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SENATE BILL 5733

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Bauer, McCaslin, Snyder, Rasmussen, Winsley and Palmer

Read first time 02/02/95. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to comprehensive plan rural elements; and amending  
2 RCW 36.70A.070.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.070 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 7 are each  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 The comprehensive plan of a county or city that is required or  
7 chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall consist of a map or maps,  
8 and descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards  
9 used to develop the comprehensive plan. The plan shall be an  
10 internally consistent document and all elements shall be consistent  
11 with the future land use map. A comprehensive plan shall be adopted  
12 and amended with public participation as provided in RCW 36.70A.140.

13 Each comprehensive plan shall include a plan, scheme, or design for  
14 each of the following:

15 (1) A land use element designating the proposed general  
16 distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land, where  
17 appropriate, for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce,  
18 industry, recreation, open spaces, public utilities, public facilities,  
19 and other land uses. The land use element shall include population

1 densities, building intensities, and estimates of future population  
2 growth. The land use element shall provide for protection of the  
3 quality and quantity of ground water used for public water supplies.  
4 Where applicable, the land use element shall review drainage, flooding,  
5 and storm water run-off in the area and nearby jurisdictions and  
6 provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those  
7 discharges that pollute waters of the state, including Puget Sound or  
8 waters entering Puget Sound.

9 (2) A housing element recognizing the vitality and character of  
10 established residential neighborhoods that: (a) Includes an inventory  
11 and analysis of existing and projected housing needs; (b) includes a  
12 statement of goals, policies, and objectives for the preservation,  
13 improvement, and development of housing; (c) identifies sufficient land  
14 for housing, including, but not limited to, government-assisted  
15 housing, housing for low-income families, manufactured housing,  
16 multifamily housing, and group homes and foster care facilities; and  
17 (d) makes adequate provisions for existing and projected needs of all  
18 economic segments of the community.

19 (3) A capital facilities plan element consisting of: (a) An  
20 inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities,  
21 showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities; (b) a  
22 forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities; (c) the  
23 proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital  
24 facilities; (d) at least a six-year plan that will finance such capital  
25 facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies  
26 sources of public money for such purposes; and (e) a requirement to  
27 reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of  
28 meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital  
29 facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital  
30 facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.

31 (4) A utilities element consisting of the general location,  
32 proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities,  
33 including, but not limited to, electrical lines, telecommunication  
34 lines, and natural gas lines.

35 (5) Counties shall include a rural element including lands that are  
36 not designated for urban growth, agriculture, forest, or mineral  
37 resources. The rural element shall permit land uses that are  
38 compatible with the rural character of such lands and provide for a  
39 variety of rural densities. The density requirements of the rural

1 element of the plan shall allow a waiver for a child or grandchild of  
2 an owner of land currently being used for agricultural purposes and the  
3 child's or grandchild's immediate family to occupy a separate, single-  
4 family dwelling to be built within the same parcel of land.

5 (6) A transportation element that implements, and is consistent  
6 with, the land use element. The transportation element shall include  
7 the following subelements:

8 (a) Land use assumptions used in estimating travel;

9 (b) Facilities and services needs, including:

10 (i) An inventory of air, water, and land transportation facilities  
11 and services, including transit alignments, to define existing capital  
12 facilities and travel levels as a basis for future planning;

13 (ii) Level of service standards for all arterials and transit  
14 routes to serve as a gauge to judge performance of the system. These  
15 standards should be regionally coordinated;

16 (iii) Specific actions and requirements for bringing into  
17 compliance any facilities or services that are below an established  
18 level of service standard;

19 (iv) Forecasts of traffic for at least ten years based on the  
20 adopted land use plan to provide information on the location, timing,  
21 and capacity needs of future growth;

22 (v) Identification of system expansion needs and transportation  
23 system management needs to meet current and future demands;

24 (c) Finance, including:

25 (i) An analysis of funding capability to judge needs against  
26 probable funding resources;

27 (ii) A multiyear financing plan based on the needs identified in  
28 the comprehensive plan, the appropriate parts of which shall serve as  
29 the basis for the six-year street, road, or transit program required by  
30 RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW  
31 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems;

32 (iii) If probable funding falls short of meeting identified needs,  
33 a discussion of how additional funding will be raised, or how land use  
34 assumptions will be reassessed to ensure that level of service  
35 standards will be met;

36 (d) Intergovernmental coordination efforts, including an assessment  
37 of the impacts of the transportation plan and land use assumptions on  
38 the transportation systems of adjacent jurisdictions;

39 (e) Demand-management strategies.

1       After adoption of the comprehensive plan by jurisdictions required  
2 to plan or who choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, local jurisdictions  
3 must adopt and enforce ordinances which prohibit development approval  
4 if the development causes the level of service on a transportation  
5 facility to decline below the standards adopted in the transportation  
6 element of the comprehensive plan, unless transportation improvements  
7 or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are made  
8 concurrent with the development. These strategies may include  
9 increased public transportation service, ride sharing programs, demand  
10 management, and other transportation systems management strategies.  
11 For the purposes of this subsection (6) "concurrent with the  
12 development" shall mean that improvements or strategies are in place at  
13 the time of development, or that a financial commitment is in place to  
14 complete the improvements or strategies within six years.

15       The transportation element described in this subsection, and the  
16 six-year plans required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for  
17 counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems, must be  
18 consistent.

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