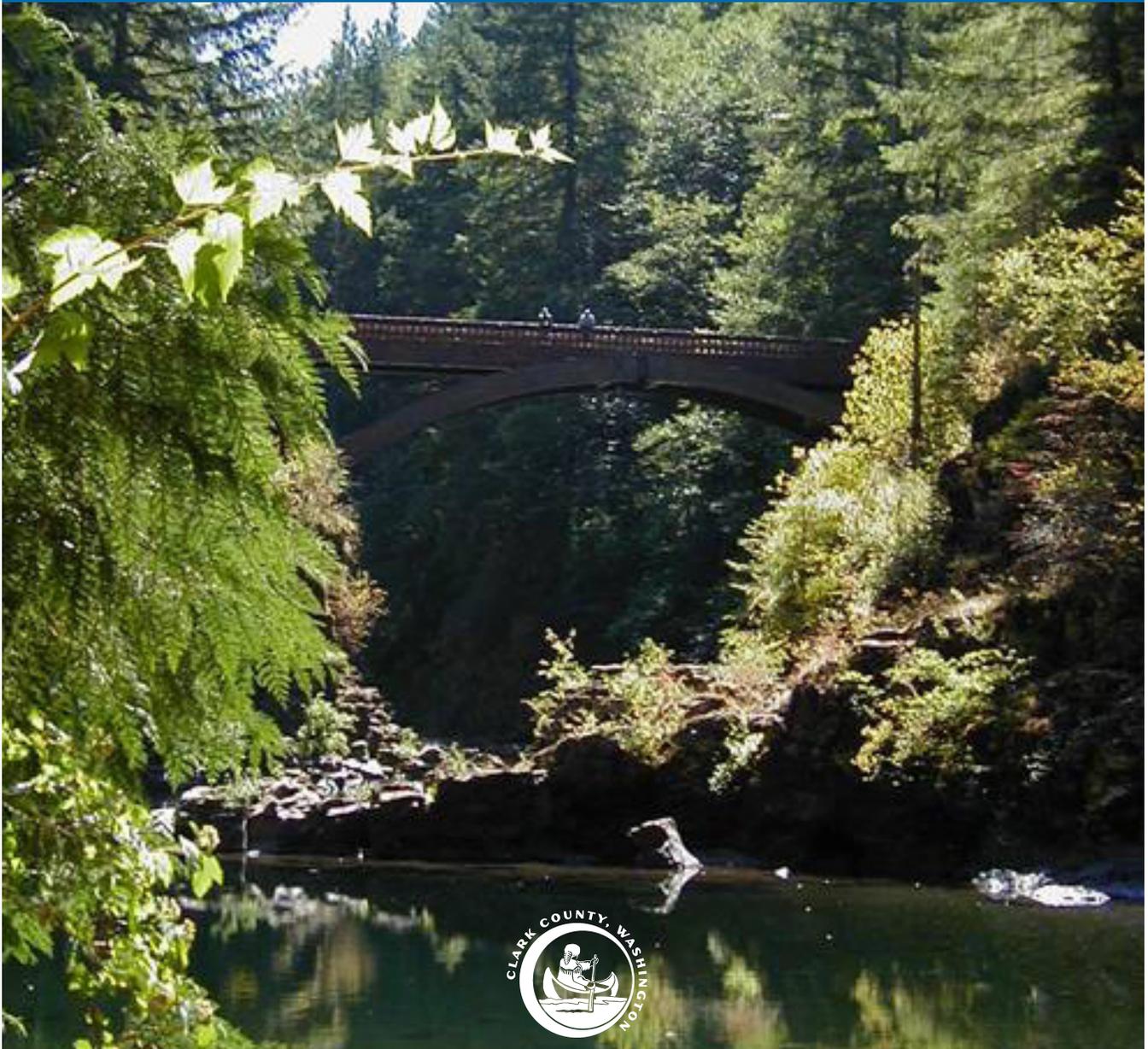


Annual Report

Clark County
Community Planning



December 2011

From the Director:

Greetings and thank you for your interest in our first annual progress report to the community. In it, we will summarize the department's accomplishments in 2011.

Community Planning, which was formerly known as Long-Range Planning, is a small department that provides a wide variety of professional services focused on making Clark County the best place to live, work, and play. The department's 11 staff members help residents envision their community's future and work to put into place strategies that will help accomplish that vision. Smart planning today means Clark County residents can enjoy a high quality of life in the future.

