



Community Development Department

Emily Arteche, Director
38624 SE River St. | P.O. Box 987
Snoqualmie, Washington 98065
(425) 888-5337 | earteche@snoqualmiewa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission
From: David Goodman, Senior Planner
Date: April 3, 2023
Subject: Comprehensive Plan – Community Character Element

INTRODUCTION

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. Mandatory elements (chapters) of Comprehensive Plans include land use, housing, capital facilities, utilities, and transportation; the City's existing Comprehensive Plan also includes optional community character, economic development, and parks elements. The Comprehensive Plan establishes goals and policies and for these areas of planning to guide future City actions. The 2024 Comprehensive Plan will have a "planning horizon" year of 2044.

BACKGROUND

The City is updating its Comprehensive Plan. The update process includes the review of existing goals and policies for their adherence to new state and regional guidance. The inclusion of a Community Character element is reflective of the value of Snoqualmie's unique natural and built environment to the community. The Community Character element is one of three optional elements in the City's Comprehensive Plan, along with the Parks and Economic Development elements.

Staff will review the goals and policies of the existing Community Character element, which addresses historic preservation, design standards, and protection of Snoqualmie's unique built and natural environment. There are several options for how Community Character goals and policies can fit into the Comprehensive Plan.

NEXT STEPS

In May, staff will present findings to the Planning Commission and receive guidance on next steps.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Existing Policies - Community Character Element