



Executive Summary

Issue Title: Department of Community Development: Year of the Rural Update

Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Time Required: 30 minutes

Attendees: Heather Cleveland, Long Range Planner

Action Requested At This Meeting:

- Information only

Background:

The 2024 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in December 2024. To allow for focus on the rural communities and lands and specific topics impacting rural areas, the County is updating a Rural and Resources Lands Chapter (Chapter). The policies in the Chapter work will work in tandem with the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Map.

The Chapter guides land use patterns and supports land use decisions for the unincorporated portions of Kitsap County outside of urban growth areas (UGAs).

The purpose of the Chapter is to define and provide policy directions to preserve and enhance the rural character of Kitsap County. The three deliverables for the Year of the Rural include:

- Rural and Resource Lands Chapter Update
- Potential Code Updates
- Rural Reclassification Requests – Recommendations

The draft deliverables will be published on Tuesday, September 2, and the formal public process will begin. This presentation provides context, tools, and a tentative schedule for the public process, including notifications and presentations, public input, Planning Commission, Board of County Commissioners, and continued research and staff recommendations based on comments, questions, and input.

Agenda:

- State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA)
- RCW 36.70A.106 - Transmittal to State
- Kitsap County Code – 21.08
- Roles
 - Community
 - Planning Commission
 - Board of County Commissioners
 - Staff
- Schedule and Milestones
- Comments and Questions

Attachment:

- Presentation

Reference:

- [Year of the Rural](#) Project Webpage