Our 2011 accomplishments are evidence of our professionalism and dedication to the betterment of Clark County for all citizens.

Sincerely,
Oliver Orjiako, Director

Thank you for your interest in Clark County Community Planning!

Mission Statement

“Community Planning works cooperatively with its community partners to improve Clark County’s long-term quality of life.”



Community Planning Staff:

Top row: Jeff Niten, Gordy Euler, Mike Mabrey, Gary Albrecht

Center row: Colete Anderson, Marilee McCall, Mary Beth O'Donnell

Front row: Jacqui Kamp, Laurie Lebowsky, Oliver Orjiako, Jose Alvarez

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Commissions

Planning Commission

The Clark County Planning Commission consists of seven citizens appointed by the Board of County Commissioners (the Board).

The Planning Commission's primary role is to review policy proposals and recommend approval, denial or amendments to the Board.

It also reviews parcel-specific zone change applications as part of the Annual Review process and serves as an advisory panel on matters relating to physical development of unincorporated lands.

- Considered plan/zoning amendments.
- Completed review of Retooling Our Code amendments.
- Conducted numerous worksessions and public hearings.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/commission.html

2010-2011 members

Dick Deleissegues, Chair
Ron Barca, Vice Chair
Steve Morasch
Jeff Wriston
Valerie Uskoski
Milada Allen
George Vartanian



Historic Preservation Commission

The Clark County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) raises awareness of the county's historic and cultural resources and serves as the county's primary resource on historic preservation. It initiates and maintains the Clark County Historic Register and reviews proposed design changes to registered properties.

- 78th Street Heritage Farm: Completed a plan for a pedestrian trail through the 79-acre, Hazel Dell-area site that will guide development of all trail-side exhibits. Work was paid for by grants.
- Historic Preservation Program Newsletter: Editor and author of the Preservation Post newsletter. It is distributed to all owners/residents of properties on three historic registers, the cultural resource inventory and other interested parties.
- Public Outreach - "Meet me at the Kiggins": Collaborated with City of Vancouver to organize a September program that included a series of 15-minute presentations by historians and preservation experts as well as displays of local historic preservation projects and tours of the newly renovated Kiggins Theater.
- Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation grant award: This \$3,500 will be used to prepare the nomination of the 78th Street Heritage Farm to the National Register of Historic Places.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/historic/index.html

2011 nomination

Kiggins Theater

The HPC recommended Kiggins Theater be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is significant due to both the historical events and its architecture.

2010-2011 members

Andrew Gregg, Chair
Douglas C. Wilson, Ph.D., Vice Chair
David Fenton
Steve Kaiser, AIA
Eric Lanciault, AIA

Projects and programs

Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

In 2011, the Bicycle Advisory Committee was expanded to 13 members to include representatives of the pedestrian community and renamed the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.



The committee's charge is to review the county's bike lanes, sidewalks and trails, making recommendations for improvements and implementing the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

- Reviewed and commented on the McArthur Blvd., SR-500/St. Johns, SR-14, and NE 179th St. projects.
- Formed a sub-committee to work with Vancouver/Clark Parks Department on construction of the Chelatchie Prairie Trail project.
- Obtained a \$25,000 Safe Routes to School grant in cooperation with the Vancouver School District, Bike Clark County and the Bicycle Alliance of Washington. This funding enabled the Vancouver School District to purchase 30 new Trek Bicycles, maintenance equipment, tuning and maintenance services, a bicycle trailer, and training for both volunteers and Vancouver P.E. teachers in Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety courses for elementary and middle school students in the state of Washington.
- Organized a bicycle tour of bicycle locker facilities and corrals in downtown Vancouver as part of a metro area bicycle event called "Pedalpalooza".

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/bikeandped/index.html

2010-2011 members

Phil Brown
Charles Frayer
Eric Giacchino
Joe Greulich
Jennifer Halleck
Ellen Ives
Chris Kesting
Steven Koch
Terry J. Lee
Patricia McConaughy
Rob Palena
Margaret Varkados
Madeleine Von Laue

Three Creeks Advisory Council

The Board of County Commissioners appointed the Three Creeks Advisory Council to give residents of the Three Creeks Special Planning Area a more direct voice in planning their future.

The council's task is to assist with subarea transportation plans, land use plans and other matters the Board may deem appropriate.

