

# A Road Map to Washington's Future

## **Road Map to Washington's Future**

Open House Presentation

2019

**The William D. Ruckelshaus Center**

# A Road Map to Washington's Future

## Introductions

**Amanda Murphy**, Ruckelshaus Center

Project co-lead

**Joe Tovar**, Tovar Planning

Project co-lead

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Project team

**Molly Stenovec**, Ruckelshaus Center

Project team

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## The William D. Ruckelshaus Center



- **Mission:** To help parties involved in complex public policy challenges in the State of Washington and the Pacific Northwest tap university expertise to develop collaborative, durable, and effective solutions.
  - Neutral resource for collaborative problem solving
  - Improve availability and quality of voluntary collaborative approaches.
  - Help leaders work together, build consensus, resolve policy conflicts.

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## SERVICES

- Initial Consultation
- Situation Assessment
- Collaborative Process Design
- Common Information Base
- Facilitating and Managing
- Building Collaborative Capacity
- Applied Learning Opportunities

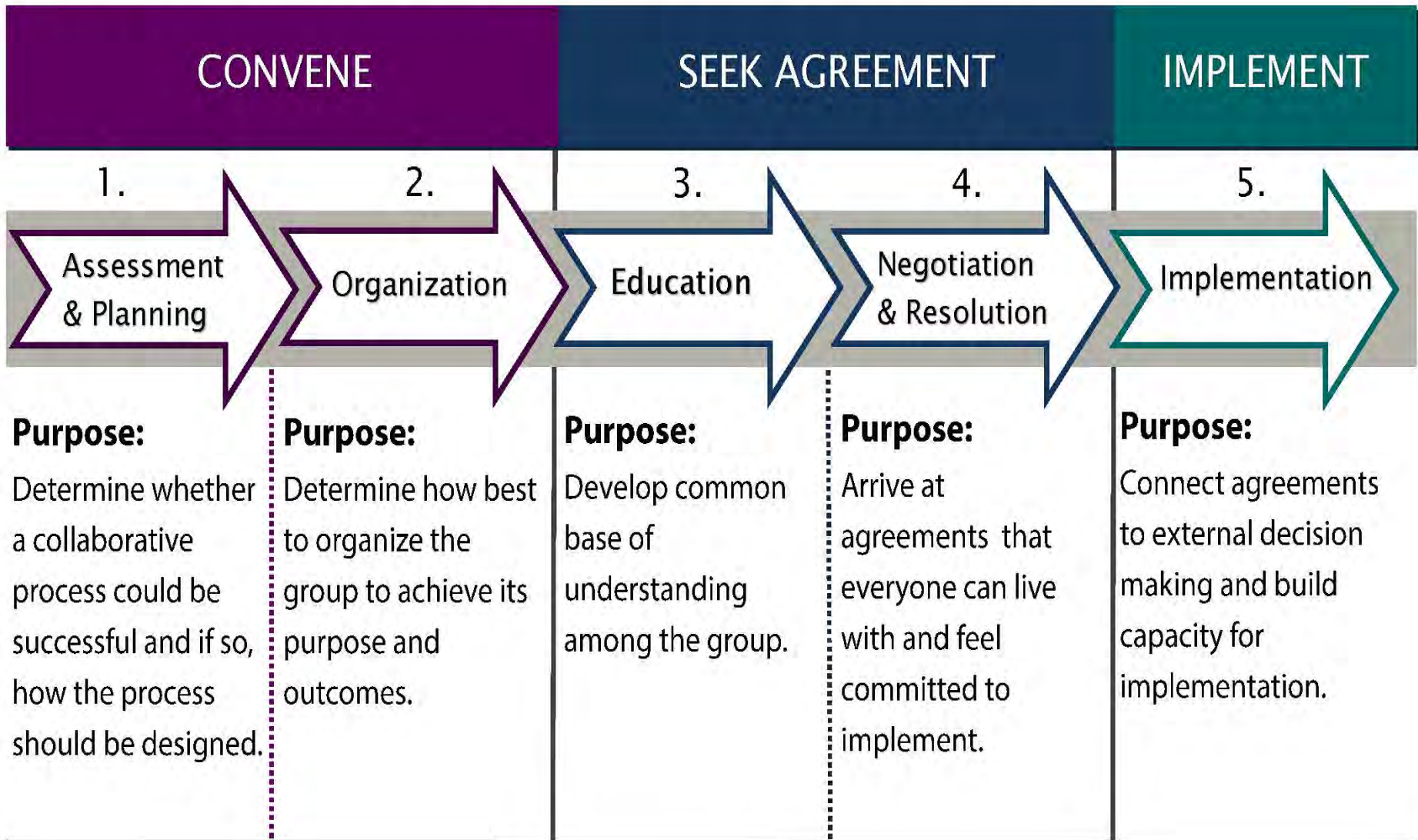
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## EXAMPLE PROJECTS

- Chehalis Basin Strategy
- Vol. Stewardship Program
- Collaborative Health Policy
- Aviation Biofuels
- Recreation Fees
- Spokane River Toxics
- Washington Coast Resilience
- SR 530 (Oso) Landslide Commission



# Stages of Collaborative Decision Making



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## ROAD MAP PROJECT BACKGROUND

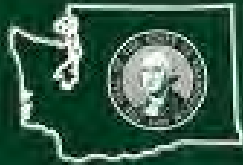
- **2017-2019 Biennium Budget:** Legislature allocated funds to the Center to facilitate a two-year process to create a *“Road Map to Washington’s Future.”*
- **Purpose:** To articulate a vision of Washington’s desired future and identify additions, revisions, or clarifications to the **growth planning framework** needed to reach that future.

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## PROJECT SCOPE

### GROWTH PLANNING FRAMEWORK

#### REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON



GMA

OTHER PLANNING LAWS

GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS

REVENUE AUTHORITY

STATE CONSTITUTION

U.S. CONSTITUTION, FEDERAL LAW, LANDS & AGENCIES  
TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

Growth Management Act – RCW 36.70A

Shoreline Management Act – RCW 90.58

State Environmental Policy Act – RCW 43.21

Local Project Review Act – RCW 36.70B

Land Use Petition Act – RCW 36.70C

Planning Enabling Act – RCW 36.70 Subdivision Statute – RCW 58.17

Water System Coordination Act – RCW 70.116

Regional Transportation Planning – RCW 47.80

City and County Governance – RCW 35, 35A, 36

Port Districts – RCW 53, Water and Sewer Districts – RCW 57

Public Utility Districts – RCW 54, School Districts RCW 28

Forest Practices – RCW 76.09, Energy Facilities – RCW 80.50

State Agencies and Universities

Community Redevelopment Financing- RCW 39.89

Multi-Family Property Tax Exemption – RCW 84.14

Impact Fees - RCW 82.02

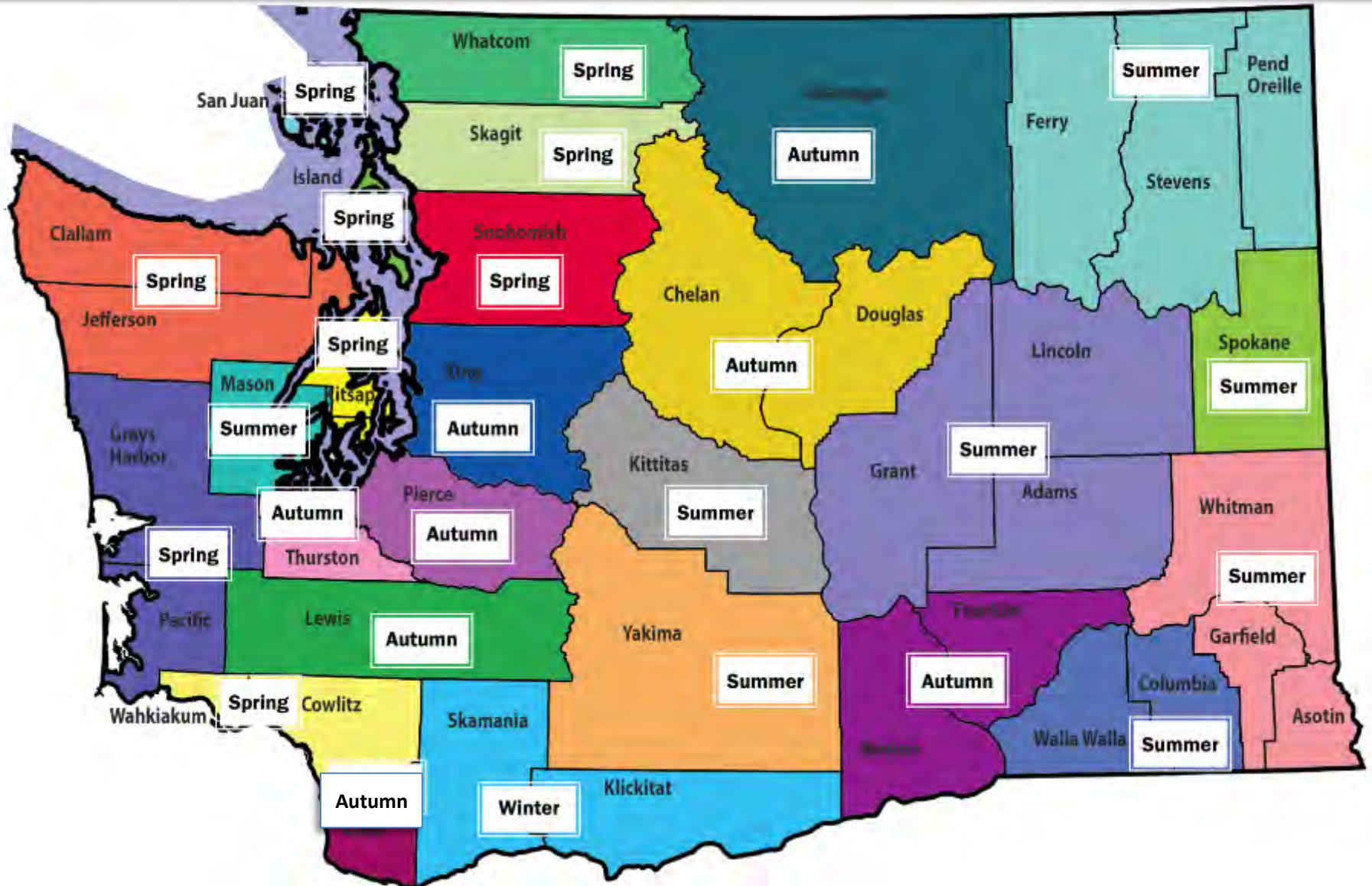


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## PROJECT COMPONENTS

- Workshops: Multi-Sector; Elected Officials; State-Wide/Regional; Latinx
- Interviews
- Online Questionnaire
- Next Generation
- University Research and Data Inventory
- Engagement with Tribal Governments

# 2018 Workshop Regions and Schedule



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## ROAD MAP REPORT OVERVIEW

- **Volume 1:** The Road Map to Washington's Future Report
- **Volume 2:** Workshop Summaries and Online Questionnaire Summary
- **Volume 3:** University Partners Research and Data Inventories
- **Volume 4:** Formal Letters Received

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Vol. 2  
WORKSHOP  
SUMMARIES &  
QUESTIONNAIRE



What are the key historic events that have defined your community/county/region?

- Wsu's expansion of extension service long-term investment of tech assistance
- Federal regulation of national forests ... reduce economic benefits timber harvest

Northport community 1960's hippies discovered northport and are here this day. Open community

