



**MEMBERS:**

- City of Lacey
- City of Olympia
- City of Rainier
- City of Tenino
- City of Tumwater
- City of Yelm
- Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Town of Bucoda
- Thurston County
- North Thurston Public Schools
- Olympia School District
- Tumwater School District
- Intercity Transit
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance
- Port of Olympia
- PUD No. 1 of Thurston County

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**

- Lacey Fire District #3
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- The Evergreen State College
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Economic Development Council
- Timberland Regional Library

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Thurston Regional Planning Council

FROM: Karen M. Parkhurst, Planning & Policy Director

DATE: March 31, 2023

SUBJECT: Urban Growth Management Subcommittee

**PURPOSE**

**Summary:**

- Thurston County has requested that the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) convene the Urban Growth Management (UGM) Subcommittee to review a set of proposed changes to the Grand Mound urban growth boundary.
- The UGM Subcommittee is established in the Countywide Planning Policies to allow for jurisdictional consultation on changes to Urban Growth Area (UGA) boundaries, as required under the Growth Management Act. The Subcommittee includes representatives from each of the cities and towns in Thurston County.
- TRPC will contact jurisdictions to identify representatives for the subcommittee. At the Council meeting, staff will provide more information on process and potential timing.
- The UGM Subcommittee makes a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). The BoCC will make a final decision on the UGA boundary.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

No action. TRPC staff will convene UGM and report to Council on UGM subcommittee findings, as appropriate.



Marc Daily  
Executive Director

2411 Chandler Court SW  
Olympia, WA 98502  
360-956-7575  
360-741-2545 Fax  
www.trpc.org

### EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

Both the Urban Growth Management Subcommittee and the Board of County Commissioners will explore equity considerations.

### BACKGROUND

- **Growth Management Act**

In 1990, the state enacted the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A).

[Chapter 36.70A RCW: growth management—planning by selected counties and cities \(wa.gov\)](#)

RCW 36.70A.010 Legislative findings. The legislature finds that uncoordinated and unplanned growth, together with a lack of common goals expressing the public's interest in the conservation and the wise use of our lands, pose a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety, and high quality of life enjoyed by residents of this state. It is in the public interest that citizens, communities, local governments, and the private sector cooperate and coordinate with one another in comprehensive land use planning. Further, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest that economic development programs be shared with communities experiencing insufficient economic growth.

- **Countywide Planning Policies**

[Countywide Planning Policies | Thurston Regional Planning Council, WA \(trpc.org\)](#)

The GMA requires that counties planning under GMA maintain Countywide Planning Policies that provide a framework for developing and adopting county/city comprehensive plans. These policies identify things held in common across all jurisdictions' comprehensive plans and which form the foundation of those plans.

- **Criteria for changing the urban growth boundary**

[Amending Urban Growth Area Boundaries | Thurston Regional Planning Council, WA \(trpc.org\)](#)

Chapter 2 of the Countywide Planning Policies outlines the process and requirements for changing the urban growth boundaries. This includes TRPC convening the Urban Growth Management (UGM) subcommittee, which makes a recommendation directly to the Board of County Commissioners.