Multi-jurisdictional resolution relating to population and employment growth allocations.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Cover letter
2. Draft Resolution

SEPA review required? ( ) Yes (X) NO
SEPA review completed? ( ) Yes (X) NO

Should Clerk schedule a hearing? (X) Yes ( ) NO
Requested Date: March 11, 2014

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE: (If this item is an ordinance or requires a public hearing, you must provide the language for use in the required public notice. Be specific and cite RCW or WCC as appropriate. Be clear in explaining the intent of the action.)

Under the Growth Management Act, Whatcom County and the seven cities within the County must complete the periodic update of their comprehensive plans and review urban growth areas by June 30, 2016 (RCW 36.70A.130). County and city comprehensive plans must be coordinated and consistent. As part of the coordination effort, the County Council will consider a non-binding multi-jurisdictional resolution relating to preliminary population and employment growth allocations. This resolution would assist the County and cities in conducting environmental review, developing draft land use planning proposals, transportation modelling and developing draft capital facility plans. Final growth allocations would be adopted in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update.

COMMITTEE ACTION:
2/25/2014: Amended and forwarded to Council for approval

COUNCIL ACTION:
2/25/2014: Substitute Introduced

Related County Contract #: Related File Numbers: Ordinance or Resolution Number:
AB2013-303, AB2014-056,
AB2014-056A

Please Note: Once adopted and signed, ordinances and resolutions are available for viewing and printing on the County's website at: www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council.
RESOLUTION NO. 2014–013

NON-BINDING MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL RESOLUTION REGARDING POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT ALLOCATIONS

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act (GMA) requires Whatcom County and the cities to review and, if needed, update their respective comprehensive plans by June 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the GMA requires county and city comprehensive plans to be coordinated and consistent; and

WHEREAS, the GMA states that urban growth areas (UGAs) must be revised to accommodate the urban growth projected to occur in the succeeding 20-year planning period by June 30, 2016 (RCW 36.70A.130); and

WHEREAS, the GMA, county-wide planning policies and inter-local agreements indicate that review of UGAs should be coordinated between the County and the cities; and

WHEREAS, population and employment allocations are a critical component in the comprehensive plan update and UGA review process; and

WHEREAS, while final decisions on population and employment allocations will not be made until the comprehensive plan is adopted in 2016, it is important for the County and cities to agree upon preliminary allocations in order to coordinate transportation modeling, capital facility planning, environmental review, and UGA recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the County Council has requested staff to work with the cities to develop an effective, robust Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program as part of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update; and

WHEREAS, it’s the County’s intention that any request to expand an urban growth area will include a proposed interlocal agreement to transfer or purchase development rights (from rural or resource lands) when annexation occurs.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Whatcom County Council hereby agrees to utilize the population and employment growth allocations shown on Exhibit A as the preliminary allocations for initial review of urban growth areas by the County and cities. It is acknowledged that a range of population and employment allocations will also be studied in the UGA review process and that the formal city proposals and the final UGA growth allocations may be different than set forth in this Resolution.

APPROVED this 11th day of March 2014.

ATTEST

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Carl Weimer, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Civil Deputy Prosecutor
### Exhibit A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Population Growth Allocation</th>
<th>Employment Growth Allocation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellingham</td>
<td>35,918</td>
<td>22,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birch Bay</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blaine</td>
<td>4,414</td>
<td>2,097</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherry Point</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Valley</td>
<td>1,345</td>
<td>359</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everson</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>602</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ferndale</td>
<td>6,833</td>
<td>2,802</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynden</td>
<td>6,403</td>
<td>2,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nooksack</td>
<td>1,035</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumas</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-UGA</td>
<td>11,217</td>
<td>3,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,781</strong></td>
<td><strong>36,029</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. The population allocation represents, for preliminary planning purposes, the additional population growth anticipated between 2013 and 2036.

2. The employment allocation represents, for preliminary planning purposes, the additional employment growth anticipated between 2013 and 2036.