AWC Legislahin Committee

Subcommittee	Brief description of issue and desired outcome	Recommended 2014 Priority- 2013 Adopted Position (if any)
Flexible General Government Operations	Resist transferring responsibilities from the state to cities.	Other Significant Issue-Changed from Major Priority in 2013
Flexible General Government Operations	Pursue pro-active public records proposals that address some of the problems that come with the burgeoning and abusive public records requests. • Participate in the Ruckelshaus Center effort to work with stakeholders to find solutions. • Seek additional funding for the second phase of the Ruckelhaus Center effort.	Other Significant Issue-Modified from 2013 Major Priority
Flexible General Government Operations	Public Records Act: Allow for limited cost recovery for certain commercial or profit-motivated requests.	Other Significant Issue-Modified from 2013 Major Priority
Flexible General Government Operations	Pursue options for creating sustainable personnel related costs: Possible options include changes to binding interest arbitration statutes, stabilizing pension contribution funding, and minimizing increases in Workers Compensation rates.	Other Significant Issue-Changed from Major Priority in 2013

Flexible General Government Operations	Limiting liability for local government: • Continue to pursue reforms that limit joint liability for public entities, especially in the context of proposed expanded wrongful death claimants and damages, and when the claimant is involved in criminal activity; • Continue to work to amend the law so that juries may know if a person involved in an injury accident was wearing his or her seatbelt; and • Oppose changes to liability requirements that would increase liability for local government.	Other Significant Issue-same as 2013
Flexible General Government Operations	Public Records Act: Establishing a cost recovery system for responding to electronic requests. We are able to charge \$0.15 per page for paper copies, but few requests are for paper any longer. With advances in technology, most requests are for electronic transmission of records. This would create an equivalent fee for electronic record production.	Endorse-New issue for 2014
Flexible General Government Operations	 Public Records Act: Redefine the definition of copy to address issues related to defining metadata as a unique record. Update definition for parks/recreation participants to protect both parent and child information. 	Endorse-New issue for 2014
Flexible General Government Operations	Public Records Act – Real Estate Transactions: Under the Open Public Meetings Act, if a local agency is undertaking a real estate transaction and being in open public session would affect its ability to negotiate price, it is permitted to have a discussion of that real estate transaction in Executive Session. However, there is no corollary under the Public Records Act. Pursue legislation to fix this inconsistency in the Public Records Act	Endorse-New issue for 2014
Flexible General Government Operations	Open Government: Requiring elected officials to participate in mandatory training on open government laws.	Endorse-New issue for 2014

Flexible General	Address the ability of municipalities to sustain international diplomacy:	Endorse-New issue
Government Operations	Currently city funds cannot be used for international relations purposes, as listed above, and privately-raised funds currently cannot be used by the city for such purposes. Adopt legislation allowing cities to be given the authority to open and maintain a bank account for which it may accept or request nonpublic gifts, grants, and donations from citizens and other private sources for use in defraying the costs of appropriate hosting of foreign dignitaries, including appropriate gift-giving and reciprocal gift-giving, and international trade hosting, international relations and international missions activities. Such money and the interest accruing thereon shall not constitute public funds, and shall be kept segregated and apart from funds of the respective city.	for 2014
Flexible General Government Operations	Law enforcement conduct and integrity: Require decertification of any police officer with a sustained finding for untruthfulness related to an official investigation or proceeding; or on-duty felony level criminal activity.	Endorse-New issue for 2014
Flexible General Government Operations	LEOFF: Cities and Counties in Washington are required to pay for LEOFF I retiree medical expenses for life, creating a significant burden on their General Fund dollars. Explore the ability to return a certain amount of the LEOFF I surplus dollars back to Cities and Counties to help defray a portion of these expenses.	Monitor-New issue for 2014
Flexible General Government Operations	Washington Voting Rights Act: Establishes a state legal action for at-large and district-based elections that may deny minorities an equal opportunity to elect candidates or influence the outcome of an election.	Monitor (with concerns)-New issue for 2014

Subcommittee	Brief description of issue and desired outcome	Recommended 2014 Priority- 2013 Adopted Position (if any)
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Small public works project reform for public works and maintenance projects that cost less than \$5,000: Current law is outdated with respect to state requirements for public works projects that cost less than \$5,000. A series of changes are recommended that would give cities the option to waive bonding, retainage, and competitive bidding requirements. Waiving prevailing wage requirements, or raising the limit from \$2,500 to \$5,000 to allow a combined, no fee intent and affidavit process is also recommended.	Other Significant Issue-Changed from Endorse in 2013
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Public Works Projects - Bid Limits: Under what appears to be an unintended consequence of ESHB 1847 (2009), larger code cities are placed under the same restrictions as code cities of a population of 20,000 or less with bid limits of either \$40,000 or \$65,000 (depending on type of project). This area of statute (RCW 35.23.352) lumps all code cities together rather than looking at the population served, staff FTEs, and in-house capacities of a city. It would make more sense for larger code cities to be under a section of state law (RCW 35A.40.210) that would give these cities more flexibility, ensuring that they can use in-house public work so long as that in-house work did not exceed 10 percent of the annual public works budget.	Other Significant Issue-New issue for 2014
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Amend or add new economic development tools (such as Tax Increment Financing, new rounds of funding Local Revitalization Financing and extending current sales tax funding of Local Infrastructure or Public Facilities Districts).	Other Significant issue-Changed from Major Priority in 2013

Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Stormwater cost recovery: Cities that have stormwater utilities but do not charge their own streets are prohibited from seeking state reimbursement for stormwater runoff costs from controlled access state highways (i.e. I-90, I-405, I-5). Proposal is to repeal the requirement that cities must charge their own streets in order to seek state reimbursement.	2013
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Authorize impact fees to be used for debt service: Impact fees are currently collected to provide infrastructure or mitigate the impact of new construction. However, these fees cannot be used to support debt service or repair existing streets that are impacted as a result of new construction.	Endorse-Same as 2013
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Real Estate Excise Tax – allow cities to use REET II for capital debt service (Counties received authority in 2011.)	Endorse-Same as 2013
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Washington Financing Authority: A State Treasurer proposal to align and optimize state and federal funding to help local governments finance projects. A second objective is to assist in multi-jurisdictional, complex projects.	Endorse-Same as 2013
Economic Development and Quality Infrastructure	Disabled Parking Placard: Address issues related to fraudulent uses of these placards.	Endorse-New issue for 2014

Responsibility for costs for under-grounding utilities as part of public	Endorse-New issue
works projects: Several years ago rights-of-way legislation was enacted to	for 2014
ensure telecommunications providers and other users of the rights of way	
pay all utilities under-grounding costs associated with a public works	
project, with the exception of facilities they own. However, under a 2006	
court case Qwest Corporation vs. City of Kent that responsibility is	
completely changed with respect to telephone companies. With these	
companies, if a utility under-grounding project occurs and they own any	
piece of the facilities – even something as minimal as one pole out of 100 –	
the public entity is forced to pay all under-grounding costs. As a cost-	
savings item for cities, state law should be changed back to its original	
intent.	
Automated Speed Cameras: The past few transportation budgets have	Monitor-New issue
included proviso language allowing Seattle and Tacoma to use one speed	for 2014
camera each as a pilot program. These pilot programs have been	
successful in reducing speeds resulting in significantly fewer fatalities	
where the cameras are placed. These pilot programs should be made	
permanent. Speed camera authorization would need to be limited to roads	
obstacles, or on a mobile basis.	
State/Federal Transportation Agencies: Federal rule-making for the	Monitor-New issue
formation of new Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) across the	for 2014
state conflicts and contradicts Washington State Transportation policy and	
funding mechanisms handled through the Regional Transportation	
Planning Organization (RTPO).	
	ensure telecommunications providers and other users of the rights of way pay all utilities under-grounding costs associated with a public works project, with the exception of facilities they own. However, under a 2006 court case Qwest Corporation vs. City of Kent that responsibility is completely changed with respect to telephone companies. With these companies, if a utility under-grounding project occurs and they own any piece of the facilities – even something as minimal as one pole out of 100 – the public entity is forced to pay all under-grounding costs. As a cost-savings item for cities, state law should be changed back to its original intent. Automated Speed Cameras: The past few transportation budgets have included proviso language allowing Seattle and Tacoma to use one speed camera each as a pilot program. These pilot programs have been successful in reducing speeds resulting in significantly fewer fatalities where the cameras are placed. These pilot programs should be made permanent. Speed camera authorization would need to be limited to roads where police officers are not able to monitor speed because of geographic obstacles, or on a mobile basis. State/Federal Transportation Agencies: Federal rule-making for the formation of new Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) across the state conflicts and contradicts Washington State Transportation policy and funding mechanisms handled through the Regional Transportation

