



## Executive Summary – Planning Commission

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

**Meeting Date:** August 5, 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 with a major focus on growth in Urban Growth Areas.

To allow for focus on the rural communities and lands and specific topics impacting rural areas, the county created the Year of the Rural program. The three deliverables for the Year of the Rural include:

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

The purpose of the Chapter is to define and provide policy directions to preserve and enhance the rural character in the unincorporated portions of Kitsap County outside of urban growth areas (UGAs). The Chapter will work in tandem with the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Map.

Potential code updates are related to priority topics including agriculture, childcare, event venues, and boundary line adjustments.

The Board of County Commissioners updated the docket in June, removing the 14 residential reclassifications requests. The remaining three reclassification requests are for either Rural Commercial or Rural Industrial reclassifications.

The draft deliverables will be published on Tuesday, September 2, and the formal public process will begin.

This presentation is a briefing on the outreach effort throughout the project and a preview of the upcoming deliverables.

**Agenda:**

- Project Overview
- Growth Management Act
- 2024 Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan
- Outreach Overview
- Rural and Resource Lands Chapter
- Potential Code Updates
- Reclassification Requests
- What's Next?

**Attachment:**

- Presentation

**Reference:**

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