

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

(Must be submitted NLT 3PM Wednesday for next week agenda)

**Department: Department of Community Development**

**WORK SESSION** ☒ **Meeting Date: 9/26/11**

**REGULAR AGENDA** ☐ **Meeting Date: 9/27/11**

**Required Originals Approved and Attached?** ☒  
Will Be Provided On:

### Item Summary:\*

- ☐ Call for Hearing
- ☐ Resolution
- ☐ Draft Ordinance

- ☐ Contract/Agreement/MOU\*\*
- ☐ Proclamation
- ☐ Final Ordinance

- Contract #
- ☐ Budget Item
- ☒ Other: Letter of Support

Documents exempt from public disclosure attached: ☐

### Executive Summary:

On September 19, the Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC) provided details regarding participation in a US Department of Housing and Urban Development Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant. The CLC is proposing an Olympic Peninsula Sustainable Communities Consortium composed of jurisdictions and agencies in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, and Mason counties. They have asked for a letter of support from each jurisdiction who wishes to participate.

**Budgetary Impact:**(Is there a monetary impact? If so, are funds for this already allocated or is a budget change necessary? If this is a contract and a budget change is necessary, the budget change form must be submitted with the item at work session and for the regular agenda) **If a budget Action is required, has it been submitted and a copy attached?** ☐

A contribution of matching funds or in-kind support is expected. That amount has not been determined.

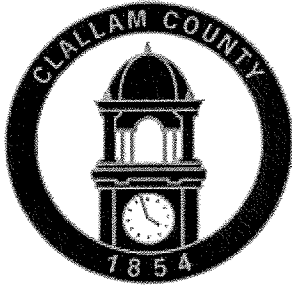
**Recommended Action:**(Does the Board need to act? If so, what is the department's recommendation?)

Review the attached letter of support and determine amounts to consider for action on September 28

**County Official Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Submitted:** 09/22/11

\* Submit original and 5 copies  
\*\* Submit 3 originals and 5 copies



# Board of Clallam County Commissioners

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File: A34

27 September 2011

Ms. Shelley Poticha, Director  
Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street, SW, Room 10180  
Washington, DC 20410

RE: Sustainable Community Regional Planning Grants (FR-5500-N-30)

Dear Ms Poticha:

On behalf of the Olympic Peninsula region, Clallam County applauds the HUD, DOT and EPA partnership for its effort in supporting multi-jurisdictional collaboration and leadership to build a region-wide plan for creating Sustainable Communities. This vision and framework will provide a pathway toward long-term equitable housing, employment opportunities, infrastructure and natural resource management needed for livable and sustainable communities.

To reinforce and synchronize our initial sustainability efforts and to leverage other investments, county, tribal, city and community leaders in the four Olympic Peninsula Counties – Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, and Mason – are partnering together as the Olympic Peninsula Sustainable Communities Consortium. Our goal is to plan for the long-term quality of life, economic security, and environmental health of the communities on the Olympic Peninsula.

The Olympic Peninsula is at the brink of this type of regional collaboration. Individual communities are making progress to sustain the working landscapes and rural economy of the region, to enable communities to grow in a sustainable fashion, and to maintain and improve quality of life for residents. A Peninsula-wide regional planning group capable of supporting this process does not exist.

Surrounded by the Pacific Ocean, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and Hood Canal, natural resources for timber production, farming, fisheries, and recreation form the center of the economy on the Peninsula. Today, the traditional ways of life are challenged by increased environmental regulations in tandem with demographic shifts, as the region becomes a second-home and retirement destination. These trends create an unusual combination of depressed local incomes and unnaturally inflated real estate values, leading to sprawling development with minimal infrastructure threatening the economic sustainability of working farms and forests and the natural beauty of the Peninsula.

Our approach is to address community development, economic development, and conservation as variables in the same equation. The outcome of this work will be threefold:

1. Knitting existing local and issue-specific plans, ranging from county economic development plans to the science-based *Hood Canal Integrated Watershed Management Plan*, into a strategic action plan for Regional Actions to Advance Sustainable Development. This plan will identify and prioritize shared needs, such as sewer and transportation infrastructure, affordable housing, and job creation opportunities, and outline new tools and solutions for addressing them.
2. Consortium members will be ready to implement this strategic plan and leverage the strength of the partnership to obtain solutions at a regional or national level.
3. This collaboration will demonstrate a way to resolve rural and watershed issues facing communities across the nation.

The Consortium, with lead applicant Cascade Land Conservancy, will initiate meaningful analysis, build relationships, and create a foundation to ensure the working landscapes and rural economy of the Olympic Peninsula continue to thrive, the communities grow in a sustainable fashion, and quality of life is maintained over the next 100 years.

Clallam County agrees to provide matching support of at least \$(enter dollar amount), and/ or in-kind donations of \_\_\_\_\_, worth at least \$(enter dollar amount) towards this important and timely effort.

We understand that all formal Consortium-related agreements or memorandums of understanding defining our commitment to provide monetary support or in-kind donations, timeline and outputs will be completed after the grant is awarded and within 120 days of the Cascade Land Conservancy and the Federal government establishing a cooperative agreement.

We are committed to exploring these issues in an open, inclusive public process to facilitate sustainable development that supports equitable and vibrant communities in our region.

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
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