



Economic Development

2044 Comprehensive Plan

Economic Development Commission

May 17, 2023

What is the Comprehensive Plan?



Sets a 20-year vision for the City's actions on:

- Housing & Land Use
 - Transportation
 - Capital Investments
 - Parks
 - Community Character
 - Environment
 - Utilities
 - **Economic Development**
- Considered the “centerpiece” of local planning.
 - Updated Plan must be adopted by end of 2024.



Economic Development Element



Adopt policies and programs to foster:

- Economic growth and vitality
- High quality of life
- Economic opportunity for all residents
- Retention and expansion of existing businesses
- Strategic recruitment of new businesses
- Stable tax revenue to the City

Engagement Summary



- Difficult to staff retail jobs
- Improved signage needed
- Jobs / housing mismatch
- Transportation limitations
- Loss of tax revenue to Issaquah
- Opportunities to leverage Falls and Casino draws



Economic Development Element



Proposed Sections

1. Business Recruitment and Retention
2. Business Climate
3. Planning and Investment
4. Enhancing and Leveraging Community Assets



Vision (adapted from 2032 Plan)



Snoqualmie has a vibrant and thriving small city economy that features living wage jobs, offers goods and services that meet the needs of its residents, visitors, and employers, generates tax revenue, and supports the City's distinctive character and quality of life.

Draft Goals and Policies: Business Recruitment and Retention



Goal: The City hosts and attracts businesses that meet the retail needs of residents, offer diverse employment opportunities, generate tax revenue, and enrich Snoqualmie's unique character.

1. Prioritize the location of smaller-scale, locally-based, and independently-owned businesses in the downtown historic district that add to its unique commercial environment.
2. Pursue strategies to recruit businesses that will capture a greater share of residents' spending on retail goods and service without compromising the City's small-town look and feel.

Draft Goals and Policies: Business Recruitment and Retention



Goal: The City hosts and attracts businesses that meet the retail needs of residents, offer diverse employment opportunities, generate tax revenue, and enrich Snoqualmie's unique character.

3. DISCUSSION: Policy re: type/sector of businesses the City would like to identify recruit, in particular:

- Living wage jobs
- Environmental sustainability, climate change, resilience
- Minority and women-owned enterprises.

Draft Goals and Policies: Business Climate



Goal: The City fosters economic development while preserving and protecting its environmental and cultural resources.

1. Consider potential impacts, including risk of physical, economic, environmental, and cultural disruption or displacement, on local business when creating or updating policies, regulations, investments, or programs.
2. Ensure that the City's actions promote opportunity for and remove barriers to economic development for all residents.
3. Ensure that permit applications and other review processes related to business operations are completed transparently, accurately, and expeditiously.

Draft Goals and Policies: Business Climate



Goal: The City fosters economic development while preserving and protecting its environmental and cultural resources.

4. Apply and enforce rules consistently across all business types and locations.
5. Maintain ongoing dialogue with existing businesses ensure continued City awareness of the challenges and opportunities of the local business environment.
6. **DISCUSSION : Policy re: promoting environmental and socially responsible business practices.**

Upcoming Schedule



June

- Review updated Retention/Recruitment and Business Climate Objectives and Policies
- Planning and Investment, Enhancing and Leveraging Community Assets sections

July

- Review updated Planning and Investment, Enhancing and Leveraging Community Assets Objectives and Policies
- Vision statement and wrap-up