What parts of the current growth planning framework do you believe work well and why?

What Planning Commissions work well in writing comprehensive plans and touched on the effective information sharing with federal agencies retiring in the area and volunteering in

What parts of the current growth planning framework do you believe do not work well and why?

Participants expressed a variety of concerns regarding what aspects of the growth planning framework do not work well. A number of participants talked about how they felt the Growth Management Hearing Board frequently makes decisions at odds with local desires. Some expressed that the

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## Successful Collaborative Planning in Washington State: Five Case Studies

Submitted to the School  
of the University of  
Spring

Clare Ry

## Local Areas of More Intensive Rural Development (LAMIRDs): A Report Analyzing Whatcom, Skagit, Island, and San Juan County LAMIRDs



Ryan Be  
Alex  
Ana Rae  
De

Western Washington

## Fiscal Tools for Affordable Housing: An Analysis of Tax Increment Financing, Multi- Family Tax Exemptions, Impact Fee Exemptions and Latecomer Agreements in Washington State

W  
EVANS SCHOOL  
OF PUBLIC POLICY & GOVERNANCE  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

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## ROAD MAP REPORT OVERVIEW

Listening → Synthesizing → Guiding

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## **LISTENING – most common concerns**

- Availability and affordability of housing
- Transportation choices and mobility
- Impacts of a changing climate
- Income availability and inequity
- Maintenance of community identity
- Protection of the environment, outdoor recreation
- Control over their lives and livelihoods

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## **SYNTHESIZING – Key take-aways**

- Future cannot be entirely predicted or mapped.
- Stop and think before taking action.
- Essential to success - ability to implement, monitor, evaluate, and adapt as the future unfolds.
- Government and the actions of the marketplace to be better aligned.
- Issues addressed as systems and not silos.
- Political will and leadership across political boundaries.
- The diverse regions of the State are actually interdependent and significantly impact each other.



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## **SYNTHESIZING – guiding questions**

- Does the collection of growth management laws, policies, and institutions developed over decades equip communities to address current and changing conditions?
- What new or modified approaches are needed to address the unique conditions around the state?
- What is restraining the ability of communities to thrive?
- Are there limits to growth?
- How can people have their needs met without compromising future generations?
- How can decision-makers best identify appropriate trade-offs, and make informed decisions?

