

**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD  
FOR EASTERN WASHINGTON**

CITIZENS FOR GOOD  
GOVERNANCE,  
a Washington non-profit corporation;  
and  
1000 FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON,  
a Washington non-profit corporation,

Petitioners,

v.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY and the  
BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS for WALLA  
WALLA COUNTY, its legislative  
body,

Respondents.

Case No.: 00-1-0011

FINDING OF CONTINUED  
NON-COMPLIANCE

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. On June 12, 2000 an Agreed Order Regarding Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations was signed by this Board. In that Order, the Board found Walla Walla County not in compliance with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.040, and required the County to adopt a comprehensive plan and development regulations to implement the comprehensive plan. The following deadlines were to apply to the adoption of the comprehensive plan and development regulations:

a. Adoption of comprehensive plan: November 15, 2000;

b. Adoption of development regulations consistent with and implementing comprehensive plan: June 15, 2001.

2. On November 22, 2000 the Board received a letter from Jeffrey M. Eustis, representing

Citizens for Good Governance and 1000 Friends of Washington, requesting a Compliance Hearing, citing the Board of Walla Walla County Commissioners' failure to act to adopt a Comprehensive Plan and development regulations.

3. On December 13, 2000 the Board held a telephonic Compliance Hearing.
4. On December 20, 2000, the Board received from the County a proposed timetable of work to be completed. The Petitioners submitted their concerns.
5. The parties provided to the Board their opinions regarding the Board's possible recommendation of sanctions to the Governor.

## **II. Discussion**

The main points of concern by the Petitioners on the County's proposed new timetable were the following:

1. The timetable did not commit to the adoption of a final comprehensive Plan, but only to "hearings on a final comp plan resulting in adoption."
2. The adoption of interim zoning regulations are too late in the process.
3. The development regulations effective date is too far out on the timetable.
4. Hiring a Planning Consultant should be done now, not later.

The Board has received, reviewed and discussed the County's proposed new timetable. The Board appreciates the much more specific schedule. The Board recognizes the problems the County has faced with the loss of planning personnel and the large turn over of employees. But the Board also hears and acknowledges the concerns of the petitioners. The Board believes the new schedule to be one the County can meet. The Board, therefore, accepts the new proposed schedule and sets a telephonic status conference for February 14, 2001 to discuss the progress made. Status conferences will be held on a continuing basis from that point on.

At this time, the Board will not recommend to the Governor that sanctions be imposed, but will reconsider such a recommendation should the County fail to meet their timelines or show they are not moving forward in good faith.

## **III. Order**

The Board finds Walla Walla County in continued non-compliance. The Board accepts the County's revised schedule as follows:

**December 20<sup>th</sup>-January 25<sup>th</sup>:**

- Planners work on developing Interim Zoning Regulation
- All other department functions are taking place at this time

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

- RFP for Consultant on Development Regulations prepared and issued.

**January 30<sup>th</sup>:**

- County Commissioners' adoption of interim zoning regulations

**February 1<sup>st</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>:**

- Planners work on revision to Comp Plan, revise affiliated maps, prepare materials for final workshop, and work with public
- All other department functions are taking place at this time
- Final revisions made to the Plan
- SEPA issues addressed and integrated document completed
- Production of Final Comp Plan begins
- Planning Commission hearing advertised and final document available for release
- Staff report/ordinance prepared

**March 28<sup>th</sup>:**

- Planning Commission Hearings on Revised Final Comp Plan
- Commissioners' Hearing advertised

**April 11<sup>th</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup>:**

- County Commissioners' Hearing on Final Comp Plan.

**May 2:**

- County Commissioners adoption of Final Comprehensive Plan

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>-September 1<sup>st</sup>:**

- Work on Development regulations
- Simultaneous staff review / Quality Control Oversight
- Committee work as needed
- Hearings before Planning Commission on development regulations
- Hearings before County Commissioners and adoption of development regulations

**SO ORDERED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2001.

EASTERN WASHINGTON  
GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS

BOARD

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Judy Wall, Board Member

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Dennis A. Dellwo, Board Member

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D. E. "Skip" Chilberg, Board Member