OVERVIEW

- Background
- Thurston County Growth Projections
- Scope of Work & General Timeline
- Public Participation Plan
- Next Steps
County is required to conduct a periodic review of Comp Plan

- Update population and employment forecast data
- Reflect changes in state law
- Incorporate other needed changes

Last Update: 2005
Thurston County Comprehensive Plan

- Main Comp Plan – Unincorporated, non-UGA areas
- Joint Plans
  - Lacey
  - Tumwater
  - Olympia
  - Yelm
  - Rainier
  - Tenino
- Subarea Plans (Nisqually, Grand Mound Rochester)

“The legislature finds that uncoordinated and unplanned growth, together with a lack of common goals expressing the public’s interest in the conservation and the wise use of our lands, pose a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety, and high quality of life enjoyed by residents of this state.”

- Growth Management Act (36.70A.010)
Thurston County plans under the Growth Management Act guided by the following goals:

1. Concentrate urban growth
2. Reduce sprawl
3. Transportation
4. Affordable housing
5. Economic development
6. Property rights
7. Predictable permitting
8. Natural resource industries
9. Open space and recreation
10. Environmental protection
11. Citizen participation and coordination
12. Public facilities and services
13. Historic preservation
14. Shoreline management
THURSTON COUNTY GROWTH PROJECTIONS

**2016 Population**
- Thurston County: 272,690
- Pierce County: 844,490
- Kitsap County: 262,590
- Mason County: 62,320
- Lewis County: 76,890
- Whatcom County: 212,540

**2035 Population**
- Thurston County: 370,600 (+36%)
- Pierce County: 1,006,614
- Kitsap County: 311,737
- Mason County: 80,784
- Lewis County: 87,092
- Whatcom County: 271,142
Half of county’s growth projected for the county’s incorporated areas.

For unincorporated Thurston County, largest portion of growth projected for the Lacey UGA.

Currently, there is sufficient land supply in urban areas to accommodate projected growth.
SCOPE OF WORK

Board Directed Staff to do a Targeted Update

- Focus on required updates for compliance
- Incorporate existing/past work
- Address a limited number of non-required items

Required Updates

- Consistent population projection
- Update estimates of population densities and building intensities
- Review goals, policies, and objectives to ensure consistency with existing plans/efforts
THURSTON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE TIMELINE

Jan – Sept 2017
• Internal & Technical Review
• Initial Public Outreach
• Community Meetings

Sept 2017 – Feb 2018
• Planning Commission Review
• PC Public Hearing

Jan – Sept 2018
• BoCC Review
• SEPA/EIS
• BoCC Public Hearing

All dates are tentative and subject to change.
Public Participation

- GMA requires “early and continuous” public participation
## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Public Involvement Events and Activities</th>
<th>Input captured in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Initial Outreach</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring-Summer 2017</td>
<td>• Website update</td>
<td>• Meeting summaries</td>
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<td>• Community group outreach meetings</td>
<td>• Open House and online comment sheet</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Stakeholder outreach</td>
<td>• Comments via mail and email</td>
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<td>• Open Houses</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Draft Plan Review</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2017 – Winter 2018</td>
<td>• Website update</td>
<td>• Comments via mail and email</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Draft plan overview presentations to PC and BoCC</td>
<td>• Meeting summaries</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Draft plan available online and in county offices for public</td>
<td>• Public testimony</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>review and comment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Draft plan overview presentations with interested</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>community/stakeholder groups</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• PC work sessions and Hearings</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Adoption</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>• Website update</td>
<td>• Comments via mail and email</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• BoCC work sessions</td>
<td>• Public testimony</td>
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Questions?

Staff Contact:

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**NATURAL RESOURCE LANDS**

- Natural Resource Lands
  - Forestry
  - Agriculture
  - Mining
  - Fisheries
- GMA requires counties to identify, classify, designate, and conserve natural resource lands
- Prevent locating incompatible uses where they will interfere with the long-term survival of these industries

“The following goals are adopted to guide the development and adoption of comprehensive plans and development regulations:

…(8) **Natural resource industries.** Maintain and enhance natural resource-based industries, including productive timber, agricultural, and fisheries industries. Encourage the conservation of productive forestlands and productive agricultural lands, and discourage incompatible uses.”

- 36.70A.020 RCW
SCOPE OF WORK

Natural Resource Element

- **Update map of designated mineral resource lands**
- Review policies for agricultural lands, limiting nonagricultural uses
- Review Long-Term Forestry designations*

* Indicates optional item approved by BoCC in 2017/2018 budget.
MINERAL RESOURCE LANDS

- Inventory must be countywide
- Based on geology
  - DNR, USGS, and relevant information provided by property owners
- Depth and Quality of the Resource
- Availability and Proximity to Market

“In designating mineral resource lands, counties and cities must approach the effort as a county-wide or regional process…. Counties and cities should not review mineral resource lands designations solely on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

…

Counties and cities classify mineral resource lands based on geologic, environmental, and economic factors, existing land uses, and land ownership.”

- 365-190-070 WAC
# Project Steps for Mineral Resource Lands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Identify and classify</strong></td>
<td>Develop a countywide inventory based on geologic data on the location and extent of mineral deposits, existing land uses, and other factors. These areas are categorized based on their quality, using available data from DNR, USGS, and others.</td>
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<td><strong>2. Designate</strong></td>
<td>Identify priority areas where high quality mineral resources are available and compatible with existing land use patterns and other criteria.</td>
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<td><strong>3. Conserve</strong></td>
<td>Establish policies that ensure future land uses will be compatible with mineral extraction in designated areas.</td>
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<td><strong>4. Permit</strong></td>
<td>New mining operations planned in areas designated as mineral resource lands will still need to be reviewed before they are permitted to operate. Mining activities must abide by all relevant state and local regulations, including environmental rules.</td>
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