

April 2012

School Siting Task Force

by Peter Rimbos, Corresponding Secretary

On Monday, April 2, 2012, the Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council (GMVUAC) held its regular monthly meeting.

School Siting Task Force

The School Siting Task Force (SSTF) has completed its work and reached consensus on all its Recommendations and Final Report. The Final Report, soon to be released to the public, includes twenty-one Appendices replete with technical and demographic data, School District issues, and Rural Area issues. Area Council member, Peter Rimbos, served as a Community member of the SSTF.

The SSTF recommended all School Districts serving both Incorporated and Unincorporated/Rural Area students including those in southeast King County (i.e., Auburn, Enumclaw, Issaquah, Kent, & Tahoma) find alternate sites within their respective city's Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) to site nearly all of the 18 new schools contemplated in the Rural Area. King County and the respective cities are to facilitate this search and coordinate any potential land swaps with the School Districts and (2) All future school siting is to be guided by VISION 2040, i.e., no tightline sewers into the Rural Area for primarily urban-serving schools.

The SSTF possessed an extraordinary diversity of members (School District Superintendents, City Mayors and Councilmembers, County, Real Estate Professionals, Land Developers, Attorneys, Health Professionals, Conservation Organizations, and Community Residents). Consequently, it is expected the King County Council will approve the SSTF Recommendations and Final Report and forward them to the Growth Management Planning Council for inclusion in Countywide Planning Policies used to guide Comprehensive Plans in all King County jurisdictions.

2012 KCCP Update

Last Fall the Area Council's Growth Management and Transportation Committees conducted a detailed review of the major 4-year 2012 Update to the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP). Comments were submitted to the King County Executive's office in late December. Recently the Executive has released his DRAFT of the 2012 KCCP Update to the King County Council and the Public for review. [The Executive's DRAFT can be found here.](#)

The Area Council is conducting a review of the Executive's DRAFT and will submit formal comments to the King County Council later this Spring. The King County Council's Transportation, Economy, & Environment Committee is holding a Public Comment session on the Executive's DRAFT on Wednesday, April 25, from 6-8:30 PM at Tahoma Jr. High School, 25600 Summit-Landsburg Rd., Ravensdale.

Area Council Focal Points and Committees

The Area Council elected new Focal Points for key areas: Environmental Services--Joe Cruikshank and Social Services--Dave Fields. Also, the following members have been added to Area Council committees: Council By-Laws--Susan Harvey and Steve Hiester; Elections & Surveys--Dave Fields; Flood Control Management--Tara Mahoney and Dave Fields; and Growth Management--Dave Fields and Susan Harvey.