

CHAPTER 6. UTILITIES

This utilities chapter has been developed in accordance with Section 36.70A.070 of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to address utility services in the City of Tenino for the 20-year planning period. The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines electricity, gas, telecommunications, and cable TV as “utilities.” It defines water and sewer systems separately as “capital facilities.” As used in the Comprehensive Plan, “utility” and “capital facilities” are not interchangeable terms. Sewer and water are addressed in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

This chapter articulates policies for existing and future utility services and describes the location and capacity of significant existing and proposed utilities including electric, gas, and telecommunication facilities.

A. ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided to the City of Tenino by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE is a private investor-owned utility responsible for providing electrical service to approximately 1.2 million customers in parts of western and central Washington. PSE generates electricity from a diverse mix of resources. As of 2022 the PSE electricity generation resources included Coal (23%), hydroelectric (27%), natural gas (23%), biomass, non-biogenic and petroleum (10%), and wind (16%).

In accordance with State law, PSE has an obligation to provide electricity upon demand and in accordance with "tariffs" on file with the Washington Utilities Trade Commission (WUTC). PSE has a duty to serve, meaning it is required to provide service to customers within its service territory as service is requested. Consistent with its duty to serve, PSE will provide electrical service as needed for development both within and outside of the urban growth area of Tenino. Increased demand for electricity is expected within the community as development occurs.

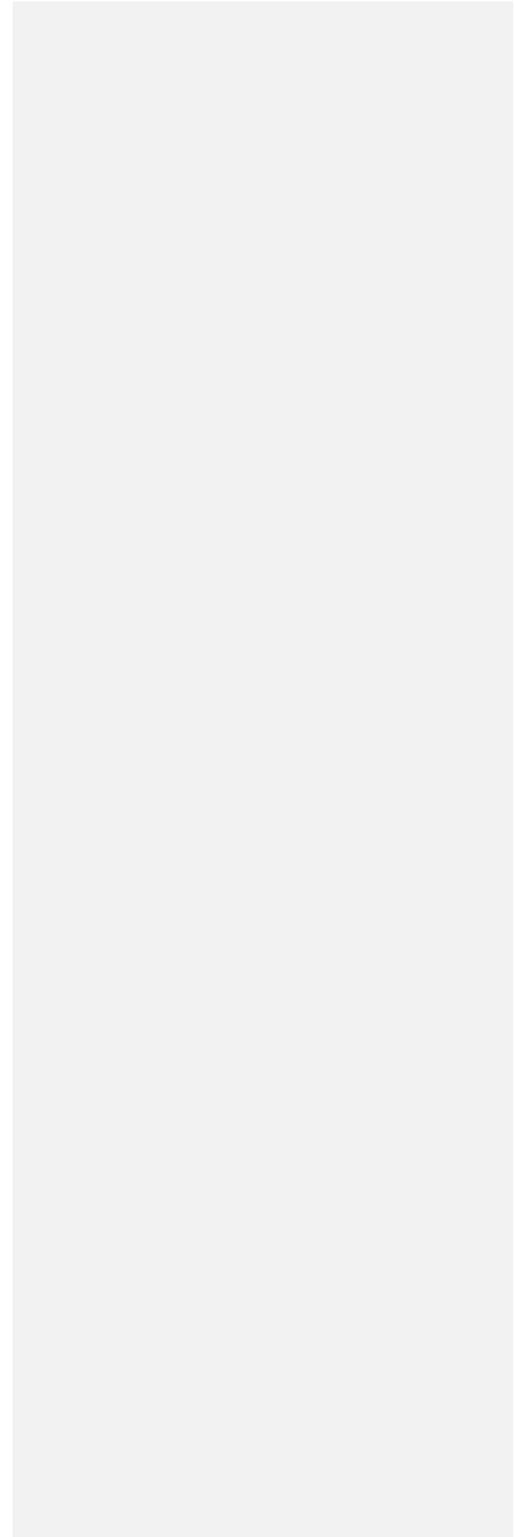
System Inventory and Forecast of Future Needs. The Blumauer Distribution Substation on Garfield Street serves the City of Tenino. Three 115 kV transmission lines extend from the station to the north along Old Highway 99, east along SR 507, and southwest. The southwest line splits near the intersection of Crowder Road and 6th Street into two lines extending to the west along Old Highway 99 and south along SR 507. Existing transmission lines have the capacity to meet the current and projected demand for electricity in the Tenino service area. In 2019, the city of Tenino was selected for an innovative microgrid project with the Blumauer substation hosting the first utility scale solar array plus storage in PSE’s service area. The goal is to increase the reliability and resilience for Tenino High School using solar combined with new energy storage facilities and customer load controls. The installation will include an approximately 1MW/2MWh lithium battery at the Blumauer substation, new solar array with the intent to tie into the existing solar array located at Tenino High School. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

As growth occurs in the area served by the Blumauer Substation, power can be reallocated among the three feeders that distribute electricity to customers. A future fourth line will also help with distribution needs. According to demand forecasts made by PSE, the amount of new development projected within the next 20 years in the Tenino Urban Growth Area will not warrant new transmission facilities in the area. [The three 115 kV lines are planned to be upgraded to a higher capacity in the next five years.]

Commented [ZG1]: Need to check if this was completed.

Energy Conservation Programs for Customers. To encourage efficient use of electricity among customers, PSE operates a variety of conservation programs. Conservation offerings and incentive levels change from time to time and interested businesses and residents can explore available programs on the PSE website. Additional programs through governmental agencies such as the Department of Commerce and

DRAFT



organizations such as Thurston Energy and the Community Action Council also provide home weatherization assistance to local governments, business owners, and residents.

B. NATURAL GAS

The City of Tenino is not currently served by the regional natural gas distribution system operated by PSE. Unlike electricity or basic telephone service, PSE is not obligated to provide gas service to all customers upon request as natural gas is considered a convenience and not a necessity. PSE is also prohibited from passing on the cost of new distribution lines to existing customers, and only extends lines where demand warrants extension.

It is unlikely that an extension of natural gas service to Tenino will be feasible in the next 20 or more years. The cost of constructing a new gas main to Tenino would be in excess of \$10 million, (not including the price of connecting the service to each household), and it would involve the extension of a pipeline approximately 10 miles from the existing Rainer Gate Station located northeast of Tenino. Long-term factors that might influence the prospect of natural gas availability within the community include the relative costs of gas and electricity, regional power planning priorities, and trends in growth and economic development. Tenino residents rely on individual propane natural gas deliveries to meet their natural gas needs.

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Standard Telephone Service. Considered a necessity, basic telephone service providers have a duty to deliver service as requested within their service areas. Tenino Telephone Company provides basic telephone services to Tenino as well as Bucoda and the surrounding rural areas and has operated in the area since 1905.

Tenino Telephone has miles of fiber optics cables running through its service area as well as a number of other services and technologies available. Major fiber optic cables extend through Tenino along SR 507 and on the south side of Park Street, and feeder lines serve a number of homes and businesses. Internet service through Tenino Telephone is provided by Scatter Creek InfoNet, an affiliate of the Tenino Telephone Company, with locations in Cowlitz and Thurston counties. Long-distance services are offered by Scatter Creek Communications (another division of Tenino Telephone), as well as AT&T, Sprint and other providers.

Telecommunications and Cellular Telephone Service. The speed of technological advancements in the telecommunications industry makes it difficult to project how services will be provided in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates internet and cellular providers in each geographic service area, and there are several FCC-licensed providers that serve Tenino.

At the state level, cellular telecommunication companies are regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The Commission still considers cellular technology a utility of convenience and not a necessity, and cellular providers are not required to provide service upon demand. Cellular technology is, however, used increasingly as a reliable backup communication system during emergencies.

Two cellular towers serve Tenino. Verizon maintains a tower in the old park; AT&T has a tower in the northwest corner of Tenino just outside the city limits.

Cable Service. Comcast is Tenino’s sole cable service provider. Customers can purchase service packages with a variety of options including access to various television channels and internet services. Comcast’s high speed Internet cables run through Tenino along SR 507 and Old Highway 99.

Commented [ZG2]: Is this still the case?

D. GOALS AND POLICIES

Tenino has identified the following goals and policies for utilities. Where the jurisdictions of unincorporated Thurston County and the City of Tenino intersect, the City encourages Thurston County to adopt those goals and policies denoted with an asterisk (*).

Goal UT 1: Tenino coordinates with utility providers to ensure that sufficient service is available for development.

Policy UT 1.1: Share information about new developments with Puget Sound Energy, Tenino Telephone, Comcast, and other service providers to help them plan how they will serve the development.

Policy UT 1.2: Ensure that development regulations are consistent with and do not otherwise impair the fulfillment of public service obligations imposed upon utilities by State and Federal law.

Goal UT 2: Utilities for new development are placed underground wherever possible.

Policy UT 2.1: Assist in coordinating between developers and service providers during the development process so that the long-term aesthetics of the community are taken into consideration.

Policy UT 2.2: Review utility permits simultaneously with the proposal requesting the service.

Policy UT 2.3: Coordinate with Thurston County and utility providers to ensure consistency between utilities and planned growth.

Goal UT 3: Coordinate with providers on utility improvements in currently built out areas.

Policy UT 3.1: Encourage the joint use of transportation rights-of-way and easements for utilities.

Policy UT 3.2: Provide timely and effective notification about road construction and maintenance to facilitate coordination of public and private utility trenching activities in Tenino and its urban growth area.

Goal UT 4: Tenino maintains up-to-date information on existing and proposed utilities within the Tenino urban growth area.

Policy UT 4.1: Work to maintain up-to-date information about utility provider’s plans for the future within the Tenino Comprehensive Plan.

Policy UT 4.2: Where possible, work with utility providers to understand their facility needs, recognizing that planning for utilities is primarily the responsibility of the provider.

Goal UT 5: Utility services are environmentally sensitive, safe, and reliable.

Policy UT 5.1: Consistent with their public service obligations, require utilities to be reasonably compatible with surrounding land uses and that their environmental impacts are minimized.

Goal UT 6: Tenino reduces its per capita energy use, with more renewable energy being produced locally.

Policy UT 6.1: Partner with Puget Sound Energy and other efficiency programs to weatherize existing buildings, install solar panels, and/or conduct other energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Goal UT 7: Puget Sound Energy extends natural gas service to Tenino.

Policy UT 7.1: Inform Puget Sound Energy as large-scale development occurs.

Goal UT 8: Tenino residents and businesses have equitable access to a variety of high-quality options for phone, internet, and cable services.

Policy UT 8.1: Encourage competition among phone, internet and cable providers to get the best services available in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.2: Promote the development of affordable, equitable internet access in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.3: Promote additional teleworking opportunities among area residents.

Policy UT 8.4: Consider internet as a facility that is as important as sewer and water for commercial and industrial development.

Policy UT 8.5: Promote the construction of a high-quality internet infrastructure in downtown and major new employment areas.

Policy UT 8.6: Work with organizations such as the Tenino Chamber of Commerce, the South Thurston Economic Development Initiative, and the Thurston Economic Development Council to build the capacity of area businesses to reach online markets.

CHAPTER 6. UTILITIES

This utilities chapter has been developed in accordance with Section 36.70A.070 of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to address utility services in the City of Tenino for the 20-year planning period. The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines electricity, gas, telecommunications, and cable TV as “utilities.” It defines water and sewer systems separately as “capital facilities.” As used in the Comprehensive Plan, “utility” and “capital facilities” are not interchangeable terms. Sewer and water are addressed in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

This chapter articulates policies for existing and future utility services and describes the location and capacity of significant existing and proposed utilities including electric, gas, and telecommunication facilities.

A. ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided to the City of Tenino by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE is a private investor-owned utility responsible for providing electrical service to approximately 1.2 million customers in parts of western and central Washington. PSE generates electricity from a diverse mix of resources. As of 2022 the PSE electricity generation resources included Coal (23%), hydroelectric (27%), natural gas (23%), biomass, non-biogenic and petroleum (10%), and wind (16%).

In accordance with State law, PSE has an obligation to provide electricity upon demand and in accordance with "tariffs" on file with the Washington Utilities Trade Commission (WUTC). PSE has a duty to serve, meaning it is required to provide service to customers within its service territory as service is requested. Consistent with its duty to serve, PSE will provide electrical service as needed for development both within and outside of the urban growth area of Tenino. Increased demand for electricity is expected within the community as development occurs.

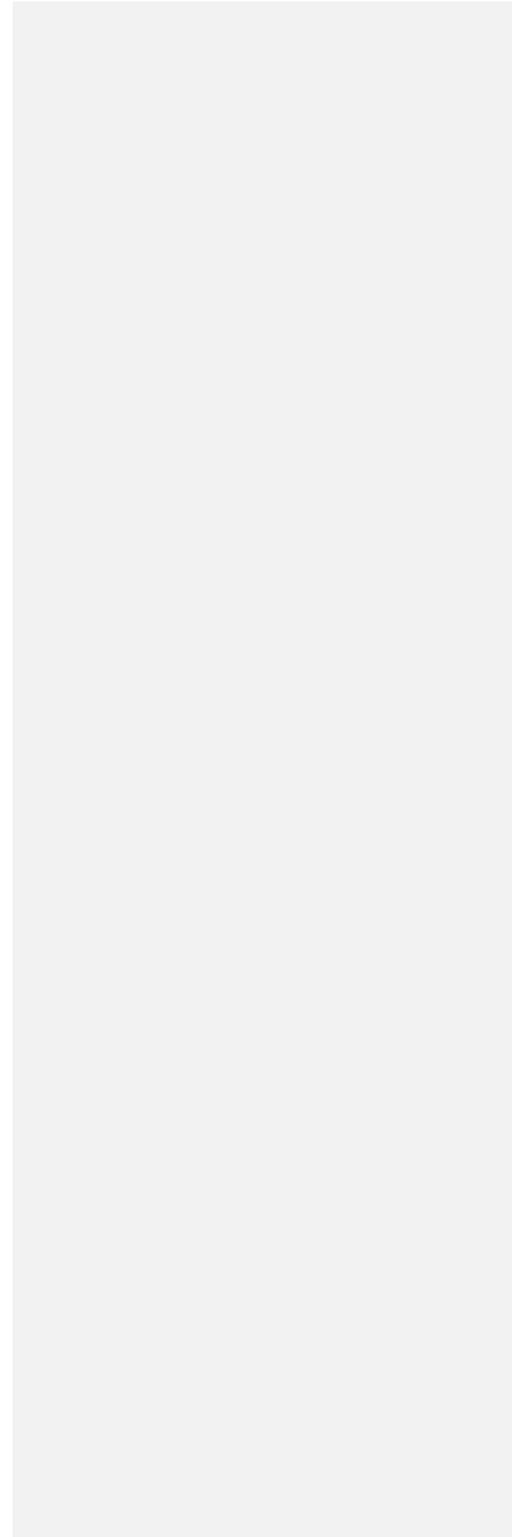
System Inventory and Forecast of Future Needs. The Blumauer Distribution Substation on Garfield Street serves the City of Tenino. Three 115 kV transmission lines extend from the station to the north along Old Highway 99, east along SR 507, and southwest. The southwest line splits near the intersection of Crowder Road and 6th Street into two lines extending to the west along Old Highway 99 and south along SR 507. Existing transmission lines have the capacity to meet the current and projected demand for electricity in the Tenino service area. In 2019, the city of Tenino was selected for an innovative microgrid project with the Blumauer substation hosting the first utility scale solar array plus storage in PSE’s service area. The goal is to increase the reliability and resilience for Tenino High School using solar combined with new energy storage facilities and customer load controls. The installation will include an approximately 1MW/2MWh lithium battery at the Blumauer substation, new solar array with the intent to tie into the existing solar array located at Tenino High School. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

As growth occurs in the area served by the Blumauer Substation, power can be reallocated among the three feeders that distribute electricity to customers. A future fourth line will also help with distribution needs. According to demand forecasts made by PSE, the amount of new development projected within the next 20 years in the Tenino Urban Growth Area will not warrant new transmission facilities in the area. The three 115 kV lines are planned to be upgraded to a higher capacity in the next five years.

Commented [ZG1]: Need to check if this was completed.

Energy Conservation Programs for Customers. To encourage efficient use of electricity among customers, PSE operates a variety of conservation programs. Conservation offerings and incentive levels change from time to time and interested businesses and residents can explore available programs on the PSE website. Additional programs through governmental agencies such as the Department of Commerce and

DRAFT



organizations such as Thurston Energy and the Community Action Council also provide home weatherization assistance to local governments, business owners, and residents.

B. NATURAL GAS

The City of Tenino is not currently served by the regional natural gas distribution system operated by PSE. Unlike electricity or basic telephone service, PSE is not obligated to provide gas service to all customers upon request as natural gas is considered a convenience and not a necessity. PSE is also prohibited from passing on the cost of new distribution lines to existing customers, and only extends lines where demand warrants extension.

It is unlikely that an extension of natural gas service to Tenino will be feasible in the next 20 or more years. The cost of constructing a new gas main to Tenino would be in excess of \$10 million, (not including the price of connecting the service to each household), and it would involve the extension of a pipeline approximately 10 miles from the existing Rainer Gate Station located northeast of Tenino. Long-term factors that might influence the prospect of natural gas availability within the community include the relative costs of gas and electricity, regional power planning priorities, and trends in growth and economic development. Tenino residents rely on individual propane natural gas deliveries to meet their natural gas needs.

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Standard Telephone Service. Considered a necessity, basic telephone service providers have a duty to deliver service as requested within their service areas. Tenino Telephone Company provides basic telephone services to Tenino as well as Bucoda and the surrounding rural areas and has operated in the area since 1905.

Tenino Telephone has miles of fiber optics cables running through its service area as well as a number of other services and technologies available. Major fiber optic cables extend through Tenino along SR 507 and on the south side of Park Street, and feeder lines serve a number of homes and businesses. Internet service through Tenino Telephone is provided by Scatter Creek InfoNet, an affiliate of the Tenino Telephone Company, with locations in Cowlitz and Thurston counties. Long-distance services are offered by Scatter Creek Communications (another division of Tenino Telephone), as well as AT&T, Sprint and other providers.

Telecommunications and Cellular Telephone Service. The speed of technological advancements in the telecommunications industry makes it difficult to project how services will be provided in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates internet and cellular providers in each geographic service area, and there are several FCC-licensed providers that serve Tenino.

At the state level, cellular telecommunication companies are regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The Commission still considers cellular technology a utility of convenience and not a necessity, and cellular providers are not required to provide service upon demand. Cellular technology is, however, used increasingly as a reliable backup communication system during emergencies.

Two cellular towers serve Tenino. Verizon maintains a tower in the old park; AT&T has a tower in the northwest corner of Tenino just outside the city limits.

Cable Service. Comcast is Tenino’s sole cable service provider. Customers can purchase service packages with a variety of options including access to various television channels and internet services. Comcast’s high speed Internet cables run through Tenino along SR 507 and Old Highway 99.

Commented [ZG2]: Is this still the case?

D. GOALS AND POLICIES

Tenino has identified the following goals and policies for utilities. Where the jurisdictions of unincorporated Thurston County and the City of Tenino intersect, the City encourages Thurston County to adopt those goals and policies denoted with an asterisk (*).

- Goal UT 1: Tenino coordinates with utility providers to ensure that sufficient service is available for development.
 - Policy UT 1.1:** Share information about new developments with Puget Sound Energy, Tenino Telephone, Comcast, and other service providers to help them plan how they will serve the development.
 - Policy UT 1.2:** Ensure that development regulations are consistent with and do not otherwise impair the fulfillment of public service obligations imposed upon utilities by State and Federal law.
- Goal UT 2: Utilities for new development are placed underground wherever possible.
 - Policy UT 2.1:** Assist in coordinating between developers and service providers during the development process so that the long-term aesthetics of the community are taken into consideration.
 - Policy UT 2.2:** Review utility permits simultaneously with the proposal requesting the service.
 - Policy UT 2.3:** Coordinate with Thurston County and utility providers to ensure consistency between utilities and planned growth.
- Goal UT 3: Coordinate with providers on utility improvements in currently built out areas.
 - Policy UT 3.1:** Encourage the joint use of transportation rights-of-way and easements for utilities.
 - Policy UT 3.2:** Provide timely and effective notification about road construction and maintenance to facilitate coordination of public and private utility trenching activities in Tenino and its urban growth area.
- Goal UT 4: Tenino maintains up-to-date information on existing and proposed utilities within the Tenino urban growth area.
 - Policy UT 4.1:** Work to maintain up-to-date information about utility provider’s plans for the future within the Tenino Comprehensive Plan.

Policy UT 4.2: Where possible, work with utility providers to understand their facility needs, recognizing that planning for utilities is primarily the responsibility of the provider.

Goal UT 5: Utility services are environmentally sensitive, safe, and reliable.

Policy UT 5.1: Consistent with their public service obligations, require utilities to be reasonably compatible with surrounding land uses and that their environmental impacts are minimized.

Goal UT 6: Tenino reduces its per capita energy use, with more renewable energy being produced locally.

Policy UT 6.1: Partner with Puget Sound Energy and other efficiency programs to weatherize existing buildings, install solar panels, and/or conduct other energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Goal UT 7: Puget Sound Energy extends natural gas service to Tenino.

Policy UT 7.1: Inform Puget Sound Energy as large-scale development occurs.

Goal UT 8: Tenino residents and businesses have equitable access to a variety of high-quality options for phone, internet, and cable services.

Policy UT 8.1: Encourage competition among phone, internet and cable providers to get the best services available in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.2: Promote the development of affordable, equitable internet access in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.3: Promote additional teleworking opportunities among area residents.

Policy UT 8.4: Consider internet as a facility that is as important as sewer and water for commercial and industrial development.

Policy UT 8.5: Promote the construction of a high-quality internet infrastructure in downtown and major new employment areas.

Policy UT 8.6: Work with organizations such as the Tenino Chamber of Commerce, the South Thurston Economic Development Initiative, and the Thurston Economic Development Council to build the capacity of area businesses to reach online markets.

CHAPTER 6. UTILITIES

This utilities chapter has been developed in accordance with Section 36.70A.070 of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to address utility services in the City of Tenino for the 20-year planning period. The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines electricity, gas, telecommunications, and cable TV as “utilities.” It defines water and sewer systems separately as “capital facilities.” As used in the Comprehensive Plan, “utility” and “capital facilities” are not interchangeable terms. Sewer and water are addressed in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

This chapter articulates policies for existing and future utility services and describes the location and capacity of significant existing and proposed utilities including electric, gas, and telecommunication facilities.

A. ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided to the City of Tenino by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE is a private investor-owned utility responsible for providing electrical service to approximately 1.2 million customers in parts of western and central Washington. PSE generates electricity from a diverse mix of resources. As of 2022 the PSE electricity generation resources included Coal (23%), hydroelectric (27%), natural gas (23%), biomass, non-biogenic and petroleum (10%), and wind (16%).

In accordance with State law, PSE has an obligation to provide electricity upon demand and in accordance with "tariffs" on file with the Washington Utilities Trade Commission (WUTC). PSE has a duty to serve, meaning it is required to provide service to customers within its service territory as service is requested. Consistent with its duty to serve, PSE will provide electrical service as needed for development both within and outside of the urban growth area of Tenino. Increased demand for electricity is expected within the community as development occurs.

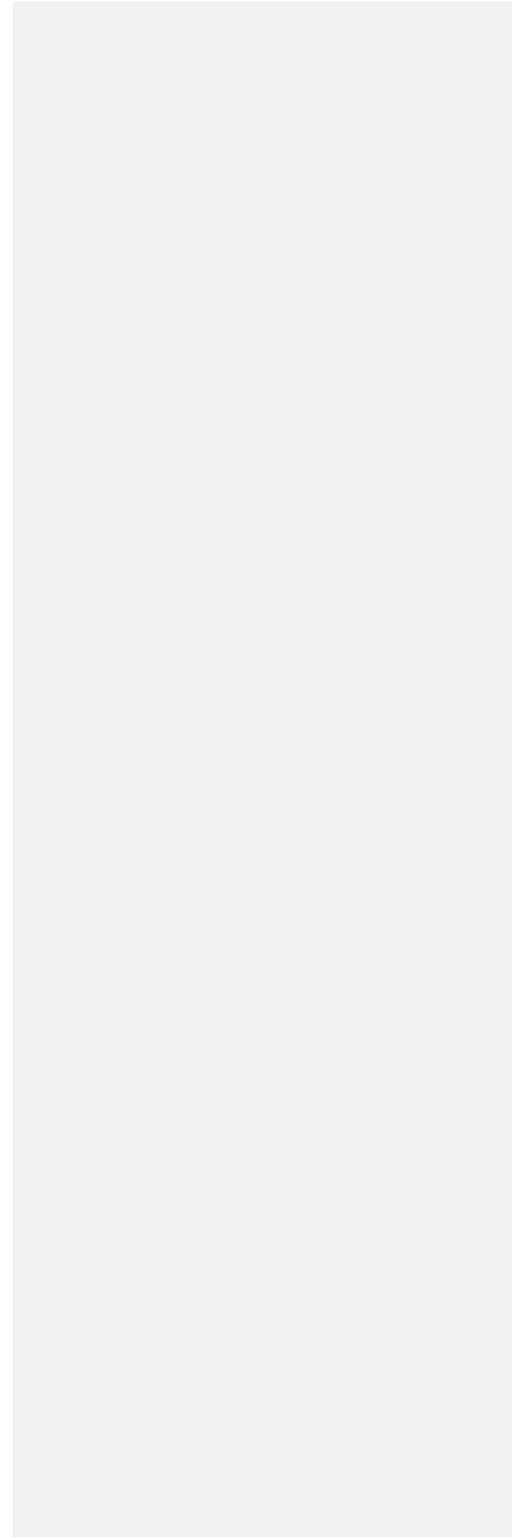
System Inventory and Forecast of Future Needs. The Blumauer Distribution Substation on Garfield Street serves the City of Tenino. Three 115 kV transmission lines extend from the station to the north along Old Highway 99, east along SR 507, and southwest. The southwest line splits near the intersection of Crowder Road and 6th Street into two lines extending to the west along Old Highway 99 and south along SR 507. Existing transmission lines have the capacity to meet the current and projected demand for electricity in the Tenino service area. In 2019, the city of Tenino was selected for an innovative microgrid project with the Blumauer substation hosting the first utility scale solar array plus storage in PSE’s service area. The goal is to increase the reliability and resilience for Tenino High School using solar combined with new energy storage facilities and customer load controls. The installation will include an approximately 1MW/2MWh lithium battery at the Blumauer substation, new solar array with the intent to tie into the existing solar array located at Tenino High School. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

As growth occurs in the area served by the Blumauer Substation, power can be reallocated among the three feeders that distribute electricity to customers. A future fourth line will also help with distribution needs. According to demand forecasts made by PSE, the amount of new development projected within the next 20 years in the Tenino Urban Growth Area will not warrant new transmission facilities in the area. The three 115 kV lines are planned to be upgraded to a higher capacity in the next five years.

Commented [ZG1]: Need to check if this was completed.

Energy Conservation Programs for Customers. To encourage efficient use of electricity among customers, PSE operates a variety of conservation programs. Conservation offerings and incentive levels change from time to time and interested businesses and residents can explore available programs on the PSE website. Additional programs through governmental agencies such as the Department of Commerce and

DRAFT



organizations such as Thurston Energy and the Community Action Council also provide home weatherization assistance to local governments, business owners, and residents.

B. NATURAL GAS

The City of Tenino is not currently served by the regional natural gas distribution system operated by PSE. Unlike electricity or basic telephone service, PSE is not obligated to provide gas service to all customers upon request as natural gas is considered a convenience and not a necessity. PSE is also prohibited from passing on the cost of new distribution lines to existing customers, and only extends lines where demand warrants extension.

It is unlikely that an extension of natural gas service to Tenino will be feasible in the next 20 or more years. The cost of constructing a new gas main to Tenino would be in excess of \$10 million, (not including the price of connecting the service to each household), and it would involve the extension of a pipeline approximately 10 miles from the existing Rainer Gate Station located northeast of Tenino. Long-term factors that might influence the prospect of natural gas availability within the community include the relative costs of gas and electricity, regional power planning priorities, and trends in growth and economic development. Tenino residents rely on individual propane natural gas deliveries to meet their natural gas needs.

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Standard Telephone Service. Considered a necessity, basic telephone service providers have a duty to deliver service as requested within their service areas. Tenino Telephone Company provides basic telephone services to Tenino as well as Bucoda and the surrounding rural areas and has operated in the area since 1905.

Tenino Telephone has miles of fiber optics cables running through its service area as well as a number of other services and technologies available. Major fiber optic cables extend through Tenino along SR 507 and on the south side of Park Street, and feeder lines serve a number of homes and businesses. Internet service through Tenino Telephone is provided by Scatter Creek InfoNet, an affiliate of the Tenino Telephone Company, with locations in Cowlitz and Thurston counties. Long-distance services are offered by Scatter Creek Communications (another division of Tenino Telephone), as well as AT&T, Sprint and other providers.

Telecommunications and Cellular Telephone Service. The speed of technological advancements in the telecommunications industry makes it difficult to project how services will be provided in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates internet and cellular providers in each geographic service area, and there are several FCC-licensed providers that serve Tenino.

At the state level, cellular telecommunication companies are regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The Commission still considers cellular technology a utility of convenience and not a necessity, and cellular providers are not required to provide service upon demand. Cellular technology is, however, used increasingly as a reliable backup communication system during emergencies.

Two cellular towers serve Tenino. Verizon maintains a tower in the old park; AT&T has a tower in the northwest corner of Tenino just outside the city limits.

Cable Service. Comcast is Tenino’s sole cable service provider. Customers can purchase service packages with a variety of options including access to various television channels and internet services. Comcast’s high speed Internet cables run through Tenino along SR 507 and Old Highway 99.

Commented [ZG2]: Is this still the case?

D. GOALS AND POLICIES

Tenino has identified the following goals and policies for utilities. Where the jurisdictions of unincorporated Thurston County and the City of Tenino intersect, the City encourages Thurston County to adopt those goals and policies denoted with an asterisk (*).

- Goal UT 1: Tenino coordinates with utility providers to ensure that sufficient service is available for development.
 - Policy UT 1.1:** Share information about new developments with Puget Sound Energy, Tenino Telephone, Comcast, and other service providers to help them plan how they will serve the development.
 - Policy UT 1.2:** Ensure that development regulations are consistent with and do not otherwise impair the fulfillment of public service obligations imposed upon utilities by State and Federal law.
- Goal UT 2: Utilities for new development are placed underground wherever possible.
 - Policy UT 2.1:** Assist in coordinating between developers and service providers during the development process so that the long-term aesthetics of the community are taken into consideration.
 - Policy UT 2.2:** Review utility permits simultaneously with the proposal requesting the service.
 - Policy UT 2.3:** Coordinate with Thurston County and utility providers to ensure consistency between utilities and planned growth.
- Goal UT 3: Coordinate with providers on utility improvements in currently built out areas.
 - Policy UT 3.1:** Encourage the joint use of transportation rights-of-way and easements for utilities.
 - Policy UT 3.2:** Provide timely and effective notification about road construction and maintenance to facilitate coordination of public and private utility trenching activities in Tenino and its urban growth area.
- Goal UT 4: Tenino maintains up-to-date information on existing and proposed utilities within the Tenino urban growth area.
 - Policy UT 4.1:** Work to maintain up-to-date information about utility provider’s plans for the future within the Tenino Comprehensive Plan.

Policy UT 4.2: Where possible, work with utility providers to understand their facility needs, recognizing that planning for utilities is primarily the responsibility of the provider.

Goal UT 5: Utility services are environmentally sensitive, safe, and reliable.

Policy UT 5.1: Consistent with their public service obligations, require utilities to be reasonably compatible with surrounding land uses and that their environmental impacts are minimized.

Goal UT 6: Tenino reduces its per capita energy use, with more renewable energy being produced locally.

Policy UT 6.1: Partner with Puget Sound Energy and other efficiency programs to weatherize existing buildings, install solar panels, and/or conduct other energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Goal UT 7: Puget Sound Energy extends natural gas service to Tenino.

Policy UT 7.1: Inform Puget Sound Energy as large-scale development occurs.

Goal UT 8: Tenino residents and businesses have equitable access to a variety of high-quality options for phone, internet, and cable services.

Policy UT 8.1: Encourage competition among phone, internet and cable providers to get the best services available in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.2: Promote the development of affordable, equitable internet access in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.3: Promote additional teleworking opportunities among area residents.

Policy UT 8.4: Consider internet as a facility that is as important as sewer and water for commercial and industrial development.

Policy UT 8.5: Promote the construction of a high-quality internet infrastructure in downtown and major new employment areas.

Policy UT 8.6: Work with organizations such as the Tenino Chamber of Commerce, the South Thurston Economic Development Initiative, and the Thurston Economic Development Council to build the capacity of area businesses to reach online markets.