Subcommittee	Brief description of issue and desired outcome	Recommended 2014 Priority- 2013 Adopted Position (if any)
Healthy and Safe	Medical marijuana:	Other Significant
Communities	 Reconcile medical marijuana regulations to reflect legalization and state regulations of recreational marijuana. Support changes to prevent abuse of medical marijuana by individuals and medical providers. Oppose any preemption of local authority over traditional land use and other regulatory functions in regards to medical marijuana production or distribution. Maintain ability to levy taxes on any businesses and transactions. Support reclassification by the Federal government to recognize the medical use of marijuana. 	Issue-Changed from Monitor in 2013
Healthy and Safe	Funding for gang intervention and prevention activities: Seek sustainable,	Other Significant
Communities	ongoing funding for gang prevention and intervention programs that reduce gang and youth violence.	Issue-same as 2013
Healthy and Safe	Funding for Health and Human Services: Support retention of funding for	Other Significant
Communities	health and human services programs that meet the needs of vulnerable individuals and families including the following; affordable health care; affordable child care; hunger relief; housing and homelessness programs; and substance abuse programs.	Issue-same as 2013

Healthy and Safe	Mitigating Medical Costs for Offenders: Explore options for managing	Other Significant
Communities	and reducing costs related to inmate medical services. Look at changing	Issue-same as 2013
501111141116165	RCW 70.48.130 to reflect the language prior to June 30, 2009, when cities	
	were not required to pay for medical costs of felon arrestees or otherwise	
	clarify that cities are not responsible for medical costs for felony arrestees	
	over which they have no control. Also support legislation that guarantees	
	cities the ability to pay only the Medicaid rate for inmates. Explore the	
	development of a statewide risk pool as well as any other ontions	Oil Cimificant
Healthy and Safe	Public Defense Funding & Standards:	Other Significant
Communities	Support additional funding for local grants through the Office of Public	Issue-same as 2013
	Defense.	
	Support clarification of local authority to set standards for public	
	defenders per RCW 10.101.030 in light of the recently adopted Court Rule.	
	This would clarify local control over the related policy and budget issues.	Endorse-Same as
Healthy and Safe	DUI penalties:	
Communities	Support effective approaches that will serve as an incentive to reducing	2013
	drunk driving.	
	 Focus efforts on reducing repeat offenders. 	
	Any new efforts must be cost effective.	
Healthy and Safe	Emergency management funding/communications interoperability:	Endorse-Same as
Communities	 Support opportunities to improve emergency response capabilities. 	2013
	Maintain support for E911 and oppose attempts to redirect that funding	
	to other purposes.	
	Expand State Fire Mobilization to include All Risk Mobilization to include	
	additional emergencies beyond wildland fires.	
Healthy and Safe	Unused medicine (pharmaceuticals) take-back program: Support	Endorse-Same as
Communities	legislation creating and funding a take back program for unused	2013
Communicies	inegistation or earting and random a same in a	1

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Healthy and Safe	Funding for Mental Health Services: Provide funding and resources to	Endorse-New issue
Communities	address mental health needs in order to reduce impacts on public safety	for 2014
	and human service programs. Provide funding and tools to address chronic	
	homelessness in communities.	
Healthy and Safe	Liquor Loss: Support requirements for retailers to track and report liquor	Endorse-New issue
Communities	loss and theft to better understand its impacts on public safety and to	for 2014
	better prioritize enforcement resources.	
Healthy and Safe	Police Officer Integrity: Support enhancing the Criminal Justice Training	Endorse-New issue
Communities	Commission's ability to decertify police officers who have sustained	for 2014
	findings of dishonesty or criminal violations.	
Healthy and Safe	Municipal courts:	Monitor-Changed
Communities	 Retain authority over any proposed regionalization of courts. 	from Endorse in
	 Retain authority to appoint part time judges serving municipal courts. 	2013
	 Clarify state statutes for removing municipal court judicial officers 	
	recognizing the Judicial Conduct Commission.	
	Allow cities to establish a DUI court.	

