

GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 16, 2026

Anticipated start time is 9:45 a.m. following the Transportation Policy Board meeting

In Person: [Burlington City Council Chambers](#), 833 South Spruce Street, Burlington, WA 98233

Remote: [GoToMeeting](#)

Dial In: 1 (866) 899-4679

Access Code: 658-265-069

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** – *Commissioner Peter Browning, Skagit County, Chair*
2. **Written Public Comments** – *Mark Hamilton, Skagit Council of Governments*
3. **Verbal Public Comments**
4. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Approval of [June 17, 2026 Growth Management Act Steering Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
5. **Action Items**
 - a. [Final Draft 2027 Growth Management Act \(GMA\) Support Work Program and Budget](#) – *Jill Boudreau, Skagit Council of Governments*
6. **Next Meeting:** December 16, 2026, Time TBD, *[Burlington City Council Chambers and Remote](#)*
7. **Adjourn**

Information Items:

[September 1, 2026 Growth Management Act Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Notes](#)

[Meeting Packet](#)

GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT STEERING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Commissioner Peter Browning Chair

Mayor Ryan Walters..... Vice Chair

GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND VOTES

Anacortes.....1
Burlington1
Concrete.....1
Hamilton.....1
La Conner1

Lyman.....1
Mount Vernon1
Sedro-Woolley1
Skagit County3

QUORUM REQUIREMENT

A quorum consists of a majority (6) of the members (11).

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GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2026

Burlington City Council Chambers and Remote

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Peter Browning, Skagit County, Chair; Mayor Ryan Walters, City of Anacortes, Vice Chair; Mayor Bill Aslett, City of Burlington; Commissioner Joe Burns, Skagit County; Mayor Peter Donovan, City of Mount Vernon; Mayor Marna Hanneman, Town of La Conner; Mayor JoEllen Kesti, City of Sedro-Woolley; and Commissioner Ron Wesen, Skagit County.

STAFF PRESENT

Jill Boudreau, Executive Director; Debbie Carter, Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board; Mark Hamilton, Senior Transportation Planner; and Sarah Ruether, Associate Planner.

OTHERS PRESENT

Three members of the public attended the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order: Commissioner Browning called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

Roll Call: Roll was taken with a quorum present.

2. Written Public Comments: Mr. Hamilton said that no written public comments were received during the public comment period, which was held from June 10-16.
3. Verbal Public Comments: No verbal public comments were provided at the meeting.
4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of March 18, 2026 Growth Management Act Steering Committee Meeting Minutes: Mayor Aslett moved to approve March 18, 2026 Growth Management Act Steering Committee Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

5. Discussion Items

- a. Update on 2026 GMA Support Work Program and Budget: Ms. Boudreau presented this discussion item. The presentation and discussion included an update and that we are mid-way through the year. Per the GMA support agreement, the Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) will continue to provide administrative support and coordinate Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) activities and work program. The total proposed 2026 work program is \$85,000. Focus has been around the content of the Growth Monitoring Report work task. Statewide guidance is being prepared to inform

the Monitoring of Climate Data and the Multimodal Level of Service Coordination work tasks.

Commissioner Wesen requested comprehensive plan updates from the cities. These updates were provided by each jurisdiction represented at the meeting.

- b. Growth Monitoring Report Suggested Content: Ms. Boudreau presented this discussion item. Included in the meeting packet is a memo that outlines the recommendation. On December 20, 2017, the GMASC adopted a baseline report and growth monitoring methodology process that created an annual report tracking population, housing and employment growth in Skagit County. SCOG creates an annual report presented to the GMASC each December. Measurement tools have been included in the memorandum to show where and how data is sourced. Moving forward, SCOG staff will continue to develop the new growth monitoring report for the GMASC to adopt in December and engage a consultant to assist in setting up Power BI data sets and visualization templates that can be used as a baseline for future reporting years.
 - c. Draft 2027 GMA Work Program and Budget: Ms. Boudreau presented this discussion item. Per the GMA support agreement, SCOG will continue to provide administrative support and coordinate Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) activities and work program. Staff have estimated the work to include administrative and technical support in 2027. Annually, the GMASC will establish a work program and budget, and the total amount proposed in the 2027 work program is \$27,000. This cost includes Administrative Support of \$12,000 and Technical Support of \$15,000. The new cost is less than last year, and the question came up of what has been cut. Ms. Boudreau addressed the reason for the reduction from 2026 to 2027.
6. Next Meeting: The next meeting is September 16, 2026, with the meeting start time to be determined, at the Burlington City Council Chambers and remote.
7. Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Boudreau, Executive Director
Skagit Council of Governments

Date: _____

Approved,

Commissioner Peter Browning, Skagit County
Growth Management Act Steering Committee Chair

Date: _____

Final Draft 2027 Growth Management Act (GMA) Support Work Program and Budget

Adopted September 16, 2026, by the Growth Management Act Steering Committee

As per the GMA support agreement, Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) will continue to provide administrative support and coordinate Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) activities and work program. Staff have estimated the work to include administrative and technical support. Annually the GMASC will establish a work program and budget. If additional funding is needed, a budget amendment request will be brought forward.

