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MEMO:

To: City Council and Planning Commission

From: Jack Moore,
Planning Director & Building Official

Date: March 3, 2009

Subject: Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments – 2009 Docket

ISSUE

Introduction of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for 2009. No action or public hearings are scheduled for today's presentation.

Per the Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW), changes to the Sedro-Woolley Comprehensive Plan may be considered no more than once per year. Amendments may be suggested by citizens, staff of elected officials. All proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan must be considered at one time; this list of proposed amendments is termed the "Docket." All items on the 2009 Docket are City sponsored; no requests from the public at-large have been received.

The 2009 Docket includes four items:

- 1) Review and, if necessary, update the Economic Development Element of the Sedro-Woolley Comprehensive Plan. The Economic Development Element was last updated in 2000. The entire Comprehensive Plan must be fully updated by 2012. The City is allowed to review individual elements prior to the 2012 deadline. The Planning Department would like to review this element in 2009, leaving time to work on other elements during the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Comprehensive Plan review cycles.
- 2) Review and, if necessary, update the Public Utilities Element of the Sedro-Woolley Comprehensive Plan. The Public Utilities Element was last updated in 2005. The Planning Department would like to review this element in 2009, leaving time to work on other elements during the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Comprehensive Plan review cycles.
- 3) Review Chapter 9 of the Comprehensive Plan – Goals and Policies. This chapter is a remnant of the original Comprehensive Plan passed in 1998. Over the years the Goals and Policies have been moved from a separate section (Chapter 9) to the most relevant element. There are three sets of goals and policies left in this section: Community Character; Open Space; and Critical and Sensitive Areas. These policies should be reviewed, updated/eliminated and moved to the Land Use Element. Subsequently Chapter 9 can be eliminated, and the goals and policies will be uniformly distributed in the corresponding element, not in multiple locations in the Comprehensive Plan.

- 4) Changes to the Comprehensive Land Use map and the City Zoning map to address compatibility of neighboring zones, especially industrially zoned properties abutting residentially zoned properties.

Exhibits included with this memo:

- A. Official Comprehensive Land Use map**
- B. Official City Zoning Map**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

This is an informational presentation and no discussion or action is necessary at this time.