Subcommittee	Brief description of issue and desired outcome	Recommended 2014 Priority- 2013 Adopted Position (if any)
City Fiscal Health and Flexibility	Public education funding: Great schools are an essential part of creating great cities and AWC supports fully funding basic education. However, we are concerned that fulfilling the requirements of the McCleary decision to fully fund basic education would require unacceptable cuts to other essential state programs and services such as public safety, support for local governments, or human services, or to sweep important job-creating capital programs like the Public Works Trust Fund and MTCA, just to name two. That's why AWC supports considering all possibilities for fully funding basic education – growing our economy, reforming administrative and regulatory costs, and the possible need for new revenue.	Other Significant Issue-same as 2013
City Fiscal Health and Flexibility	Ensure continued appropriation of committed state shared funds (such as Liquor Excise Taxes and Profits, Streamlined Sales Tax Mitigation, City-County Assistance Account, Municipal Criminal Justice Account, Annexation Sales Tax Credit, and public health funding).	Issue-Changed from
City Fiscal Health and Flexibility	Preserve existing local revenue authorities (don't restrict or eliminate, such as local B&O taxing authorities).	Other Significant Issue-Changed from Major Priority in 2013
City Fiscal Health and Flexibility	Expand Main Street Tax Credit program by removing population threshold for city participation. Currently, cities must have a population under 190,000.	Dismiss-Endorse in 2013
City Fiscal Health and Flexibility	Raise cap of EMS levies from \$0.50 to \$0.75: Proposal from Washington Fire Chiefs referred from AWC's Healthy & Safe Communities Subcommittee for consideration.	Still Under Consideration- Strongly Defend Against in 2013

Subcommittee	Brief description of issue and desired outcome	Recommended 2014 Priority- 2013 Adopted Position (if any)
Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	Support funding for the Housing Trust Fund: The Housing Trust Fund is the state's preeminent resource for funding the capital costs of affordable housing developments around the state. AWC has been supportive in the past. In addition to supporting the Housing Trust Fund we will support other state and local tools to increase and sustain development of affordable housing in cities.	Other Significant Issue- <i>same as 2013</i>
Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	GMA planning assistance: Department of Commerce is investigating opportunities to provide financial assistance to cities and counties as they begin the next round of comprehensive plan updates (\$5m in grants and \$1.5m in technical assistance).	Other Significant Issue-Same as 2013
Land Use and Environmental	Siting/permitting of small-scale renewable energy projects: Bills were introduced that would have pre-empted local permitting of such facilities.	Strongly Defend Against-Same as 2013
Stewardship Land Use and Environmental	May be an issue again. Assumption of water/sewer districts: Defend against possible proposal to eliminate cities current authority.	
Stewardship Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	Restrict the timing at which cities can collect impact fees: Developer interests have introduced bills in the past that required cities to collect impact fees only when development was complete or nearly complete.	Strongly Defend Against-Same as 2013
Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	Water Facilities as Essential Public Facilities: AWC opposed a proposal last session to make water facilities essential public facilities under the GMA. Cities had concerns that there may unintended consequences from this preferential planning status and did not see the siting of these facilities as historically problematic. This propsoal will likely be reintroduced next year.	from Oppose in 2013

Land Use and	Water/Sewer District Powers: Certain water sewer districts brought	Strongly Defend
Environmental	forward a proposal to give them equivalent authority to cities and counties	Against-New issue
Stewardship	for permitting, siting and inspecting water sewer facilities. AWC opposed	for 2014
stewardsp	and worked with several cities to try to find a solution. This may come back.	
Land Use and	Extend period by which cities have to spend mitigation fees: With	Endorse-Same as
Environmental	building slow down it may be difficult to spend collect moneys within	2013
Stewardship	mandatory 6 years Look for opportunities to address extensions of	
	timelines around SEPA mitigation and Local Transportation Act impact fees if the opportunity arises.	
Land Use and	Support funding for Chemical Action Plans by Ecology: Consider	Endorse-Same as
Environmental	supporting Ecology's request for funds for funds to expedite work on a	2013
Stewardship	"Chemical Action Plans" that can help focus on some of the major	
·	chemicals that contribute to water quality degradation. This would be a	
	potential side-solution to the fish consumption rate conversation, as CAPs	
	are being proposed by many as a better means to address specific water	
	quality problems than wholesale increases in permit conditions. Explore	
	opportunities to advance this idea in the fish consumption rate discussion.	
Land Use and	Nuisance Abatement: "Pursue legislation allowing cities to better recover	Endorse-New issue
Environmental	nuisance abatement costs. Once a City has completed the nuisance	for 2014
Stewardship	abatement process, it attempts to recover the costs of the nuisance	
	abatement by placing a lien on the property. When the home is sold, the	
	lien has a "low priority" meaning that the city's lien gets paid toward the	
	end of the list of creditors (meanwhile, a county lien for the same purpose	
	of recovering nuisance abatement costs is a "first priority"). AWC should	
	support legislation that allows cities to better recover nuisance abatement	
	costs, including changing the priority of city nuisance abatement recovery	
	liens, and allowing the City to recover costs when property taxes are collected"	

