



## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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## COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Joshua Cummings, Director

*Creating Solutions for Our Future*

April 6, 2022

Thurston County Board of Commissioners  
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW  
Olympia, WA 98502

**SUBJECT: Planning Commission Recommendation on Development Code Docket Item A-8  
Habitat Conservation Plan Implementing Regulations (Title 17 & 24)**

Dear Commissioners,

The Thurston County Planning Commission has completed their review of Development Code Docket Item A-8, Habitat Conservation Plan Implementing; a County initiated amendment to Title 17 and Title 24 to adopt and implement the Thurston County Habitat Conservation Plan.

The Planning Commission held work sessions on the Habitat Conservation Plan and Implementing Amendments on January 19, February 2, and March 2, 2022, including background and overview of the Thurston County Habitat Conservation Plan, review of proposed new code and requested code changes, and consistency with other plans and regulations. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on April 6, 2022, to consider public testimony on the proposed related code amendments that included:

- Amend Title 17 to:
  - Add new Chapter 17.40 adopting the Habitat Conservation Plan
  - Amend Chapter 17.20 Mineral Extraction and Asphalt Production to prohibit mineral extraction in areas with Conservation Easements for the HCP Covered Species.
- Amend Title 24 Critical Areas Ordinance, Chapter 24.01, Chapter 24.03, and Chapter 24.25 to incorporate and reference the Thurston County Habitat Conservation Plan.

Fourteen written public comments were received, and five oral comments were received during the public hearing.

The Planning Commission voted unanimously (8-0) on April 6, 2022, to recommend approval of Development Code Docket Item A-8, the Habitat Conservation Plan Implementing Code Amendments:

**Move to recommend approval of the amendments to Title 17 to add Chapter 17.40, amend Chapter 17.20 section 17.20.140, and amend Title 24, Chapters 24.01, 24.03, and 24.25 of the Thurston County Code.**

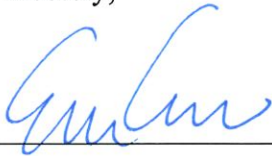
The Planning Commission produces this recommendation with the following findings:

Findings:

1. The proposed amendments are consistent with the Growth Management Act 36.70A RCW.
2. The proposed amendments are consistent with the Thurston County-Wide Planning Policies.
3. The Thurston County Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on April 6, 2022, as required by Thurston County Code Chapter 2.05 Growth Management Public Participation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review these proposed amendments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Eric Casino, Chair

**CC:** Thurston County Planning Commission Members  
Ramiro Chavez, County Manager  
Joshua Cummings, Director  
Travis Burns, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney