
HOUSE BILL 2194

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer and Simpson

Read first time 02/22/2005. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to public participation requirements of the growth
2 management act; and amending RCW 36.70A.035 and 36.70A.140.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.035 and 1999 c 315 s 708 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) The public participation requirements of this chapter shall
7 include notice procedures that are reasonably calculated to provide
8 notice to property owners and other affected and interested
9 individuals, tribes, government agencies, businesses, school districts,
10 and organizations of proposed amendments to comprehensive plans and
11 development regulations. Examples of reasonable notice provisions
12 include:

13 ~~((a))~~ (i) Posting the property for site-specific proposals;

14 ~~((b))~~ (ii) Publishing notice in a newspaper of general
15 circulation in the county, city, or general area where the proposal is
16 located or that will be affected by the proposal;

17 ~~((c))~~ (iii) Notifying public or private groups with known
18 interest in a certain proposal or in the type of proposal being
19 considered;

1 ~~((d))~~ (iv) Placing notices in appropriate regional, neighborhood,
2 ethnic, or trade journals; and

3 ~~((e))~~ (v) Publishing notice in agency newsletters or sending
4 notice to agency mailing lists, including general lists or lists for
5 specific proposals or subject areas.

6 (b) Counties and cities satisfying the requirements of RCW
7 36.70A.130 shall commence a public notification process consistent with
8 (a) of this subsection no later than one year before the applicable
9 completion date specified in RCW 36.70A.130(4) (b) through (d). If the
10 applicable completion date is less than one year in the future on the
11 effective date of this act, the affected city or county shall commence
12 the public notification process as soon as reasonably possible. The
13 provisions of this subsection (1)(b) are procedural and not
14 substantive.

15 (2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this subsection, if
16 the legislative body for a county or city chooses to consider a change
17 to an amendment to a comprehensive plan or development regulation, and
18 the change is proposed after the opportunity for review and comment has
19 passed under the county's or city's procedures, an opportunity for
20 review and comment on the proposed change shall be provided before the
21 local legislative body votes on the proposed change.

22 (b) An additional opportunity for public review and comment is not
23 required under (a) of this subsection if:

24 (i) An environmental impact statement has been prepared under
25 chapter 43.21C RCW for the pending resolution or ordinance and the
26 proposed change is within the range of alternatives considered in the
27 environmental impact statement;

28 (ii) The proposed change is within the scope of the alternatives
29 available for public comment;

30 (iii) The proposed change only corrects typographical errors,
31 corrects cross-references, makes address or name changes, or clarifies
32 language of a proposed ordinance or resolution without changing its
33 effect;

34 (iv) The proposed change is to a resolution or ordinance making a
35 capital budget decision as provided in RCW 36.70A.120; or

36 (v) The proposed change is to a resolution or ordinance enacting a
37 moratorium or interim control adopted under RCW 36.70A.390.

1 (3) This section is prospective in effect and does not apply to a
2 comprehensive plan, development regulation, or amendment adopted before
3 July 27, 1997.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.70A.140 and 1995 c 347 s 107 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) Each county and city that is (~~required or chooses to plan~~)
7 planning under RCW 36.70A.040 shall establish and broadly disseminate
8 to the public a public participation program identifying procedures
9 providing for early and continuous public participation in the
10 development and amendment of comprehensive land use plans and
11 development regulations implementing such plans. The procedures shall
12 provide for broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives,
13 opportunity for written comments, public meetings after effective
14 notice, provision for open discussion, communication programs,
15 information services, and consideration of and response to public
16 comments.

17 (b) In enacting legislation in response to the board's decision
18 pursuant to RCW 36.70A.300 declaring part or all of a comprehensive
19 plan or development regulation invalid, the county or city shall
20 provide for public participation that is appropriate and effective
21 under the circumstances presented by the board's order. Errors in
22 exact compliance with the established program and procedures shall not
23 render the comprehensive land use plan or development regulations
24 invalid if the spirit of the program and procedures is observed.

25 (2) Counties and cities satisfying the requirements of RCW
26 36.70A.130 shall commence a public participation program consistent
27 with subsection (1)(a) of this section no later than one year before
28 the applicable completion date specified in RCW 36.70A.130(4) (b)
29 through (d). If the applicable completion date is less than one year
30 in the future on the effective date of this act, the affected city or
31 county shall commence the public participation program as soon as
32 reasonably possible. The provisions of this subsection are procedural
33 and not substantive.

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