Major accomplishments include review of the Aging Readiness Plan, Shoreline Master Program, Retooling Our Code updates, Employment Zones Streamlining proposal and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure code.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/3creeks/index.html



Discovery Subarea Plan



The Discovery/Fairgrounds subarea is the second area in the Three Creeks Special Planning Area to be studied.

A Technical Advisory Committee and stakeholders helped inform the initial recommendations for the subarea.

A policy initiative was undertaken in April 2010 to explore the economic development opportunities and challenges inherent in combining Office Campus, Business Park and Light Industrial districts.

Policy initiative recommendations could be heard in spring 2012, and the plan will be completed.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/discovery/index.html

Pleasant Highlands Subarea Plan

The Pleasant Highlands subarea is the fourth area in the Three Creeks Special Planning Area to be studied.

This subarea plan was launched in August with a neighborhood meeting and the formation of a Technical Advisory Committee.

With help from residents, property owners, and other stakeholders, Clark County will develop a subarea plan to include a vision for the area and targeted projects that can be built in the next six years.

The plan also will include a design framework based on general principles established by the Board of County Commissioners. The public will be able to comment on the draft plan at workshops and open houses.

Salmon Creek Subarea Plan



The Salmon Creek subarea is the third area in the Three Creeks Special Planning Area to be studied.

The first phase has been completed. It included stakeholder interviews, establishment of a technical advisory group, and development of draft zoning and Comprehensive Plan maps, Arterial Atlas maps and bike and pedestrian system improvements.

The second phase will be development of the plan document and refining the zoning and Comprehensive Plan maps.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/salmoncreek/index.html

Annual Review & Dockets

This program provides a process for the county and individual property owners to amend the Comprehensive Plan on an annual basis. This year, 13 cases were considered.

Six cases involved updating school capital facilities plans and impact fees. Three cases were site-specific requests to amend plan and zone designations, and the remaining cases were two Arterial Atlas amendments, a text change and an urban growth boundary expansion request.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/land_use/annual_reviews.html



Aging Readiness Plan

Clark County and its cities anticipate rapid growth in the segment of the population that is 60 and older as the Baby Boom generation ages.

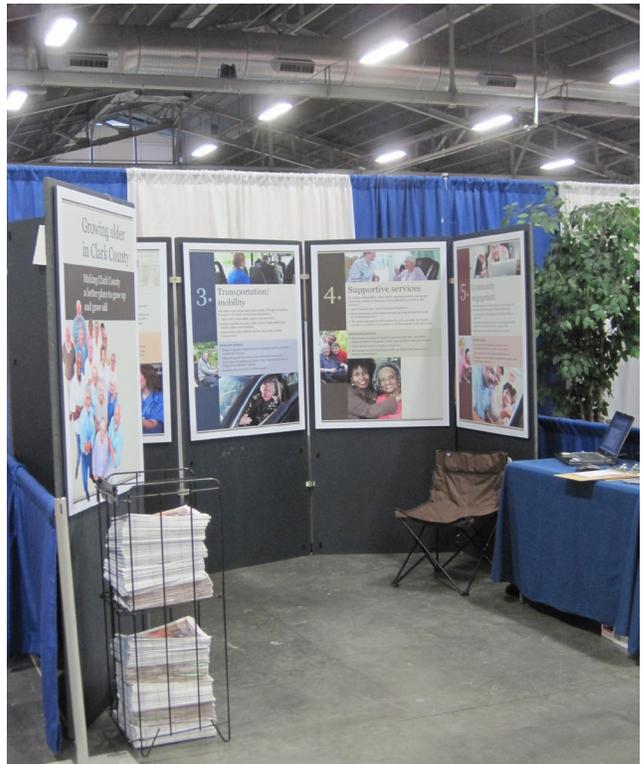
By 2030, one in four residents will be 60 or better and people older than 80 will increase by 50 percent. To prepare, the county appointed a 25-member Aging Readiness Task Force which held five community workshops on:

- Healthy Communities
- Housing
- Transportation
- Supportive Services
- Community Engagement.

Ideas gleaned from the workshops, stakeholders, surveys and best practices of other communities were used to develop an action plan.

The next phase will include implementation of the plan's recommendations.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/aging



2010-2011 members

C.T. Thurston
Roger Jarvis
Ed Rankin
Erica Kelley
Lisa Rasmussen
Michael Teefy
Bud Van Cleve
Jesse Dunn
Jada Rupley
Gail Haskett
Jan Wyninger

Marti Sanders
Steve Goff
C. Todd Martin
Erik Schott
Bob Holdridge
Erica Dahmen
Cory Bolkan
Kathy McLaughlin
Kiersten Ware
Jim Wilson
Colleen Kuhn
Dexter Garey
Robert Watkins
Karin Woll



Rural Lands Review

The Board of County Commissioners appointed the Rural Lands Task Force in 2008 to make recommendations on improvements to the quality of life in rural Clark County.

Several task force recommendations were addressed in the county's Retooling Our Code project, including updates to rural center development opportunities, kennel and stable requirements, and mixed use in rural centers.

The Rural Lands Review project entered its third phase with the onset of a Rural Lands Study.

The Board approved funding for a consultant to look into several of the Rural Lands Task Force recommendations, including:

- clustering on resource (agricultural and forest) lands
- analysis of minimum parcel sizes on resource lands
- transfer of development rights
- rural reserve (lands that might not develop)
- effectiveness of the current use taxation program as applied to agricultural and forest lands.

The study could wrap up in late 2012.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/land_use/rural_lands.html



Shoreline Master Program

Clark County's Shoreline Master Program (SMP) was adopted in 1974 to address development activities on or near lakes, streams and rivers. The Shoreline Management Act mandated that jurisdictions update SMPs by the end of 2011. In 2009, the county and its cities formed a coalition to complete the work. With a grant from the state Department of Ecology, the coalition developed programs with consistent goals and policies.

The County submitted its SMP to Ecology on Nov. 30. It will be reviewed by Ecology and could be approved in 2012.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/land_use/shoreline.html



Coordinated Water System Plan Update

The Clark County Water Utility Coordinating Committee updated the 1999 plan.

This collaboration effort with the county and cities produced a plan to optimize delivery of a safe, reliable water supply for public use through cooperative planning, development, operation, and management of public water supply systems.

Buildable Lands & Plan Monitoring

Clark County coordinates with its cities to collect development data that show the progress of each community's Comprehensive Plan density goals.

Completed analysis of the annual assessment data to determine vacant lands for future residential, commercial and industrial development. This report measures potential land capacity based on growth management planning assumptions and urban growth boundaries.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/comp_plan/monitoring.html



Employment Zones Streamlining

The Board of County Commissioners appointed this task force to review the Office Campus, Business Park, Light Industrial and Industrial Railroad employment districts. The objective is for the districts to better reflect the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan while attracting and fostering business growth.

The goal of the recommendations is to structure the zone(s) in a manner that enhances development while safeguarding manufacturing areas.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/land_use/emp_zones.html



Equestrian Plan



The Equestrian Advisory Committee has made recommendations that focus on:

- Equestrian trails
- Equestrian communities, development standards, overlay
- Best Management Practices
- Economic development, equestrian facilities, county fairgrounds

The draft document now is in the public review and hearing process.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/equestrian/index.html

2010-2011 members

Cheryl Manford
Sue Svendsen
Butch Reynolds
Kathy Cannon
Laurie Burgess

2010-2011 members

Scott Firstenburg
Bill Huyette
Todd Johnson
Jerry Olson
Kathy Segó
Stacey Smith
Jon Yamashita

Town of Yacolt - Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Yacolt is updating its Comprehensive Growth Management Plan and development regulations to address the prospect of growth. Town officials approached the Community Planning department for assistance, and a Memorandum of Understanding contract was signed. Cooperative work started in late 2010.

The first phase focused on updating the town's community vision with an open house that was held March 14 at Yacolt Town Hall. Approximately 55 people attended, listening to a presentation and asking questions.

An updated Yacolt Comprehensive Plan framework has been prepared and will move toward adoption in 2012.

Transportation Planning & Urban Holding

The C-TRAN 20-year System Plan was integrated into the transportation element of the county's Comprehensive Plan in January.

Community Planning developed a proposal to reduce the number of arterial road classifications, modify some dimensional requirements and cross-sections, and revise code language to reflect revisions to standards. The package of transportation standards changes will go through the hearing and adoption process in 2012.

