

Vision Workshop Meeting Summary

Kitsap County 10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update ■ Kitsap County ■ April 2006

Vision Workshop Meeting Summary
Kitsap County 10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update
Vision Workshop Meeting Summary
March 23-March 28, 2006

Prepared for:
Kitsap County
614 Division Street MS-36
Port Orchard, WA 98366-4682
Contact: Eric Baker

On behalf of:

AHBL
1200 6th Avenue, Suite 1620
Seattle, WA 98101-3123
206.267.2425
Fax 206.267.2429

Jones & Stokes
11820 Northup Way, Suite E300
Bellevue, WA 98005-1946
425.893.6422
Fax 425.822.1079

April 2006

Table of Contents

Chapter 1. North Kitsap Vision Workshop	1-1
1.1. Introduction	1-1
1.2. Question & Answer Session.....	1-2
1.3. Small Group Exercise	1-4
1.3.1. Group 1: Vision Statements	1-4
1.3.2. Group 2: Vision Statements	1-6
1.3.3. Group 3: Vision Statements	1-7
1.3.4. Group 4: Vision Statements	1-8
1.4. Written Comment Cards.....	1-10
Chapter 2. Central Kitsap Vision Workshop	2-1
2.1. Introduction	2-1
2.2. Question & Answer Session.....	2-2
2.3. Small Group Exercise	2-4
2.3.1. Group 1: Vision Statements	2-4
2.3.2. Group 2: Vision Statements	2-6
2.3.3. Group 3: Vision Statements	2-7
2.3.4. Group 4: Vision Statements	2-8
2.3.5. Group 5: Vision Statements	2-9
2.3.6. Group 6: Vision Statements	2-10
2.3.7. Group 7: Vision Statements	2-11
2.3.8. Group 8: Vision Statements	2-12
2.4. Written Comment Cards.....	2-13
Chapter 3. South Kitsap Vision Workshop.....	3-1
3.1. Introduction	3-1
3.2. Question & Answer Session.....	3-2
3.3. Small Group Exercise	3-4
3.3.1. Group 1: Vision Statements	3-4
3.3.2. Group 2: Vision Statements	3-6
3.3.3. Group 3: Vision Statements	3-8
3.3.4. Group 4: Vision Statements	3-9
3.4. Written Comment Cards.....	3-11

Chapter 1. North Kitsap Vision Workshop

Location: Kingston Junior High, Kingston

Date: March 23, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Meeting Participants: 70

1.1. Introduction

County Commissioner, Chris Endresen, welcomed meeting participants and highlighted the key concepts to address in the 10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update.

Jones & Stokes consultant and meeting facilitator, Melinda Posner, then asked meeting attendees how they heard about the meeting and highlighted the purpose for the meeting was to talk about the community vision for Kitsap County's future. She explained the meeting format and reviewed the ground rules.

Kitsap County Department of Community Development Project Manager, Eric Baker, explained the 10-Year Update process, timeline, and key points to address. He described three phases for developing the update:

1. Visioning involves three public meetings through the end of March
2. Alternatives consideration from April through July
3. Decision-Making from August through December 31, 2006

He also listed the eight areas the update addresses with the knowledge that the county faces a population increase of 100,000 new people in the next 20 years:

1. Protect the natural environment
2. Maintain an attractive livable community



3. Plan for open spaces, including parks and greenbelts
4. Build healthy cities
5. Foster an economy that supports living wage jobs
6. Protect the traditional character of the county
7. Plan for efficient multi-modal transportation
8. Encourage efficient government that works with the public, cities, and tribes

1.2. Question & Answer Session

A question and answer session followed Eric's remarks.

Q = Question A = Answer C = Comment

Q What forecast model was used for the population growth estimate?

A The Washington State Office of Financial Management developed low, medium and high ranges for population growth estimates.

Q When was the last set of visions developed?

A We last envisioned the county's future as part of the 1998 Comprehensive Plan update.

Q What penalties does the state impose for not planning for population growth?

A State law requires the county to plan for population growth and to have a plan to develop an infrastructure to accommodate this growth. Failure to plan for growth can result in penalties such as withholding grant funding and transportation funds.

Q How can we create and evaluate a Comprehensive Plan update when we have no sources to work from?

A Melinda responded that there are built-in checkpoints along the way. Think about what you would like to say to achieve your vision of Kitsap's future.

Eric also noted that the county is working on a buildable lands analysis for both urban and rural growth from 2000 to 2005. When finished the analysis will give us measuring sticks to determine our progress in planning for growth.

Q On the display maps, the yellow parcels are impacted by the Critical Areas Ordinance. How critical are they? Can they be included in buildable lands?

- A Balancing critical areas with urban growth is a constraining element in the analysis. Buffers need to be included in the 10-year update. Commissioner Endresen said variances could be obtained.
- Q Entry level for a home is \$200,000 and traffic is impossible now. There have been five deaths on the roadways last year. No new jobs have been created. We've had eight years of this: Will we see any positive change?
- A The county has many citizens working very hard on these problems and there are a number of things we can do to improve the situation. Affordable housing and mobility are being addressed in the 10-year update.
- Q Who has the final authority to decide on the update plan?
- A The Kingston Advisory Committee and the sub area planning groups are very involved in this update process. Ultimately, the Board of County Commissioners decides on the update plan based on all the input we gather.
- C In the past 10 years, the county has been buying open space land. In the future, we may need that land for building.
- A The county wants to ensure Kitsap has open spaces.
- Q With 100,000 more people living in this county, how are we going to be affected?
- A Seventy-six percent of the population will live in urban areas and 24 percent will live in rural areas. The cities and the county are working together on the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Q If 24 percent of new construction is in rural areas, what is the number of lots available?
- A We don't have an exact number. We're taking a bottom up approach. We need to know the number of lots already taken, the number already created and the number available for housing. We expect to have the answer by the end of this year or the middle of 2007.
- Q How does the county anticipate accommodating growth without additional ferry crossings?
- A We're looking at a multi-modal planning structure and generating more economic opportunity within the county.
- Q How will the county accommodate different transportation patterns?
- A We need to augment existing ferry capacity.

- Q What population numbers are you using for the 20-year and the 10-year update projects?
- A The 20-year Comprehensive Plan covers 2005 to 2025. The county is looking at a comprehensive review of the plan every 10 years.
- C It used to be we could build one home on 2.5 acres. Now the county wants one home on 20 acres.
- A The Growth Management Hearings Board frowns on the 2.5-acre rural lot size because of the costs for transportation, utilities, etc. There will be no opportunity to return to the development patterns of the early 1990s.
- C It was noted that county staff/consultant be clear to recognize the importance of SEPA and that these meetings are within the SEPA scoping period.
- Q What is the Comprehensive Plan update Web site address?
- A MyKitsap.org

1.3. Small Group Exercise

Melinda described the plans for meeting participants to express their visions for Kitsap's future. She encouraged participants to emphasize concepts and ideas rather than specific words, reminded them that they did not need to reach consensus and assured them that it is okay to disagree and have conflicting statements.

She divided the audience into four separate groups with each group addressing two vision statements. The groups then went to their respective stations and spent the next 50 minutes discussing their views. Each group had a facilitator and a scribe, and selected one person to summarize their discussion in a report to the large group.

After each group shared their ideas, all meeting participants were given eight dot stickers to place on the vision elements that they felt were the highest priority. (Dot preferences are included in parentheses.)

1.3.1. Group 1: Vision Statements

- A. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment, including wetlands, streams, wildlife habitat, water quality and natural resource activities. (18 dots)
- B. Attractive, well designed and livable urban communities, supported by efficient and high quality services and facilities, and providing a range of housing choices. (17 dots)

Group 1: Flip Chart Transcription

Comments Referring to Vision Statements A & B

- Linking vision statements and maintaining balance (13 dots)
- Enforcement of the vision (2 dots)
- Diversity (2 dots)
- Coordination with other/all (1 dot)
- Make statements less wordy
- Make fewer number of vision statements

Comments Referring to Vision Statement A

- Flexibility in development to retain natural systems; utilizing low impact development (30 dots)
- Incentives for developers to conserve wetlands, trails, etc. (2 dots)
- Recognize historic resources
- Need to enforce plans, visions to achieve common good
- Can the “ideals” be side stepped with variances?
- Good vision statement regarding natural resources; follow through and enforce
- Lots of remaining land has critical areas. Balance affordable housing.
- Balance comes from considering several vision statements
- Value of natural resources go beyond housing opportunity; regarding recharge, aesthetic, stormwater storage, flood control
- Flexibility of developing where there aren't wetlands, etc.
- Recognize cultural resources along with natural resources

Comments Referring to Vision Statement B

- Add “rural” or change “urban” to “livable” (3 dots)
- Recognize cultural resources (2 dots)
- Recognize historic resources
- Add “and rural” after “livable urban” to consider balancing natural resources and housing
- “Attractive” is ambiguous
- “Livable” includes maintaining natural areas appropriately
- Integrating human and natural systems, incorporate flexibility



- Delete “urban”
- Both statements are linked, human and natural
- Coordinate among jurisdictions
- Low impact development is a way to get at these
- “Livable” includes maintaining the history and culture of the place
- Kitsap is affordable compared to Seattle
- Service providers need to be able to afford to live here
- Maintain diversity; cultural, economic, ethnic, and age

1.3.2. Group 2: Vision Statements

- C. Creation of a system of open space, parks and greenbelts, that provide opportunities for recreation and that give structure and separation to urban areas. (12 dots)
- D. An efficient and responsive government that works with citizens, governmental entities and Tribes to meet collective needs fairly; and that supports education, environmental protection and human services. (8 dots)

Group 2: Flip Chart Transcription

Comments Referring to Vision Statement C – Additions

- Keep natural environments natural (18 dots)
- Public gatherings for recreation and First Amendment (2 dots)
- Parking accessibility (2 dots)
- Contingent upon infrastructure, development (1 dot)
- Add public space in urban areas (1 dot)
- Preserve historic sites
- “Preserve” or “improve” in addition to “creation”
- Make open space disbursed
- Protect and consider cultural resources

Comments Referring to Vision Statement C – Revised

- Open space for various size groups to assemble (4 dots)
- Utilize the space we have (2 dots)
- Include wildlife to Vision Statement “C” (1 dot)

- Specify types of recreation
- We've created open spaces; now focus on implementation and continue making open space a priority
- Maintenance

Comments Referring to Vision Statement D - Additions

- "Accountable" (4 dots)
- "Emergency preparation" (2 dots)
- High quality (2 dots)
- Make use of communication between citizens and county (1 dot)
- Name police specifically under human services
- Having a consistent monitoring tool for data
- Telecommunications service
- Youth and education (consider demographics of future population)
- All levels of education

1.3.3. Group 3: Vision Statements

- E. A vital and diversified economy that provides living wage jobs for residents, supported by adequate land for a range of employment uses and that encourages accomplishment of local economic development goals. (8 dots)
- F. Maintenance of the traditional character, appearance, functions and lifestyles of Kitsap County's rural communities and areas. (2 dots)

Group 3: Flip Chart Transcription

Comments Referring to Vision Statement E

- Industry that fits within geographic constraints (7 dots)
- Develop necessary infrastructure for economic development (6 dots)
- Small, high-value industry (3 dots)
- Support higher and better education (3 dots)
- Capitalize on local talents and skills inventory (2 dots)
- Encourage local work force (1 dot)
- Global competition
- Accountable economic base



- Define boundary
- Develop skills sets and inventory
- Change tax structure for sales and income
- Understand value of service industry