Land Use and	Annexation: There may again be proposals to modify long-standing city	Monitor-Same as
Environmental	annexation authorities. Previous principles that AWC has used in	2013
Stewardship	annexation discussions include:	
•	AWC will advocate for more annexation tools to facilitate annexations	
	within urban growth areas and promote incentives to facilitate agreement	
	among a city and county to jointly plan for and have consistent	
	development regulations in unincorporated urban areas.	
	 "Advocate for changes to annexation statutes that will better facilitate 	
	annexations, and explore legislative ideas to encourage cities and counties	
	to better coordinate boundary, finance and governance transition issues."	
	The State Community Pate is weath of a formula	Monitor-Same as
Land Use and	Fish consumption rate: The Fish Consumption Rate is part of a formula	2013
Environmental	that drives water quality and cleanup standards. The general idea is that	
Stewardship	the quality of the state's water will have an impact on the health of the fish	
	living within it, and the healthiness of those fish will ultimately impact the	
	health of the people who eat them. The result could have significant	
	impacts on cities across the state – making it significantly more costly to maintain wastewater treatment systems, perform toxic cleanups, and	
	manage stormwater runoff from city streets. This is primarily a rulemaking	
	effort right now, but we will need to monitor any legislative developments.	
	enorthight how, but we will need to monitor any registerior accompany	
Land Use and	Building Code Council fees: The State Building Code Council will likely be	Monitor-Same as
Environmental	seeking legislation to increase the building permit fees that are its sole	2013
Stewardship	source of funding. Those fees - \$4.50 per building permit - have not	
	changed in 24 years (except for multifamily units which were assessed an	
	additional \$2.50/unit in 1998.) The same \$4.50 is assessed whether the	
	project is a home, a grocery store, a residential deck or a 40-story office	
	building.	
Land Use and	Add flexibility on expenditure of impact fees: Allow some transfer from	Monitor-Same as
Environmental	capital to operations and maintenance.	2013
Stewardship		I

Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	Watershed Investment Districts – Rep. McCoy has convened a stakeholder group to discuss a watershed investment district concept that would provide potential new taxing authority to a watershed district for salmon recovery. AWC participated in the first and only meeting on this group, along with a number of city official and representatives.	for 2014
Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	GMA Effectiveness Review: Rep. Takko is developing a GMA review legislation to examine selected requirements and implementation practices related to the GMA. Topics considered for inclusion in the review include: requirements and practices affecting the interface between rural and urban areas; impacts upon permitting and business siting decisions; obligations to accommodate population growth; and housing affordability.	Monitor-New issue for 2014
Land Use and Environmental Stewardship	Property Condemnation and Vacation Inequity - Recently Sammamish has gone through both property acquisition by condemnation and also property disposal through right of way vacation. In the case of the condemnation we were obligated under state law to pay 100% of fair market value for the property. In the case of the right of way vacation we under RCW 35.79.030 were required to sell property which the city was willing to vacate to a contractor for 50% of fair market value. The dichotomy is perplexing and strikes me as unfair to cities. While likely not a major revenue issue it is something in my mind that should be fixed legislatively and possibly contribute positively to a number of cities both now and in coming years. FYI as a result of the vacation a builder was able to get another two lots for houses that sold in the \$650 - 750K range. Not a bad deal at 50 cents on the dollar! RECOMMENDED ACTION: Amend state law to read that both vacations and condemnations will be done at 100% of fair market value using the existing appraisal methodology.	New Issue for 2014

Lond Han and	Providing greater authority for cities to exercise nuisance abatement	Monitor *tentative -
Land Use and		New Issue for 2014
Environmental	under certain circumstances: Paul Roberts discussed an concept under	New 155de 101 2014
Stewardship	consideration to provide a greater administrative authority to declare a	
	nuisance to speed up the process to address these community issues and	
	protect the city and neighboring property owners.	
Land Use and	Affordable Housing Tools: "Amend or add affordable housing tools to	Monitor *tentative -
Environmental	allow cities to have more opportunities to economically include affordable	New Issue for 2014
Stewardship	housing within their jurisdiction. This includes looking at how foreclosed	
•	properties can be used for affordable housing, and other statutory	
	changes."	
Land Use and	Used Oil: "Pursue legislation that incentivizes jurisdictions to implement	Monitor *tentative -
Environmental	used oil recycling programs, including looking at funding sources to help	New Issue for 2014
Stewardship	implement such programs and working with the Department of Ecology to	
	allocate any risk associated with jurisdictions implementing a program."	
Land Use and	Expansion of Urban Growth Areas: "This would make housing more	Tabled
Environmental	affordable and take pressure off of cities."	
Stewardship		
Land Use and	Subdivision code cleanup: A WSAMA workgroup has identified a series of	Endorse *tentative
Environmental	technical amendments to the plat and subdivision statutes.	
Stewardship		

	"S the Little Higgs ("A/jth	Recommend issue be
Land Use and	Addressing the "coal train" issue as a "freight mobility" issue: "With	transferred to
Environmental	Igrowing freight volumes, we need to seek ways to fund grade separations	Economic
Stewardship	along rail corridors within city boundaries. Obviously, the coal train issues	Development and
	draw strong reactions - pro and con - among cities. However, better	
	management and funding for grade separations appears to enjoy broad	Quality
	support among the "city family". This issue needs to be developed with the	Infrastructure
	Leg Committee and the Federal Relations Committee, Carl Schroeder	Committee
	facilitated a discussion on this at the Tri-Cities Conference. I will be	
	recommending that we work with our Congressional Delegation to seek	
	additional funding at the federal level for freight mobility, grade	
	separations, and freight corridors."	
Land Use and	Support for Product Stewardship-efforts: AWC will endorse product	Endorse *tentative -
Environmental	stewardship proposals that:	broader language
	Stewardship property	allowing more
Stewardship	1. Will benefit cities and the residents and businesses of cities around the	flexibility to endorse
	state	product stewardship
	2. Have been-developed through stakeholder processes at the local or	bills -Endorse in 2013
	national levels that have strived to engage all stakeholders, including	
	product manufacturers and waste management companies	
	3. Are supported by a coalition of stakeholders, including other local	
	governments	
1111	Tribal Casinos: "Exemptions given to tribes to build casinos off-tribal land	Board approved
Land Use and	have been very rare. If the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) gives the Spokane	letter to the
Environmental	Tribe an exemption it would set a new precedent that could have	Governor
Stewardship	unintended consequences to cities/towns, including pitting city against	
	city, hurt local economies, etc. We would like to see the Board send a	
	city, hurt local economies, etc. We would like to see the board of the	
	letter to the Governor (who has the final say if the BIA gives the	
	exemption) sharing our concerns with the process, etc. of how looking at	
	the "detriment" part (of a surrounding 25 mile radius) in determining was	
	not taken into proper account. "	

Land Use and	Zoning Changes – "Allow zoning changes and comprehensive plan changes Tabled	
Environmental	to be done concurrently vs. sequentially: There is a portion of our state's	
Stewardship	Growth Management Act (GMA RCW 36.70A) structured in a way that	
	does not allow jurisdictions to simultaneously make changes to their	
	zoning laws and their comprehensive plans. As it currently stands under	
	this subsection of the GMA, if cities wish to change a zoning code	
	provision, no matter how minor it may be, they have to conduct two	
	sequential processes: first, the change to zoning law, and then	
	subsequently the update of the comprehensive plan. If cities (and	
	counties) could do these processes simultaneously, it would save time and	
	staff costs/resources. This would probably be seen as a developer-friendly	
	piece of legislation as well since it would save the development community	
	time and money, too."	