How does the amendment process work?

Suggested changes are submitted by June 30th of each year.

Docket is created and available for public review of all suggested amendments.

Written comments accepted up to the closing of the Board of Commissioners' public hearing.

Public notice provided for any study sessions and hearings regarding amendments.

A newsletter shall be distributed and copies of proposed amendments made available.

The Planning Commission and County Commissioners review testimony and decide by December 31st of each year.

Notice of Decision is to be published.

Inside this issue:

1. 2015 Annual Amendments
   - Summary of 2015 Annual Amendments
   - Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Status Update
   - Comprehensive Plan and Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) Update
   - Upcoming Public Meetings

2. KCC Title 12 Roads Standards Update
   - Amend to permit acceptance of public road within subdivision at preliminary plat instead of requiring separate public hearing

3. KCC Title 13 Water and Sewers
   - Amend Site Evaluation requirements for determining water availability.
   - Allow subdivision without requiring mitigation when conservation easement placed on property — removable by amendment
   - Streamline water availability process for building permits on lots within plats that have determined “adequate water availability”

4. KCC Title 14 Buildings and Construction
   - Amendments to following:
     * Building appeals board
     * RV definition consistency
     * Manufactured home (MFH) definition
     * Delete MFH snow load exemption (14.04.040)
     * Delete dry cabins 14.04.050
     * Clarify Small Residential Structures (14.04.55)
     * Clarify Exemption for Ag and Mining Uses (14.05)

5. KCC Title 15A Project Permit Application Process
   - Amend review and decision procedures to authorize Hearing Examiner to make final land use decisions
   - Establish vesting for land use permits to supplement vesting governed by RCW 58.17 and RCW 19.27.095

6. KCC Title 17 Zoning
   - Amend Definitions based on Title 14 | Title 17 amendments
   - Renumber farm stands (17.08.256)
   - Allow duplexes in Rural zone
   - Allow primitive campgrounds in FR zone
   - Allow campgrounds as CUP in CF zone
   - Clarify P/AC/C for utilities on allowed use tables
   - Definition for allowance of Ag Tourism
   - Allow Ag Tourism uses in Ag 20, Commercial Ag, FR zones
Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Status Update

The end of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update process is near! The Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners approved the County’s updated Shoreline Master Program (SMP) on December 2, 2014. The locally adopted SMP was transmitted to the Department of Ecology before the end of 2014 for final approval. Ecology provided an opportunity for public comment from March 2—April 2, 2015. The County is in the process of reviewing the comments received and preparing a response as to how the SMP addresses the public comments and is consistent with the policy of RCW 90.58.020 and the WAC guidelines. The County is expected to transmit its response by the end of July. Upon receipt, Ecology will continue their review of the SMP and either approve the SMP, recommend changes or deny the SMP in some instances.

Comprehensive Plan and Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) Update

The GMA requires counties and cities to periodically conduct a thorough review of their plans and regulations to bring them in line with any relevant changes in the GMA and to accommodate updated growth targets. The next periodic update, the 2037 Comprehensive Plan, is required to be adopted by June 30, 2017. The 2037 Plan will address a broad range of topics that include: population growth, economic development, and transportation needs for the next 20 years. The County is currently gathering preliminary information and working with the Conference of Governments to update the Countywide Planning Policies and population projections and allocations. Beginning in January 2016 there will be a variety of public engagement opportunities such as visioning workshops, open houses, and advisory committees.

The CAO update will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan update. The CAO update process began in 2012 and included a Technical Advisory Committee which provided recommendations on draft policies and regulations.

Upcoming Public Meetings

See below for TENTATIVE meeting dates locations:

**2015 DOCKET**

**September 29, 2015**
Annual Comp. Plan Amendment Open House
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Armony Hall

**October 27, 2015**
Planning Commission Public Hearing
Annual Comp Plan Amendment
6:00 p.m. Commissioners’ Auditorium
205 W. 5th Street, Ellensburg

**November 24, 2015**
Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing
Annual Comp. Plan Amendment
6:00 p.m. Commissioners’ Auditorium
205 W. 5th Street, Ellensburg

Coming in JANUARY 2016...

**Twenty-year Comprehensive Plan**
Stay tuned for opportunities to provide guidance and feedback on the Kittitas County’s 2017—2037 Twenty-year Comprehensive Plan!