

# City of Selah

## Comprehensive Plan Update

### Public Participation Plan

#### Background

The City of Selah is subject to, and plans under, the guidelines of the Growth Management Act (GMA). The planning process for updating a Comprehensive Plan requires early and continuous public participation (RCW 36.70A.140).

#### **RCW 36.70A.140:**

Each county and city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW [36.70A.040](#) shall establish and broadly disseminate to the public a public participation program identifying procedures providing for early and continuous public participation in the development and amendment of comprehensive land use plans and development regulations implementing such plans. The procedures shall provide for broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives, opportunity for written comments, public meetings after effective notice, provision for open discussion, communication programs, information services, and consideration of and response to public comments. In enacting legislation in response to the board's decision pursuant to RCW [36.70A.300](#) declaring part or all of a comprehensive plan or development regulation invalid, the county or city shall provide for public participation that is appropriate and effective under the circumstances presented by the board's order. Errors in exact compliance with the established program and procedures shall not render the comprehensive land use plan or development regulations invalid if the spirit of the program and procedures is observed.

#### **The City of Selah proposes the following to conform with RCW 36.70A.140:**

1. Planning Commission public meetings – discuss draft and final sections of plan elements and amendments at regularly scheduled planning commission meetings or appropriately advertised special meetings.
2. Public Comment – the draft will be available for review during a public comment period.
3. Final Public Hearing – the draft will be modified based upon comments received during the public meetings and during the public comment period. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the final draft prior to adoption.

#### **Public Participation Plan Objectives:**

1. Provide for “early and continuous” public participation
2. Build community trust in the planning process
3. Seek public input and ideas concerning the future of Selah
4. Encourage participation of individuals, community groups and organizations that may not normally participate in the planning process
5. Explain the laws by which the City is obligated to conduct the Update process

#### **Notification Methods**

The following methods may be used to inform the public of the opportunity to participate:

1. Newspaper advertisements—an initial newspaper ad informing of the start of the Urban Growth Area and Comprehensive Plan Update
2. E-mail and/or direct mail notice to interested parties who wish to receive notification
3. E-mail notice to interested parties in key organizations – Requesting those key outside organizations distribute to their membership and to other organizations.
4. Posting notices on the City website
5. Posting notices at public buildings and on electronic reader-boards at the Civic Center and Carlon Park.
6. Press Releases