The total proposed 2027 work program is \$32,000

GMA Task 1 - Administrative Support:

Provide administrative support and coordinate efforts of the Growth Management Act Steering Committee and the Growth Management Act Technical Advisory Committee (GMATAC). Anticipated activities include preparing agendas, minutes of the GMASC, resolutions and maintaining related supporting materials.

Estimated cost \$12,000

GMA Task 2 - Technical Support:

Task 2.1 - Growth Monitoring

Prepare the annual Growth Monitoring Report. Coordinate with jurisdictions on collection and reporting of data. Update and produce report, host website page with report and Power BI tool.

Estimated cost \$15,000

GMA Task 3 – Carry over tasks

Task 3.1 – Monitoring of Climate Data (2025, 2026)

The purpose of this task is to continue the discussion from 2025 & 2026, develop possible regional indicators, data, and methodologies to be used in a potential monitoring program. A potential recommendation of which climate related data should be tracked over time to assist in coordination across jurisdictions and support future planning efforts.

Task 3.2 – Multimodal Level of Service Coordination (2024,2025,2026)

SCOG will stay abreast of guidance from WSDOT to RTP's regarding WSDOT's adoption of MMLOS standards and share with the GMASC and GMATAC suggested amendments that may be needed to the SCOG adopted Regional Transportation Plan.

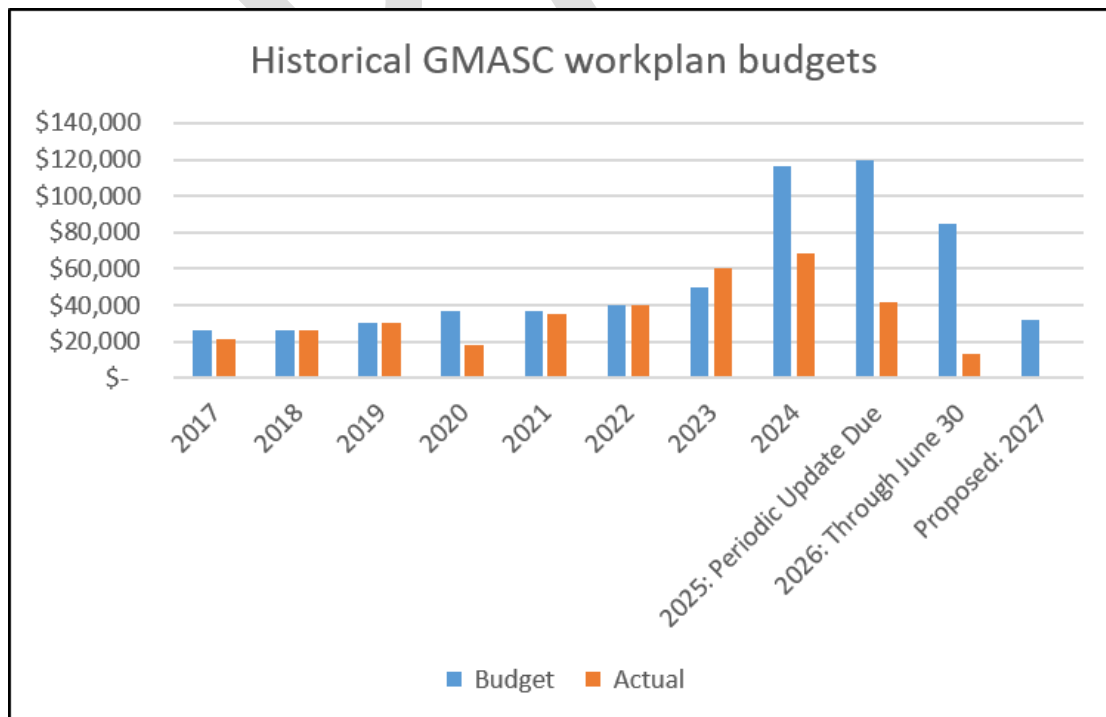
Discussions will include how any MMLOS standards will fulfill the Skagit County Countywide Planning Policies *Section 3.8: Multi-modal level of service (LOS) standards and safety standards shall be established that coordinate and link with the urban growth and urban areas to coordinate land use and transportation over the long term. New development shall mitigate multimodal LOS deficiencies concurrently with the development and occupancy of the project. Acceptable mitigation may include active transportation facility improvements, increased or enhanced public transportation service, ride-sharing programs, demand management, or transportation systems management strategies funded by the development. (O20250002)*

Estimated cost \$5,000

Cost Allocation: As per the interlocal agreement regarding staffing service for GMA support, costs are to be shared among the 2002 Framework Agreement participants based on their respective share of population annual reported by the Office of Financial Management (OFM), see table.

