



Community Development Department

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MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission
From: David Goodman, Senior Planner
Date: July 17, 2023
Subject: Comprehensive Plan – Land Use Element Policy Review

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 land use chapter (sometimes referred to as an “element”) is the core of the Comprehensive Plan and must incorporate updated growth targets and show how the City is planning to grow and change over the planning horizon of 20 years.

Analysis

The City’s existing land use element includes policies in to eight different focus areas. On July 17, staff will present draft policies from the Urban Growth Area, Annexation Proposals, Annexation Implementation Plan, and Floodplain Land Use sections for the Planning Commission to review and discuss. At future meetings, staff will present revised policies from the Balanced, Healthy Development Pattern, Residential Land Use, Commercial and Industrial Land Use, and Institutional and Utilities Land Use, and policies currently in other elements of the Comprehensive Plan that are better suited to the Land Use element.

The goal of these revisions is to improve clarity, remove duplicative language, update terminology, and reflect recent changes to the Growth Management Act and other laws. Existing policies that are regulatory in nature (for example, those that include specific requirements for annexation proposals) have been recommended to be added to the Snoqualmie Municipal Code as a future implementation action.