
SENATE BILL 5984

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Palmer, Heavey, McCaslin, Hochstatter, Moyer, Strannigan, Johnson and Morton

Read first time 02/21/95. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to standards for designation of urban growth areas;
2 and amending RCW 36.70A.110 and 36.70A.130.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.110 and 1994 c 249 s 27 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Each county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW
7 36.70A.040 shall designate an urban growth area or areas within which
8 urban growth shall be encouraged and outside of which growth (~~can~~
9 ~~occur only if it is not urban in nature~~) shall be discouraged. Each
10 city that is located in such a county shall be included within an urban
11 growth area. An urban growth area may include more than a single city.
12 An urban growth area may include territory that is located outside of
13 a city only if such territory already is characterized by urban growth
14 or is adjacent to territory already characterized by urban growth.

15 (2) Based upon the population growth management planning population
16 projection made for the county by the office of financial management,
17 the urban growth areas in the county shall include but may exceed the
18 areas and densities sufficient to permit the urban growth that is
19 projected to occur in the county for the succeeding twenty-year period.

1 Each urban growth area shall permit urban densities and shall include
2 greenbelt and open space areas. Within one year of July 1, 1990, each
3 county that as of June 1, 1991, was required or chose to plan under RCW
4 36.70A.040, shall begin consulting with each city located within its
5 boundaries and each city shall propose the location of an urban growth
6 area. Within sixty days of the date the county legislative authority
7 of a county adopts its resolution of intention or of certification by
8 the office of financial management, all other counties that are
9 required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall begin this
10 consultation with each city located within its boundaries. The county
11 shall attempt to reach agreement with each city on the location of an
12 urban growth area within which the city is located. If such an
13 agreement is not reached with each city located within the urban growth
14 area, the county shall justify in writing why it so designated the area
15 an urban growth area. A city may object formally with the department
16 over the designation of the urban growth area within which it is
17 located. Where appropriate, the department shall attempt to resolve
18 the conflicts, including the use of mediation services.

19 (3) Urban growth should be located first in areas already
20 characterized by urban growth that have existing public facility and
21 service capacities to serve such development, and second in areas
22 already characterized by urban growth that will be served by a
23 combination of both existing public facilities and services and any
24 additional needed public facilities and services that are provided by
25 either public or private sources. Further, it is appropriate that
26 urban government services be provided by cities, and urban government
27 services should not be provided in rural areas.

28 (4) On or before October 1, 1993, each county that was initially
29 required to plan under RCW 36.70A.040(1) shall adopt development
30 regulations designating interim urban growth areas under this chapter.
31 Within three years and three months of the date the county legislative
32 authority of a county adopts its resolution of intention or of
33 certification by the office of financial management, all other counties
34 that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall adopt
35 development regulations designating interim urban growth areas under
36 this chapter. Adoption of the interim urban growth areas may only
37 occur after public notice; public hearing; and compliance with the
38 state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW, and RCW 36.70A.110.
39 Such action may be appealed to the appropriate growth management

1 hearings board under RCW 36.70A.280. Final urban growth areas shall be
2 adopted at the time of comprehensive plan adoption under this chapter.

3 (5) Each county shall include designations of urban growth areas in
4 its comprehensive plan.

5 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.70A.130 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 13 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Each comprehensive land use plan and development regulations
8 shall be subject to continuing evaluation and review by the county or
9 city that adopted them.

10 Any amendment or revision to a comprehensive land use plan shall
11 conform to this chapter, and any change to development regulations
12 shall be consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan.

13 (2) Each county and city shall establish procedures whereby
14 proposed amendments or revisions of the comprehensive plan are
15 considered by the governing body of the county or city no more
16 frequently than once every year. All proposals shall be considered by
17 the governing body concurrently so the cumulative effect of the various
18 proposals can be ascertained. However, a county or city may adopt
19 amendments or revisions to its comprehensive plan that conform with
20 this chapter whenever an emergency exists.

21 (3) Each county that designates urban growth areas under RCW
22 36.70A.110 shall review, at least every (~~ten~~) five years, its
23 designated urban growth area or areas, and the densities permitted
24 within both the incorporated and unincorporated portions of each urban
25 growth area. In conjunction with this review by the county, each city
26 located within an urban growth area shall review the densities
27 permitted within its boundaries, and the extent to which the urban
28 growth occurring within the county has located within each city and the
29 unincorporated portions of the urban growth areas. The county
30 comprehensive plan designating urban growth areas, and the densities
31 permitted in the urban growth areas by the comprehensive plans of the
32 county and each city located within the urban growth areas, shall be
33 revised to accommodate the urban growth projected to occur in the
34 county for the succeeding twenty-year period.

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