

**Final Review and Evaluation Criteria  
Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process  
Olympia Municipal Code - Section 18.59.040**

Proposal: Amend Policy PN8.1 in the Natural Environment Chapter  
Project #: 19-0712

Chapter 18.59 of the Olympia Municipal Code addresses the Comprehensive Plan Amendment process. Sections 18.59.040 and 18.59.050 identify the final review and evaluation criteria to be used during the review and decision-making process for such applications, including when a concurrent rezone is requested. Section 18.59.050 applies when a concurrent rezone request is included.

**18.59.040 Final review and evaluation**

A. The Department shall distribute the final docket of proposed amendments, including rezones, to any state or local agency which is required by law to receive notice of proposed amendments and revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and implementing development regulations within the time required. In addition, the Department shall distribute the final docket of proposed amendments to recognized neighborhood associations and other affected interests identified by the City Council. The Department shall include issues identified in amendment proposal analyses and conduct any review required by SEPA of the proposed amendments, including rezones, listed on the final docket.

*Routed to State Agencies: February 22, 2019*

*60 Day Notice of Intent to Adopt Comment Period Ends: April 23, 2019*

*Routed to Recognized Neighborhood Associations: March 4, 2019*

*Planning Commission Briefing: Scheduled for May 6, 2019*

*SEPA Determination Issued: Exempt*

*SEPA Determination Notice Published, Mailed, and Posted: N/A*

*SEPA Comment Period Ends: N/A*

*SEPA Appeal Period Ends: N/A*

B. The Department shall prepare a report including any recommendations on each proposed amendment, including rezones, on the final docket and forward the report to the Planning Commission. At a minimum the Planning Commission recommendation and the Council decision should address the following:

- 1. Does the proposed amendment or revision maintain consistency with other plan elements or development regulations? If not, are amendments or revisions to other plan elements or regulations necessary to maintain consistency with the current final docket that will be considered by the Planning Commission and the City Council?**

*Staff Comment: The proposed amendment maintains consistency with other plan elements and current development regulations primarily because the proposed amendment, while it changes the base year and percentages for reductions, is designed to have an equivalent result. The reason for the proposed change is to ensure all jurisdictions working on the Regional Climate Mitigation Plan (Thurston County, Thurston Regional Planning Council, and the Cities of Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater) are using a common, regionally agreed upon, goal.*

**2. Is the proposed amendment or rezone consistent with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan?**

*Staff Opinion: Staff believes the proposed amendment is consistent with the adopted Community Values and Vision of the comprehensive plan and the goals and policies within it. It is likely the goal will actually be strengthened because a regional effort should provide in similar actions and results across a larger geographic area.*

**3. Is the proposed amendment or revision consistent with the county-wide planning policies?**

*Staff Opinion: The proposed amendment is consistent with the county-wide planning policies, as amended in 2015. The CWPPs address General Planning Policies; Urban Growth Areas; Promotion of Contiguous and Orderly Development, Provision of Urban Services, and Protection of Rural Areas; Joint County and City Planning within Urban Growth Areas; Siting County-Wide and State-Wide Public Capital Facilities; Analysis of Fiscal Impact; Economic Development and Employment; Affordable Housing; Transportation; Environmental Quality; and County-Wide Policies which Establish a Process to Develop Future Policies.*

**4. Does the proposed amendment or rezone comply with the requirements of the GMA?**

*Staff Opinion: The proposed amendment is compliant with the requirements of the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A). Consistent with the Act, the proposal was routed to the Washington State Department of Commerce and other state agencies for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposal. No comments were received from state agencies during the sixty day comment period.*