

Countywide Planning Policies – DRAFT UGA Swap Policy Updates

[Link to currently adopted Countywide Planning Policies](#)

Existing Proposed Amendments Approved by the UGM Subcommittee on 8/19/2024

➤ **Add to Section 2**

2.5 Revision to an Urban Growth Boundary considered during a periodic update as established by RCW 36.70A.130(5)(b) proposing to swap land inside an urban growth boundary for land outside an urban growth boundary, must demonstrate consistency with the requirements of 36.70A.130(3)(c) and these County-Wide Planning Policies.

2.6 Revision to an Urban Growth Boundary considered as part of the County's annual review in accordance with RCW 36.70A.130(2)(a) proposing to swap land inside an urban growth boundary for land outside an urban growth boundary, must demonstrate consistency with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.110(8) and these County-Wide Planning Policies.

Alternative Proposed Amendments, based on Planning Directors meetings on 9/12/2024 and 10/14/24

➤ **Revise Policy 2.3**

2.3 Amendments to the urban growth boundaries must be led by a jurisdiction and use the following process:

- a. Cities and towns will confer with the county about boundary location or amendment.
- b. If proposing an urban growth boundary swap as described in Policy 2.6 (NEW), affected cities and towns will approve an Interlocal Agreement with the county that outlines roles and responsibilities, and identifies expectations throughout the boundary amendment process, including on review timelines, noticing of affected properties, land use and zoning, provision of utilities, and revenue sharing.
- c. Proposed boundaries are presented to the Urban Growth Management (UGM) subcommittee of Thurston Regional Planning Council, which makes a recommendation directly to the Board of County Commissioners.
- d. Following a public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners designates the boundaries and justifies its decision in writing.
- e. Cities and towns not in agreement with the boundary designation may request mediation through the State Department of Commerce.
- f. At least every 10 years, growth boundaries will be reviewed based on updated 20-year population projections.
- g. Appeals of decisions made through this process are per the State Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A.

➤ **Add new Policy 2.6**

2.6 Revision of the Urban Growth Boundary proposing to swap land inside an urban growth boundary for land outside an urban growth boundary must demonstrate consistency with the following criteria:

- a. The county or a city or town has determined that patterns of development have created pressure for development in areas that exceed the amount of available developable lands within the Urban Growth Area, through any of the following means:
 - i. The review and evaluation program referenced in CWPP 11.1 (“Buildable Lands Program”), and either a joint plan or subarea plan adopted by the affected city or town and county, as described in Section IV; or
 - ii. Other analysis approved jointly by affected jurisdictions as reflected in the interlocal agreement and consistent with state guidance.
- b. Sufficient land will remain within the revised Urban Growth Boundary to permit the urban growth that is forecast to occur in the succeeding 20 years.
- c. The revised boundary will provide for cost-effective sewer and water and transportation service areas, as applicable for each urban growth area, including:
 - i. For South County jurisdictions: the area proposed to be added to the urban growth boundary can and will be served by municipal water and transportation in the succeeding 20 years. South County jurisdictions must demonstrate that the expansion can be served by sewage disposal measures that provide for the effective treatment of wastewater in the succeeding 20 years.
 - ii. For North County jurisdictions: the area proposed to be added to the urban growth boundary can and will be served by municipal sewer, water, and transportation in the succeeding 20 years.
- d. Revisions considered during a periodic update as established by RCW 36.70A.130(5)(b) must demonstrate consistency with the requirements of 36.70A.130(3)(c) and these County-Wide Planning Policies.
- e. Revisions considered as part of the county’s annual review of Comprehensive Plan amendments under 36.70A.130(2)(a) must demonstrate consistency with RCW 36.70A.110(8) and these County-Wide Planning Policies.