Title 242 WAC  
COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
(GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARDS)

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(2001 Ed.)
WAC 242-02-020 Function—Local deference. (1) The function of a board is to make informed decisions on appeals arising from implementation of the Growth Management Act in a clear, consistent, timely, and impartial manner that recognizes regional diversity.

(2) The legislature requires growth management planning to occur in compliance with the goals and requirements of the act. The responsibility for managing local growth and shaping a county’s or city’s future rests with the local community. The boards will grant deference to counties and cities in how they plan for and manage growth.

WAC 242-02-030 Jurisdiction. This section is intended to be general and informational only, and failure to list matters over which a board has jurisdiction at law shall not constitute any waiver of or withdrawal from such jurisdiction.

(1) Geographic jurisdiction. Each board shall hear only those matters pertaining to the cities and counties located within its jurisdictional boundaries. The boundaries are as follows:

(a) The Eastern Washington board includes all counties and the cities now or subsequently located within those counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and are located east of the crest of the Cascade mountains;

(b) The Central Puget Sound board includes and is limited to King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties, and the cities now or subsequently located within those counties; and

(c) The Western Washington board includes all counties and the cities now or subsequently located within those counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and are located west of the crest of the Cascade mountains and are not included in the Central Puget Sound board boundaries;

(d) Skamania County, should it be required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, may elect to be included within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Western or Eastern Washington boards.

(2) Subject matter jurisdiction. Each board shall hear and determine petitions alleging that a state agency, county, or city is not in compliance with the requirements of the act, or chapter 90.58 RCW as it relates to the adoption of or amendment of shoreline master programs, or chapter 43.21C RCW as it relates to plans, development regulations, and amendments adopted under the act or chapter 90.58 RCW; or, petitions from cities or the governor relating to an adopted county-wide planning policy; or, that the twenty-year growth management planning projections adopted by the office of financial management pursuant to RCW 43.62.035 should be adjusted.

(3) Jurisdictional issues. Any party to a proceeding before a board may, by motion, challenge the jurisdiction of that board in any petition for review. A board may, upon its own motion, raise such an issue.
WAC 242-02-040 Definitions. As used in this title, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

1. "Act" means chapter 36.70A RCW, and subsequent amendments.
2. "Board" means the Eastern Washington, Western Washington or Central Puget Sound growth management hearings board.
3. "Final decision" means:
   a. Any final order as provided in RCW 36.70A.300; or
   b. Any other written finding, determination or order of the board which finally determines a legal right, duty, or other legal interest of the parties in the case and which clearly states such written finding, determination or order that it is a final decision subject to appeal to superior court.
4. "Hearing examiner" means an authorized agent of a board who has a demonstrated knowledge of land use planning and law, appointed to assist the board in the performance of its hearing function as delegated by the board as provided by the act.
5. "Joint boards" means the three independent boards meeting or acting jointly.
6. "Participant" means any person with standing to challenge a legislative action as set forth in RCW 36.70A.330(2).
7. "Party" means any person named in the caption of a case before a board.
8. "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, state agency, governmental subdivision or unit, or public or private organization or entity of any character.
9. "Petitioner" means a person who appeals any matter or who brings a petition for rule making to the board. A petitioner is a party to a case before the board.
10. "Presiding officer" means any member of a board, or a hearing examiner, who is assigned to conduct a conference or hearing as directed by a board. The presiding officer shall be designated pursuant to WAC 242-02-521 and have authority as provided by WAC 242-02-522.
11. "Publication" means:
   a. For a city, the date the city publishes the ordinance or summary of the ordinance adopting a comprehensive plan, development regulations or subsequent amendment, as is required to be published, or the date the city publishes notice that the shoreline master program or amendment has been approved or disapproved by the department of ecology;
   b. For a county, the date the county publishes the notice that it has adopted a comprehensive plan, development regulations or other enactments, or subsequent amendments pursuant to RCW 36.70A.290(2), or the date the county publishes notice that the shoreline master program or amendment has been approved or disapproved by the department of ecology.
12. "Respondent" means a person who is named as a responding party in any petition for review before a board.
amendment, or repeal of a rule shall be considered by the joint boards, and the joint boards may, in their discretion, solicit comments or invite discussion concerning the matter prior to disposition of the petition.

(2) Consideration of petitions. All petitions shall be considered by the joint boards or representatives designated by each board, and the joint boards may, in their discretion, hold meetings for the further consideration and discussion of the requested adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule.

(3) Notification of disposition of petition. The joint boards or designated representatives shall notify the petitioner within a reasonable time of the disposition, if any, of the petition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-054, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-060 Computation of time. The time within which any act shall be done, as provided by these rules, shall be computed by excluding the first day and including the last, unless the last day is a Saturday, Sunday or a legal holiday, pursuant to RCW 1.16.050, and then it is excluded and the next succeeding day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday nor a legal holiday is included. When the period of time prescribed or allowed is less than seven days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays and holidays shall be excluded in the computation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-074, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-070 Quorum. (1) Joint boards. For the purpose of adopting, amending or repealing these rules, at least two members of each board must concur.

(2) Individual board. For purposes of making orders or decisions or transacting other official business, two members of a board shall constitute a quorum and may act even though one position on the board is vacant. One member or designated hearing examiner may hold hearings and take testimony. The findings of such member or hearing examiner shall not become final until approved by a majority of the board in accordance with WAC 242-02-840. A board member who does not attend a hearing shall review a transcript or recording of the hearing before signing the decision. In instances of a tie vote, the procedures described in WAC 242-02-870 shall apply.


WAC 242-02-072 Principal offices. The principal offices of each board are as follows:

(1) Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board
    Suite 818 Larson Building
    6 South 2nd Street
    Yakima, Washington 98901
    (509) 454-7803
    (509) 454-7292 FAX

(2) Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board
    905 24th Way S.W. Suite B-2
    P.O. Box 40953
    Olympia, Washington 98504-0953
    (360) 664-8966
    (360) 664-8975 FAX

(3) Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board
    Financial Center
    1215 Fourth Avenue, Suite 322
    Seattle, Washington 98161-1001
    (206) 389-2625
    (206) 389-2588 FAX


WAC 242-02-074 Regular meetings. (1) Regular meetings of each board will be held at its principal office or designated location at the following times:

(a) Eastern Washington board - on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

(b) Western Washington board - on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

(c) Central Puget Sound board - on the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

(2) The joint boards shall meet annually at a time and location to be announced.


WAC 242-02-080 Form and size of documents. Documents other than exhibits shall be typewritten or printed, properly captioned, signed by the appropriate person submitting the same, shall include his/her address and telephone number, and shall be on 8-1/2 x 11 inch paper. Each board uses IBM compatible software. A board may request submission of a disk from a party, if appropriate.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-080, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-090 Case numbering. Each board shall assign a case number to each petition for review which shall be the official reference number for purposes of identification. The first two digits of the case number shall correspond to the last two digits of the calendar year in which the petition was filed. The third digit shall designate which board has jurisdiction over the matter. The Eastern Washington board shall use the digit "1"; the Western Washington board shall use the digit "2"; and the Central Puget Sound board shall use the digit "3." The last four digits shall be numbered sequentially in order of receipt.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-090, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

(2001 Ed.)
PRACTICE BEFORE A BOARD

WAC 242-02-110 Appearance and practice before a board—Who may appear. Practice before a board shall be open to the following persons who have met the standing requirements of chapter 36.70A RCW:

(1) A party or participant to a case before the board may appear personally or, by a duly authorized representative;

(2) Attorneys at law practicing before the board must be duly qualified and entitled to practice in the courts of the state of Washington; and

(3) Other persons permitted by law.

