

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND

The Growth Management Act (GMA) requires early and continuous public participation in the development and amendment of comprehensive land use plans and development regulations to implement the plan (RCW 36.70A.140). King County Code 20.18.150 provides the basis for the county's public participation program and requires that the public receive a notice of intent to amend the comprehensive plan and development regulations at the same time that the state is given notice. GMA requires state notice at least sixty days before adoption of an amendment (RCW 36.70A.106). The purpose of this notice is to provide public notice for a change to a development regulation.

The Department of Development and Environmental Services intends to forward the following described proposed ordinances February 2004 to the Metropolitan King County Council for consideration and adoption:

The proposed ordinances amend King County's critical areas regulations (K.C.C. 21A), stormwater (K.C.C. Title 9), and clearing and grading regulations (K.C.C. 16.82). The proposed revisions are designed to implement the King County Comprehensive Plan and Washington's Growth Management Act. Since King County last undertook a major evaluation of its regulations, state and federal laws have changed. King County is now required to base regulations on the best available science. In addition, the federal government has listed Chinook salmon and bull trout as threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The County and its citizens must avoid harm to these listed species. These proposed regulations also address new standards for stormwater management required by the federal Clean Water Act.

King County released the first public review draft December 10, 2002. Public input from the first draft was incorporated into a second review draft released October 9, 2003. The public comment period for this second draft closed November 21, 2003, after public meetings were held in Preston, Issaquah, Carnation, Vashon Island, Covington, Maple Valley and Enumclaw.

A copy of the draft proposed ordinance is located on the Department's Internet site at <http://www.metrokc.gov/ddes/cao>. If you do not have Internet access at home or work, King County libraries provide public access to the Internet. You also may receive a copy of the draft proposed ordinance by mail by calling (206) 296-6709.

The Council will provide additional opportunities for public review and input during their deliberation of this proposal.

October 9, 2003