NEWS RELEASE April 26, 2005

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 411 NORTH 5^{TH} ST SHELTON, WA 98584 (360) 427-9670 EXT. 419

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: 2005 Comprehensive Plan Update: Economic Development Element Workshops

Mason County Department of Community Development (DCD) is soliciting citizens to participate in an upcoming workshop, to create a draft economic development element as part of 2005 Mason County Comprehensive Plan update. An Economic Development Element is considered valuable for improving the vitality and diversity of the economic base within Mason County and the quality of life for the local community. It is the county's goal to encourage public participation from a broad spectrum of the community that, by working together, achieve consensus in the development of a draft economic development element that supports economic growth and promotes collective community interests.

There will be two sessions, and each session will be held in two locations within Mason County to make it more convenient to attend. Participants may choose the workshop location(s) that suits them; the dates and locations are as follows:

SESSION ONE:

May 17, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. - Mary E. Theler Community Center, 22871 Hwy 3, Belfair.

May 24, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. – Mason County Fairgrounds, Bldg. 13, W. Fairgrounds Rd. Shelton.

SESSION TWO:

<u>June 7, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.</u> - Mary E. Theler Community Center, 22871 Hwy 3, Belfair.

<u>June 14, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.</u> – New Port of Shelton Conference Room, W21 W. Sanderson Way, Shelton (tentative).

It is anticipated that each session will last approximately two hours. To ensure that we plan for the appropriate number of participants, please respond to confirm attendance and indicate which session location you prefer. For additional information, or if you would like to sign up for the workshop, please contact Steve Goins in the DCD office at 360-427-9670 or 275-4467, extension 577, or by email at steveg@co.mason.wa.us

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