

**Date:** March 17, 2017  
**To:** Lewis County Planning Commission  
**From:** Fred Evander, Senior Long Range Planner  
**RE: PUBLIC HEARING: COUNTYWIDE PLANNING POLICIES**  
**Attachments:** Attachment A: Existing Countywide Planning Policies (16 pages)  
Attachment B: Lewis County Historic and Projected Population (1 page)  
Attachment C: Proposed Countywide Planning Policies – Appendix B (1 page)

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The purpose of this staff report is to introduce potential revisions to the population allocations of the Lewis County Countywide Planning Policies for the Planning Commission Public Hearing on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

## **CONTEXT**

As part of the Growth Management Act, Lewis County is required to adopt a population projection for the 20 years. The adopted projection currently extends to 2030 (see Attachment A), and is required to be extended to 2040 as part of this year's Comprehensive Plan update.

## **OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (OFM) PROJECTIONS**

The document "Lewis County Historic and Projected Population" (Attachment B) shows the historic growth of Lewis County, and the current high, medium and low population projections from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM). This document shows that, according to the OFM, the anticipated population of the county will either:

- Stay near the current population levels (the low projection).
- Increase to 88,967 people (the medium projection), a level below the current population allocation of 99,746.
- Increase to 111,684 (the high projection).

Lewis County is required to pick a population projection that falls within these numbers.

## **PLANNED GROWTH COMMITTEE PROCESS**

To explore the issue, the Lewis County Planned Growth Committee, a committee that consists of representatives from the County and each of the incorporated towns and cities, reviewed the existing allocations and any potential changes.

As part of the review, which occurred over two meetings, the Planned Growth Committee developed the following allocations for Lewis County.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Existing 2030 Allocation</b>	<b>Proposed 2040 Allocation</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Centralia	22,535	26,280	+3,745
Chehalis	11,230	11,230	
Morton	1,869	1,869	
Mossyrock	920	1,874	+954
Napavine	3,063	4,500	+1,437
Pe Ell	814	814	
Toledo	1,131	1,131	
Vader	885	1,229	
Winlock	4,550	4,550	
Birchfield	6,300	-	-6,300
Unallocated Urban	3,683	-	-3,683
Onalaska	0	700	+700
Unincorporated	42,766	50,545	+7,779
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,746</b>	<b>104,722</b>	<b>+4,976</b>

Major changes proposed within the allocations include significant increases in the Centralia, Mossyrock, Napavine, and Unincorporated population allocations, and the inclusion of a population allocation for Onalaska. Additionally, the allocations for Birchfield and Unallocated Urban were removed from the draft.

The proposed allocations were unanimously approved by the members of the Planned Growth Committee at their meeting of March 1.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission take public testimony on the changes at their Public Hearing on April 11<sup>th</sup>.