



factsheet

No. 2

ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC) IS THE OFFICIAL CITIZEN'S COMMISSION ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL & EXECUTIVE IN FEBRUARY, 1970, TO REPLACE THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND SEVERAL OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. THE EDC HAS BEEN GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ADVISING THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING MATTERS. THIS RESPONSIBILITY INCLUDES REVIEWING AND EVALUATING COUNTY PLANS FROM A CITIZEN'S PERSPECTIVE AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WILL BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF COUNTY RESIDENTS.

COMPOSITION:

THE EDC CONSISTS OF A COMMISSION AND NINE COMMITTEES, WITH A TOTAL CITIZEN MEMBERSHIP OF 134 PERSONS. THE COMMISSION IS MADE UP OF THE NINE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND NINE AT-LARGE MEMBERS WHO ARE SELECTED FROM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. THE NINE COMMITTEES ARE: CAPITAL FINANCE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CONSERVATION, HOUSING, LAND USE, RECREATION & PARKS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, PUBLIC UTILITIES, AND TRANSPORTATION.

MEMBERSHIP:

MEMBERS ARE APPOINTED TO THE EDC BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, HOWEVER, HALF OF THOSE APPOINTED, INCLUDING ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, ARE SELECTED FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL. MEMBERS ARE SELECTED BECAUSE OF THEIR DEMONSTRATED INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE AREAS OF EDC CONCERN AND TO PROVIDE AS BROAD GEOGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION AS POSSIBLE. TERMS OF APPOINTMENT ARE STAGGERED TO PROVIDE FREQUENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS AND CONTINUITY.

MEETINGS:

THE COMMISSION & COMMITTEES MEET ON A REGULARLY SCHEDULED BASIS AS DETERMINED BY THE MEMBERS. ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND GENERAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED BY THE EDC.

EDC LAND USE COMMITTEE:

THE LAND USE COMMITTEE, THE PRINCIPAL EDC COMMITTEE INVOLVED IN THE SEA-TAC COMMUNITIES PLAN, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING AND SUBMITTING COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS TO THE COMMISSION. THESE PROPOSALS, DEPENDING UPON THEIR SCOPE, ARE CALLED MIDDLE PLANS, AREA ZONING PLANS, OR COMMUNITY PLANS. THEY PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION, LOCATION, AND EXTENT OF THE USES OF LAND FOR HOUSING, OPEN SPACE, PARKS, COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AND ALL OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE USE OF LAND. THE COMMITTEE'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN IS THAT LAND BE USED IN A MANNER THAT PROVIDES FOR THE MOST POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT.