

Planning & Development Services

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Memorandum

TO: Matt Aamot, Senior Planner

FROM: Lucas Clark, Planner II

THROUGH: Mark Personius, Director

DATE: April 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Countywide Planning Policy I-9

At the April 15th County Council Committee of the Whole meeting, The Council requested that the Surface Mining Advisory Committee (SMAC) review and issue recommendations on Countywide Planning Policy (CWPP) I-9. During the April 23rd SMAC meeting, the SMAC recommended the following changes to the Galloway proposal that the City/County Planner Group reviewed and recommended (Planner Group changes are shown in yellow and SMAC changes are shown in bold):

The County and the cities recognize the need for the protection and utilization of natural resources and resource lands including agricultural, mineral, forestry and fishing. As part of a broad based economy, productive timber, agriculture and fisheries, and mineral resource industries should be supported to operate in a sustainable manner to provide for the local economy.

Rationale: The agricultural, mineral, forestry, and fishing industries all export products outside of Whatcom County, and the SMAC did not want the policy to indicate that the products should stay in Whatcom County. They used the example of Raspberry Farms, which sells its produce all over the PNW.