



# Growth Management Services

Issue 7 - September 2007

The Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) invests in Washington's communities, businesses, and families to build a healthy and prosperous future.

Greetings!

Welcome to the Planner's Update, an electronic newsletter from CTED Growth Management Services.

We send this newsletter monthly to share helpful information related to planning in Washington state. We hope the electronic format will allow you to quickly review the information and find more detail on those topics most important to you.

Please feel free to send us any comments or ideas for how to make this newsletter more useful. You can also use the link below to provide additional names of planners who might like to subscribe.

Leonard Bauer, AICP  
Managing Director  
Growth Management Services

## Planner's Update: News That Planners Can Use

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### GMA Administrative Guidelines Update Project

When the Growth Management Act (GMA) was passed, the Legislature directed CTED to develop a series of administrative guidelines to help local governments interpret and implement the Growth Management Act. These guidelines were adopted under the Administrative Procedures Act in 1991 and 1992 as WAC [365-190](#) and [365-195](#).

During the 2007-2009 Biennium, CTED will review and adopt updates to these administrative guidelines. This process will be complete by June 2009. This process will not include WAC 365-197, Project Consistency, or WAC 365-195-900, Best Available Science, adopted in 2000.

CTED plans to conduct the process in three phases:

- Initial scoping will occur in 2007. Plan to attend one of our listening sessions the third week of October:

**Monday, October 15**  
**City Council Chambers**  
210 E 13th Street  
Vancouver, Wash.

## GMA Competitive Grant Application Due Soon

Applications for 2007-2009 Competitive GMA Grants must be submitted to CTED no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, September 17, 2007.

Information and application forms are available at:  
[www.cted.wa.gov/site/378/default.aspx](http://www.cted.wa.gov/site/378/default.aspx)

For more information about CTED's Competitive GMA Planning Grants, please contact the GMA Competitive Grants coordinator at 360-725-3051 or e-mail: <mailto:gmsgrants@cted.wa.gov>

## Fall 2007 Planner Forums

### Eastern Washington

October 17, 2007 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Moses Lake

For more information, contact Ted Gage at [tedg@cted.wa.gov](mailto:tedg@cted.wa.gov) or call 360-725-3049

### Southwest Washington

October 18, 2007 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Vancouver

For more information, contact Valerie Grigg Devis at [valeriegd@cted.wa.gov](mailto:valeriegd@cted.wa.gov) or call 360-725-3065

### Olympic Peninsula

October 19, 2007 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The Peninsula Section will be hosting its annual conference on October 19 at the Shelton Civic Center in place of the regularly scheduled Fall Quarterly Planner Forum. The conference theme is "The Evolution of Community Planning in Washington." The agenda will be posted soon at: [www.washington-apa.org/sections/peninsula.shtml](http://www.washington-apa.org/sections/peninsula.shtml)

For more information, contact Tim Gates at

**Tuesday, October 16**

**Cotton Tree Inn**

2300 Market Place  
Mount Vernon, Wash.

**Wednesday, October 17**

**Clover Park Technical College**

Building #3 Rotunda  
4500 Steilacoom Blvd. SW  
Lakewood, Wash.

**Thursday, October 18**

**Big Bend Community College**

Apex Room, Building 1800  
7662 Chanute Street NE  
Moses Lake, Wash.

- CTED will adopt minor, housekeeping changes in 2008.
- A second phase consisting of more substantial changes will be adopted in early 2009.
- CTED intends to complete the process before jurisdictions must start work on the next round of comprehensive plan and development regulation updates, due in 2011.

For more information, go to: [www.cted.wa.gov/site/1043/default.aspx](http://www.cted.wa.gov/site/1043/default.aspx)

or contact Dave Andersen at <mailto:davida@cted.wa.gov>

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## 2007 Governor's Smart Communities Awards

The 2007 Governor's Smart Communities Awards reception is September 26, 2007, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Capitol Legislative Building, Columbia Room, in Olympia.

The awards recognize outstanding efforts of local communities and their partners to create quality communities through achieving the goals of the Growth Management Act and other development objectives.

If you want to attend, please RSVP by September 19, 2007 to [govsmartcomm@cted.wa.gov](mailto:govsmartcomm@cted.wa.gov) or call 360-725-3000.

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## New Q&A on three-year "time-out for agriculture" bill

CTED published a technical assistance guidance document with answers to questions about SSB 5248, passed this year. SSB 5248 changes the GMA temporarily regarding how critical areas regulations affect agricultural activities. The new law directs the Ruckelshaus Center to examine conflicts between agricultural activities and critical area ordinances (CAOs) adopted under GMA, and work with stakeholders to craft a collaborative solution to address possible conflicts.

[timg@cted.wa.gov](mailto:timg@cted.wa.gov) or call  
360-725-3058

The forums provide an opportunity for planners, planning commissioners and elected officials to talk informally about local issues, share ideas, and receive updates from state and federal agencies whose work impacts land use.

Sponsored by:  
Washington State Chapter of the  
American Planning Association  
The Planning Association of  
Washington  
Washington State Department of  
Community, Trade and Economic  
Development

The law has created a three-year delay, or "time-out," on new CAO provisions affecting agricultural activities, while the center develops recommendations. The guidance document explains how the amendment affects local government obligations under the GMA.

For more information, please contact either Doug Peters at [douglasp@cted.wa.gov](mailto:douglasp@cted.wa.gov) or 360-725-3046 or Tim Gates at [timg@cted.wa.gov](mailto:timg@cted.wa.gov) or 360-725-3058.

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### **Growth Management Act 2007 Population Projections**

As directed by statute, RCW 43.62.035, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) prepares a range of possible population growth for Washington's counties to use as they plan for growth under the GMA. The GMA county projections are developed within the framework of expected state population growth through 2030. The state forecast update was developed after the official April 1, 2007, population estimates were finalized in June. This data provides an additional year of population change for each county and the state.

The 2002 GMA projections have proved to be very successful in terms of near-term accuracy. The vast majority of the 2002 projections for Washington's counties will remain unchanged or only incorporate modest adjustments in the 2007 update. County revisions are now in progress. In late September, projection review packets will be sent to the highest elected officials and planners in all cities, towns, and counties. At that time the preliminary projections will also be posted on the Web at [www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/gma/default.asp](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/gma/default.asp).

OFM's Growth Management Web page currently has graphs showing how each county's population estimates through 2007 compare to the 2002 GMA projections (see selection No. 4). If you have questions, contact Theresa J. Lowe at 360-902-0588 or [theresa.lowe@ofm.wa.gov](mailto:theresa.lowe@ofm.wa.gov).

#### **Quick Links**

[www.cted.wa.gov/growth](http://www.cted.wa.gov/growth)  
[www.mrsc.org](http://www.mrsc.org)  
[www.smartgrowth.org](http://www.smartgrowth.org)  
[www.planningpaw.org](http://www.planningpaw.org)  
[www.washington-apa.org](http://www.washington-apa.org)

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[Lindawe@cted.wa.gov](mailto:Lindawe@cted.wa.gov)

**Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development  
Growth Management Services 360-725-3000**