

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON,
INCLUDING THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR, CITY OF LANGLEY, TOWN OF
COUPEVILLE, PORT DISTRICT OF SOUTH WHIDBEY, PORT DISTRICT OF
COUPEVILLE AND ISLAND COUNTY

A RESOLUTION OF THE ISLAND COUNTY)
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS INCLUDING)
THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR, THE CITY OF)
LANGLEY, THE TOWN OF COUPEVILLE,)
PORT DISTRICT OF SOUTH WHIDBEY, PORT)
DISTRICT OF COUPEVILLE AND ISLAND)
COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF PROMOTING)
A LOW IMPACT, TRADITIONALLY-)
NORTHWEST TWO-ISLAND COMMUNITY BY)
ENCOURAGING A REDUCTION IN WASTE)
AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS)
THROUGH GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS)
AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION, AS WELL)
AS ENCOURAGING “SMART GROWTH”)
RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITY)
PLANNING THAT SUPPORT THESE GOALS.)

RESOLUTION COG 01-08

WHEREAS, the cities of Oak Harbor and Langley, the Town of Coupeville, the Port District of South Whidbey, Port District of Coupeville, and Island County exist to promote the long-term welfare of Island County, Washington, citizens and recognize that escalating energy consumption, waste and vehicular emissions can be harmful to the health of people, the economy and the environment now and for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Island County want and expect their local governments to conserve energy, reduce pollutants, provide programs for cleaner air and water, protect our ground water, preserve open space and provide parks and improve transportation choices, all of which will improve quality of life in Island County; and

WHEREAS, the term “smart growth”, similar to the term “growth management”, has its roots in urban planning and transportation theory that concentrates growth to avoid urban sprawl and advocates compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, including neighborhood schools, mixed-use development with a range of housing choices; and

WHEREAS, one of the major concerns of sprawl is traffic, in theory, “smart growth” involves putting jobs, homes and other destinations closer together and avoiding use of a car for every trip. While this makes sense for Island County cities, it plays out differently in unincorporated rural Island County where bike lanes, park and ride lots, and

“neighborhood” pull-outs for transit are priorities. “Smart growth’s” emphasis is on mixing land uses, clustering development and providing multiple transportation choices to help manage congestion, pollute less and save energy; and

WHEREAS, Whidbey Island and Camano Island strive to be low impact rural and urbanized “smart growth” communities, meeting today’s needs while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their possibly even more complex needs; and

WHEREAS, Island County and its municipal jurisdictions actively support increasing community awareness of benefits to recycling wastes wherever practical,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS IN ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) Council of Governments members endorse efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient current best available technologies, along with conservation and technologies such as methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, and efficient motor vehicles.
- 2) Council members strive to continue the effort to adopt, enforce, and educate property owners about land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space and create compact, walkable urban communities while promoting transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, opportunities for car pooling and public transit.
- 3) Council members, in their roles as local government leaders, should consider the relationship between decisions made today and their long-term impacts, and recognize that our success as community leaders is dependent on an open decision-making process that takes into account the long-term economic, environmental and social well-being of our communities well into the next century.
- 4) Members of the Council of Governments wish to continue to inform the public and undertake efforts to curtail their jurisdiction’s waste of all natural resources, including electric energy, water, fossil fuels and land fill space, and members agree to strive to recognize new targets for conservation of such natural resources, and that Council urges Whidbey-Camano school districts, fire districts, recreation districts, Whidbey Island Public Hospital District, and Island Transit to do the same.
- 5) The Council of Governments wishes to increase participation in recycling programs on Whidbey Island and Camano Island.

- 6) Members agree to continue to strive to conserve energy through energy limiting fleet vehicle conversions where efficient and practical.
- 7) Council members embrace “smart growth” concepts when developments provide economically viable, affordable housing that is environmentally sensitive, energy-efficient, community-oriented and uses low impact land-use planning.