WAC 242-02-120 Rules of professional conduct. All persons appearing in proceedings before a board in a representative capacity shall conform to the rules of professional conduct required of attorneys before the courts of Washington. If any such person does not conform to such rules, the board may decline to permit such person to appear in a representative capacity in any current or future proceeding before that board or impose other appropriate sanctions.

WAC 242-02-130 Ex parte communication. No one in a board proceeding shall make or attempt to make any improper ex parte communications with board members, hearing examiners, or presiding officers, regarding any issue in the proceeding that is prohibited by the Administrative Procedure Act, RCW 34.05.455. Communications on purely procedural matters such as scheduling and logistics are permitted on an ex parte basis. Attempts by anyone to make prohibited ex parte communications shall subject such person to the provisions of WAC 242-02-120 and 242-02-720.

WAC 242-02-140 Signing of pleadings, motions, and legal memoranda. Every pleading, motion and legal memorandum of a party shall be dated and signed by the party, or the party's attorney or other authorized representative and include an address and telephone and FAX numbers.

WAC 242-02-150 Teleconference proceeding. (1) At the discretion of a board or a presiding officer, or where the parties agree and where the rights of the parties will not be prejudiced, all or part of any hearing, prehearing, or motion hearing may be conducted by telephone, television, or other electronic means. Each party in the proceeding must have an opportunity to participate effectively in, to hear, and if technically and economically feasible, to see the entire proceeding while it is taking place.

(2) The board may require documentary evidence, motions, and briefs to be submitted sufficiently in advance of the teleconference proceeding to insure fair consideration and presentation of the issues. All such material shall also be served on other parties at the time of filing with a board.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

WAC 242-02-210 Petition for review—Forms—Contents. A petition for review shall substantially contain:

(1) A caption in the following form:

BEFORE THE . . . GROWTH MANAGEMENT
HEARINGS BOARD
STATE OF WASHINGTON

Petitioner,

Case No.

v.

Respondent.

(2) Numbered paragraphs stating:

(a) Petitioner's name, mailing address and telephone number and those of the attorney or other authorized representative, if any;

(b) Date of the challenged order, determination, publication, or other action or, in the case of an alleged failure to act, the date by which the action was required to be taken;

(c) A detailed statement of the issues presented for resolution by the board that specifies the provision of the act or other statute allegedly being violated and, if applicable, the provision of the document that is being appealed;

(d) A statement specifying the type and the basis of the petitioner's standing before the board pursuant to RCW 36.70A.280(2). Petitioners shall distinguish between participant standing under the act, governor certified standing, standing pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, and standing pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act, as the case may be;

(e) The estimated length of the hearing;

(f) The relief sought, including the specific nature and extent;

(g) A statement that the petitioner has read the petition for review and believes the contents to be true, followed by the petitioner's signature or signature of the attorney(s) or other authorized representative(s), if any.

(3) One copy of the applicable provisions of the document being appealed, if any, shall be attached to the petition for review.


[Title 242 WAC—p. 5]
WAC 242-02-220 Petition for review—Time for filing. (1) A petition relating to whether or not an adopted comprehensive plan, development regulation, shoreline master program or subsequent amendments, is in compliance with the goals and requirements of the act or chapter 90.58 or 43.21C RCW shall be filed with a board within sixty days from the date of publication by the legislative body of the county or city as specified by RCW 36.70A.290(2).

(2) A petition relating to an adopted county-wide planning policy shall be filed within sixty days of its adoption as specified in RCW 36.70A.210(6).

(3) A petition alleging that the twenty-year growth management planning population projections adopted by the office of financial management pursuant to RCW 43.62.035 should be adjusted can be filed at any time.

(4) For all other matters, a petition must be filed with a board within sixty days of the final written decision, order, determination, publication, or action being entered.

(5) A petition relating to the failure of a state agency, city or county to take an action by a deadline specified in the act may be brought at any time after the deadline for action has passed.


WAC 242-02-230 Petition for review—Service and filing. (1) The original and three copies of the petition for review shall be filed with a board personally, or by first class, certified, or registered mail. Filings may also be made with a board by telegraph or by electronic facsimile transmission as provided in WAC 242-02-240. A copy of the petition for review shall be served promptly upon all other named parties.

When a county is a party, the county auditor shall be served in noncharter counties and the agent designated by the legislative authority in charter counties. The mayor, city manager, or city clerk shall be served when a city is a party. When the state of Washington is a party, the office of the attorney general shall be served at its main office in Olympia unless service upon the state is otherwise provided by law. Proof of service may be filed with the board pursuant to WAC 242-02-340.

(2) A board may dismiss a case for failure to substantially comply with subsection (1) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-230, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-240 Date of filing—Facsimile and telegraph. (1) The date of filing shall be the date of actual receipt by a board at its office. The date stamp placed on the petition shall be presumptive evidence of the date of receipt.

(2) Filing of any documents with a board by electronic facsimile transmission is at the risk of the sender and shall not be deemed complete unless the following procedures are strictly observed:

(a) A facsimile document will only be stamped "received" by the board between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. Any transmission not completed before 5:00 p.m. will be stamped received on the following business day. The date and time indicated by the board's facsimile machine shall be presumptive evidence of the date and time of receipt of transmission.

(b) The original document and three copies must be mailed or otherwise transmitted to the board within twenty-four hours of sending the facsimile transmission.

(c) Documents over fifteen pages in length may not be filed by FAX without prior approval of the presiding officer.

(3) A FAX copy shall constitute an original solely for the purpose of establishing the date a document was filed.


WAC 242-02-250 Notice of appearance and answer. (1) The respondent shall file a notice of appearance with the board and serve a copy on the petitioner and all other parties promptly after having been served with a petition for review. The notice of appearance shall be dated, signed and contain the respondent's address and telephone and FAX numbers.

(2) The respondent, at its option, may file an answer to the petition for review. The respondent shall file the original and three copies with the board and serve a copy on the petitioner. Answers shall be filed no later than twenty days from the date of service of the petition for review. Answers shall be verified in the same manner as the petition for review.


WAC 242-02-255 Governor certified standing. If the board receives a request for governor certified standing from a petitioner pursuant to RCW 36.70A.280 (2)(c), the board shall immediately forward the petitioner's request to the governor. The board shall indicate the end of the sixty-day time period within which the determination of standing must be made.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 00-09-094, § 242-02-255, filed 4/19/00, effective 5/20/00.]

WAC 242-02-260 Amendments to petitions for review and answers. (1) A petition for review or answer may be amended as a matter of right until thirty days after its date of filing.

(2) Thereafter any amendments shall be requested in writing by motion, and will be made only after approval by a board or presiding officer. Amendments shall not be freely granted and may be denied upon a showing by the adverse party of unreasonable and unavoidable hardship, or by a board's finding that granting the same would adversely impact a board's ability to meet the time requirements of RCW 36.70A.300 for issuing a final order. The board may, upon motion of a party or upon its own motion, require a more complete statement of the nature of the claim or defense or any other matter stated in a pleading.

[Title 242 WAC—p. 6]
WAC 242-02-270 Intervention. (1) Any person at any time may by motion request status as an intervenor in a case. 

(2) In determining whether a person qualifies as an intervenor, the presiding officer shall apply any applicable provisions of law and may consider the applicable superior court civil rules (CR) of this state. The granting of intervention must be in the interests of justice and shall not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings.

(3) If the person qualifies for intervention, the presiding officer may impose conditions upon the intervenor's participation in proceedings, either at the time that intervention is granted or at any subsequent time. Conditions may include:

(a) Limiting the intervenor's participation to designated issues in which the intervenor has a particular interest as demonstrated by the motion;

(b) Limiting the intervenor's use of discovery, cross-examination, and other procedures so as to promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings; and

(c) Requiring two or more intervenors to combine their presentations of evidence and argument, cross-examination, discovery, and other participation in the proceedings.

(4) The presiding officer shall timely grant or deny each motion and specify conditions, if any.

WAC 242-02-280 Amicus. (1) Any person whose interest may be substantially affected by a proceeding before a board may by motion request status as an amicus in the case. 

(2) In determining whether a person qualifies as an amicus, the presiding officer shall apply the applicable rules of appellate procedure (RAP) of the appellate courts of this state.

(3) If the person qualifies for amicus, the presiding officer may impose conditions upon the amicus's participation in the proceedings, either at the time that amicus status is granted or at any subsequent time.

WAC 242-02-290 Direct review by superior court—Procedures. RCW 36.70A.295 provides for direct review by superior court of a petition for review filed with a board if:

(1) All parties to the board proceeding agree to direct review by superior court; 

(2) The parties file a direct review agreement, signed by all parties, or their designated representatives, with the appropriate board;

(3) The direct review agreement includes agreement to proper venue; and

(4) The direct review agreement is filed with the appropriate board within ten days after the petition for review is filed, or if multiple petitions have been filed and the board has consolidated the petitions, within ten days after the board serves notice of consolidation.

WAC 242-02-292 Direct review by superior court—Agreement of the parties. (1) A direct review agreement of the parties shall contain:

(a) A caption in the following form:

BEFORE THE . . . GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD STATE OF WASHINGTON

Petitioner, Case No. v.
Respondent Agreement for Direct Review by . . . County Superior Court

(b) Numbered paragraphs stating:

(i) Petitioner's name, mailing address and telephone number and those of the attorney or other designated representative, if any;

(ii) Respondent's name, mailing address and telephone number and those of the attorney or other designated representative, if any;

(iii) Intervenor's name, mailing address and telephone number and those of the attorney or other designated representative, if any;

(iv) A statement indicating agreement to seek direct review by superior court of the petition for review filed with the board, citing case name and number as assigned by the board. The statement shall include agreement to proper venue, and may include other terms;

(v) Date the petition for review was filed, or if multiple petitions were filed and consolidated, the date the board served notice of consolidation;

(vi) A statement that all parties have read the agreement for direct review by superior court, and agree to its terms, followed by the signatures of all the parties or the signatures of the attorneys or other designated representatives, if any.

(2) One copy of the filed petition for review, with the case name, number and date stamp shall be filed with the agreement for direct review by superior court.

WAC 242-02-295 Board filing with superior court—Certificate of agreement. (1) Within ten days of receiving a timely, complete and signed agreement for direct review by superior court, the board shall file a certificate of agreement, signed by the presiding officer or the board, with the designated superior court and serve the parties with copies of the certificate of agreement.

(2) The following documents shall be filed with the certificate of agreement:

(a) The executed agreement for direct review by superior court;

(b) The petition for review;

(c) Any orders entered by the board.

(2001 Ed.)
(d) Any other documents filed with the board regarding the petition for review.
[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7), 98-01-144, § 242-02-295, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.]

SERVICE OF PAPERS

WAC 242-02-310 Service of papers. (1) Parties filing pleadings, briefs, exhibits and other documents or papers with a board shall also promptly serve copies upon all other parties.

(2) Service upon a party's attorney or other authorized representative shall be considered valid service for all purposes upon the party represented.

(3) Final decisions of the board shall be served upon the parties and their attorney or representative of record, if any.

WAC 242-02-320 Method of service. Service of papers, specified in WAC 242-02-310(1), shall be made personally or by first class, registered or certified mail, or by telegraph or by facsimile transmission.

WAC 242-02-330 Service of papers—When complete. (1) Papers required to be filed with a board shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt during office hours at the board's office.

(2) All facsimile transmissions are sent at the risk of the sender and only pursuant to the procedures specified in WAC 242-02-240.

(3) This section shall not extend any applicable time for appeal to a board nor extend the time for providing notice of appeal to any named party.

WAC 242-02-340 Proof of service—Certificate. Where proof of service is required by this chapter, by statute, or upon a board's request, filing the original document with the board and serving copies upon all attorneys or other authorized representatives of record and upon parties not represented together with one of the following documents shall constitute proof of service:

(1) An acknowledgement of service;

(2) A certificate that the person signing the certificate did on the date of the certificate serve the papers upon each party or the party's attorney or other authorized representative of record in the proceeding by delivering a copy thereof in person to the named individuals;

(3) A certificate that the person signing the certificate did on the date of the certificate serve the papers upon all parties of record in the case by:

(a) Mailing a copy, properly addressed with postage prepaid, to each party or that party's attorney or other authorized representative; or

(b) Telegraphing a copy, properly addressed with charges prepaid, to each party in the case or that party's attorney, or other authorized representative; or

(c) Transmitting a copy by electronic facsimile device, and on the same day mailing a copy to each party in the case or that party's attorney, or other authorized representative; or

(d) Depositing a copy, properly addressed with charges prepaid, with a commercial parcel delivery company or courier service.

DISCOVERY AND SUBPOENA

WAC 242-02-410 Discovery—Limitation. (1) Discovery shall not be permitted except upon an order of a board or its presiding officer.

(2) Insofar as applicable and not in conflict with this chapter, when discovery has been authorized by a board or presiding officer, the statutes and court rules regarding pretrial procedures in civil cases in superior courts of the state of Washington shall be used. Such statutes and rules shall include but shall not be limited to those rules pertaining to discovery of evidence by parties to civil actions.

WAC 242-02-420 Subpoena—Issuance. (1) Subpoenas shall be issued and enforced, and witness fees paid, as provided in RCW 34.05.446 and court rules.