Comments Referring to Vision Statement F

- Rural, wooded parks, barns, buildings, recreation, farmland (19 dots)
- Recognition and stewardship of diverse natural and cultural resources (4 dots)
- Balancing character with demographics and aging society (3 dots)
- Small town character (3 dots)
- Preserve historical character (1 dot)
- Pioneer spirit and self reliance (1 dot)
- What is “traditional?”
- Community values
- Enhance (not maintain) character
- Historical character
- Define boundary
- Respect, value and appreciation of past, and carry into future

1.3.4. Group 4: Vision Statements

- G. Creation of an efficient multi-modal transportation system, including roads and highways, ferries, and opportunities for non-motorized travel, that provides efficient access and mobility for county residents and supports our land use pattern. (7 dots)
- H. Healthy cities that are the region’s centers for employment, affordable housing choices, and civic and cultural activities. (11 dots)

Group 4: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments Referring to Vision Statements G & H

- Vision should reflect real issues; failures and monitoring to establish corrections (1 dot)
- Vision should reflect actual goals (1 dot)
- Monitor absorption and “quality of life” issues
- Self-monitoring

- Recognize desire to change past mistakes
- Preserve valuable resources

Comments Referring to Vision Statement G

- Vision should include measurable goals for more efficient transportation (10 dots)
- Balance transit access with roadway needs and coordination with existing systems (7 dots)
- Focus on roadway improvements (6 dots)
- Audit at regular intervals for transit (6 dots)
- Focus on transit to develop an efficient system that serves the most people with the lowest cost (4 dots)
- Maintenance and improvement with measurable goals for a more efficient multi-modal transportation system, including roads, highways, ferries, and opportunities for non-motorized travel (3 dots)
- Coordinate county transportation with Seattle, King County, Tacoma and SeaTac (2 dots)
- Build more efficient roads, ferries, highways; non-motorized transit and public transportation are secondary—it was noted on the flip chart that some in the group felt the opposite way (1 dot)
- Focus more on safety (1 dot)
- Focus on main access routes through Kitsap County to Seattle (1 dot)
- Matrix to establish responsibilities
- Provide safe efficient access and mobility for county residents and supports our land use pattern
- Funding coordination of outside impacts to Kitsap County should be promoted to state
- All major transportation improvements are state controlled. What role would Kitsap County play in these decisions?
- Focus improvements on items that are actually functional
- Functional differences in commuting patterns should be considered for future trends
- Ever-evolving, maintained and enhanced
- Add the word “coordination”
- Want safety, efficiency and capacity on concurrency as first consideration



- Delete the word “creation”

Comments Referring to Vision Statement H

- Affordable housing choices (7 dots)
- Regular audits and evaluation of “healthy” cities and course correction (5 dots)
- Cultural activities (3 dots)
- Consider environment in definition of healthy (3 dots)
- Mobility in/out of cities in part of healthy cities (2 dots)
- Walkability, pedestrian amenities (2 dots)
- Accommodate universal access and synergy between improvements (1 dot)
- Add recreation and open space
- Urban amenities available in cities
- Lifecycle housing in each city

1.4. Written Comment Cards

The following written comment cards were submitted during the meeting:

- I think all the vision statements are fine; no need to change. I especially would emphasize the preservation of open space and protection of our natural systems. They cannot be replaced. The beautiful natural environment and our abundant wildlife are a treasure, a lovely asset we should enhance and be proud of and never lose. It shapes the character of our county that we all love.
- We need parks available for the use of LARGE groups. Currently, most large gatherings are being sent to Port Gamble or B.I. parks. This is a constitutional right. “Create” is a bulldozing term. We need to focus more on “preserve” and “improve” with regard to Park Facilities. Especially, we need to help existing entities using Park facilities and buildings, rather than trying to get rid of them (e.g., Boy Scouts, VFW, church organizations).
- Being retired military, primary medical need met at Naval Hospital for 25 years. Recently told due to the influx of people the facility is no longer able to care for retirees’ needs. We are being transferred to the civilian community. However the current medical facilities aren’t enough. Patients have to wait months for heart surgery, etc. This issue specifically has not been addressed. Recent publication of Harrison Hospital’s intention to expand isn’t fast enough. Personally I’m feeling the continued developing/expansion taking our land needs to stop.

Melinda concluded the meeting with reminders about the upcoming vision workshops on March 27 and 28, and an explanation about the next steps in the

Chapter 2. Central Kitsap Vision Workshop

Location: Klahowya Secondary School, Silverdale

Date: March 27, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Meeting Participants: 104

2.1. Introduction

County Commissioner, Patty Lent, welcomed meeting participants and highlighted the key concepts to address in the 10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update.

Jones & Stokes consultant and meeting facilitator, Melinda Posner, then asked meeting attendees how they heard about the meeting and highlighted the purpose for the meeting was to talk about the community vision for Kitsap County's future. She explained the meeting format and reviewed the ground rules.

Kitsap County Department of Community Development Project Manager, Eric Baker, explained the 10-Year Update process, timeline, and key points to address. He described three phases for developing the update:

1. Visioning involves three public meetings through the end of March
2. Alternatives consideration from April through July
3. Decision-Making from August through December 31, 2006

He also listed the eight areas the update addresses with the knowledge that the county faces a population increase of 100,000 new people in the next 20 years:

1. Protect the natural environment



2. Maintain an attractive livable community
3. Plan for open spaces, including parks and greenbelts
4. Build healthy cities
5. Foster an economy that supports living wage jobs
6. Protect the traditional character of the county
7. Plan for efficient multi-modal transportation
8. Encourage efficient government that works with the public, cities, and tribes

2.2. Question & Answer Session

A question and answer session followed Eric's remarks.

Q Does the Comprehensive Plan cover rural areas as well as areas indicated in yellow?

A The focus is on urban areas; review of rural areas is not part of the 10-year update and may take place in 2007. As part of the 10-year, the county will be reviewing interim rural forests lands or rural wooded.

Q Will the Comprehensive Plan make property rights more restrictive or less?

