

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
AUDITORIUM
SPECIAL MEETING**

TUESDAY

6:00 P.M.

JUNE 2, 2026

Board members present: Chairman Cory Wright; Vice-Chairman Brett Wachsmith and Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; Mandy Buchholz, Office Administrator; Josh Fredrickson, Public Works Director; Jeremy Johnston, Planner II - Long Range; Chad Bala, CDS Director; Stephanie Hartung, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor; Jamey Ayling, Planning Manager; James McCubbin, Deputy Prosecutor III; and approximately 25 members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

CDS

At 6:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WRIGHT** opened a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the 2026-2046 Periodic Comprehensive Plan Update.

CHAD BALA, CDS DIRECTOR, provided a Staff Report and reviewed general information, an overview of public participation, environmental review, agency and public comments, and recommendations.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: JILL MERWIN urged the Board to adopt the red-line revision of Easton Subarea plan. **GINA PECKMAN** expressed her strong support for the Easton Subarea Plan. She recognized Staff for their genuine act of listening and how they showed up for the unincorporated areas of Easton. **MARGE BRANDSRUD** echoed support for the Easton Subarea Plan. She said the Community Development Services Department were excellent to work with and helped the residents of Easton understand the foundation. **JUSTIN DAVIS, CITY OF ROSLYN COUNCIL MEMBER**, provided comments on the public safety and traffic concerns along the SR903 corridor, specifically north of Roslyn along Lake Cle Elum. He requested a pause on the rezone along SR903 until the study from COG has been published within the next 18 months. **FRANNY CASTRILLI** thanked the Staff from Community Development Services for including the community's feedback and noted she was in favor of the most recent edits of the Easton Subarea Plan. **TERESA CASTRILLI** thanked the County Staff and expressed concerns with the I-90 shutdowns and how they should be declared as hazardous to their community. **SHELLEY McMASTER** spoke in support of the Easton Subarea Plan. She felt it recognized what makes Easton special including a sense of community. **JOSH McBRIDE**, President of Snoqualmie Pass Community Association, appreciated the efforts from Community Development Services, in particular their work on the Subarea Plan. He provided information on the difficulty

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they have in their area where they have two different counties, and how it's a complex area. **DEBBIE BOGART** appreciated the process that was conducted by Staff and felt it was a historic moment for their community. She urged the Board to adopt the red-line version of the Easton Subarea Plan. **JOHN JENSEN** thanked Staff for their work with their community and recognized those who worked on it back in 1996 and 2010 and hoped they will get across the finish line. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

MR. BALA explained how State law does not allow for LMRID expansions.

COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ moved to approve the 2026 Periodic Comprehensive Plan, adopting amendments in batch 1, 3, 4 and 5 with amendments; add language for four Policies which were read into the record, and to bring back enabling documents to the Closed Record Hearing on June 16, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Policy #1

The County will encourage coordinated transportation and continued evaluation of transportation conditions and impacts associated with existing and proposed development along State Route 903 corridor. In cooperation with the Washington State Department of Transportation, local jurisdictions, service providers, and affected stakeholders, the County may support or pursue corridor studies, intersection analyses, access management strategies, multimodal transportation improvements, and other planning efforts intended to improve public safety, mobility, and long-term transportation function.

Policy #2

The County may consider transportation impacts associated with development proposals along the SR 903 Corridor through the application of existing development regulations, level of service standards, SEPA review, concurrency requirements, and other applicable laws and procedures.

Policy #3

The County may also evaluate opportunities for future roadway jurisdictional coordination, including potential roadway transfer or new corridor transportation discussions with state or local agencies, where such action could improve long-term corridor management, maintenance responsibilities, transportation planning flexibility, or community needs. Evaluation of such options shall not obligate the County to pursue or accept any transfer of jurisdiction unless separately authorized through future County action.

Policy #4

Kittitas County recognized the need to periodically review and update its development regulations and implement codes to maintain consistency with amendments to Washington State law and state agency guidance adopted since the County's previous Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations update cycle. The County is not proposing increases in allowable development densities, expansion of urban growth areas, limited areas of more intense development (LAMIRD's) or broad increases in development density as part of this update process.

These policies are intended to supplement and work in conjunction with existing Comprehensive Plan Policies, Transportation plans, and Development Regulations currently in effect.

VICE-CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH seconded.

COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ felt it had been a good and interesting process. The Board recognized and thanked Staff for their hard work and going through a challenging process.

Motion carried 3-0.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT noted the Public Hearing was continued to June 16, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. and no additional testimony or evidence is to be provided.

PUBLIC HEARING CRITICAL AREAS & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS CDS

At 6:56 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WRIGHT** opened a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the critical areas and development regulations associated with the 2026-2046 Periodic Comprehensive Plan update.

CHAD BALA, CDS DIRECTOR, reviewed a brief Staff Report. He said the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval with two amendments by adding language to the "Qualified Professional" definition in KCC 17A.02.620(1) to read "For wetlands, Professional Wetland Scientist Certification, or other documents of expertise, and five years of experience is required". And to remove the following language from KCC 17A.07.020(2) "as new wetland areas are identified and." Leaving the associated sentence to read "The County shall update the maps periodically as new wetland information becomes available".

THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

VICE-CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH moved to approve adoption of the Critical Areas and Development Regulations as recommended, with the two amendments recommended by the Planning Commission and recommend Staff to prepare enabling documents. **COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** seconded.

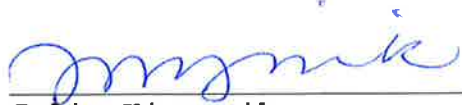
CHAIRMAN WRIGHT explained how he was not in favor of the 5-year training requirement and felt the quality of work would either rise or fall and no magic number of years of experience.

VICE-CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH withdrew the motion.

VICE-CHAIRMAN moved to approve the proposed amendments to the Critical Areas and Development Regulations as recommended by Staff, with an amendment to the Planning Commission's recommendation, Amendment #1, instructing Staff to remove their recommendation to add a requirement of 5-years of experience for a wetland "Qualified Professional" in Title 17A.02.620(1), and instruct Staff to prepare enabling documents. **COMMISSIONER OSIADACZ** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting concluded at 7:10 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD



Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Brett Wachsmith, Vice-Chairman