(2) Every subpoena shall identify the party causing its issuance. Subpoenas may be issued by a board or by an attorney of record. The person issuing shall sign the subpoena. Parties desiring subpoenas to be signed by a board shall make a showing of relevance and reasonable scope of the testimony or evidence sought and shall prepare the subpoenas for issuance, send them to the board's office for signature, and, upon return, shall make arrangements for service.
[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7), 98-01-144, § 242-02-420, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-420, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

PROCEDURES PRIOR TO HEARING

WAC 242-02-510 Notice of hearing—Setting of time and place. (1) Within ten days of the filing of a petition for review, unless a petition for review has been removed to superior court, pursuant to WAC 242-02-290 through 242-02-295, a board or presiding officer will schedule a hearing date and notify the parties of the date.

(2) The board or presiding officer will thereafter schedule a place for the hearing.
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Practice and Procedure

(3) A written notice of the date and location of the hearing shall be sent to all parties not less than twenty days prior to the hearing date.

(4) The notice shall identify the appeal to be heard, the names of the parties to the appeal and their attorneys or other authorized representatives, if any, and shall specify the time and place of hearing. The notice shall include the information specified in RCW 34.05.434 and if the hearing is to be conducted by teleconference call the notice shall so state.

(5) The notice shall state that if a limited-English-speaking or hearing impaired party or witness needs an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed and that there will be no cost to the party or witness. The notice shall include a form for a party to indicate if an interpreter is needed and identification of the primary language, or if a participant is hearing impaired.

(6) The notice may also include an order fixing the pre-hearing date and/or deadlines as provided in these rules.

(7) Defects in notice may be waived if the waiver is knowing and voluntary.


WAC 242-02-520 Record. Within thirty days of service of a petition for review, the respondent shall file with the board and serve a copy on the parties of an index of all material used in taking the action which is the subject of the petition for review. The index shall contain sufficient identifying information to enable unique documents to be distinguished. In addition, the written or tape recorded record of the legislative proceedings where action was taken shall be available to the parties for inspection.


WAC 242-02-52001 Exhibit lists. (1) Unless otherwise directed by the board or presiding officer, within fifty days of the filing of the petition for review, each of the parties shall identify those documents listed in the index which the party intends to use as an exhibit. The documents identified in this stage shall be labeled "preliminary list of exhibits." The preliminary list of exhibits shall be filed with the board and a copy served on all parties. In complying with the requirements of this subsection, parties shall not simply designate every document but shall carefully review the index, and designate only those documents that are reasonably necessary for a full and fair determination of the issues presented.

(2) The board or the presiding officer may establish a deadline for identifying and filing a final list of exhibits with the board and serving a copy on all other parties. The board or presiding officer may elect not to require the filing of final exhibit lists and instead, require that a copy of any document cited in a brief shall be served on the opposing party or parties by the time specified by the board or presiding officer and an original and three copies of the exhibits be filed with the board.

(3) A presiding officer may order the use of a stipulated exhibit list in lieu of or in addition to preliminary and/or final exhibit lists.

(4) Copies of designated documents from the index that have been certified or stipulated to be true and accurate may be admitted into evidence before a board in lieu of the original document.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 97-04-008, § 242-02-52001, filed 1/24/97, effective 3/1/97.]

WAC 242-02-52002 Documentary evidence. (1) All rulings upon objections to the admissibility of evidence shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and WAC 242-02-650.

(2) Where applicable, the presiding officer may order:

(a) That all documentary evidence which is to be offered during the hearing be submitted to the board and to other parties sufficiently in advance to permit study and preparation of cross-examination and rebuttal evidence;

(b) That documentary evidence not submitted as required in (a) of this subsection not be received in evidence in the absence of a clear showing that the offering party had good cause for the failure to produce the evidence sooner, unless it is submitted for impeachment or rebuttal purposes;

(c) That all documents so presented and examined be deemed authentic unless written objection is filed within fourteen days after receipt. A party will be permitted to challenge such authenticity at a later time only upon a clear showing of good cause for failure to have filed such written objection.

(3) The presiding officer may limit the documentary evidence to that identified on a preliminary, stipulated and/or final list of exhibits and/or to those exhibits cited in a brief. A party may submit additional documentary evidence at the time of hearing only upon a showing of good cause.

(4) When only portions of a document are to be relied upon, the offering party shall adequately identify and prepare the pertinent excerpts and shall supply copies of such excerpts to the presiding officer and to the other parties. However, the whole of the original document shall be made available for examination and use by all parties to the proceeding.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 97-04-008, § 242-02-52002, filed 1/24/97, effective 3/1/97.]

WAC 242-02-521 Designation of presiding officer. A board shall designate the presiding officer for each case at the time it issues its notice of hearing pursuant to WAC 242-02-510. In the event the presiding officer subsequently changes, the board shall promptly notify the parties.


WAC 242-02-522 Presiding officer—Powers and duties. It shall be the duty of the presiding officer to conduct conferences or hearings as directed by a board in an impartial and orderly manner. The presiding officer shall have the authority, subject to the other provisions of the act or these rules to:

[Title 242 WAC—p. 9]
(1) Inspect the petition for review to determine whether, on its face, compliance with the jurisdictional and standing requirements of the act is shown, and if compliance is not shown, to recommend an action or to refer the issue to the full board for resolution;

(2) Take appropriate action with respect to the qualifications of the parties or the parties' attorney(s) or other authorized representative(s) to appear before a board;

(3) Administer oaths and affirmations if witnesses are permitted to testify;

(4) Issue subpoenas as provided in RCW 34.05.446;

(5) Rule on all procedural matters, objections and motions unless a board determination is required;

(6) Rule on all evidentiary matters including offers of proof;

(7) When applicable, question witnesses called by the parties in an impartial manner as needed to develop any facts deemed necessary to fairly and adequately decide the issue;

(8) Issue orders joining other parties, on motion of any party, when it appears that such other parties may have an interest in, or may be affected by the case;

(9) Consolidate cases for hearing when such consolidation will expedite disposition and avoid duplication of testimony and when consolidation will not unduly prejudice the rights of any party;

(10) Hold conferences for the settlement or amplification of the issues;

(11) Regulate the course of the case;

(12) Encourage the parties to stipulate to the admissibility of documents in advance of a hearing and to rule on issues concerning the content of the record;

(13) Limit the length of a brief or impose format restrictions;

(14) Sign and file certificates of agreement acknowledging receipt of timely, complete, executed agreements for direct review by superior court;

(15) Rule on requests for settlement extensions;

(16) Waive any requirement of these rules unless a party shows that it would be prejudiced by such a waiver; and

(17) Take any other action necessary and authorized by these rules, the act, or the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW.


WAC 242-02-532 Motions—Time for filing and hearing. (1) A motion can be filed at any time unless otherwise specified in these rules or by a board or presiding officer.

(2) After prehearing or other order. If a prehearing order or other order has been entered establishing a deadline for filing motions, no written motion may be filed after the date specified in the order without written permission of the board or presiding officer.

(3) A board or presiding officer, after taking into consideration when the motion was received and the complexity of the issues raised, may, in its discretion, schedule a hearing for argument of a motion at the time of a prehearing conference or at a separate hearing time, or may defer consideration of the motion until commencement of the hearing on the petition for review. A board or presiding officer may also limit argument on a motion to briefs.