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## **GUIDING**

1. Participant Perspectives
2. Guiding Principles
3. Transformational and Systemic Change and Key Reforms

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## **PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVES**

- Visions of a Thriving Future
- Purpose and Value of Growth Planning
- Working Well in the Growth Planning Framework
- Not Working Well in the Growth Planning Framework

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## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Place matters
- Maximize flexibility, adaptation, and innovation
- Align economic development with ecological resilience
- Use a systems approach
- Healthy ecosystems transcend jurisdictional boundaries
- Account for the interdependency and relationship of people with the land
- Consider all elements needed to create thriving communities
- Focus on creating conditions for collaboration
- Financial resources are required to achieve successful outcomes

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## TRANSFORMATIONAL AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE ACTIONS

### KEY REFORMS TO IMPROVE THE EXISTING GROWTH PLANNING FRAMEWORK

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## Actions: **TRANSFORMATIONAL AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE**

1. Funding and Revenue Generation
2. Adaptive Planning at a Regional Scale
3. Resilience to Changing Conditions and Disasters
4. State-wide Water Planning
5. Equity
6. Economic Development

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## TRANSFORMATIONAL:

### Funding and Revenue Generation

**Action 1.1:** Focus legislative efforts on enhanced state funding and new fiscal tools that enable cities, counties, regions, and state agencies to address needs and manage growth.

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## TRANSFORMATIONAL:

### Adaptive Planning at a Regional Scale

**Action 2.1:** Convene a collaborative process to explore how best to achieve the goals of the GMA through the development of an adaptive management and regionally-based approach that provides flexibility, coordination, and creates opportunities to address local and changing conditions and needs.

**Action 2.2:** Initiate government -to -government consultation with tribes in Washington State, to discuss the key questions asked, and guidance detailed, in the Road Map to Washington's Future Report.



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## TRANSFORMATIONAL:

### Resilience to Changing Conditions & Disasters

**Action 3.1:** Develop comprehensive and integrated strategies, policies, implementation plans, and funding for climate adaptation and mitigation on the local, regional, and state level.

**Action 3.2:** Integrate disaster preparedness, and emergency and recovery planning, with growth management planning and policies.

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## TRANSFORMATIONAL:

### State-wide Water Planning

**Action 4.1:** Establish a collaborative process to develop a statewide water plan for sustainably protecting, managing, and developing water resources in the state, for current and future generations

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## TRANSFORMATIONAL:

### Equity

**Action 5.1:** Integrate equity as a goal in growth planning, policies, strategies, and implementing actions, including adopting it as a goal of the GMA and an adaptive management regionally-based approach, if developed.

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## TRANSFORMATIONAL:

### Economic Development

**Action 6.1:** Develop and implement a statewide economic development strategy that builds on the unique assets and needs of the diverse regions of the state. Place emphasis on improving rural economies and slow-growing cities. Identify in the strategy what is needed to support local economic development plans, including state agency programs and state investments.

**Action 6.2:** Integrate the capital facilities and economic development planning of Ports with local and regional capital facilities, growth management, and transportation planning.

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## Key Reforms to improve the existing framework

- Funding and Capacity for Planning and Implementation
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Comprehensive & Regional Plans
- Consider revising the update cycle for comprehensive plans from every eight years to every ten years and synch with data from the 2020 Federal Census.
- Convene multi-sector urban and rural summits to dialogue and help identify priorities for modifications of the GMA that would improve planning and implementation for rural and urban communities.

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## Key Reforms to improve the existing framework

- Convene a process to identify areas of agreement for improvements to development regulations and permitting processes to shorten the time needed to issue permits and increase predictability.
- Convene a process to gather additional information and research and to identify areas of agreement for improvements to the GMA provisions for LAMIRDs.
- Annexation
- Transportation
- Housing

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## Key Reforms to improve the existing framework

- State Agency Coordination with, and Support for, Regional Plans
- Education
- Health of the Environment
- Human Health and Well-Being
- Economic Viability of Agriculture and Other Natural Resource Industries
- Coordination with Military Installations
- Other GMA Modifications

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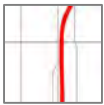
## Potential paths to implementation



Convene parties to seek/refine agreement



Collaboratively draft legislation on points of agreement



Share success stories and potential best practices



Target research to be done by universities or others



Other



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## DISCUSSION

- What are your overall reactions? What stands out to you?
- Is there anything missing or not addressed that was discussed at workshops you attended?
- Are there elements of the report or key findings that you would like more specific information about?
- Does anything in the report seem inaccurate?
- What would you like to see happen as a result of this report?