



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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**COMMUNITY PLANNING &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

*Creating Solutions for Our Future*

Joshua Cummings, Director

September 27, 2023

Thurston County Board of Commissioners  
3000 Pacific Avenue SE, 110  
Olympia WA 98501

**Subject: Planning Commission Recommendation on Future Reduction of the Lacey Urban Growth Area**

The Thurston County Planning Commission has completed its review of the Lacey Joint Plan. The Planning commission held two (2) joint work sessions, on August 23 and September 27, 2023, and a duly noticed public hearing on September 27, 2023.

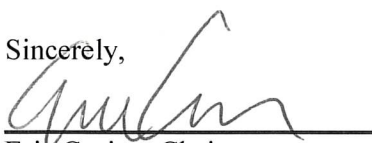
During the work session, the Planning Commission requested staff draft a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners, the recommendation is as follows:

**Because McAlister Geologically Sensitive Area (MGSA) zoning designation was created to protect an important aquifer and is zoned at a maximum density of one dwelling per five acres, Thurston County Planning Commission recommends that this area be considered for removal from the Lacey Urban Growth Area during a future joint plan update. Also, the Planning Commission recognizes that the Pleasant Glade planning area is made up of an important wetland system and is therefore difficult to sewer and develop to a higher density and recommends that this area should be considered for removal from the Lacey Urban Growth Area during a future joint plan update. The Planning Commission recommends that the Board of County Commissioners prioritize staff time to research and review the implications and possibility of these urban growth boundary reductions.**

**Thurston County Planning Commission voted to support this recommendation. (5-yea, 1-nay)**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this recommendation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Eric Casino, Chair

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