(4) A motion, other than a dispositive motion or a motion to supplement the record, is deemed denied unless the board takes action within twenty days of filing the motion.


WAC 242-02-533 Motion to disqualify for cause. (1) A motion to disqualify a board member or hearing examiner acting as the presiding officer, for any reason provided under chapter 34.05 RCW, with supporting affidavit(s), must be filed at least seven days before the board holds a prehearing conference, or if facts establishing grounds for disqualification are subsequently discovered, promptly after discovery of such facts.

(2) The board shall promptly rule upon such a motion.

(3) If a motion for disqualification is granted and a presiding officer was disqualified as a result, the board shall promptly designate a new presiding officer.


WAC 242-02-534 Response to motions. (1) A party served with a motion shall have ten days from the date of
receipt of the motion to respond to it, unless otherwise directed by the presiding officer. A response to the motion shall be filed with a board and a copy served on the opposing party/parties.

(2) The response shall specify the amount of time required for argument, whether appearance by telecommunication is requested, and the names and telephone numbers of all parties served with the response.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-534, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-540 New or supplemental evidence. Generally, a board will review only the record developed by the city, county, or state in taking the action that is the subject of review by the board. A party by motion may request that a board allow such additional evidence as would be necessary or of substantial assistance to the board in reaching its decision, and shall state its reasons. A board may order, at any time, that new or supplemental evidence be provided.


WAC 242-02-550 Prehearing conference. A prehearing conference is optional at the discretion of the presiding officer. The purpose of a prehearing conference is to:

(1) Determine the feasibility of and encourage settlement of the matter or any portion thereof;

(2) Obtain a stipulation of relevant facts including a board's jurisdiction and the party's standing in the matter;

(3) Obtain agreement as to the issues of law and fact presented and their simplification, limitation, or resolution;

(4) Determine the qualifications of expert witnesses, if they are permitted to testify;

(5) Receive any motions concerning qualification of individual board members to hear the matter;

(6) Obtain information as to the number of expert and/or lay witnesses expected to be called by the parties and their names, addresses and telephone numbers;

(7) Set subsequent deadlines, if and when appropriate, for filing final exhibit and witness lists, filing motions, and completing discovery; establish a briefing schedule, limit the length of briefs; and decide other matters related to the conduct of the hearing;

(8) Determine the approximate time necessary for the presentation of evidence and/or argument of the respective parties; and

(9) Obtain all other information which may aid in the prompt disposition of the matter.


WAC 242-02-552 Prehearing conference—When held. (1) A board or presiding officer may order a prehearing conference on not less than seven days notice mailed to each party at a time and place fixed by a board or presiding officer.

(2001 Ed.)

(2) At any time prior to a hearing on a petition for review, any party may file a written application with a board requesting a prehearing conference.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-552, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-556 Prehearing conference—Failure to supply information. If any party fails to supply the information reasonably necessary and required at the time of the prehearing conference, or as directed in a prehearing order, a board or presiding officer may subsequently limit the receipt of such party's evidence.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-556, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-558 Prehearing conference—Agreements. At the conclusion of a prehearing conference, the presiding officer may require the parties to submit a proposed prehearing order. The presiding officer will issue an order reciting the action taken at the conference and any agreements of the parties or decisions of the presiding officer. The order may include provisions pertaining to:

(1) Jurisdiction and standing;

(2) Issues;

(3) Admissions;

(4) Witnesses, if permitted;

(5) Time, location and length of hearings;

(6) Authenticity and/or admissibility of exhibits;

(7) Qualification of witnesses, if permitted;

(8) Rulings of the board prior to the prehearing conference;

(9) Rulings of the presiding officer; and

(10) Any other matters that may expedite the hearing.

Any objection to such order shall be made in writing within seven days after the date the order is dated. A board shall serve its prehearing order on the same day that the order is dated. The order shall control ensuing proceedings unless modified for good cause by a subsequent order.


WAC 242-02-560 Settlement extensions—Continuances. (1) If additional time is necessary to achieve settlement of a dispute that is an issue in a petition before a board, a board may extend the one hundred eighty-day time limit for issuing a final decision and order, as provided in RCW 36.70A.300 (2)(b). A board may authorize one, or more, extensions of up to ninety days each.

(2) A request for a settlement extension must be filed with a board not later than seven days before the date scheduled for the hearing on the merits of the petition.

(3) A board may grant a request for a settlement extension if:

(a) The request was timely filed; and

(b)(i) All parties named in the caption of the petition, agree to and sign the request; or

(ii) A petitioner and respondent agree to and sign the request and the board determines that a negotiated settlement...
between the remaining parties could resolve significant issues in dispute.

(4) Continuances of hearings will be granted only on a board's initiative or upon timely request of a party setting forth in detail the reasons for such a request and a date by which such reason will no longer apply. The board will continue the matter only upon a finding of good cause and in order to preventmanifest injustice.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-570, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-570 Briefs. (1) A petitioner, or a moving party when a motion has been filed, shall submit a brief on each legal issue it expects a board to determine. Failure by such a party to brief an issue shall constitute abandonment of the unbrieved issue. Briefs shall enumerate and set forth the legal issue(s) as specified in the prehearing order if one has been entered.

(2) The original and three copies of briefs and exhibits not previously filed with the board in the pending case and that are cited in the brief shall be filed with a board at least five business days prior to the hearing unless otherwise provided by a board or presiding officer. When briefs and exhibits are filed, a copy shall also be served on each party, unless otherwise directed by a board or presiding officer. A board or presiding officer may permit or require the filing of additional briefs.

(3) Clarity and brevity are expected to assist a board in meeting its statutorily imposed time limits. A presiding officer may limit the length of a brief and impose format restrictions.


WAC 242-02-580 Stipulation to the facts. Parties are encouraged to stipulate to any undisputed facts.


WAC 242-02-582 Waiver of parties' appearance. Upon stipulation by all parties, or upon order of the board, a matter may be submitted to a board or presiding officer without oral argument or appearance. The board or presiding officer, in its discretion, may require appearance for oral argument.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 94-07-033, § 242-02-580, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

HEARING PROCEDURE

WAC 242-02-610 Hearing—Testimony under oath—Interpreters. (1) All testimony to be considered by a board or presiding officer shall be sworn, and each person shall swear or affirm that the testimony to be given shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, or according to the provisions of RCW 5.28.020 through 5.28.060.

(2) Every interpreter shall, before beginning to interpret, take an oath that a true interpretation will be made to the person being examined of all the proceedings in a language or in a manner which the person understands, and that the interpreter will repeat the statements of the person being examined to the presiding officer, in the English language, to the best of the interpreter's skill and judgment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-610, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-612 Hearing—Interpreters. The provisions of WAC 10-08-150 are incorporated by reference herein.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-612, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-620 Hearing—Reporting—Recording—Recording devices. (1) All hearings shall be officially recorded by manual, electronic, or other type of recording device.