CHAPTER 6. UTILITIES

This utilities chapter has been developed in accordance with Section 36.70A.070 of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to address utility services in the City of Tenino for the 20-year planning period. The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines electricity, gas, telecommunications, and cable TV as “utilities.” It defines water and sewer systems separately as “capital facilities.” As used in the Comprehensive Plan, “utility” and “capital facilities” are not interchangeable terms. Sewer and water are addressed in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

This chapter articulates policies for existing and future utility services and describes the location and capacity of significant existing and proposed utilities including electric, gas, and telecommunication facilities.

A. ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided to the City of Tenino by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE is a private investor-owned utility responsible for providing electrical service to approximately 1.2 million customers in parts of western and central Washington. PSE generates electricity from a diverse mix of resources. As of 2022 the PSE electricity generation resources included Coal (23%), hydroelectric (27%), natural gas (23%), biomass, non-biogenic and petroleum (10%), and wind (16%).

In accordance with State law, PSE has an obligation to provide electricity upon demand and in accordance with "tariffs" on file with the Washington Utilities Trade Commission (WUTC). PSE has a duty to serve, meaning it is required to provide service to customers within its service territory as service is requested. Consistent with its duty to serve, PSE will provide electrical service as needed for development both within and outside of the urban growth area of Tenino. Increased demand for electricity is expected within the community as development occurs.

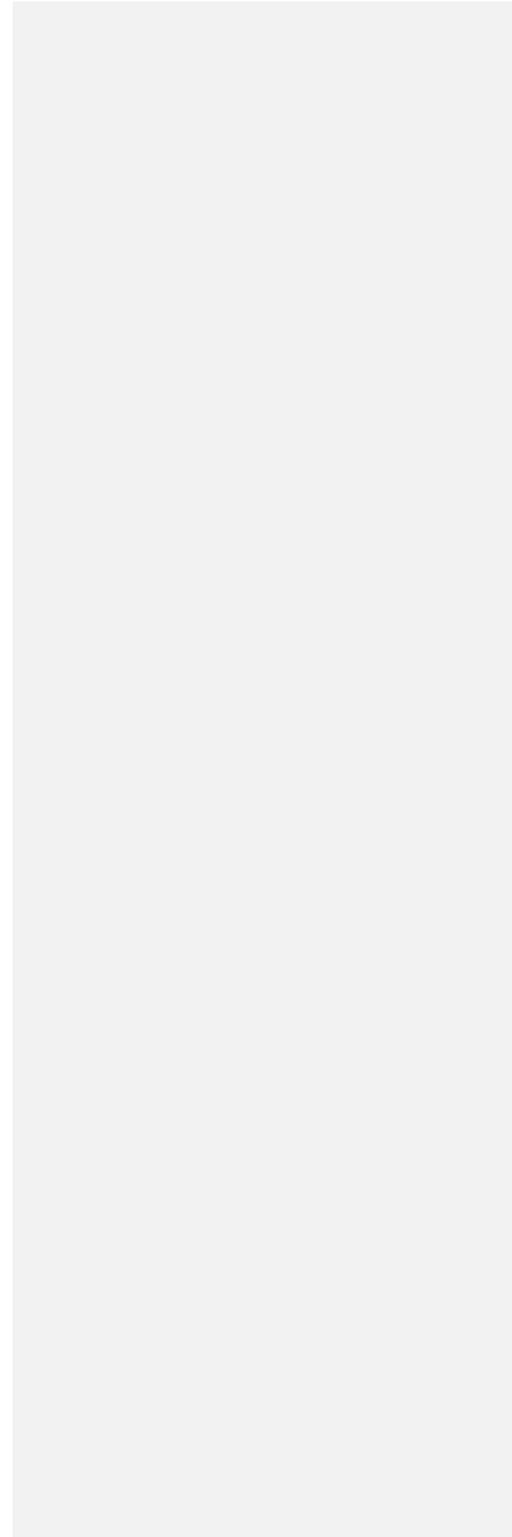
System Inventory and Forecast of Future Needs. The Blumauer Distribution Substation on Garfield Street serves the City of Tenino. Three 115 kV transmission lines extend from the station to the north along Old Highway 99, east along SR 507, and southwest. The southwest line splits near the intersection of Crowder Road and 6th Street into two lines extending to the west along Old Highway 99 and south along SR 507. Existing transmission lines have the capacity to meet the current and projected demand for electricity in the Tenino service area. In 2019, the city of Tenino was selected for an innovative microgrid project with the Blumauer substation hosting the first utility scale solar array plus storage in PSE’s service area. The goal is to increase the reliability and resilience for Tenino High School using solar combined with new energy storage facilities and customer load controls. The installation will include an approximately 1MW/2MWh lithium battery at the Blumauer substation, new solar array with the intent to tie into the existing solar array located at Tenino High School. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

As growth occurs in the area served by the Blumauer Substation, power can be reallocated among the three feeders that distribute electricity to customers. A future fourth line will also help with distribution needs. According to demand forecasts made by PSE, the amount of new development projected within the next 20 years in the Tenino Urban Growth Area will not warrant new transmission facilities in the area. The three 115 kV lines are planned to be upgraded to a higher capacity in the next five years.

Commented [ZG1]: Need to check if this was completed.

Energy Conservation Programs for Customers. To encourage efficient use of electricity among customers, PSE operates a variety of conservation programs. Conservation offerings and incentive levels change from time to time and interested businesses and residents can explore available programs on the PSE website. Additional programs through governmental agencies such as the Department of Commerce and

DRAFT



organizations such as Thurston Energy and the Community Action Council also provide home weatherization assistance to local governments, business owners, and residents.

B. NATURAL GAS

The City of Tenino is not currently served by the regional natural gas distribution system operated by PSE. Unlike electricity or basic telephone service, PSE is not obligated to provide gas service to all customers upon request as natural gas is considered a convenience and not a necessity. PSE is also prohibited from passing on the cost of new distribution lines to existing customers, and only extends lines where demand warrants extension.

It is unlikely that an extension of natural gas service to Tenino will be feasible in the next 20 or more years. The cost of constructing a new gas main to Tenino would be in excess of \$10 million, (not including the price of connecting the service to each household), and it would involve the extension of a pipeline approximately 10 miles from the existing Rainer Gate Station located northeast of Tenino. Long-term factors that might influence the prospect of natural gas availability within the community include the relative costs of gas and electricity, regional power planning priorities, and trends in growth and economic development. Tenino residents rely on individual propane natural gas deliveries to meet their natural gas needs.

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Standard Telephone Service. Considered a necessity, basic telephone service providers have a duty to deliver service as requested within their service areas. Tenino Telephone Company provides basic telephone services to Tenino as well as Bucoda and the surrounding rural areas and has operated in the area since 1905.

Tenino Telephone has miles of fiber optics cables running through its service area as well as a number of other services and technologies available. Major fiber optic cables extend through Tenino along SR 507 and on the south side of Park Street, and feeder lines serve a number of homes and businesses. Internet service through Tenino Telephone is provided by Scatter Creek InfoNet, an affiliate of the Tenino Telephone Company, with locations in Cowlitz and Thurston counties. Long-distance services are offered by Scatter Creek Communications (another division of Tenino Telephone), as well as AT&T, Sprint and other providers.

Telecommunications and Cellular Telephone Service. The speed of technological advancements in the telecommunications industry makes it difficult to project how services will be provided in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates internet and cellular providers in each geographic service area, and there are several FCC-licensed providers that serve Tenino.

At the state level, cellular telecommunication companies are regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The Commission still considers cellular technology a utility of convenience and not a necessity, and cellular providers are not required to provide service upon demand. Cellular technology is, however, used increasingly as a reliable backup communication system during emergencies.

Two cellular towers serve Tenino. Verizon maintains a tower in the old park; AT&T has a tower in the northwest corner of Tenino just outside the city limits.

Cable Service. Comcast is Tenino’s sole cable service provider. Customers can purchase service packages with a variety of options including access to various television channels and internet services. Comcast’s high speed Internet cables run through Tenino along SR 507 and Old Highway 99.

Commented [ZG2]: Is this still the case?

D. GOALS AND POLICIES

Tenino has identified the following goals and policies for utilities. Where the jurisdictions of unincorporated Thurston County and the City of Tenino intersect, the City encourages Thurston County to adopt those goals and policies denoted with an asterisk (*).

