CITY OF LYNDEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Meeting Date:	March 16, 2020	
Name of Agenda Item:	Interim Countywide Planning Policy Interlocal Agreement	
Section of Agenda:	New Business	
Department:	Planning Department	
Council Committee Review:		Legal Review:
Community Developme	ent 🛛 Public Safety	🛛 Yes - Reviewed
Finance	🛛 Public Works	□ No - Not Reviewed
Parks	□ Other:	Review Not Required
Attachments:		

M. Aamot memo to County Council, Proposed Interim County-Wide Planning Policy, Points of review by B. Carmichael

Summary Statement:

The attached memo dated February 4, 2020 to the Whatcom County Council from the County's Planning and Development Services Department describes the statutory background for establishing Countywide Planning Policies. It also details the work of the City/County Planner group work to establish interim procedures to amend the Countywide Planning Policies (CWPPs). The resulting interlocal agreement is attached.

The Whatcom County Council's Special Committee of the Whole approved the interlocal agreement on February 11, 2020 and requests that the Agreement be reviewed and ultimately approved by all the cities prior to the end of March.

The City's legal counsel has reviewed the document and found that, although specific sections could benefit from clarification, the agreement could be signed so as not to delay the process (see attached summary).

It's worth noting that the procedures for amending planning policies implemented here are considered interim but needed in order to comply with the State mandated Buildable Lands Program. Ultimately, using these procedures, policies regarding amendments would be permanently established by the County.

Recommended Action:

Motion to approve the interlocal agreement concerning interim procedures for amending countywide planning policies and to approve the Mayor's signature on the agreement.