

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

State law requires that a Growth Policy include a statement explaining how the county will coordinate with the incorporated municipalities on matters related to the Growth Policy.

From the start, the process to develop this Growth Policy demonstrated considerable cooperation among the city of Sidney, town of Fairview, and Richland County. There was a joint understanding that the three jurisdictions would stand to gain individually and collectively by pooling their efforts to develop growth policies.

Looking ahead to growth in the county, it made sense to the county and municipalities of Fairview and Sidney to establish a joint city-county planning board. Standing committees on the planning board represent the Sidney Jurisdictional Planning Area and the Fairview Jurisdictional Planning Area.

The county proposes to coordinate with Fairview and Sidney as follows:

- Coordinate county planning issues within each city-county planning area with the standing committees on the city-county planning board
- Include the goals and objectives for the county in a single Growth Policy document along with the goals and objectives for Sidney and Fairview
- Coordinate planning for capital improvements and annexation
- Share information and data bases related to planning and Growth Policy implementation
- Share the results of the county planning board's annual process of evaluating work to date on the Growth Policy and establishing a work plan for the upcoming year
- Coordinate with town of Fairview regarding joint use of county planning staff