- Goal UT 1: Tenino coordinates with utility providers to ensure that sufficient service is available for development.
 - Policy UT 1.1:** Share information about new developments with Puget Sound Energy, Tenino Telephone, Comcast, and other service providers to help them plan how they will serve the development.
 - Policy UT 1.2:** Ensure that development regulations are consistent with and do not otherwise impair the fulfillment of public service obligations imposed upon utilities by State and Federal law.
- Goal UT 2: Utilities for new development are placed underground wherever possible.
 - Policy UT 2.1:** Assist in coordinating between developers and service providers during the development process so that the long-term aesthetics of the community are taken into consideration.
 - Policy UT 2.2:** Review utility permits simultaneously with the proposal requesting the service.
 - Policy UT 2.3:** Coordinate with Thurston County and utility providers to ensure consistency between utilities and planned growth.
- Goal UT 3: Coordinate with providers on utility improvements in currently built out areas.
 - Policy UT 3.1:** Encourage the joint use of transportation rights-of-way and easements for utilities.
 - Policy UT 3.2:** Provide timely and effective notification about road construction and maintenance to facilitate coordination of public and private utility trenching activities in Tenino and its urban growth area.
- Goal UT 4: Tenino maintains up-to-date information on existing and proposed utilities within the Tenino urban growth area.
 - Policy UT 4.1:** Work to maintain up-to-date information about utility provider’s plans for the future within the Tenino Comprehensive Plan.

Policy UT 4.2: Where possible, work with utility providers to understand their facility needs, recognizing that planning for utilities is primarily the responsibility of the provider.

Goal UT 5: Utility services are environmentally sensitive, safe, and reliable.

Policy UT 5.1: Consistent with their public service obligations, require utilities to be reasonably compatible with surrounding land uses and that their environmental impacts are minimized.

Goal UT 6: Tenino reduces its per capita energy use, with more renewable energy being produced locally.

Policy UT 6.1: Partner with Puget Sound Energy and other efficiency programs to weatherize existing buildings, install solar panels, and/or conduct other energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Goal UT 7: Puget Sound Energy extends natural gas service to Tenino.

Policy UT 7.1: Inform Puget Sound Energy as large-scale development occurs.

Goal UT 8: Tenino residents and businesses have equitable access to a variety of high-quality options for phone, internet, and cable services.

Policy UT 8.1: Encourage competition among phone, internet and cable providers to get the best services available in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.2: Promote the development of affordable, equitable internet access in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.3: Promote additional teleworking opportunities among area residents.

Policy UT 8.4: Consider internet as a facility that is as important as sewer and water for commercial and industrial development.

Policy UT 8.5: Promote the construction of a high-quality internet infrastructure in downtown and major new employment areas.

Policy UT 8.6: Work with organizations such as the Tenino Chamber of Commerce, the South Thurston Economic Development Initiative, and the Thurston Economic Development Council to build the capacity of area businesses to reach online markets.

CHAPTER 6. UTILITIES

This utilities chapter has been developed in accordance with Section 36.70A.070 of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to address utility services in the City of Tenino for the 20-year planning period. The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines electricity, gas, telecommunications, and cable TV as “utilities.” It defines water and sewer systems separately as “capital facilities.” As used in the Comprehensive Plan, “utility” and “capital facilities” are not interchangeable terms. Sewer and water are addressed in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

This chapter articulates policies for existing and future utility services and describes the location and capacity of significant existing and proposed utilities including electric, gas, and telecommunication facilities.

A. ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided to the City of Tenino by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE is a private investor-owned utility responsible for providing electrical service to approximately 1.2 million customers in parts of western and central Washington. PSE generates electricity from a diverse mix of resources. As of 2022 the PSE electricity generation resources included Coal (23%), hydroelectric (27%), natural gas (23%), biomass, non-biogenic and petroleum (10%), and wind (16%).

In accordance with State law, PSE has an obligation to provide electricity upon demand and in accordance with "tariffs" on file with the Washington Utilities Trade Commission (WUTC). PSE has a duty to serve, meaning it is required to provide service to customers within its service territory as service is requested. Consistent with its duty to serve, PSE will provide electrical service as needed for development both within and outside of the urban growth area of Tenino. Increased demand for electricity is expected within the community as development occurs.

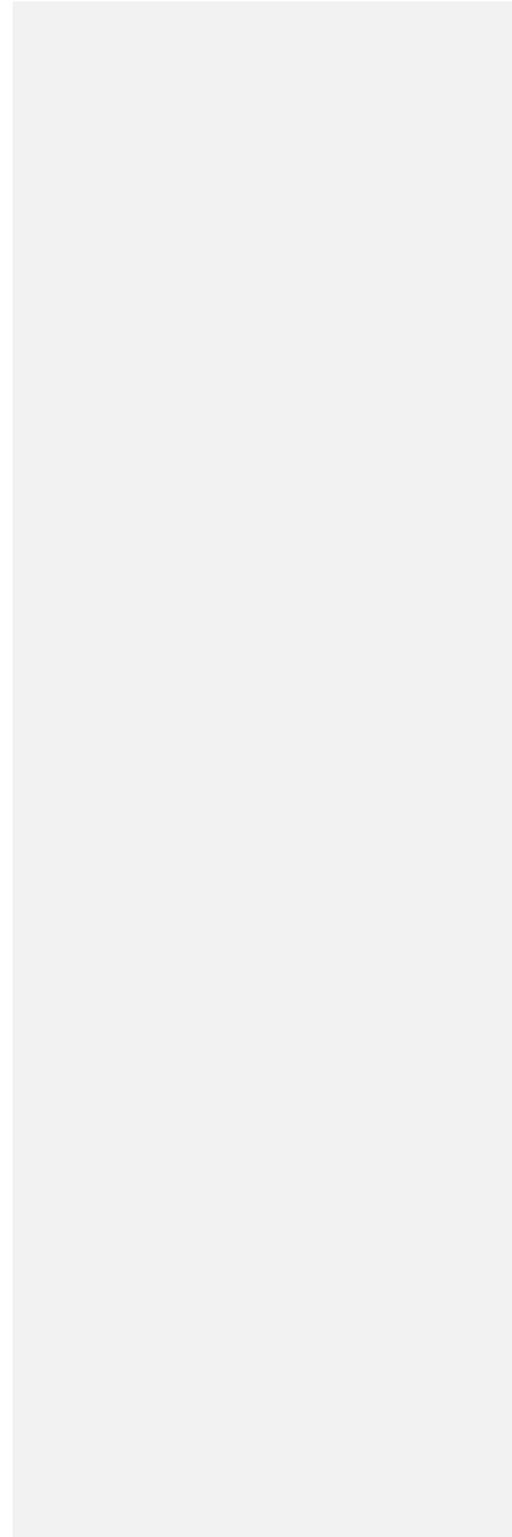
System Inventory and Forecast of Future Needs. The Blumauer Distribution Substation on Garfield Street serves the City of Tenino. Three 115 kV transmission lines extend from the station to the north along Old Highway 99, east along SR 507, and southwest. The southwest line splits near the intersection of Crowder Road and 6th Street into two lines extending to the west along Old Highway 99 and south along SR 507. Existing transmission lines have the capacity to meet the current and projected demand for electricity in the Tenino service area. In 2019, the city of Tenino was selected for an innovative microgrid project with the Blumauer substation hosting the first utility scale solar array plus storage in PSE’s service area. The goal is to increase the reliability and resilience for Tenino High School using solar combined with new energy storage facilities and customer load controls. The installation will include an approximately 1MW/2MWh lithium battery at the Blumauer substation, new solar array with the intent to tie into the existing solar array located at Tenino High School. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

As growth occurs in the area served by the Blumauer Substation, power can be reallocated among the three feeders that distribute electricity to customers. A future fourth line will also help with distribution needs. According to demand forecasts made by PSE, the amount of new development projected within the next 20 years in the Tenino Urban Growth Area will not warrant new transmission facilities in the area. The three 115 kV lines are planned to be upgraded to a higher capacity in the next five years.

Commented [ZG1]: Need to check if this was completed.

Energy Conservation Programs for Customers. To encourage efficient use of electricity among customers, PSE operates a variety of conservation programs. Conservation offerings and incentive levels change from time to time and interested businesses and residents can explore available programs on the PSE website. Additional programs through governmental agencies such as the Department of Commerce and

DRAFT



organizations such as Thurston Energy and the Community Action Council also provide home weatherization assistance to local governments, business owners, and residents.

B. NATURAL GAS

The City of Tenino is not currently served by the regional natural gas distribution system operated by PSE. Unlike electricity or basic telephone service, PSE is not obligated to provide gas service to all customers upon request as natural gas is considered a convenience and not a necessity. PSE is also prohibited from passing on the cost of new distribution lines to existing customers, and only extends lines where demand warrants extension.

It is unlikely that an extension of natural gas service to Tenino will be feasible in the next 20 or more years. The cost of constructing a new gas main to Tenino would be in excess of \$10 million, (not including the price of connecting the service to each household), and it would involve the extension of a pipeline approximately 10 miles from the existing Rainer Gate Station located northeast of Tenino. Long-term factors that might influence the prospect of natural gas availability within the community include the relative costs of gas and electricity, regional power planning priorities, and trends in growth and economic development. Tenino residents rely on individual propane natural gas deliveries to meet their natural gas needs.

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Standard Telephone Service. Considered a necessity, basic telephone service providers have a duty to deliver service as requested within their service areas. Tenino Telephone Company provides basic telephone services to Tenino as well as Bucoda and the surrounding rural areas and has operated in the area since 1905.

Tenino Telephone has miles of fiber optics cables running through its service area as well as a number of other services and technologies available. Major fiber optic cables extend through Tenino along SR 507 and on the south side of Park Street, and feeder lines serve a number of homes and businesses. Internet service through Tenino Telephone is provided by Scatter Creek InfoNet, an affiliate of the Tenino Telephone Company, with locations in Cowlitz and Thurston counties. Long-distance services are offered by Scatter Creek Communications (another division of Tenino Telephone), as well as AT&T, Sprint and other providers.

Telecommunications and Cellular Telephone Service. The speed of technological advancements in the telecommunications industry makes it difficult to project how services will be provided in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates internet and cellular providers in each geographic service area, and there are several FCC-licensed providers that serve Tenino.

At the state level, cellular telecommunication companies are regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The Commission still considers cellular technology a utility of convenience and not a necessity, and cellular providers are not required to provide service upon demand. Cellular technology is, however, used increasingly as a reliable backup communication system during emergencies.

Two cellular towers serve Tenino. Verizon maintains a tower in the old park; AT&T has a tower in the northwest corner of Tenino just outside the city limits.

Cable Service. Comcast is Tenino’s sole cable service provider. Customers can purchase service packages with a variety of options including access to various television channels and internet services. Comcast’s high speed Internet cables run through Tenino along SR 507 and Old Highway 99.

Commented [ZG2]: Is this still the case?

D. GOALS AND POLICIES

Tenino has identified the following goals and policies for utilities. Where the jurisdictions of unincorporated Thurston County and the City of Tenino intersect, the City encourages Thurston County to adopt those goals and policies denoted with an asterisk (*).

Goal UT 1: Tenino coordinates with utility providers to ensure that sufficient service is available for development.

Policy UT 1.1: Share information about new developments with Puget Sound Energy, Tenino Telephone, Comcast, and other service providers to help them plan how they will serve the development.

Policy UT 1.2: Ensure that development regulations are consistent with and do not otherwise impair the fulfillment of public service obligations imposed upon utilities by State and Federal law.

Goal UT 2: Utilities for new development are placed underground wherever possible.

Policy UT 2.1: Assist in coordinating between developers and service providers during the development process so that the long-term aesthetics of the community are taken into consideration.

Policy UT 2.2: Review utility permits simultaneously with the proposal requesting the service.

Policy UT 2.3: Coordinate with Thurston County and utility providers to ensure consistency between utilities and planned growth.

Goal UT 3: Coordinate with providers on utility improvements in currently built out areas.

Policy UT 3.1: Encourage the joint use of transportation rights-of-way and easements for utilities.

Policy UT 3.2: Provide timely and effective notification about road construction and maintenance to facilitate coordination of public and private utility trenching activities in Tenino and its urban growth area.

Goal UT 4: Tenino maintains up-to-date information on existing and proposed utilities within the Tenino urban growth area.

Policy UT 4.1: Work to maintain up-to-date information about utility provider’s plans for the future within the Tenino Comprehensive Plan.

Policy UT 4.2: Where possible, work with utility providers to understand their facility needs, recognizing that planning for utilities is primarily the responsibility of the provider.

Goal UT 5: Utility services are environmentally sensitive, safe, and reliable.

Policy UT 5.1: Consistent with their public service obligations, require utilities to be reasonably compatible with surrounding land uses and that their environmental impacts are minimized.

Goal UT 6: Tenino reduces its per capita energy use, with more renewable energy being produced locally.

Policy UT 6.1: Partner with Puget Sound Energy and other efficiency programs to weatherize existing buildings, install solar panels, and/or conduct other energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Goal UT 7: Puget Sound Energy extends natural gas service to Tenino.

Policy UT 7.1: Inform Puget Sound Energy as large-scale development occurs.

Goal UT 8: Tenino residents and businesses have equitable access to a variety of high-quality options for phone, internet, and cable services.

Policy UT 8.1: Encourage competition among phone, internet and cable providers to get the best services available in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.2: Promote the development of affordable, equitable internet access in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.3: Promote additional teleworking opportunities among area residents.

Policy UT 8.4: Consider internet as a facility that is as important as sewer and water for commercial and industrial development.

Policy UT 8.5: Promote the construction of a high-quality internet infrastructure in downtown and major new employment areas.

Policy UT 8.6: Work with organizations such as the Tenino Chamber of Commerce, the South Thurston Economic Development Initiative, and the Thurston Economic Development Council to build the capacity of area businesses to reach online markets.

CHAPTER 6. UTILITIES

This utilities chapter has been developed in accordance with Section 36.70A.070 of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to address utility services in the City of Tenino for the 20-year planning period. The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines electricity, gas, telecommunications, and cable TV as “utilities.” It defines water and sewer systems separately as “capital facilities.” As used in the Comprehensive Plan, “utility” and “capital facilities” are not interchangeable terms. Sewer and water are addressed in Chapter 5 of this Plan.

This chapter articulates policies for existing and future utility services and describes the location and capacity of significant existing and proposed utilities including electric, gas, and telecommunication facilities.

A. ELECTRICITY

Electricity is provided to the City of Tenino by Puget Sound Energy (PSE). PSE is a private investor-owned utility responsible for providing electrical service to approximately 1.2 million customers in parts of western and central Washington. PSE generates electricity from a diverse mix of resources. As of 2022 the PSE electricity generation resources included Coal (23%), hydroelectric (27%), natural gas (23%), biomass, non-biogenic and petroleum (10%), and wind (16%).

In accordance with State law, PSE has an obligation to provide electricity upon demand and in accordance with "tariffs" on file with the Washington Utilities Trade Commission (WUTC). PSE has a duty to serve, meaning it is required to provide service to customers within its service territory as service is requested. Consistent with its duty to serve, PSE will provide electrical service as needed for development both within and outside of the urban growth area of Tenino. Increased demand for electricity is expected within the community as development occurs.