A The plan endeavors to strike a balance between community needs and private ownership. The plan update could include UGA expansions and other changes that could have an impact on private property.

Q What if the anticipated population increase can't be accommodated?

A Sizing Urban Growth Areas is based on a three-tier system. The county will review how much land is available within the existing boundary, take into consideration how much can be accommodated by reasonable measures (i.e. up zoning or increase in building heights). Once this analysis is complete, the country will be looking at areas for expansion.

Q What happens between the vision and goals and policies phases of the Comprehensive Plan update?

A There are three phases: visioning, developing alternatives, and creating the goals, policies and associated regulations. The public will be encouraged to participate in upcoming workshops scheduled for May and August 2006.

Q There is a need for affordable housing because costs are rising, and people can't afford to buy an average-sized home. At what point do we expand the UGA?

- A UGA expansion is only one option; many more opportunities exist such as design code changes, diversity of housing types, and housing in downtown core areas for seniors and younger families
- Q How can planning be done with imposed government mandates?
- A Growth Management and Hearings Board decisions set parameters for local planning. While this can create limitations, much progress can be made in Kitsap County planning within these parameters with a well established and implemented vision.
- Q How much consideration and weight will be given to ferry commuter facilities in the Comprehensive Plan?
- A The transportation system is essential to the county's planning effort, especially for Bremerton, Kingston and Poulsbo. Kitsap Transit will also be important. The ferry system will be looked at in the context of the entire transportation system.
- Q Does each vision statement and planning element in the Comprehensive Plan include a cost and the method for financing it?
- A Yes. The Capital Facilities Plan is included in the 10-year plan.
- Q How will you incorporate or summarize public comments?
- A A summary of all three workshops will be prepared and posted online for public review. County staff, planning commission and county commissioners will review all comments gathered. The comments will help guide the second phase of the Comprehensive Plan update process, the development of the alternatives.
- Q Why wait? Why is the county working so close to the December 2006 deadline?
- A The original deadline was changed by the Growth Management Hearings Board. To avoid penalties, the county must complete the update by the deadline.
- Q Why is historic preservation not emphasized in the Comprehensive Plan update?
- A This workshop is an opportunity to identify missing elements of the plan such as historic preservation.
- Q How do we know people will want to buy multi-family housing?
- A The visioning workshop will help identify neighborhood character preferences. Multi-family housing is more compact and therefore can be more affordable than single-family dwellings.

2.3. Small Group Exercise

Melinda described the plans for meeting participants to express their visions for Kitsap's future. She encouraged participants to emphasize concepts and ideas rather than specific words, reminded them that they did not need to reach consensus and assured them that it is okay to disagree and have conflicting statements.

She divided the audience into eight separate groups with each group addressing one vision statement. The groups then went to their respective stations and spent the next 50 minutes discussing their views. Each group had a facilitator and a scribe, and selected one person to summarize their discussion in a report to the large group.

After each group shared their ideas, all meeting participants were given eight dot stickers to place on the vision elements that they felt were the highest priority. (Dot preferences are included in parenthesis.)

2.3.1. Group 1: Vision Statements

- A. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment, including wetlands, streams, wildlife habitat, water quality and natural resource activities.

Group 1: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- Well-stated goal, but will it be implemented?
- Add rehabilitation
- How will we pay for rehabilitation?
- Too broad (all species?, costs?)
- Habitat can also cause problems, e.g., geese and Island Lake
- Looking for balance
- Impacts of past are costing us; if we wait, will cost more
- Support vision statement
- Streams need our assistance
- Identify areas for habitat, but can't have it everywhere
- Processing of sewage to reclaim water
- Too much development cuts the amount of infiltration, depleting the aquifer
- Some stormwater requirements don't correspond well with site characteristics
- Greenhouse effect, vehicle emissions; is Kitsap planning for this?

- Not only wildlife areas, but need corridors for connection areas, corridors work together
- Protecting habitat corridors; doesn't seem to be a rule, or perhaps just not emphasized enough
- Existing statement is not being implemented well
- Area we studying the habitat need sufficiently? Are we evaluating current use enough to meet wildlife needs?
- We should look for the information being developed here as well as elsewhere
- Think we are at a critical time when many things can be lost; whole ecosystem is important
- Business, residential and habitat can live together, but we must plan for it and care enough to do it
- Concern about how wildlife corridors will affect land use, e.g., for tree-farmers, explore compensation or grants
- Include education; young people and others
- Low impact development is a good approach

Additions

- Need more about habitat and aspects such as connecting corridors; very important (13 dots)
- Greenhouse gases/global warming; need for another statement? (9 dots)
- Low impact development (7 dots)
- Stormwater management (6 dots)
- Education is an important aspect of protecting natural resources (5 dots)
- Need to re-direct stormwater runoff back into stream (5 dots)
- Add "rehabilitation" (utilize grants for cost); more than just "enhancement" (4 dots)

Revisions

- Wildlife corridors (5 dots)
- Whole ecosystems (5 dots)

Deletions

- None noted



2.3.2. Group 2: Vision Statements

- B. Attractive, well designed and livable urban communities, supported by efficient and high quality services and facilities, and providing a range of housing choices.
(1 dot)

Group 2: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- Preserve character of existing neighborhoods; need compatibility with new development, especially infill in UGAs (2 dots)

Additions

- Add “affordable” between “attractive” and “well designed” (9 dots)
- Add “recreation activities” after “facilities” (6 dots)

Revisions

- Walkability and safety, e.g., widen shoulder (15 dots)
- Smaller homes for empty-nesters and young families (4 dots)
- Enough land for affordable housing; incentives, e.g., tax breaks (3 dots)
- Emphasize open space, recreation and trees (3 dots)
- Job base to make healthy communities (3 dots)
- Mixed use: housing above destination points in Old Town, e.g., antique stores, restaurants (3 dots)
- Variety of lot sizes (2 dots)
- More ownership options, e.g., townhouses (2 dots)
- Compliment and diversify military job base (2 dots)
- Schools in proximity to homes (2 dots)
- Sun River, Oregon communities and Bellingham have done a great job (1 dot)
- Trail and street connections (1 dot)
- Make use of technology (1 dot)
- Multi-use paths with bikes (1 dot)
- Pedestrians and golf carts
- Centralized services in all districts
- Local retail serving neighborhoods
- Recycling and composting facilities

- Centralized government and health services, e.g., Silverdale
- Suburban densities eat up land

Deletions

- None noted

2.3.3. Group 3: Vision Statements

- C. Creation of a system of open space, parks and greenbelts, that provide opportunities for recreation and that give structure and separation to urban areas.

