

County Planning Commission, 1-6-2021, Shelley Chambers Fox

- a On Dec 28 WC Commissioners passed the **Marijuana Ordinance** with amendments. The major changes were there will be no outdoor grow and the set back for residences was increased. The version voted on at the Dec 28 meeting is available with markup at this site <https://whitmancounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/1866/12-24-2020---Com> marijuana ordinance bined-Proposed-BOCC-Amendments-to-Code-Revision---Chapter-1964-Marijuana-Ordinance-for-Dec-28-2020-Meeting-PDF

New business: Update to the Whitman County Comprehensive Plan.

- A The current Whitman County Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1978. It is available at <https://whitmancounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/1033/Whitman-County-Comprehensive-Plan-PDF> Its revision offers an opportunity for the public to express their vision of the future development of Whitman County. Whitman County is one of the counties in the state that is not required to plan all elements specified in the Growth Management Act (GMA) because the county does not exceed 50,000 residents and does not have an annual growth rate that exceeds 17%. The elements of the GMA include: Land use, Transportation, Public Services, Facilities and Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Natural Resources and Agricultural Conservation, Economic Development, and Rural Community Preservation. While the County will need to write a plan for Natural Resources and Agricultural Conservation, **we may want to consider several or all of the other elements.**
- B Commissioners and staff discussed some of the issues they would like to see the plan address:
 - a Alan Thomson and Dave Gibney would like to see the plan anticipate some of the zoning issues that have created concern for the commission recently making sure that the commercial and industrial districts are where they should be and the public knows where they are. Where should we put quarries so that we don't run into problems with the neighbors?
 - b Rusty Jamison would like to consider economic development in small towns in the county so that people would be able to live and work in them. He also anticipates that transportation of grain to the river will need attention since this has changed significantly since 1978.
 - c The commissioners acknowledged the water use issues between Moscow and Pullman and the 2 universities. While this may need planning, they feel that the department of ecology has the final say about water and so their efforts may not be productive.
 - d Brian Davies suggests the rural county needs better internet connectivity.
 - e Commissioners agree that **the next step is public outreach.** To be discussed at the February meeting.