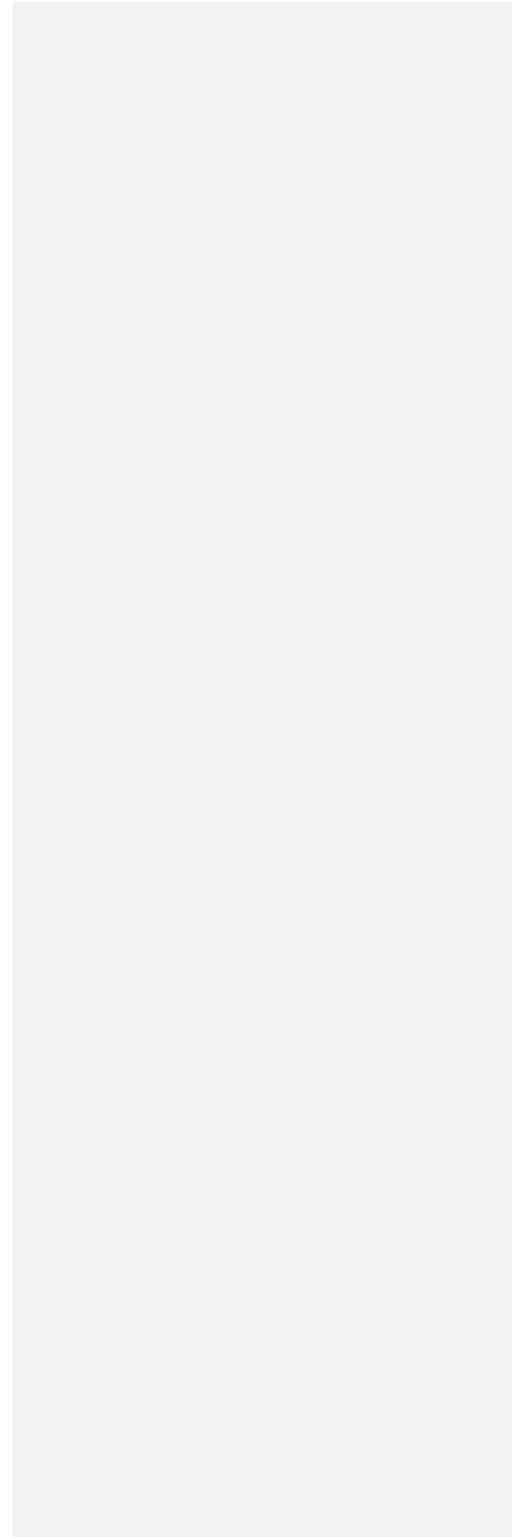
System Inventory and Forecast of Future Needs. The Blumauer Distribution Substation on Garfield Street serves the City of Tenino. Three 115 kV transmission lines extend from the station to the north along Old Highway 99, east along SR 507, and southwest. The southwest line splits near the intersection of Crowder Road and 6th Street into two lines extending to the west along Old Highway 99 and south along SR 507. Existing transmission lines have the capacity to meet the current and projected demand for electricity in the Tenino service area. In 2019, the city of Tenino was selected for an innovative microgrid project with the Blumauer substation hosting the first utility scale solar array plus storage in PSE’s service area. The goal is to increase the reliability and resilience for Tenino High School using solar combined with new energy storage facilities and customer load controls. The installation will include an approximately 1MW/2MWh lithium battery at the Blumauer substation, new solar array with the intent to tie into the existing solar array located at Tenino High School. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

As growth occurs in the area served by the Blumauer Substation, power can be reallocated among the three feeders that distribute electricity to customers. A future fourth line will also help with distribution needs. According to demand forecasts made by PSE, the amount of new development projected within the next 20 years in the Tenino Urban Growth Area will not warrant new transmission facilities in the area. The three 115 kV lines are planned to be upgraded to a higher capacity in the next five years.

Commented [ZG1]: Need to check if this was completed.

Energy Conservation Programs for Customers. To encourage efficient use of electricity among customers, PSE operates a variety of conservation programs. Conservation offerings and incentive levels change from time to time and interested businesses and residents can explore available programs on the PSE website. Additional programs through governmental agencies such as the Department of Commerce and

DRAFT



organizations such as Thurston Energy and the Community Action Council also provide home weatherization assistance to local governments, business owners, and residents.

B. NATURAL GAS

The City of Tenino is not currently served by the regional natural gas distribution system operated by PSE. Unlike electricity or basic telephone service, PSE is not obligated to provide gas service to all customers upon request as natural gas is considered a convenience and not a necessity. PSE is also prohibited from passing on the cost of new distribution lines to existing customers, and only extends lines where demand warrants extension.

It is unlikely that an extension of natural gas service to Tenino will be feasible in the next 20 or more years. The cost of constructing a new gas main to Tenino would be in excess of \$10 million, (not including the price of connecting the service to each household), and it would involve the extension of a pipeline approximately 10 miles from the existing Rainer Gate Station located northeast of Tenino. Long-term factors that might influence the prospect of natural gas availability within the community include the relative costs of gas and electricity, regional power planning priorities, and trends in growth and economic development. Tenino residents rely on individual propane natural gas deliveries to meet their natural gas needs.

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Standard Telephone Service. Considered a necessity, basic telephone service providers have a duty to deliver service as requested within their service areas. Tenino Telephone Company provides basic telephone services to Tenino as well as Bucoda and the surrounding rural areas and has operated in the area since 1905.

Tenino Telephone has miles of fiber optics cables running through its service area as well as a number of other services and technologies available. Major fiber optic cables extend through Tenino along SR 507 and on the south side of Park Street, and feeder lines serve a number of homes and businesses. Internet service through Tenino Telephone is provided by Scatter Creek InfoNet, an affiliate of the Tenino Telephone Company, with locations in Cowlitz and Thurston counties. Long-distance services are offered by Scatter Creek Communications (another division of Tenino Telephone), as well as AT&T, Sprint and other providers.

Telecommunications and Cellular Telephone Service. The speed of technological advancements in the telecommunications industry makes it difficult to project how services will be provided in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulates internet and cellular providers in each geographic service area, and there are several FCC-licensed providers that serve Tenino.

At the state level, cellular telecommunication companies are regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The Commission still considers cellular technology a utility of convenience and not a necessity, and cellular providers are not required to provide service upon demand. Cellular technology is, however, used increasingly as a reliable backup communication system during emergencies.

Two cellular towers serve Tenino. Verizon maintains a tower in the old park; AT&T has a tower in the northwest corner of Tenino just outside the city limits.

Cable Service. Comcast is Tenino’s sole cable service provider. Customers can purchase service packages with a variety of options including access to various television channels and internet services. Comcast’s high speed Internet cables run through Tenino along SR 507 and Old Highway 99.

Commented [ZG2]: Is this still the case?

D. GOALS AND POLICIES

Tenino has identified the following goals and policies for utilities. Where the jurisdictions of unincorporated Thurston County and the City of Tenino intersect, the City encourages Thurston County to adopt those goals and policies denoted with an asterisk (*).

Goal UT 1: Tenino coordinates with utility providers to ensure that sufficient service is available for development.

Policy UT 1.1: Share information about new developments with Puget Sound Energy, Tenino Telephone, Comcast, and other service providers to help them plan how they will serve the development.

Policy UT 1.2: Ensure that development regulations are consistent with and do not otherwise impair the fulfillment of public service obligations imposed upon utilities by State and Federal law.

Goal UT 2: Utilities for new development are placed underground wherever possible.

Policy UT 2.1: Assist in coordinating between developers and service providers during the development process so that the long-term aesthetics of the community are taken into consideration.

Policy UT 2.2: Review utility permits simultaneously with the proposal requesting the service.

Policy UT 2.3: Coordinate with Thurston County and utility providers to ensure consistency between utilities and planned growth.

Goal UT 3: Coordinate with providers on utility improvements in currently built out areas.

Policy UT 3.1: Encourage the joint use of transportation rights-of-way and easements for utilities.

Policy UT 3.2: Provide timely and effective notification about road construction and maintenance to facilitate coordination of public and private utility trenching activities in Tenino and its urban growth area.

Goal UT 4: Tenino maintains up-to-date information on existing and proposed utilities within the Tenino urban growth area.

Policy UT 4.1: Work to maintain up-to-date information about utility provider’s plans for the future within the Tenino Comprehensive Plan.

Policy UT 4.2: Where possible, work with utility providers to understand their facility needs, recognizing that planning for utilities is primarily the responsibility of the provider.

Goal UT 5: Utility services are environmentally sensitive, safe, and reliable.

Policy UT 5.1: Consistent with their public service obligations, require utilities to be reasonably compatible with surrounding land uses and that their environmental impacts are minimized.

Goal UT 6: Tenino reduces its per capita energy use, with more renewable energy being produced locally.

Policy UT 6.1: Partner with Puget Sound Energy and other efficiency programs to weatherize existing buildings, install solar panels, and/or conduct other energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Goal UT 7: Puget Sound Energy extends natural gas service to Tenino.

Policy UT 7.1: Inform Puget Sound Energy as large-scale development occurs.

Goal UT 8: Tenino residents and businesses have equitable access to a variety of high-quality options for phone, internet, and cable services.

Policy UT 8.1: Encourage competition among phone, internet and cable providers to get the best services available in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.2: Promote the development of affordable, equitable internet access in Tenino.

Policy UT 8.3: Promote additional teleworking opportunities among area residents.

Policy UT 8.4: Consider internet as a facility that is as important as sewer and water for commercial and industrial development.

Policy UT 8.5: Promote the construction of a high-quality internet infrastructure in downtown and major new employment areas.

Policy UT 8.6: Work with organizations such as the Tenino Chamber of Commerce, the South Thurston Economic Development Initiative, and the Thurston Economic Development Council to build the capacity of area businesses to reach online markets.