Comprehensive Plan & Code Revisions

2013 Annual Amendments

Suggested amendments to the County’s Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations (Kittitas County Code—KCC) are docketed with Community Development Services each year for consideration by the Kittitas County Planning Commission and the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners (KCC 15B.03.030). The 2013 docket is as follows:

1. KCC Title 15A: Hearing Examiner
2. KCC Title 17: Accessory Living Quarters
3. KCC Title 17: Allowed Uses | Definitions
4. KCC Title 17.60A: Administrative Conditional Use Permits (ACUPS)
5. KCC Title 18: Enforcement
6. Amendment to Wind Farm Overlay Area

County Moves Closer to GMA Compliant Comprehensive Plan

On May 31, 2013, the Growth Management Hearings Board issued a Compliance Order stating that the County’s recent efforts to revise comprehensive plan policies and development regulations had succeeded in correcting all but one of the outstanding compliance issues. The County will have until October 28, 2013, to develop policy language to address “Measures to protect the Rural Character of the area.” This may also include creating development regulations to implement the new policies. Any new amendments to the Code or Comprehensive Plan are expected to go into effect on November 1, 2013. The policies, development regulations, and zoning designations confirmed by the Compliance Order are available on the Community Development Department website under the “Hot Topics” column within the “GMA Compliance-2012” and the “Meetings/Materials” page within the Ordinance 2013-001. The new regulations went into effect on June 3, 2013, and have been incorporated within the Code on the County’s webpage.

Measuring New Water Use for Compliance with GMA

The County is revising the current Comprehensive Plan language and related development regulations as they apply to future water use in the County. This effort is being made in order to come into compliance with the State’s Growth Management Act since some aspects of the County’s current Plan and Code have been determined not consistent with State laws that guide water use. The regulations being proposed at this time will require proposed residential projects with approved right to use water to be monitored through a meter reading system after November 1, 2013. New residential uses utilizing water from an individual well, a Group B water system, or a Shared Water System will be limited to an annual average of 350 gallons per day for residential use, and incidental outdoor usage up to 500 square feet. No more than three times the permitted daily usage (1050 gallons) will be allowed on any given day. A closed record meeting with the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners is scheduled for August 7, and is tentatively scheduled for the Teanaway Hall at the County’s Fairgrounds in Ellensburg. Public
Measuring New Water Use continued . . .

hearings before the Planning Commission are scheduled for August 13, and hearings before the Board of County Commissioners are planned to begin on September 4 after Labor Day. Decisions on any amendment to regulations or the Comprehensive Plan will be done by October 12th of this year and become effective November 1, 2013. The County is seeking input on the proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and the regulations implementing the Plan. Current proposed Code revisions are listed on the website under “Kittitas County Meeting GMA Compliance on Water Use.”

Road Standards

Kittitas County Public Works is still in the process of updating the Road Standards. The update was put on hold in early 2012 in order to allow the GMA compliance process to be completed. Public Works plans to restart the update process this summer and hopes to hold public hearings in the fall and winter. The process will begin with a review of the proposed Road Standards to ensure they support the revisions to the Development Code and Comprehensive Plan required by the GMA compliance process.

The draft Road Standards and information on the update process is on the County website at http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/public-works/development/road-standards.aspx.

Upcoming Public Meetings

The following are TENTATIVE meeting dates and locations:

**August 20, 2013 — DOCKET**
Annual Comp. Plan Amendment Open House
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
TBD

**September 24, 2013 — DOCKET**
Planning Commission Public Hearing
Annual Comp Plan Amendment
6:00 p.m. Commissioners’ Auditorium
205 W. 5th Street, Ellensburg

**November 5, 2013 — DOCKET**
Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing
Annual Comp. Plan Amendment
6:00 p.m. Commissioners’ Auditorium
205 West Fifth Street, Ellensburg

**August 13, 2013 — COMPLIANCE**
Planning Commission Public Hearing
GMA Compliance
6:00 p.m. Commissioners’ Auditorium
205 W. 5th Street, Ellensburg

**September 4, 2013 — COMPLIANCE**
Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing
GMA Compliance
6:00 p.m. Commissioners’ Auditorium
205 West Fifth Street, Ellensburg