Group 3: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- Zoning: protecting existing spaces designated for park/green space and avoiding future development, durable protection, in perpetuity (18 dots)
- Maintain clear separation between urban and rural areas using green/open space (16 dots)
- Retain each community's historic significance (8 dots)
- Protection of existing natural resources/ecological zones (5 dots)
- Connectivity; connecting open space/park zones throughout urban and rural areas
- Putting plan into action (4 dots)
- Need these spaces
- Density, not enough open space
- Poulsbo Place not good model
- Areas currently undeveloped aren't protected. Park land is set aside, but because of zoning could be developed in future.
- Each community is different; consider uniqueness of community's zoning
- Establish separate/new zoning for parks/open space/newly acquired city land for public use

Additions

- Retain existing ecological nuggets/clusters
- Have we achieved vision established in 1998 Comprehensive Plan?
- County must implement protections for lands currently set aside as open space/parks and ensure that development can't happen in future. Zoning is key.
- Move to next step beyond creation and planning: implementation



- Consider uniqueness of each community for zoning
- Separation between urban and rural must be maintained
- Connecting existing greenways
- Establish separate zoning (protection in perpetuity) for public use parks/open space (including new acquisitions) and maintain use compatibility
- Open space/park area plans must incorporate access/transportation/travel routes, e.g., multi-modal
- Connectivity between separator zones/greenways and between urban and rural
- Identify zones/areas between designated open space/parks that create connection

Revisions

- None noted

Deletions

- None noted

2.3.4. Group 4: Vision Statements

- D. An efficient and responsive government that works with citizens, governmental entities and Tribes to meet collective needs fairly; and that supports education, environmental protection and human services.

Group 4: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- Reach out to “Under-40” groups – get word out through Olympic College, PTA groups, current affairs classes (2 dots)
- Deletions of existing text may be interpreted as intending to deny or omit what is stricken
- Get Indian tribes on board with all of us

Additions

- Add “while respecting individual rights” after “fairly” (19 dots)
- Unincorporated UGAs need representative governance regarding land use (5 dots)
- Cost effective/fiscal responsibility (4 dots)
- Urban areas should be incorporated (3 dots)
- Balance collective and individual needs (2 dots)

- Accessible government, convenient and local to all parts of county (2 dots)

Revisions

- Responsible “county” government

Deletions

- Delete text after “fairly”

2.3.5. Group 5: Vision Statements

- E. A vital and diversified economy that provides living wage jobs for residents, supported by adequate land for a range of employment uses and that encourages accomplishment of local economic development goals

Group 5: Flip Chart Transcription

Summary Comments

- 4-year university and vocational programs in Kitsap County (6 dots)
- High-tech, bio-tech and communication for the future (5 dots)
- Streamlined permit process (3 dots)
- Add environmentally sound industries (air quality emission standards above current levels) as a value (food and fiber/agriculture) (3 dots)
- Primary and secondary educated workforce (3 dots)
- Educate and retain the workforce (2 dots)
- Air quality emissions standard above current levels (1 dot)
- Involve students in all this planning and implementation
- Integrate green space with economic activity
- Create attractive urban environment to attract educated workforce
- Coordinate with adjacent counties’ economic development efforts
- Support local, fresh, organic agriculture
- Incentives to support agricultural lands
- Discuss use of 1,000 acres for NASCAR-like track

Additions

- Balance economic development with air quality and environmental quality
- Need heavy industry
- High-tech, bio-tech industries needed



- Targeted job training
- Vocational/professional training and medical support
- Diversity to provide local employment opportunities
- Streamline development process
- More tourist housing facilities
- Improved communications for global economy
- More amenities and jobs for younger population
- Integrated green space and open areas with economic activity
- Flexible zoning to encourage home-based occupations
- Satellite campuses to act as magnets and growth centers, plus training
- Promote outdoor tourist recreation facilities and programs

Revisions

- None noted

Deletions

- None noted

2.3.6. Group 6: Vision Statements

- F. Maintenance of the traditional character, appearance, functions and lifestyles of Kitsap County's rural communities and areas.

Group 6: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- None noted

Additions

- DNR forests to stay intact/replanted (11 dots)
- Traditional character includes a mixed bag of development and non-development (2 dots)
- Promote/maintain/recognize historic/pioneering spirit of county (2 dots)
- Attempt to maintain (1 dot)

Revisions

- DNR lands held in trust in perpetuity (3 dots)
- Vision is multi-millionaires vs. ghettos (1 dot)

- City ownership/rental rate (1 dot)
- Infrastructure's role in rural areas (1 dot)
- How to plan for changing mind sets/lifestyles
- How to maintain vision with 100,000 people
- Cluster development preserves trees and habitat
- Vision conflicts with GMA
- How to balance rural lifestyles with city lifestyles
- Provision of choice
- Common sense in rules application
- How to enforce rural character maintenance; need adequate county resources

Deletions

- None noted

2.3.7. Group 7: Vision Statements

- G. Creation of an efficient multi-modal transportation system, including roads and highways, ferries, and opportunities for non-motorized travel, that provides efficient access and mobility for county residents and supports our land use pattern.

Group 7: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- Privatize bus system and ferries (10 dots)
- Synchronize stop lights (7 dots)
- Small general aviation airports at north end and southwest corner to augment speedy access and evacuation (7 dots)
- Coordinate transportation improvements with community buildings (2 dots)
- Coordinate bus sizes to ridership level (2 dots)
- Bridge, infrastructure and major improvements should be encouraged again (1 dot)
- Do not privatize bus system and ferries (1 dot)
- Passenger ferry focus for Bremerton (1 dot)
- Mistrust of government and county

- Concern regarding focus on transit; focus on auto should improve liability for trails shouldn't limit
- People safety is major concern and impediment to utilizing pedestrian travel
- Bridge improvements should increase capacity for entire route

Additions

- Bridge or tunnel to Bainbridge (18 dots)
- Focus on pedestrian connections/bicycle improvements and interconnectivity between developments (10 dots)
- Efficient and environmentally sensitive transportation system (5 dots)
- Focus on how technology (wireless internet) can reduce transportation impacts (2 dots)
- Promote sidewalks/street lights (1 dot)
- Bypass through congested areas (1 dot)
- Add economic development (1 dot)
- Safe travel paths to schools

Revisions

- Flexible system
- Focus transit upon corridors/centers that are both feasible and financially feasible

Deletions

- None noted

2.3.8. Group 8: Vision Statements

H. Healthy cities that are the region's centers for employment, affordable housing choices, and civic and cultural activities.

Group 8: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments

- Healthy relates to wastewater, stormwater, composting toilets, new technologies that tie into infrastructure (7 dots)
- Well-connected regions and centers (5 dots)
- Diversity in housing size, type, affordability (1 dot)
- Rights should not be restricted by a vision, e.g., transportation requirements (1 dot)

- Some employment areas, such as industrial parks in rural areas also exist; don't restrict
- Healthy includes walking, skateboards, horse trails
- Employment includes telecommuting
- Healthy includes good lighting, safety
- Need economic vitality outside of cities as well
- Modular home parks (similar to Arizona) for affordable housing
- Fewer restrictions on clustering
- Community centers (campus, theater, grill and eateries)
- Healthy city is a new city, old cities are rundown and most costly to bring up to standard, 65% of building is going on outside cities
- Events: family, annual, fun and community-oriented
- Regeneration does happen in older cities
- Keep low-height buildings, mix of old and new
- Small places turn into small cities, e.g., Hansville, Illahee, and Kingston
- Define terms
- Financial health, more transparency on how money is spent

Additions

- Civic and cultural: well-connected (transportation), public spaces, community centers, drug free (14 dots)
- Housing: diversity in size, type, affordability, ownership vs. rental (8 dots)
- Healthy: safety, environmental, economic vitality (7 dots)
- Employment: good paying jobs, diverse options, includes telecommuting (4 dots)

Revisions

- None noted

Deletions

- None noted

2.4. Written Comment Cards

The following written comment cards were submitted during the meeting:



- The plan has no zoning between one DU/5 acres and 5-9 DU/1 acre. With all the population coming, it would be better to drop back to 1 DU/2.5 acres such as what I now have. But please, no sprawl. Keep the urban areas in their bounds.
- Vision statement #8 addition: insert “well-connected” between the words “regions” and “centers.”
- Any rules and laws made must have defining applicability criteria, i.e., common sense, and methods stated for seeking waivers and appeals. The current stormwater management plan does not, in regard to the 5,000 square foot rule. A lot of time, money and resources are being wasted by property owners when building in order to comply.
- There is an ancient saying, ‘the head may devise in vain, if the hand be not quick to execute the plan.’ What will the plan cost and where will the money come from? This is a statewide problem.

Melinda concluded the meeting with reminders about the upcoming vision workshop on March 28, and an explanation about the next steps in the process. Each workshop will have a summary and all of the summaries will be summarized into one final document. The alternatives phase begins in May.

Finally, she encouraged people to visit MyKitsap.org often, use comment cards to express their views, and to spread the word about getting involved.

Chapter 3. South Kitsap Vision Workshop

Location: Givens Community Center, Port Orchard

Date: March 28, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Meeting Participants: 63

3.1. Introduction

County Commissioner, Jan Angel, welcomed meeting participants and highlighted the key concepts to address in the 10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update.

Jones & Stokes consultant and meeting facilitator, Melinda Posner, then asked meeting attendees how they heard about the meeting and highlighted the purpose for the meeting was to talk about the community vision for Kitsap County's future. She explained the meeting format and reviewed the ground rules.

Kitsap County Department of Community Development Project Manager, Eric Baker, explained the 10-Year Update process, timeline, and key points to address. He described three phases for developing the update:

1. Visioning involves three public meetings through the end of March
2. Alternatives consideration from April through July
3. Decision-Making from August through December 31, 2006

He also listed the eight areas the update addresses with the knowledge that the county faces a population increase of 100,000 new people in the next 20 years:

1. Protect the natural environment



2. Maintain an attractive livable community
3. Plan for open spaces, including parks and greenbelts
4. Build healthy cities
5. Foster an economy that supports living wage jobs
6. Protect the traditional character of the county
7. Plan for efficient multi-modal transportation
8. Encourage efficient government that works with the public, cities, and tribes

3.2. Question & Answer Session

A question and answer session followed Eric's remarks.

Q Where do alternative energy and energy efficient components and efforts sit within the Comprehensive Plan?

A If these are goals and policies of emphasis that the community wants to see addressed, they can be included in the Comprehensive Plan.

Q What about population allocations such as 6,000 in South Kitsap?

A The county must identify how 100,000 new residents will be accommodated. This means allocating a portion of that to each area of the county.

Q Why not adopt sub area plans now (e.g., early) and avoid waiting another year?

A There are pros and cons to adopting the SK/Port Orchard sub-area plan prior or incorporated into the 10-year schedule. This topic will be discussed further with the county and the City of Port Orchard.

Q Why was the Kingston sub area plan a separate, stand-alone review process?