Allocation is based on April 2026 [population estimates from OFM](#). (published June 30, 2026)

2027 DRAFT GMA Work Program Budget						
Total Budget	\$32,000					
	OFM Population			2027	2026	Change from
	2027	%	Cost Allocation	Cost Allocation	Cost Allocation	2026 to 2027
Skagit County	53,580	39.59%	\$12,668	\$12,668	\$33,710	-\$21,042
Anacortes	18,410	13.60%	\$4,353	\$4,353	\$11,588	-\$7,235
Burlington	11,200	8.27%	\$2,648	\$2,648	\$6,890	-\$4,242
Concrete	815	0.60%	\$193	\$193	\$515	-\$322
Hamilton	290	0.21%	\$69	\$69	\$186	-\$117
La Conner	1,000	0.74%	\$236	\$236	\$632	-\$396
Lyman	445	0.33%	\$105	\$105	\$278	-\$173
Mount Vernon	36,090	26.66%	\$8,533	\$8,533	\$22,766	-\$14,233
Sedro-Woolley	13,520	9.99%	\$3,196	\$3,196	\$8,437	-\$5,241
Total	135,350	100%	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$85,002	-\$53,002



Growth Management Act Technical Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

September 1, 2026

Hybrid Meeting-Microsoft Teams Remote Meeting and in person at SCOG Office

Agencies Represented

- City of Anacortes.....John Coleman
- City of Burlington Brad Johnson, Miranda Sires
- City of La Conner Scott Thomas
- City of Mount Vernon Steve Sexton (Left meeting prior to ending)
- City of Sedro-Woolley Nicole McGowen Tom Glover
- Skagit County Jack Moore, Robby Eckroth
- Skagit County Public Health Shelley Kjos
- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)..... Grant Johnson

Staff Present

- Skagit Council of Governments..... Jill Boudreau, Sarah Ruether, Anika Nelson

Others Present

Aaron Hamblin, owner of Skagit Consulting, came at the beginning of the meeting to give a Power BI demonstration.

Agenda

1. Meeting began at 2:32 p.m.
2. Aaron Hamblin, of Skagit Consulting introduced himself and gave a presentation that displayed previous growth monitoring data in Power BI. He showed multiple ways the data could be displayed graphically in the software.
3. Ms. Boudreau gave a presentation on the Framework Agreement and SCOG Interlocal Agreement for administrative services and how it outlines everyone's roles.
 - a. There was agreement that if the framework agreement is not broken don't fix it.
 - b. There was a discussion of the TAC's role in the framework and how the TAC is to help the steering committee make recommendations on the CPP's.
 - c. There was a discussion on the role of the TAC in advising the Steering Committee. Ms. Sires said the last few GMA TAC meetings were confusing and that when asking for approval no one said anything. She wants to make sure things are received in advance.
 - d. Ms. Boudreau said that SCOG will now produce notes and send them out. Ms. Boudreau said that notes could be modeled after the Transportation Policy Board TAC.

- e. Mr. Johnson suggested that when the group makes a recommendation that it is put in writing before it goes to the Steering Committee.
 - f. Mr. Johnson said that procedurally when voting only certain members (as outlined in the Framework Agreement) should vote, not public health for example. There was a discussion of how if there is voting there needs to be alternates. Ms. Boudreau would like the alternates to be designated.
 - g. Ms. Boudreau agreed to draft GMATAC procedures for review.
4. Discussion about the 2026 and 2027 work plans
- a. Discussion was held about the ability to wrap up the work before the end of the year.
 - Climate Monitoring: Mr. Johnson said he reached out to the Department of Commerce, and they said that the WaLEE tool could not be used for climate monitoring. There was a discussion about what the intent was in the 2026 budget money allocated to discuss climate data.
 - Members agreed to send their adopted Climate Policy GHG Emissions inventoried indicators/sources to SCOG and SCOG would compile them into a table for evaluation at our next GMATAC meeting. Staff will send out a calendar reminder for Sept 22 as a deadline for this information.
 - The group suggested that this item be carried over into the 2027 workplan with a \$5,000 budget.
 - MMLOS: James Detke, WSDOT will attend the October 6 GMATAC meeting to update the group on WSDOT's MMLOS standards update.
 - Mr. Johnson would like to know how the State MMLOS fits into the CPP requirements for MMLOS as he thought that would be directed by the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Ms. Boudreau stated we will not know the effects on the RTP until the State completes their MMLOS work. At that time if any amendments are necessary for the RTP, then the Transportation Policy Board TAC and GMA TAC could work together on this.
 - Ms. Boudreau said that the 2027 work program has enough budget to work on this in 2027.
5. There was a discussion about getting feedback on draft methodology for the growth monitoring report. The group is invited to provide feedback in writing by September 22.
6. Adjourned: 4:10 p.m.