

City of Colville



Planning Department

The Planning Department is responsible for the administration of growth management, planning, land and building development, economic development, and legislation affecting land use management and environmental protection.

This department is the agency responsible for administration of the City of Colville's Zoning Ordinance, Land Division Ordinance, SEPA Environmental Ordinance, and the Comprehensive Plan.

The department staff are available to answer all your questions Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.. We are located at 170 South Oak Street, in City Hall. You can contact us by telephone at:

Jim Lapinski, Director of Building & Planning (509) 684-5096 [Director of Building Planning email](#)

Melinda Lee, Assistant Planner (509) 684-5096 [Assistant Planner email](#)

Susan Davis, Administrative Secretary (509) 684-5096 [Administrative Secretary email](#)

The city's Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1997 in response to Washington State's adoption of the Growth Management Act in 1990. The Comprehensive Plan sets the framework for managing future development within our community.

The Zoning Ordinance divides the community into different land use areas, or zones, regulating the use within those zones. It also regulates the placement of those uses with setbacks, height restrictions, and lot area coverage. Design standards are included to adequately meet the public's needs based on the proposed use; create an aesthetically pleasing community for the residents and provide needed environmental protection of natural resources. Overlay districts provide guidance in establishing proper development based on the special needs identified in these regions. Variances are also defined under the Zoning Ordinance.

The Land Division Ordinance regulates the division of land into smaller parts. Land divisions are categorized as boundary line adjustments, short plats, or long plats. The ordinance provides standards for project feasibility, access, design, infrastructure, and open space. Depending on the extent of the land division being proposed, various agencies will be engaged in the review process. The process may be handled by the department administratively, or it may require extensive review and approval. The request may need to be presented to the Zoning Board of Adjustments, Planning Commission, or City Council for evaluation.

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

The City of Colville adopted Ordinance No. 1273 N.S. on November 26, 2002. This ordinance adopts WAC 197-11 and clarifies the city's roles in administration of this policy when they are the lead agency.

- This is implemented through the permitting agency and may be processed simultaneously with other project permits.

Application Review Procedures for Project Permits

- This is implemented through the permitting agency and contains requirements for public notice and permit processing time periods.

For further information regarding which regulations might impact your particular proposal, please phone our office at 684-5096. We're here to assist you in any way we can.

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Building & Planning Department

170 South Oak Street

Colville, WA 99114

Phone: (509) 684-5096

Fax: (509) 684-5030