

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON,  
INCLUDING THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR, CITY OF LANGLEY, TOWN OF  
COUPEVILLE, PORT DISTRICT OF SOUTH WHIDBEY, PORT DISTRICT OF  
COUPEVILLE AND ISLAND COUNTY

A RESOLUTION OF THE ISLAND COUNTY )  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS INCLUDING )  
THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR, THE CITY OF )  
LANGLEY, THE TOWN OF COUPEVILLE, )  
PORT DISTRICT OF SOUTH WHIDBEY, PORT )  
~~DISTRICT OF COUPEVILLE AND ISLAND~~ )  
COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF PROMOTING )  
A LOW IMPACT, TRADITIONALLY- )  
NORTHWEST TWO-ISLAND COMMUNITY BY )  
ENCOURAGING A REDUCTION IN WASTE )  
AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS )  
THROUGH GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS )  
AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, AS WELL )  
AS ENCOURAGING "SMART GROWTH" )  
RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITY )  
PLANNING THAT SUPPORT THESE GOALS. )

RESOLUTION COG 01-08

**WHEREAS**, the cities of Oak Harbor and Langley, the Town of Coupeville, the Port District of South Whidbey, Port District of Coupeville, and Island County exist to promote the long-term welfare of Island County, Washington, citizens and recognize that escalating energy consumption, waste and vehicular emissions can be harmful to the health of people, the economy and the environment now and for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Island County want and expect their local governments to conserve energy, reduce pollutants, provide programs for cleaner air and water, protect our ground water, preserve open space and provide parks and improve transportation choices, all of which will improve quality of life in Island County; and

**WHEREAS**, the term "smart growth", similar to the term "growth management", has its roots in urban planning and transportation theory that concentrates growth to avoid urban sprawl and advocates compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, including neighborhood schools, mixed-use development with a range of housing choices; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the major concerns of sprawl is traffic, in theory, "smart growth" involves putting jobs, homes and other destinations closer together and avoiding use of a car for every trip. While this makes sense for Island County cities, it plays out differently in unincorporated rural Island County where bike lanes, park and ride lots, and

“neighborhood” pull-outs for transit are priorities. “Smart growth’s” emphasis is on mixing land uses, clustering development and providing multiple transportation choices to help manage congestion, pollute less and save energy; and

**WHEREAS**, Whidbey Island and Camano Island strive to be low impact rural and urbanized “smart growth” communities, meeting today’s needs while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their possibly even more complex needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Island County and its municipal jurisdictions actively support increasing community awareness of benefits to recycling wastes wherever practical,

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS IN ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1) Council of Governments members endorse efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient current best available technologies, along with conservation and technologies such as methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, and efficient motor vehicles.
- 2) Council members strive to continue the effort to adopt, enforce, and educate property owners about land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space and create compact, walkable urban communities while promoting transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, opportunities for car pooling and public transit.
- 3) Council members, in their roles as local government leaders, should consider the relationship between decisions made today and their long-term impacts, and recognize that our success as community leaders is dependent on an open decision-making process that takes into account the long-term economic, environmental and social well-being of our communities well into the next century.
- 4) Members of the Council of Governments wish to continue to inform the public and undertake efforts to curtail their jurisdiction’s waste of all natural resources, including electric energy, water, fossil fuels and land fill space, and members agree to strive to recognize new targets for conservation of such natural resources, and that Council urges Whidbey-Camano school districts, fire districts, recreation districts, Whidbey Island Public Hospital District, and Island Transit to do the same.
- 5) The Council of Governments wishes to increase further the recycling rates on Whidbey Island and Camano Island.

- 6) Members agree to continue to strive to conserve energy through energy limiting fleet vehicle conversions where efficient and practical.
- 7) Council members embrace “smart growth” concepts when developments provide economically viable, affordable housing that is environmentally sensitive, energy-efficient, community-oriented and uses low impact land-use planning.

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

**ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Nancy Conard  
Town of Coupeville

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Jim Slowik  
City of Oak Harbor

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Mayor Paul Samuelson  
City of Langley

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Commissioner John Dean,  
Board of Island County Commissioners

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Commissioner Phillip Bakke  
Board of Island County Commissioners

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Commissioner Wm. L. McDowell  
Board of Island County Commissioners

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Commissioner Ann McDonald  
Coupeville Port District

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Commissioner Geoff Tapert  
Port District of South Whidbey

Ten actions that county residents and businesses can take:

1. Know your carbon footprint in order to understand your energy use habits – use the “carbon calculator” at [www.greentagsusa.org/GreenTags/calculator/](http://www.greentagsusa.org/GreenTags/calculator/)
2. Reduce energy use by switching to compact fluorescent, full spectrum compact fluorescent and LED light bulbs which can be disposed of at the hazardous waste disposal sites on Island County in April 2008;
3. Reduce energy use by driving less – walk, bike, carpool, rideshare, use public transit; more fuel efficient vehicles;
4. Reduce energy use by buying local produce/food products and other market products, avoiding products shipped long distances, and use cloth bags for shopping;
5. Reduce energy use by turning off all electrical equipment and lights when not in use;
6. Reduce energy use by improving home energy efficiency (ask Puget Sound Energy or PUD of Snohomish County for a home energy audit) and buying Energy Star appliances;
7. Reduce energy use by turning down water heater thermostats to 120 degrees;
8. To the maximum extent possible, recycle all materials;
9. Compost food products and yard waste; and
10. Cut fewer trees and shrubs and plant more native drought resistant types.