

GRAHAM CPB MEETING SUMMARY
April 4, 2002

The following CPB members were in attendance:

Arnold Andrews
Walter Balmer
Teresa Brain
Linda Clough
James Evernham

Diane Harris
Robert Nelson's Alternate: Judy Willmott
Robert Skagg
Sally Uhl

Others Attendees:

Jim Halmo, NW Trek Advisory Council
Theo Gideon, MBA Staff
Jeanne Archie, Resident

Katherine Rich, Resident
Stephen Ignac, Resident
Jon Tulare, Resident

Staff: Mike Erkinen, Jennifer Sitts

The meeting began with housekeeping items and old business from the previous meeting:

- Staff answered questions about the Planning 101 and 19A Community Plans handouts from the first meeting.
- The staff briefly described the land use designations in the Graham Community.
- The CPB endorsed the proposed updates to the Graham Community Plan website.
- The CPB endorsed and signed a letter to the County Executive requesting that additional members are appointed to the board and alternates are named.

After a short break, the CPB began discussion of new business which included discussion of the recent Graham Community Survey and brainstorming of major issues in the community.

The CPB reviewed the survey summary prepared by staff. Staff encouraged the CPB to use the results as a tool in identifying the community's needs and desires and to aid in brainstorming and visioning. Some CPB members were concerned that the summary did not differentiate the results based on where respondents live. Staff assured the CPB that the survey was statistically representative of the community as a whole and that there will be opportunity to address the needs of specific geographic locations. Staff is currently working on a detailed version of the survey summary.

The CPB began brainstorming major issues in the community. The majority of issues identified related to transportation needs and problems. Transportation issues included the increase in traffic congestion in recent years, improvement of SR 161, the lack of interconnection of roads, trails and transit services, and the need for square mile grids and park and ride lots. Other issues included a lack of community gathering spaces, access to parks, senior services, and the style of new development.

During next meeting, the CPB will continue to brainstorm, focusing on the natural environment, community character, local economic issues, and land use. The next meeting is Thursday, April 18th at the **Graham Fire and Rescue, Fire District #21** from 6:00-8:00 PM.

GRAHAM CPB MEETING SUMMARY

April 18, 2002

The following CPB members were in attendance:

Arnold Andrews	Jeanette Dorner	Robert Nelson
Walter Balmer	Jim Evernham	Robert Skagg
Douglas Campbell	Diane Harris	Sally Uhl
Linda Clough	Steven Kelley	

Others Attendees:

Jim Halmo, NW Trek Advisory Council; Theo Gideon, MBA of Pierce County;
Roger Nye, Graham LUAC

Staff: Mike Erkinen, Jennifer Sitts

During the meeting the CPB brainstormed issues in the Graham. They focused on specific sections of the community plan: natural environment, economic development, community character and historic preservation, and land use. Below are the major ideas of the meeting.

Natural Environment

- New residential and commercial development should preserve trees, streams, shorelines, wetlands, open space, and other natural habitats.
- Water is an important resource to protect. Low Impact Development techniques should be used to alleviate flooding, and reduce surface water runoff and groundwater pollution.
- The natural feel of Graham needs to be preserved. People choose to live in Graham because they like the feeling of being in the “country”.

Economic Development

- Small businesses should be encouraged over large retail chains and franchises.
- Home-based businesses and farming should be encouraged.
- The development of a new train stop for the train to Mt. Rainier in coordination with a new community center could provide the opportunity for new commercial development.

Community Character and Historic Preservation

- The style of residential and commercial buildings should represent Graham’s rural character.
- New developments should be landscaped and preserve open space.
- The size, height and type of signs should be regulated.
- The railroad tracks should be preserved. Train service represents a historic industry in the community and could also provide new gathering, recreation, and business opportunities.
- The history of Graham, Kapowsin and Thrift should be recognized and displayed.

Land Use

- General designation and zones should be made more specific.
- Graham is a rural community and land uses should fit into this rural character.
- Growth within the RAC at 224th should be centralized with high impact businesses in the center and low impact businesses at the edges.

During next meeting, the CPB will finish brainstorming infrastructure and services issues and begin the visioning process. The next meeting is Thursday, May 2nd at the **Graham Fire and Rescue, Fire District #21** from 6:00-8:00 PM.