A The Kingston sub area plan effort was underway prior to the 10-year update process, as were other sub area plan efforts. The Kingston sub area plan was an update to the plan originally adopted in 2003. With the Growth Management Hearing Board requirement that the county complete the 10-year update by December 2006, it is now necessary to incorporate any outstanding or in-progress sub area plans into this process. All the plans will need to be consistent.

Q Why wasn't the public included in the decision regarding the Kingston sub area plan?

A The Kingston sub area plan phase 2 had a citizen's advisory group and worked very hard on the sub-area plan update.

- Q Why not streamline the permit process?
- A The county is considering revisions to zoning and the permit process; creating an integrated, more efficient EIS process; and streamlining the SEPA process.
- Q Why doesn't the county have user-friendly staff?
- A The county is working hard to be customer-friendly and responsive to the communities it serves.
- C A ferry route between Southworth and downtown should be a priority.
- Q Why do major arterial roads run along the waterfront, given all the pollution it creates? Will the county consider moving them inland?
- A They are existing corridors. Moving them inland at this point would not be financially or environmentally effective.
- C The vision statements should include the importance of education in the community
- Q Nothing has changed since 1998. There haven't been any transportation improvements despite the growth. The County is working on building infrastructure.
- A There has been a good deal of residential and commercial development in the county since 1998.
- C The county needs housing options for all income levels and diversity of housing types.
- C The existing vision statements are not being achieved.
- Q How Countywide Planning Policies are updated in accordance with revised vision statements?
- A The county comprehensive plan and countywide planning policies must be consistent. . The countywide planning policies are under a separate amendment process, with the last set of revisions completed in 2004. Proposed amendments to the county comprehensive plan will be reviewed for consistency with the countywide planning policies.
- C There should be inclusive communities and opportunities for older citizens.
- Q The current UGA is too small and is driving prices up. What is the county going to do about it?
- A Through this update, the county will consider re-sizing the UGA and reasonable measures to accommodate increased population.

Q How does Manchester Community Plan fit in with the Comprehensive Plan update?

A It is considered a rural area and will not be included in the 10-year update.

Q How will earlier public involvement efforts on sub area plans be addressed and incorporated?

A Sub area plans will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

C The planning department was made by and for the people.

3.3. Small Group Exercise

Melinda described the plans for meeting participants to express their visions for Kitsap's future. She encouraged participants to emphasize concepts and ideas rather than specific words, reminded them that they did not need to reach consensus and assured them that it is okay to disagree and have conflicting statements.

She divided the audience into four separate groups with each group addressing two vision statements. The groups then went to their respective stations and spent the next 50 minutes discussing their views. Each group had a facilitator and a scribe, and selected one person to summarize their discussion in a report to the large group.

After each group shared their ideas, all meeting participants were given eight dot stickers to place on the vision elements that they felt were the highest priority. (Dot preferences are included in parenthesis.)

3.3.1. Group 1: Vision Statements

- A. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment, including wetlands, streams, wildlife habitat, water quality and natural resource activities. (8 dots)
- B. Attractive, well designed and livable urban communities, supported by efficient and high quality services and facilities, and providing a range of housing choices. (5 dots)

Group 1: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments About Vision Statement A

- Pave gravel soils, not agriculturally capable soils (6 dots)
- Need shoreline access, especially south Kitsap; this is part of protection, shorelines are important (3 dots)
- Develop more in-land routes; easier to prevent pollution than clean it up (2 dots)

- Need to undo prior damage and need enhancement (2 dots)
- There are abandoned watersheds (1 dot)
- When does “protection” stop? How do we measure?
- Status quo: no growth, then can protect
- Can’t stop growth, people are born and raised here
- Say how to protect and enhance, e.g., alternative fuels
- Critical Areas Ordinance is aggressive
- Natural resources such as agriculture, forestry, mineral are part of the balance
- Freeze sales, keep for future generations and donate
- Enhancement affects private owners
- Natural resources: clamming, commercial and enjoyment
- Critical Areas Ordinance controls small animals
- Government can sell your land, eminent domain

Additions

- None noted

Revisions

- Clarify “natural resources”—part of balance (1 dot)
- Protect the natural environment

Deletions

- Remove “enhancement” (3 dots)
- Keep “enhancement”

General Comments About Vision Statement B

- How have we done with each GMA goal; measure how we’re doing and correct it (2 dots)
- New development not attractive; small lots, not enough play areas (1 dot)
- Have retail within walking distance, but can’t compete with Wal-Mart (1 dot)
- Need sewer to get densities (1 dot)
- Services mean different things in rural and urban areas
- County should have taken high population growth number and applied a market factor
- UGAs have substandard roads



- Need adequate land in UGAs
- No competition among sellers
- High quality could mean unaffordable for some
- Need to address realistic markets, free economic conditions
- Make sure plan works; GMA doesn't work, help change it, people sleeping in cars
- Process is broken; plans and goals with people don't need vision

Additions

- Add "rural" to "urban" communities (4 dots)
- Adequate and timely services (3 dots)
- Recognize and allow free market economy (2 dots)
- Add livable "for everyone"
- Make "livable" for everyone
- Based on sound economic principles

New Vision Statement Suggestions

- New vision element based on 5 economic priorities (11 dots):
 - Achieve economic stability
 - Provide economic growth
 - Provide growth with economic efficiencies
 - Provide growth with economic security
 - Provide for economic freedom
- Add vision statement regarding alternate forms of energy (2 dots)

Deletions

- Take out "urban" (1 dot)

3.3.2. Group 2: Vision Statements

- C. Creation of a system of open space, parks and greenbelts, that provide opportunities for recreation and that give structure and separation to urban areas. (7 dots)
- D. An efficient and responsive government that works with citizens, governmental entities and Tribes to meet collective needs fairly; and that supports education, environmental protection and human services. (4 dots)

Group 2: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments About Vision Statement C

