

HB 2657 - DIGEST

Requires the land use element of a comprehensive plan to designate, as appropriate, a sufficient quantity of land needed for residential uses consistent with the range of the growth management population projections made for the county by the office of financial management, and a sufficient quantity of land needed for commercial, industrial, and other nonresidential uses.

Provides a comprehensive plan may provide for innovative land use management techniques, including, but not limited to, density bonuses, cluster housing, planned unit developments, mixed-use development, accessory dwelling units, and the transfer of development rights. Jurisdictions that are not subject to the requirements of RCW 43.63A.215 may provide for accessory dwelling units in their comprehensive plans and development regulations.

Allows a county and one or more of its cities, or two or more counties sharing a common border and their cities, to adopt countywide planning policies or multicounty planning policies establishing subregions in order to address housing and employment markets that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Requires counties subject to RCW 36.70A.215 and counties east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range with a population greater than four hundred thousand to: (1) Consult with cities within each urban growth area in the county about developing criteria and procedures that may improve the process of modifying or designating new urban growth areas;

(2) Upon request, consult with any city or cities within the county that abut an unincorporated urban growth area or areas about adopting consistent development standards with those of the city or cities located within or adjacent to the urban growth areas; and

(3) Submit a report to the appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the senate by December 1, 2008, summarizing findings and recommendations resulting from the consultations.