(2) Photographic and recording equipment of others shall be permitted at hearings; however, the presiding officer may impose such conditions upon their use as deemed necessary to prevent disruption of the hearing, or when a statute or common law limits such use.


WAC 242-02-630 Presumption of validity. Comprehensive plans and development regulations and any subsequent amendments adopted under the act are presumed valid upon adoption.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-630, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-632 Burden of proof. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the burden of proof shall be on the petitioner to show that respondent's action or failure to act is not in compliance with the requirements of the act.

(2) A county or city subject to a determination of invalidity made under RCW 36.70A.302 has the burden of demonstrating that the legislation it has enacted in response to the determination of invalidity will no longer substantially interfere with the fulfillment of the goals of the act.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-632, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-632, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-02-634 Standard of proof. Where a petition for review alleges a lack of compliance with the Growth Management Act, a board shall find compliance unless it determines that the action by the state agency, county or city is clearly erroneous in view of the entire record before the board and in light of the goals and requirements of the act.

(2001 Ed.)
WAC 242-02-640 Hearing—Procedures at hearing.
(1) Presiding officer. All hearings shall be conducted by a presiding officer who shall conduct the hearing in an orderly manner and rule on all procedural matters, objections, and motions.
(2) Order of presentation. The presiding officer shall determine the proper order of presentation.
(3) Opening statements. Unless the presiding officer rules otherwise, parties may present oral opening statements setting out briefly a statement of the basic facts and issues of the case.
(4) Objections. Objection to the admission or exclusion of evidence shall state briefly the legal ground of objection.
(5) Rulings. The presiding officer, on objection or on his/her own motion, shall exclude all irrelevant or unduly repetitious evidence. All rulings upon objections to the admissibility of evidence shall be made in accordance with WAC 242-02-650.
(6) Time. The presiding officer, after consultation with the parties, shall determine the time allotted for presentation.

WAC 242-02-650 Rules of evidence—Admissibility criteria. (1) All relevant evidence, including hearsay evidence, is admissible if, in the opinion of the presiding officer, the offered evidence is the kind of evidence upon which reasonably prudent persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of their affairs. The presiding officer shall exclude evidence that is excludable on constitutional or statutory grounds or on the basis of evidentiary privilege recognized in the courts of this state. The presiding officer shall exclude evidence that is irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious.
(2) A board's experience, technical knowledge, competency, and specialized knowledge may be used in evaluation of evidence.
(3) If not inconsistent with subsection (1) of this section, the presiding officer shall refer to, but shall not be bound by, the Washington rules of evidence.
(4) Documentary evidence may be submitted in the form of copies or excerpts, or by incorporation by reference.

WAC 242-02-660 Official notice—Matters of law. A board or presiding officer may officially notice:
(1) Federal law. The Constitution; congressional acts, resolutions, records, journals, and committee reports; decisions of federal courts and administrative agencies; executive orders and proclamations; and all rules, orders, and notices published in the Federal Register.
(2) Washington state law. The Constitution of the state of Washington; decisions of the state courts; acts, resolutions, records, journals, and committee reports of the legislature;
(3) Laws of other states. The constitutions of other states; decisions of state courts; acts, resolutions, records, journals and committee reports of other state legislatures; decisions of other states administrative agencies; executive orders and proclamations issued by a governor of another state; and codes or standards that have been adopted by an agency of another state.
(4) Counties and cities. Ordinances, resolutions, and motions enacted by cities, counties, or other municipal subdivisions of the state of Washington.
(5) Federally recognized Indian tribes. Constitutions, ordinances, resolutions and motions enacted by federally recognized Indian tribes.
(6) Growth management hearings boards. Orders and decisions of any board.

WAC 242-02-670 Official notice—Material facts. In the absence of conflicting evidence, a board or presiding officer, upon request made before or during a hearing, may officially notice:
(1) Business customs. General customs and practices followed in the transaction of business.
(2) Notorious facts. Facts so generally and widely known to all well-informed persons as not to be subject to reasonable dispute or specific facts which are capable of immediate and accurate demonstration by resort to accessible sources of generally accepted authority, including, but not exclusively, facts stated in any publication authorized or permitted by law to be made by any federal or state officer, department, or agency.
(3) Technical or scientific facts. Technical or scientific facts within a board's specialized knowledge.
(4) Request. Any party may request, orally or in writing, that official notice be taken of a material fact. The board or presiding officer may take official notice of a material fact on its own initiative.
(5) Notice. Parties shall be notified either before or during a hearing of the material fact(s) proposed to be officially noticed, and shall be afforded the opportunity to contest such facts and materials.
(6) Statement.
(a) In determining whether to take official notice of material facts, the presiding officer may consult any source of pertinent information, whether or not furnished by any party and whether or not admissible under the rules of evidence.
(b) If official notice of a material fact is taken, it shall be clearly and precisely stated and made part of the record.
Upon official notice of a material fact, such fact shall be clearly and precisely stated in such decision.

Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-670, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.

A hearing examiner or any member of a board may, at any time during the hearing, ask clarifying questions as necessary to understand the evidence or argument.

Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-680, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.

DISPOSITION OF CASES PRIOR TO HEARING

WAC 242-02-710 Failure to attend—Default or dismissal—Setting aside. (1) When a party to a proceeding has, after proper notice, failed to attend a hearing or any other matter before a board or presiding officer, a motion for default or dismissal may be sought by any party to the case or raised by a board upon its own motion or by a presiding officer. Any order granting the motion shall include a statement of the grounds for the order and shall be served upon all parties to the case.

(2) Within seven days after service of the default order or dismissal under subsection (1) of this section, the party against whom the order was entered may file a written objection requesting that the order be vacated and stating the specific grounds relied upon. The board may, for good cause, set aside an order of dismissal or default.


WAC 242-02-720 Dismissal of action. Any action may be dismissed by a board:

(1) When all parties stipulate;

(2) Upon motion of the petitioner or respondent prior to the presentation of the respondent's case;

(3) Upon motion by the respondent alleging that the petitioner has failed to prosecute the case, failed to comply with these rules, or failed to follow any order of the board; or

(4) Upon a board's own motion for failure by the parties to comply with these rules or any order of the board.

Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-02-720, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.

DISPOSITION OF PETITIONS FOR REVIEW AFTER HEARING

WAC 242-02-810 Presentation of post hearing matters. Unless requested by or authorized by a board, no post hearing evidence, documents, briefs, or motions will be accepted. A board may request submission of proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order from any or all parties.

(Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-810, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.)
WAC 242-02-832 Reconsideration. (1) After issuance of a final decision any party may file a motion for reconsideration with a board in accordance with subsection (2) of this section. Such motion must be filed within ten days of service of the final decision. The original and three copies of the motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the board. At the same time, copies shall be served on all parties of record. Within five days of filing the motion for reconsideration, a party may file an answer to the motion for reconsideration without direction or request from the board. A board may require other parties to supply an answer. All answers to motions for reconsideration shall be served on all parties of record.

(2) A motion for reconsideration shall be based on at least one of the following grounds:

(a) Errors of procedure or misinterpretation of fact or law, material to the party seeking reconsideration;
(b) Irregularity in the hearing before the board by which such party was prevented from having a fair hearing; or
(c) Clerical mistakes in the final decision and order.

