FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE KITSAP COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION,
TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
REGARDING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO KITSAP COUNTY CODE TITLE 17 ‘SHOOTING FACILITIES’

The Kitsap County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1) The Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW (GMA), requires that Kitsap County’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan and implementing development regulations be subject to continuing review and evaluation. The GMA requires counties to review, and if needed, revise their Comprehensive Plans and implementing development regulations to ensure compliance with the GMA.

2) In 2012, the Board of Commissioners adopted a public safety ordinance related to outdoor shooting facilities to ensure citizen safety by requiring these facilities to demonstrate they have the physical and institutional controls for bullet containment.

3) Currently, the county has two outdoor ranges that fire weapons where projectiles can leave their property. Both facilities have “grandfathered” status for what was in existence in 1992 when they received such status from the Chair of the Board of Commissioners.

4) Kitsap County’s Code (KCC) Title 17, Zoning, lacks development standards for new shooting facilities and those wishing to expand their current operations. Under current code, a new shooting facility would be classified as a private recreational use, subject to KCC Title 17 Zoning and the zoning and use table requirements contained within.

5) The Planning Commission process for Title 17 KCC revisions began with a formal work study with the Planning Commission on January 20, 2015.

6) A legal notice for the Planning Commission public hearing was issued on January 26, 2015.

7) A public hearing was conducted on February 17, 2015.

8) The Planning Commission considered the proposed revisions to Title 17 KCC and on March 17, 2015 recommended approval.
9) The proposed code revisions are consistent with the statewide planning goals contained within the GMA.

10) The proposed code revisions are consistent with the Kitsap County County-Wide Planning Policies and with the goals and policies contained in the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan, including Goal 7 in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element and POS-119 which encourages promoting open space for recreational activities.

11) The proposed code revisions reflect current local circumstances and citizen demands for projectile containment.

12) The proposed code revisions promote the public interest and welfare of the citizens of Kitsap County, and should be approved.

NOW THEREFORE, the Kitsap County Planning Commission recommends to the Board of County Commissioners as follows:

RECOMMENDATION: The Planning Commission unanimously voted to adopt the Title 17 KCC amendments as attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein by this reference:

APPROVED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF, HELD THIS 7TH DAY OF APRIL, 2015.

BY JAMES E. SOMMERHAUSER, CHAIR

4/7/15