

DATE: January 10, 2011
TO: Paul Samuelson, Mayor
FROM: Larry Kwarsick, City Planner
SUBJECT: 2011 Work Program Priorities

Based upon my discussions with individual Council members, I request that a workshop (special meeting) be scheduled with the City Council as soon as possible to discuss the 2011 Planning Work Program. I would suggest that Jim Sundberg, as the Planning Advisory Board Chair, be invited to participate in the workshop discussions. While I will be out of Town during the period January 12 -17, I believe that the workshop is a high priority and would be flexible to meet at the convenience of the Council. Given the importance of the discussions, I would be prepared to discuss the work program the morning of January the 19th.

The primary topics to be considered for inclusion in the work program are:

1. Finalize and adopt the regulatory package implementing the goals and policies of the adopted Comprehensive Plan. I am prepared put together a modified version of the “Code” that includes some restructuring of its format and that provides alternatives processes with understandable incentives which embrace the dedicated work of the Planning Advisory Board, participating Council and community members, and staff.
2. Commence the process of reducing the size and boundaries of the current unincorporated Urban Growth Area to match realistic growth projections. At the same time it is suggested that the City consider the adoption of a simple growth phasing strategy and/or infill incentives.
3. Initiate the Second Street Redevelopment Project. It is recommended that the City consider broadening the project scope to include the potential for creating an attractive community and tourist-oriented activity center as well as a circulation and parking plan for the City center.
4. Formulate a Historic Preservation Element for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan and evaluate alternative implementing policies and standards.
5. Initiate the Shoreline Management Master Program (SMMP) planning process.
6. Initiate the Wharf Street Relocation project and continue to support the Port of South Whidbey’s Marina Development Plan. Both of these would be integrated with the SMMP planning process.