



San Juan County Community Development & Planning

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TO: SAN JUAN PLANNING COMMISSION

FROM: RON HENRICKSON, DIRECTOR COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO APPENDIX 1, POPULATION PROJECTIONS, OF THE
ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, NOVEMBER 29, 2005

FOR MEETING OF: JANUARY 16, 2009

ISSUE: RECOMMENDATION OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO
THE COUNCY COUNCIL

EXHIBITS: PROPOSED HIGHLIGHTED PAGES 5 AND 7, APPENDIX 1

STAFF RECOMENDATION:

Staff supports the changes to Appendix 1.

BACKGROUND:

In 2005 the county adopted Ordinance 15 amending Appendix 1 updating population projections from 2005 to 2025, the twenty year planning horizon. While the plan assigned 50 % of the new growth on Orcas Island and Lopez Island to Eastsound and Lopez Village respectively, it assigned a much smaller percentage of growth to the Town of Friday Harbor, 29%. The proposed change increases the percentage to 50%, which is consistent with the goal of GMA to encourage more of the growth in urban areas.

The changes in Appendix 1 can be found on page 5 and in Table 8 on page 7.

DISCUSSION:

For planning purposed the county has adopted the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) mid-range population forecast of growth which projects about a 2.2% increase in population per year. Based on this projection the county is expected to grow from 15,500 in 2005 to 22,534 in 2025. San Juan Island's population is projected to increase from 7,364 to 10,706 over the same period.

Increasing the percentage of new population expected to locate in the Town from 29% to 50% will decrease the growth in the unincorporated area and increase the growth in Friday Harbor. Following are the proposed changes which are shown in Table 8, page 7.

| | | 2010 | 2015 | 2020 | 2025 |
|--------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SJI unincorporated | Adopted | 5,825 | 6,448 | 7,023 | 7,580 |
| | Proposed | 5,645 | 6,085 | 6,491 | 6,885 |
| Friday Harbor | Adopted | 2,404 | 2,659 | 2,896 | 3,126 |
| | Proposed | 2,582 | 3,022 | 3,428 | 3,821 |

PUBLIC MEETING

On January 7, 2009, staff conducted a public meeting to solicit public comment on the proposed changes. The Town of Friday Harbor was also notified of the meeting and invited to comment.

(COMMENTS RECEIVED AT THIS MEETING WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION)