



Community Development Department

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MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission
From: Emily Arteche, Director
Karla Boughton, Perteet
Date: November 20, 2023
Subject: Comprehensive Plan – Transportation Element Policy Review - Final Revisions

Background

The Washington Growth Management Act (GMA) requires King County and cities within King County to update their comprehensive plans on or before December 31, 2024. The transportation chapter (sometimes referred to as an “element”) is an essential piece of the Comprehensive Plan and must show how the City intends to provide a transportation system capable of providing for the updated growth targets over the planning horizon of 20 years. This chapter provides a summary of the existing transportation system and will address the long-term transportation needs and goals of the community.

Analysis

The City’s existing transportation use element includes policies in six focus areas. These areas include land use and transportation coordination, intergovernmental transportation planning, street system, bicycle and pedestrian system, travel demand management and environmental stewardship, and planning, design and maintenance. An internal review of the transportation policies was conducted to determine relevance, accuracy, and adherence to new regulations.

On October 2, 2023, staff/consultant presented a primer on transportation planning and the components of the Transportation chapter. On October 16, 2023, staff/consultant presented the first set of proposed updates to transportation policies to the Planning Commission. On November 6, 2023, the remaining proposed updates to transportation policies were presented, suggested goals for the element, and three revised policies based on comments from the October 16, 2023 Commission meeting.

On November 20, 2023, revisions to policies discussed at November 6, 2023 are presented for Planning Commission confirmation, as well as one additional goal pertaining to the “Planning, Design and Maintenance” topic is included.

The objective of the transportation policies review is to improve clarity in policy language, remove duplicative language, update terminology, and reflect recent changes to the Growth Management Act, and PSRC’s VISION 2050.

