

Attachment I
Staff Recommendation
Draft Findings of Fact
City of Yelm Comprehensive Plan and
Joint Plan with Thurston County

Staff has drafted several findings of fact for Planning Commission consideration. These findings support Staff's recommendation to select Option One and forward the joint plan amendment with a recommendation of approval to the Board of County Commissioners.

- On July 28, 2008, the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board ruled in *Adams Cove Group and Futurewise v. Thurston County*, Case No. 07-2-0005 that the amendments to the City of Yelm Comprehensive Plan and Joint Plan with Thurston County did not comply with the Growth Management Act. Specifically, the Hearings Board held that the population figures adopted with Thurston County (County) Resolution No. 13734 did not support the size of the City of Yelm (City) Urban Growth Area.
- On March 3, 2008, Thurston County adopted Resolution No. 14034 and Ordinance No. 14035, which included amendments to the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan and UGA boundary. These amendments were in response to a compliance order from the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board in *1000 Friends of Washington (Futurewise) v. Thurston County*, Case No. 05-2-0002 regarding the sizing of the County's Urban Growth Areas.
- On May 29, 2008 the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board issued an order finding compliance in *1000 Friends of Washington (Futurewise) v. Thurston County*, Case No. 05-2-0002 regarding Thurston County's Urban Growth Areas and associated amendments approved with Resolution No. 14034 and Ordinance No. 14035.
- Resolution No. 14034 and Ordinance No. 14035 included updated population growth and distribution projections for Thurston County and its cities, and provided for Urban Growth Area boundaries adjusted for the updated population projections.
- Resolution No. 14034 and Ordinance No. 14035 included findings justifying the decision, which are incorporated herein by this reference.
- Resolution No. 14034 and Ordinance No. 14035 included specific findings for the City of Yelm Urban Growth Area outlining their local circumstances and their future land use needs.

- The changes to the City of Yelm Comprehensive Plan and Joint Plan with Thurston County proposed in this amendment are consistent with Resolution No. 14034 and Ordinance No. 14035 which recognized the City of Yelm's local circumstances and resulted in the order finding compliance in *1000 Friends of Washington (Futurewise) v. Thurston County*, Case No. 05-2-0002.
- The proposed amendment is consistent with the Growth Management Act 36.70A RCW, the Thurston County County-Wide Planning Policies, and with other elements and chapters of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan.