

*Land Use & Climate Change Advisory Committee*

## Potential Recommendation: Amend County-wide Planning Policy (CWPPs) and Multicounty Planning Policy Requirements (MPPs)

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Encouraging more focused compact development in urban growth areas will result in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, a reduction in per capita vehicle miles traveled, help to reduce our state's dependence on foreign oil, and help to conserve resource lands.

**Idea:**

Require that jurisdictions update their County-wide Planning Policies, and Multicounty Planning Policies (where required), to address climate change issues.

**Intent of the Idea:**

Some jurisdictions update their CWPPs and/or MPPs on a fairly regular basis. However, there is not a requirement to update the policies. The CWPPs and MPPs are the framework under which many regional issues are addressed in each jurisdiction's comprehensive plans. While the Growth Management Act does spell out certain items that must be addressed in these policies, it does not include provisions to address climate change.

**Intended Outcome/Purpose:**

By adding this requirement, all fully planning counties and cities located within them, would be required to establish a framework under which they would address climate change issues. It would help to ensure consistency among the jurisdictions planning under that framework.

**Draft Language:** Partial excerpts from RCW 36.70A.210:

(3) A county-wide planning policy shall at a minimum, address the following:

- (a) Policies to implement RCW [36.70A.110](#);
- (b) Policies for promotion of contiguous and orderly development and provision of urban services to such development;
- (c) Policies for siting public capital facilities of a county-wide or statewide nature, including transportation facilities of statewide significance as defined in RCW [47.06.140](#);
- (d) Policies for county-wide transportation facilities and strategies;
- (e) Policies that consider the need for affordable housing, such as housing for all economic segments of the population and parameters for its distribution;
- (f) Policies for joint county and city planning within urban growth areas;
- (g) Policies for county-wide economic development and employment; ~~and~~
- (h) An analysis of the fiscal impact; ~~and~~

(i) Policies to address climate change issues through reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and to reduce dependence on foreign oil.

Existing RCW language for MPPs in RCW 36.70A.210 (7):

Multicounty planning policies shall be adopted by two or more counties, each with a population of four hundred fifty thousand or more, with contiguous urban areas and may be adopted by other counties, according to the process established under this section or other processes agreed to among the counties and cities within the affected counties throughout the multicounty region.