- Need more urban and neighborhood parks (1 dot)
- Howe Farm Park not being used as a park now
- Made good progress on creation of park/open space system
- How do county and cities share cost of parks developed in county and annexed to city?
- Parks important for making Kitsap a good place to live

Additions

- New urban development should include active and functional recreation space (3 dots)
- Park plans should fit with other uses (1 dot)
- Need more urban neighborhood parks (1 dot)
- Add language to ensure function of park remains over time

Revisions

- Restructure/reorganize to emphasize parks as separate from open space and green belts (7 dots)
- Creation and maintenance of park/open space system (1 dot)

Deletions

- None noted

General Comments About Vision Statement D

- None noted

Additions

- Allow rezones that conform with plan (5 dots)
- Encourage more citizen feedback on government decisions and meet collective needs (3 dots)
- Be more inclusive with citizen participation (2 dots)
- Alternative times, dates (e.g., weekends) and places for public meetings and partner with other groups (e.g., have Girl Scouts provide day care)
- Use alternative means/technologies to get people involved
- Make use of schools and college classes to get younger folks involved



Revisions

- Add “public services” and “human services” (4 dots)
- Add “property rights” between “environmental protection” and “human services” (4 dots)
- Add “community” and “private” to “property rights”
- Remove “efficient” and replace with “friendly”
- Remove “efficient” and focus on “responsive”

Deletions

- None noted

3.3.3. Group 3: Vision Statements

- E. A vital and diversified economy that provides living wage jobs for residents, supported by adequate land for a range of employment uses and that encourages accomplishment of local economic development goals.
- F. Maintenance of the traditional character, appearance, functions and lifestyles of Kitsap County’s rural communities and areas.

Group 3: Flip Chart Transcription

General Comments About Vision Statement E

- Recognize existing rural industry and capture more rural industry, e.g., telecommunications (5 dots)
- Kitsap SEED (Sustainable Energy and Economic Development) Project fits with economic development (4 dots)
- Attract technology businesses with incentives (4 dots)
- Develop existing education system/advanced education system, Kindergarten through Masters level (3 dots)
- Capitalize on the runway (2 dots)
- What is a “living wage?” (2 dots)
- Consider county as an integrated campus (2 dots)
- Every place is a destination (2 dots)
- Clarify “local economic goals”
- Kitsap should be more than just a bedroom community
- Innovation is key

- Focus on necessary infrastructure
- Reduce waste, recycled products

Additions

- None noted

Revisions

- None noted

Deletions

- None noted

General Comments About Vision Statement F

- As properties are acquired, recognize those histories (5 dots)
- Define “rural” (4 dots)
- Ensure densities are appropriate for future urban/rural areas (3 dots)
- Assist in maintenance, focus on rural or traditional lifestyles (1 dot)
- Involve younger generation in historic activities and properties (1 dot)
- Maintenance does not necessarily endorse enhancement
- Preserve murals
- Authenticity is key
- Does “traditional” change or lend to easy definition?

Additions

- Add farms and rural communities (1 dot)
- Add “and urban” to “communities and areas”

Revisions

- County’s communities and “rural areas” (1 dot)

Deletions

- None noted

3.3.4. Group 4: Vision Statements

- G. Creation of an efficient multi-modal transportation system, including roads and highways, ferries, and opportunities for non-motorized travel, that provides efficient access and mobility for county residents and supports our land use pattern.



H. Healthy cities that are the region's centers for employment, affordable housing choices, and civic and cultural activities.

General Comments About Vision Statement G

- Improved Southworth to Seattle ferry routes for passenger and car (35 dots)
- Include transportation plans for Southworth ferry (7 dots)
- Balance new roads with environmental community concerns (4 dots)
- Add licensing for bicycles (3 dots)
- Promote south ferries to state agencies (2 dots)
- Economic incentives/possible tourism (1 dot)
- Possibilities for bicycle improvements (1 dot)
- Increased widths for non-motorized travel (1 dot)
- Additional dock at Southworth ferry terminal (1 dot)
- Reduction or elimination of bus fares to increase ridership (1 dot)
- Concurrency should be updated (1 dot)

Additions

- Subsidized taxis to rural areas (3 dots)
- Separated non-motorized travel paths (2 dots)
- Focus transit in high-use, urban areas, separate system for outlying rural areas (1 dot)
- Increase park and rides (1 dot)
- Accountability and measuring system for transit goals (1 dot)

Revisions

- None noted

Deletions

- None noted

General Comments About Vision Statement H

- Make areas attractive to employees to locate (14 dots)
- Not everyone wants to live in cities (1 dot)
- No cities are centers for regional employment

Additions

- Streamline permitting (20 dots)
- Focus on education as a component of healthy cities (3 dots)
- Preservation of environment and access to environment/parks/natural environment

Revisions

- Affordable and variety of housing choices (13 dots)

Deletions

- None noted

3.4. Written Comment Cards

The following written comment cards were submitted during the meeting:

- Need consultant (or staff facilitator) to not cave in when a citizen dominates. Specifically, he migrated to a group he was not assigned to and began speaking while standing up (all other group members were sitting down). Standing and using a loud voice to dominate are behaviors the facilitator should halt. He may have something worth saying but by being unwilling to listen to others and unaware of the group's conversation, he is intruding and dominating.
- How do we know how well the county has done in following through with prior (existing) vision, goals and policies? Where have the trouble spots been? Are any currently neglected or festering? With these questions in mind, I recommend the county commit to doing a gap analysis to help make mid-course corrections as needed, during the decade ahead, after the 2006 Comp Plan is approved. This could be captured under the Governance Element. Other Puget Sound area jurisdictions have done gap analyses.

Melinda concluded the meeting with reminders about the next steps in the process. A summary of the three workshops will be developed and available on the mykitsap.com Web site within a week or two. The alternatives phase begins in May.

Finally, she encouraged people to visit MyKitsap.org often, use comment cards to express their views, and to spread the word about getting involved.