Road Map to Washington’s Future

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Why did Washington’s Legislature adopt the Growth Management Act?

The combined population of today’s Seattle (686,000), Spokane (214,5000) and Tacoma (206,100) is 1.1 million.

*The 2020 estimate is a straight line projection from the 2017 statewide population of 7.38 million.

The State population growth 1980 to 2020:

- **1980**: 4,132,156
- **1990**: 4,866,692
- **2000**: 5,894,121
- **2010**: 6,724,540
- **2020**: 7,660,000*

*The 2020 estimate is a straight line projection from the 2017 statewide population of 7.38 million.*
After 25 years of planning under the GMA, the Legislature asked the Ruckelshaus Center to design a process to address these questions:

- How well did the first 25 years of the Growth Management Act meet the challenges of growth and change?
- What additions or revisions might be needed to meet the challenges of the next 25 years?
- What would be a comprehensive and credible process to answer these questions?
A two phased approach to answer these questions

Phase 1 – Preliminary Assessment was done - 6/16 through 6/17

Phase 2 – The Legislature adopted a budget proviso for the Ruckelshaus Center to undertake the “Road Map to the Future” project – 7/17 through 6/19
Seven organizations with very diverse interests funded the Phase I Preliminary Assessment.
Preliminary Assessment – conversations with over 30 groups

- Association of Washington Business
- Association of Washington Cities
- Building Industry Association of Washington
- Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
- Citizens Alliance for Property Rights
- Futurewise
- The Master Builders of King and Snohomish Counties
- Northwest Open Access Network
- Suquamish Indian Tribe
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
- The Tulalip Tribes
- Quinault Indian Nation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association
- Washington Association of Realtors
- Washington City Planning Directors Association
- Washington Farm Bureau
- Washington Research Council
- Washington Public Health Association
- Washington Public Ports Association
- Washington Sewer and Water Districts Association
- Washington State Association of Boundary Review Boards
- Washington State Association of County and Regional Planning Directors
- Washington State Department of Ecology
- Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Department of Transportation
- Washington State Transportation Commission
- Washington State Conservation Commission
- Washington State Association of Counties
- Washington State Department of Commerce
1. Is it time to do an assessment of the Growth Management Act?

2. Would the Ruckelshaus Center be an appropriate neutral facilitator of such an assessment?

3. If such an assessment were initiated, would your group or organization wish to participate?
What else did we hear? That Washington consists of regions with diverse physical, economic, and human geographies.
While some regions are challenged to manage growth
In other regions, the challenge is managing to grow
Uneven **ECONOMIC** health outcomes across the state

June 2017
County unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted
Uneven HUMAN health outcomes across the state

Five leading causes of death for adults 60 years and older:

- **CANCER**
  - Rural Washington
  - King County
  - 6.5 difference
  - 30.1
  - 1999 2015

- **HEART DISEASE**
  - Rural Washington
  - King County
  - 26.9 difference
  - 39.5
  - 1999 2015

- **STROKE**
  - Rural Washington
  - King County
  - 7.3 difference
  - 10.7
  - 1999 2015

- **CHRONIC LOWER RESPIRATORY DISEASE**
  - Rural Washington
  - King County
  - 4.5 difference
  - 17.8
  - 1999 2015

- **ACCIDENTS**
  - Rural Washington
  - King County
  - 16.3 difference
  - 16.7
  - 1999 2015
Snohomish County home prices reach new high — again

Snohomish County home prices reach new high — again

EVERETT — Housing prices continue to climb in Snohomish County reaching never-seen-before heights.

Median prices for houses and condos reached $430,000 for July, up from $385,000 for the same month a year ago, according to the Northwest Multiple Listing Services.

That’s an 11.7 percent increase year-over-year. It’s also a $10,000 increase on the same numbers in June, when the median price was $420,000.
In 2016, OFM projected that over the **next 25 years** our state would add:

- +100,000 (low estimate)
- +1.6 million (medium estimate)
- +3.5 million (high estimate)

The low estimate of an additional 100,000 people has already been surpassed.

Adding 3.5 million people by 2040, would be equivalent to adding:
Which way to the future?
The Legislature funded the Road Map project in the 2017-2019 biennium budget.

“The Road Map to the Future shall identify areas of agreement on ways to adapt Washington's growth management framework of statutes, institutions, and policies to meet future challenges in view of robust forecasted growth and the unique circumstances and urgent priorities in the diverse regions of the state.”
Project Schedule for the Road Map project

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Interviews with parties about the growth planning framework

Growth Management Act – RCW 36.70A
Local Project Review Act – RCW 36.70B
Land Use Petition Act – RCW 36.70C
Planning Enabling Act – RCW 36.70
Shoreline Management Act – RCW 90.58
State Environmental Policy Act – RCW 43.21
Subdivision Statute – RCW 58.17
Regional Transportation Planning – RCW 47.80
Water System Coordination Act – RCW 70.116
Local Governance – RCW 35, 35A, 36
State, regional, local revenue authority
Community conversations about the future
Targeted research by public universities

Huxley College of Environmental Sciences
Sustainable Cities Partnership

Evans School of Policy and Governance
College of the Built Environment

Center for Spatial Information & Research
Center for Archaeological Research

Public Policy
Environmental Science
Center for Sustainable Infrastructure

Rural & Regional Planning
Tribal Planning

WSU Extension
College of Agricultural, Human & Natural Resources
One potential area of inquiry - prior studies, visions and strategies

The Quiet Crisis of Local Governance

2005 Study on Land Use and Local Government Finance

Carbon Emissions Reduction Taskforce Report to the Washington State Governor’s Office

Land Use Study Commission
Final Report
December 1998

Infrastructure Crisis, Sustainable Solutions: Rethinking Our Infrastructure Investment Strategies
Do the gears of the framework mesh, grind, or spin?

- Local Project Review Act
- SEPA
- Planning Enabling Act
- Subdivision Statute
- Water System Coordination Act
- Water & Sewer Districts
- Impact fees
- Railroads
- Ports
- TRIBAL PLANNING
- MILITARY PLANNING
- Land Use Petition Act
- Regional Transportation Planning Act
- SMA
- GMA
QUESTIONS?