Community Planning continues to provide technical support, circulation planning expertise and special reports as requested by Public Works. The work includes evaluating alternative scenarios and providing data for grant requests on the number of jobs supported by Transportation Improvement Program projects, information on Traffic Impact Fees and concurrency standards for Public Works and the Board.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/land_use/Urban_holding.html

Surface Mining Overlay



Accomplishments in the first half of 2011 include research into state statutes, the status of other jurisdictions' programs, and development of maps of several designation alternatives.

During the second half of 2011, a task force was appointed by the Board and it held two meetings. In 2012, the task force will make recommendations on mineral resource classifications as well as policies and code language related to mining and aggregate production.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/land_use/mining.html

2010-2011 members

Virgle Barnett
Bob Short
Richard Fazio
Linda Rectanus
Barb Repman
Jeff Wriston
Richard Dyrland
Chuck Rose

Re-Configuration Project - County Urban Services

Community Planning led a team to study and address the best options for minimizing or eliminating costs of providing urban services. The team also was to target sustainable funding strategies to provide services to the unincorporated Vancouver Urban Growth Area.

This information is being compiled to address declining revenues and a delayed City of Vancouver annexation schedule. The delay has resulted in increasing costs for services that must be provided with reduced county resources. A variety of options were discussed and presented to the county executive team.

Healthy Communities - Comprehensive Plan Element

The Public Health department, with assistance from Community Planning and funding from a planning grant, has drafted eight background documents related to Clark County's environmental health.

As the project moves into next year, Community Planning will complete a new Comprehensive Plan chapter that will include goals, policies, and implementation strategies specifically designed to improve the long-term health of county residents.

Work on the chapter on Healthy Communities will involve extensive public outreach. Public Health will host a series of events and activities to provide opportunities for residents to learn more and share their vision for a healthier community.

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/HealthElement/index.html

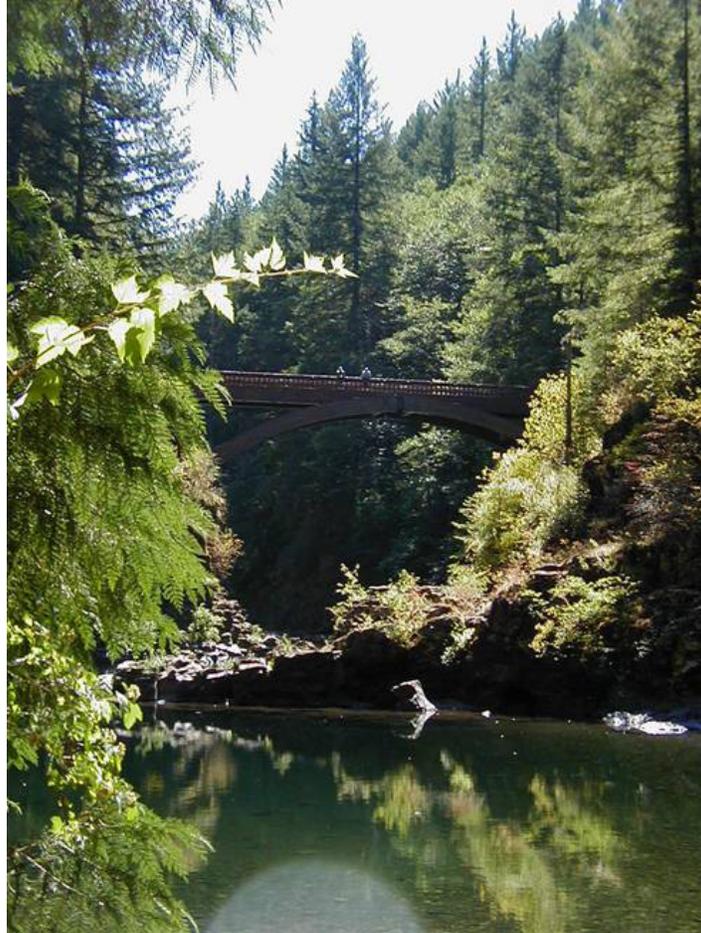


Community Energy Efficiency Program (CEEP)

Clark Public Utilities and Community Planning jointly offered a pilot energy conservation program for eligible homes, only one of eight around the state. Two grants funded the project. Community awareness efforts included an energy fair, neighborhood information meetings and a CVTV close-up segment.

As a result, 202 homes and nine businesses were weatherized for an annual approximate savings of 710,360 kilowatts (kWh).





Clark County Community Planning

Planning for Clark County's promising future

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Sign up for specific project updates at:

www.clark.wa.gov/planning/touch.html

