

**Minter Creek Watershed Strategies
Meeting Summary
November 21, 2013**

Attendees on November 21: Rollo Van Slyke, Roger Gay, Tom Nevins, David Nash, Helen Jones (Kitsap County Conservation District), Mike Sherman, Doug Wiedemeier (WDFW), Mary Jackson, Dean Moergeli, Ann Schnitzer, Erin Ewald (Pierce County Conservation District), Patti Cummins, Ryan Sandstrom, Rick Sorrels, Judy Austin, Nancy Hansen, Kelly Kingman, Barbara Ann Smolko (Pierce County), Dave Greetham, David Nash and Dennis Oost (Kitsap County).

Facilitators: Heather Ballash and Anne Fritzel, Washington State Department of Commerce.

Previous meetings recap

The meeting began with a review of the maps with dots for future land uses created on October 30 and November 7.

Informational updates

County staff and Heather Ballash provided the following informational updates to the group:

- Dave Greetham shared the Burley/Minter Watershed 2012 Water Quality Monitoring Report by the Kitsap Public Health District. The report is posted on the Minter Creek Watershed Strategies web site. The 2012 report is also posted on the Kitsap Public Health web site at http://www.kitsappublichealth.org/environment/water_reports.php. The 2013 report will be posted to that site shortly.
- Barbara Ann Smolko passed around the zoning code list of allowed uses in the Pierce County rural activity center and rural neighborhood centers in Minter Creek watershed.
- Dave Greetham shared an overview of the zoning allowed uses for the Port Orchard airport that is designated Rural Industrial in the County plan. Commercial uses are limited to uses that serve the industrial uses.
- Dennis Oost, discussed the proposed Kitsap County non-motorized trail plan that will be before the Kitsap County Commissioners for potential adoption in December 2013. The plan is at [http://www.kitsapgov.com/boc/Special Projects Division/specialprojects.htm](http://www.kitsapgov.com/boc/Special%20Projects%20Division/specialprojects.htm) on the Commissioners' special projects web page.
- Heather Ballash provided an update on the Hwy 302 Corridor Study by Washington State Department of Transportation. The Department is awaiting funding to complete the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project. Once that funding is available, it will be at least a year before the EIS is completed and a preferred alternative selected.

Potential conflicts – what we like vs. future land uses

With the additional dots for future land uses from the November 7 meeting, the group spent some more time identifying conflicts between those land uses. They then started to identify possible strategies to address those conflicts. The conflicts and strategies identified are as follows:

Potential conflicts	Strategies for addressing the conflicts
1. Resistance to any change by affected property owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buy the land or an easement• Educate and communicate with property owners, community, elected officials, conservation groups• Scale back the plan and take small steps
2. Resistance to any change by county commissioners and council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grass roots efforts to communicate own values and vision – local investment• Elect new officials
3. Resistance to expansion of commercial areas by conservation groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preserving/creating greenbelts and wildlife corridors (fly over and look at it)• Include food sales in new commercial areas• Minimize driving through local services/retail• Mitigation for impacts to green belts and wildlife habitat
4. Wicks Lake – conflict between conserving open space and more intense residential development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential and trails together reduces traffic impacts• Adequate buffers for new development
5. (Former) Brookside Restaurant – conflict between existing use and critical areas ordinance – what will happen if it is purchased and the new owner cannot use it as they would like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require low impact development (Pierce County – filter strips, rain gardens, and pervious pavement)• Restrict uses to those with fewer people using water (septic), especially next to the stream – i.e. office, non-food retail• Move the commercially-zoned area away from the stream with new traffic access (politically difficult)
6. Cannot change grandfathered uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Site-specific Comp Plan/rezone requests can be made in Kitsap, during limited time windows• Comp plan amendment – 2015 comp plan update in Pierce County and 2016 in Kitsap County

7. Airport area: change from existing uses to new vision with more commercial development may be difficult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as strategy for #1 • Airport as incubator for businesses (light industrial zone allows this) • Restrict hazardous uses – this is regulated through County Health and Storm Water • Technology for septics • Subarea plan for the area
8. Conflict of traffic from small business, agri-tourism, local food production and sales on site vs. a local distribution center	Manage traffic through the existing use regulations
9. Match agricultural taxation and zoning within Pierce County	Match open space taxation to zoning – Pierce County needs to be clear on the process
10. Potential for cottage industry on every residential parcel in Pierce County. Could be impacted by Kitsap grandfathered existing and home-based uses.	Same as strategies for #1, 3 and 8.
11. Road expansion connecting Lake Helena to Lakeway could conflict with desire for parks and trails in the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make some trade offs • Check whether there already is a right-of-way (in Destination 2030) • Work with the owner (Alpine Evergreen) • Do the road expansion and create parks and trails through a master plan
12. Future land use conflicts with wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate and encourage landowners to protect and enhance corridors • Do additional studies about needs for wildlife – connectivity, water quality • Combine with trails • Determine if stream buffers are sufficient • Use Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitat and Species information • Update stream typing maps
13. Water quality with acid/porous soils will be impacted by more septic systems	New technology for wastewater systems
14. Existing culverts in roads and driveways need to be fixed	Department of Natural Resources has a good prioritization system for fixing culverts and restoring habitat, but it is expensive

Next steps:

- Meet one more time on December 11 to finish the list of strategies for dealing with possible conflicts, and prioritize the issues and strategies for report to the Counties.
- Draft report for group to review in January 2014.

Next meeting – December 11, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Key Center Fire Station

Information to be provided for next meeting:

- Are community centers allowed in Pierce County's rural activity centers or Kitsap County's rural zoned areas?
- Are there issues with water washing into the creek from the Fire Department activities? Recent violations issued by Ecology?
- Have Pierce County Public Works transportation staff coordinated with Key Pen Parks in developing a trails plan?