(3) In response to a motion for reconsideration, the board may deny the motion, modify its decision, or reopen the hearing. A motion is deemed denied unless the board takes action within twenty days of filing the motion for reconsideration. A board order on a motion for reconsideration is not subject to a motion for reconsideration.

(4) A decision in response to the petition for reconsideration shall constitute a final decision and order for purposes of judicial review. Copies of the final decision and order shall be served by the board on each party or the party's attorney or other authorized representative of record.

WAC 242-02-833 Invalidity—Hearing pursuant to motion to clarify, modify or rescind. If a motion to clarify, modify or rescind a determination of invalidity order has been filed by a county or city subject to a determination of invalidity, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.302, and the jurisdiction has not enacted legislation in response to the board's remand order, a board shall schedule and conduct a hearing to address clarifying, modifying or rescinding the determination of invalidity. Within thirty days of the hearing the board shall continue, clarify, modify, or rescind the determination of invalidity. The board may rescind a determination of invalidity but find continuing noncompliance, in which case the board may establish a compliance schedule or new compliance date.

WAC 242-02-834 Publication of final decision and orders. Copies of all final decisions and orders are available from the board that entered the decision and order. The growth management hearings board website is www.gma-boards.wa.gov. Each board posts its decisions within its individual portion of the website and maintains a digest of its decisions.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 00-09-094, § 242-02-832, filed 4/19/00, effective 5/20/00; 97-04-008, § 242-02-834, filed 1/24/97, effective 3/1/97.]
ing. The notice of compliance hearing shall set the scope of, and procedures for participation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-893, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.]

WAC 242-02-893 Compliance—Hearing. Upon a motion of a party or participant, the board shall reconsider its final decision and order and decide, if no determination of invalidity had previously been made, whether one should now be made. The procedures at the compliance hearing shall be as set forth by the presiding officer, pursuant to WAC 242-02-891. After a compliance hearing, the board shall determine whether the jurisdiction's legislative action has removed the basis for invalidity so that it no longer substantially interferes with the goals of the act. The board may rescind a determination of invalidity but find continuing noncompliance, in which case the board may establish a compliance schedule or new compliance date.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-893, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.]

WAC 242-02-894 Compliance—Hearing pursuant to motion—Rescinding invalidity. If a motion for a compliance hearing has been filed by a county or city subject to a determination of invalidity, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.330(1), and the jurisdiction has enacted legislation amending the invalidated plan, regulation or part thereof, a board shall schedule and conduct a hearing to address rescinding the determination of invalidity. Within forty-five days of the filing of the motion the board shall issue an order continuing, modifying, or rescinding the determination of invalidity depending upon whether the jurisdiction's legislative action has removed the basis for invalidity so that it no longer substantially interferes with the goals of the act. The board may rescind a determination of invalidity but find continuing noncompliance, in which case the board may establish a compliance schedule or new compliance date.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-894, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.]

WAC 242-02-896 Continued noncompliance—Recommendation to the governor. If the board finds that the county or city continues to be in noncompliance with the act, the board shall transmit its findings to the governor. A board may recommend that sanctions authorized by the act be imposed. A jurisdiction's efforts to meet a compliance schedule shall be considered by the board in making a recommendation on sanctions to the governor.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-896, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.]

WAC 242-02-898 Appeals of a board's final decision. (1) Any party aggrieved by a final decision of a board may appeal the decision to superior court as provided in RCW 34.05.514 or 36.01.050 within thirty days of service of the final decision of the board.

(2) A board shall follow the procedures established in RCW 34.05.518 in the event that direct appellate review is sought.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(7). 98-01-144, § 242-02-898, filed 12/19/97, effective 1/20/98.]

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Public Records

WAC 242-02-920 Declaratory ruling—Notice to other persons. Within fifteen days after receipt of a petition for declaratory order, a board or presiding officer shall give notice of the petition to all persons to whom notice is required by law, and may give notice to any other person it deems desirable. A board or presiding officer may elect to allow written or oral presentations from other interested persons.

WAC 242-02-930 Declaratory ruling—Disposition of petition. A declaratory ruling entered by a board or a decision by a board to decline to enter a declaratory ruling shall be in writing and shall be served upon the petitioner and all other persons described in RCW 34.05.240(3). A decision issued shall be considered a final decision for purposes of judicial review.

Chapter 242-04 WAC
PUBLIC RECORDS

WAC

242-04-010 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to ensure compliance by each board and the joint boards with the provisions of chapter 42.17 RCW, and in particular with RCW 42.17.250 through 42.17.340, dealing with public records.

242-04-020 Definitions. (1) "Board" means the Eastern Washington, Western Washington, or Central Puget Sound growth management hearings board. Each is a quasi-judicial body created pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW, where appropriate the term board also refers to the staff and employees of each board.

(2) "Joint boards" means the three independent boards meeting or acting jointly.

(3) "Public record" means any writing containing information relating to the conduct of government or the performance of any governmental or proprietary function prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics.

(4) "Writing" means handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, and every other means of recording any form of communication or representation, including, but not limited to, letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combination thereof, and all papers, maps, magnetic or paper tapes, photographic films and prints, motion pictures, film and video recordings, magnetic or punched cards, discs, drums, diskettes, sound recordings, and other documents including existing data compilations from which information may be obtained or translated.

WAC 242-04-030 Description of organization and public meetings. (1) Each board is an independent agency of the state of Washington, composed of three members appointed by the governor. Each board elects an administrative chairperson from its members at least annually.

(2) The administrative chairpersons constitute the administrative committee of the joint boards. The administrative committee elects an administrative chairperson from its members at least annually.

(3) Regular meetings of each board will be held at its principal office or other designated location at the following times:

(a) Eastern Washington board - on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

(b) Western Washington board - on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

(c) Central Puget Sound board - on the first Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

(4) The joint boards shall meet at least annually at a time and location to be announced.

WAC 242-04-040 Public records available. All public records of each board and of the joint boards are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to these rules, except as otherwise provided by RCW 42.17.310 and other laws.

WAC 242-04-050 Communications with each board or the joint boards. (1) All communications with a board, including but not limited to the submission of materials pertaining to its operations and/or administration or enforcement of chapter 42.17 RCW and these rules, requests for copies of each board’s decisions and other matters, shall be addressed to the appropriate board’s office as follows:

(a) Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board
Suite 818 Larson Building

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6 South 2nd Street  
Yakima, Washington 98901  
(509) 454-7803  
(509) 454-7292 FAX

(b) Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board  
905 24th Way S.W. Suite B-2  
P.O. Box 40953  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0953  
(360) 664-8966  
(360) 664-8975 FAX

(c) Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board  
Financial Center  
1215 Fourth Avenue, Suite 322  
Seattle, Washington 98161-1001  
(206) 389-2625  
(206) 389-2588 FAX

(2) All communications with the joint boards shall be addressed in care of the Central Puget Sound board during the 1999-2001 biennium; the Western Washington board during the 2001-2003 biennium; and the Eastern Washington board during the 2003-2005 biennium.

