts that began in 1969 with the Island County Parks and Recreation Study which primarily consisted of an inventory of existing facilities and needs. The 1969 study was followed by the 1977 Parks Summary.

In 2008 the Planning and Community Development Department (PCDD) was tasked with updating the 1998 Plan. The Plan update became part of the Annual Review Docket and work began to gather information for the update. Since that time, the staffing levels of the PCCD have been reduced and the responsibility for the Plan update and the Parks Department has shifted to the Public Works Department.

This Parks and Recreation Plan constitutes an update to the Island County GMA Comprehensive Plan. This Plan better meets the goals of the GMA by incorporating goals and policies that look more in depth at protecting rural character, critical areas,

Recreation Element Update

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wildlife habitat and water resources. This report serves as the application and staff report and is being submitted in accordance with Section 16.26 ICC.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Pursuant to Section 16.26.060.E.1-7 ICC the Public Works Department is required to provide the Planning Commission a report that reviews a proposed amendment pursuant to the following criteria:

1. *Does the proposed amendment or revision maintain consistency with other Plan elements or Development Regulations. If not, are amendments or revisions to other Plan elements or regulations necessary to maintain consistency also under annual review by the Planning Commission and the Board*

The proposed amendment does not conflict with any other Plan element or Development regulations established in Island County Code.

2. *Do all applicable elements of the Comprehensive Plan support the proposed amendment or revisions;*

The proposed amendment maintains consistency with the Island County Comprehensive Plan.

3. *Does the proposed amendment or revision more closely meet the goals, objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Plan;*

Yes, the proposed amendment has been developed to establish goals and policies consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

4. *Is the proposed amendment or revision consistent with the county-wide planning policies;*

Yes, this amendment is consistent with the county-wide planning policies.

5. *Is the proposed amendment supported by adopted Findings of Fact and Legislative intent;*

The proposed amendment has been found to be consistent with the Island County Comprehensive Plan and the findings of fact that support the Comprehensive Plan.

6. *Does the proposed amendment or revision comply with the requirements of the GMA; and*

The proposed Parks and Recreation Element is consistent with requirements established by the GMA.

7. *Are the assumptions underlying the applicable portions of the Comprehensive Plan or Development Regulations no longer valid because new information is available which was not considered at the time the plan or regulation was adopted.*

No, the proposed update serves to update and more comprehensively meet the existing Comprehensive Plan.

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 16.26.060.E.1-7 ICC, the Planning Director is required to provide a report to the Planning Commission that reviews the proposed amendment. This report satisfies this requirement.

Upon review of the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan, the Public Works Department finds it to be consistent with the Development Regulations and all elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Department recommends approval of the application.

Enc. Parks and Recreation Element