



# City of Kalama

Incorporated 1890



## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** June 19, 2015.  
**To:** Kalama City Council  
**From:** Matt Buchanan, City Planner  
**Cc:** Adam Smee, City Administrator  
Coni McMaster, City Clerk/Treasurer  
**Subject:** Proposed Urban Growth Area Amendment and Visual Preference Survey

### Urban Growth Area Amendment

On June 11, 2015 the City of Kalama's Planning Commission voted to recommend that City Council amend the boundaries of Kalama's Urban Growth Area (UGA). This process complies with Resolution No. 581 (Exhibit F), which specifies that the UGA (adopted August 2012) "be reviewed once every three (3) years by the City staff and City Council to evaluate the effectiveness of the policies." The UGA will be used as the planning area for the Comprehensive Plan update.

The Planning Commission Staff Report is attached, along with the exhibits, for your review. Planning Commission voted that **Option B** be considered by City Council for the amended UGA. City planning staff supports this recommendation.

### SEPA Determination on UGA Amendment

Staff finds that this administrative function of amending the UGA does not require SEPA. According to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-704, nonproject actions involve decisions on policies, plans, or programs, including the amendment of rules or regulations that contain standards controlling use or modification of the environment. Staff finds that amending the City's UGA does not create or amend standards controlling the use or modification of the environment. Any parcels brought into the UGA due to this revision will be potentially eligible for annexations. Any future annexations will require SEPA.

### Visual Preference Survey

Planning staff has been working with the Comprehensive Plan Committee and the Planning Commission to develop a Visual Preference Survey. This survey will be used to gather public input, establish a vision, and help guide the development of comprehensive plan goals and policies. Staff will coordinate the distribution of this survey during the month of July. The survey will be available online and hard copies will be made available at prominent public locations for residents who do not use the internet. We intend on attending upcoming community events, such as the 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration, to help engage residents in this project.

**EXHIBITS**

- A. Option A—Minor UGB expansion
- B. Option B—Moderate UGB expansion
- C. Option C—Major UGB expansion
- D. Planning Commission Staff Report on UGA Review (6/11/2015)
- E. Urban Growth Area Policy
- F. Visual Preference Survey