WAC 242-04-060 Public records officer. (1) The administrative chairperson of each board, or his/her designee, shall be in charge of the public records.

(2) The administrative chairperson of the joint boards, or designee, shall be in charge of the public records for the joint boards.

(3) Such persons shall be responsible for implementation of these rules and regulations regarding release of public records, and generally assuring compliance with the public records disclosure requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW, and in particular RCW 42.17.250 through 42.17.340.

WAC 242-04-070 Office hours. Public records shall be available for inspection and copying during the customary office hours of each board. For the purposes of this chapter, the customary office hours shall be from 8:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

WAC 242-04-080 Requests for public records. In accordance with the provisions of chapter 42.17 RCW, that agencies prevent unreasonable invasions of privacy, protect public records from damage or disorganization, and prevent excessive interference with essential functions of the agency, public records may be inspected or copied, or copies of such records may be obtained, by members of the public upon compliance with the following procedures:

(1) A request shall be made in writing upon a form prescribed by a board or the joint boards which shall be available at its office. A completed form shall be presented to that board or to any member of the board's staff at the office of the board during customary office hours. The request shall include the following information:

(a) The name and address of the person requesting the record and the organization represented, if any;

(b) The time of day and calendar date on which the request was made;

(c) A description of the material requested;

(d) If the matter requested is referenced within the current index maintained by the records officer, a reference to the requested record as it is described in such current index;

(e) If the requested matter is not identifiable by reference to a current index, an appropriate identification of the record requested.

(2) In all cases in which a member of the public is making a request, it shall be the obligation of the board or staff member to whom the request is made to assist the member of the public in appropriately identifying the public record requested.

WAC 242-04-090 Responses to requests for public records. Within five business days of receiving a public record request, a board must respond by either:

(1) Providing the record;

(2) Acknowledging that the board has received the request and providing a reasonable estimate of the time the board will require to respond to the request. Additional time required to respond to a request may be based upon the need to clarify the intent of the request, to locate and assemble the information requested, to notify third persons or agencies affected by the request, or to determine whether any of the information requested is exempt and that a denial should be made as to all or part of the request. In acknowledging receipt of a public record request that is unclear, a board may ask the requestor to clarify what information the requestor is seeking. If the requestor fails to clarify the request, the board need not respond to it; or

(3) Denying the public record request.

WAC 242-04-100 Copying. No fee shall be charged for the inspection of public records. Each board shall charge a reasonable fee for providing copies of public records and for use of each board's photocopy equipment. Each board may charge a reasonable fee for electronic facsimile transmissions (FAX). The charge is the amount necessary to reimburse each board for its actual costs incident to such copying or transmission.

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(2001 Ed.)
WAC 242-04-110 Exemptions. (1) Each board reserves the right to determine that a public record requested in accordance with the procedures outlined in WAC 242-04-080 is exempt under the provisions of RCW 42.17.310 including but not limited to the following:

(a) Personal information in files maintained for members and employees of a board to the extent that disclosure would violate their right to privacy;

(b) Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, and intra-agency memoranda in which opinions are expressed or policies formulated or recommended, except that a specific record shall not be exempt when publicly cited by an agency in connection with any agency action;

(c) All applications for public employment, including the names of applicants, resumes, and other related materials submitted with respect to an applicant;

(d) The residential addresses and residential telephone numbers of employees or volunteers of a public agency which are held by the agency in personnel records, employment or volunteer rosters, or mailing lists of employees or volunteers.

(2) Pursuant to RCW 42.17.260, each board reserves the right to delete identifying details when it makes available or publishes any public records, in all cases when there is reason to believe that disclosure of such details would be an invasion of personal privacy protected by chapter 42.17 RCW. Each board will fully justify such deletion in writing.

(3) All public records otherwise exempt by law shall be considered exempt under the provision of these rules.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-04-110, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-04-120 Review of denials of public records requests. Any person who objects to a denial of a public records request or who objects to the reasonableness of the estimate of the time a board requires to respond to a public records request, shall petition the superior court in the county in which the record is maintained under the provisions of RCW 42.17.340.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-04-120, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-04-130 Protection of public records. In order to protect the public records in the custody of each board or joint boards, the following guidelines shall be followed by any person inspecting such public records:

(1) No public records shall be removed from the office;

(2) Inspection of any public record shall be conducted in the presence of a board member or his/her designee;

(3) No public record may be marked or defaced in any manner during inspection;

(4) Public records which are maintained in the file jacket, or in chronological order, may not be dismantled except for purpose of copying, and then only by a board member or designee;

(5) Access to file cabinets, shelves, vaults, and other storage locations is restricted to board members and staff.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-04-130, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

(2001 Ed.)

WAC 242-04-140 Records index. (1) Index. Each board and the joint boards has available to all persons a current index which provides identifying information as to records which have been issued, adopted, or promulgated since May 15, 1992, as follows:

(a) Final orders, including concurring and dissenting opinions, made in the adjudication of cases;

(b) Those statements of policy and interpretations of policy, statute, and the Constitution which have been adopted by a board;

(c) Administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect a member of the public;

(d) Board planning policies and goals, and interim and final planning decisions;

(e) Factual staff reports and studies, a consultant's factual reports and studies, scientific reports and studies, and any other factual information derived from tests, studies, reports, or surveys, whether conducted by public employees or others;

(f) Correspondence, and materials referred to therein, by and with a board relating to any regulations, supervisory or enforcement responsibilities of a board, where a board determines or is asked to determine the rights of the state, the public, a subdivision of state government, or of any private party.

(2) Availability. The current index promulgated by each board and the joint boards shall be available for inspection by all persons under the same rules and on the same conditions as are applied to public records available for inspection.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-04-140, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

WAC 242-04-150 Adoption of form. Each board and the joint boards adopt the use by all persons requesting inspection and/or copies of records the form set out below, entitled "Request for inspecting and/or copying public records."

We have received your request for inspection of and/or copies of our public records. Please complete this form and return it with the amount required, if applicable. We will forward the requested copies to you as soon as we receive this completed form with payment.

Return to:
(name and address of applicable board)

GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD REQUEST FOR INSPECTING AND/OR COPYING PUBLIC RECORDS

Date: 
Name: 
Address: 
Day Phone Number: 
Description of Record(s) Requested:

I certify that the information obtained through this request for public records will be used in compliance with chapter 42.17 RCW.

Signature

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Chapter 242-06 WAC

COMPLIANCE WITH STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

WAC
242-06-010 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to comply with and implement RCW 43.21C.120 directing every state agency to adopt rules pertaining to the integration of the policies and procedures of the State Environmental Policy Act into the various programs under their jurisdiction for implementation.

WAC 242-06-020 Application. The boards, both individually and collectively, have reviewed their authorized activities pursuant to WAC 197-11-800(12) and found them to be exempt under the provisions of chapter 197-11 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-06-010, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]

[Statutory Authority: RCW 36.70A.270(6). 92-21-034, § 242-06-020, filed 10/15/92, effective 10/15/92.]