

## Comprehensive Plan Update Public Involvement Summary

### Overview

King County regulations require the Department of Development and Environmental Services (DDES) to update the County Comprehensive Plan every four years. In October 2007 and January 2008 DDES, assisted by the Department of Transportation Community Relations and Communications section, conducted outreach in four regions of unincorporated King County affected by proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan. These regions were North King County, East King County, South King County and Vashon Island.

Staff members from DDES and Department of Natural Resources and Parks presented a public review draft of proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan and related codes. Comments from participants were directed at the specific changes proposed in each region of the County.

### Outreach and Results

In September 2007, KCDOT Community Relations and Communications produced a brochure describing proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan. These brochures, which included invitations to public meetings, were mailed and e-mailed to the following groups:

- Approximately 3,500 were mailed to individuals who had participated in earlier Comprehensive Plan outreach meetings or who had expressed an interest in attending subsequent meetings;
- Electronic versions of the brochures and invitations were e-mailed to interested individuals and agencies, who were encouraged to circulate e-mailed version broadly;
- Approximately 400 were mailed to public libraries and city halls;
- Several hundred were mailed to owners of property adjacent to proposed changes;
- Approximately 200 were mailed or e-mailed to agencies and other organizations with interest in the proposed changes.

In addition, news releases were sent to all major and local newspapers serving the four regions of unincorporated King County.

All meetings were well attended by members of the public.

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of Attendees</b>
October 6	Redmond	35
October 8	Vashon*	50
October 11	Snoqualmie	50
October 16	Kent	230
October 18	White Center	60

\*As part of the regular Vashon-Maury Island Community Council meeting

Based on public input, staff proposed two additional changes to the Comprehensive Plan in November, 2007. The changes were significant enough to prompt staff to schedule two additional meetings. KCDOT Community Relations and Communications produced a postcard announcing the meetings. This postcard was sent to all of the previous recipients of the brochure and invitation. Postcards were also mailed to 50 additional owners of property adjacent to the proposed changes.

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of Attendees</b>
January 30	Renton	60
January 31	Snoqualmie	50

Participants at each meeting were given several options for making comments. Oral comments were solicited by the presenters and recorded on easel pads by staff members. Staff members also provided comment sheets to all attendees. These comment sheets could be turned in at the end of the meeting or returned by mailed by February 8, 2008. Other contact information, such as e-mail addresses, mailing addresses, phone numbers and fax numbers, was provided by both written and oral means. As a result, staff members received more than 800 letters, comment sheets and e-mails with comments on various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan update.

### **Summary**

As noted above, participants' comments were directed at specific proposed changes within their communities. The following summary does not reflect all of the comments received on numerous subjects within the updated plan, but highlights areas of wider concern.

- At the Redmond, Vashon and Snoqualmie meetings, participants were generally supportive of staff proposals. Concerns were raised at the Snoqualmie meeting about expanding the Rural City Urban Growth Area for a proposed hospital.
- At the Kent meeting, numerous elected officials, city staff members and citizens requested that King County include the City of Maple Valley in determining the disposition and future development of the "donut hole," an area of unincorporated King County surrounded entirely by the City of Maple Valley.

- Participants at the White Center meeting generally supported staff proposals for future development of the area, while some expressed concerns about the impact of high density development on families and quality of life.
- Some participants at the January Renton meeting expressed concerns about the impact of re-zoning and TDR proposals on the Lake Desire community, while others expressed support for the staff proposals.
- Some participants at the January Snoqualmie meeting expressed concerns about the impact of TDR proposals on future plans for re-location of Snoqualmie Hospital. Others among the attendees strongly supported the staff proposal.