
STAFF REPORT

Date: August 13, 2024
To: Planning Commission
From: Brad Medrud, Planning Manager



2025 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update – Document Format

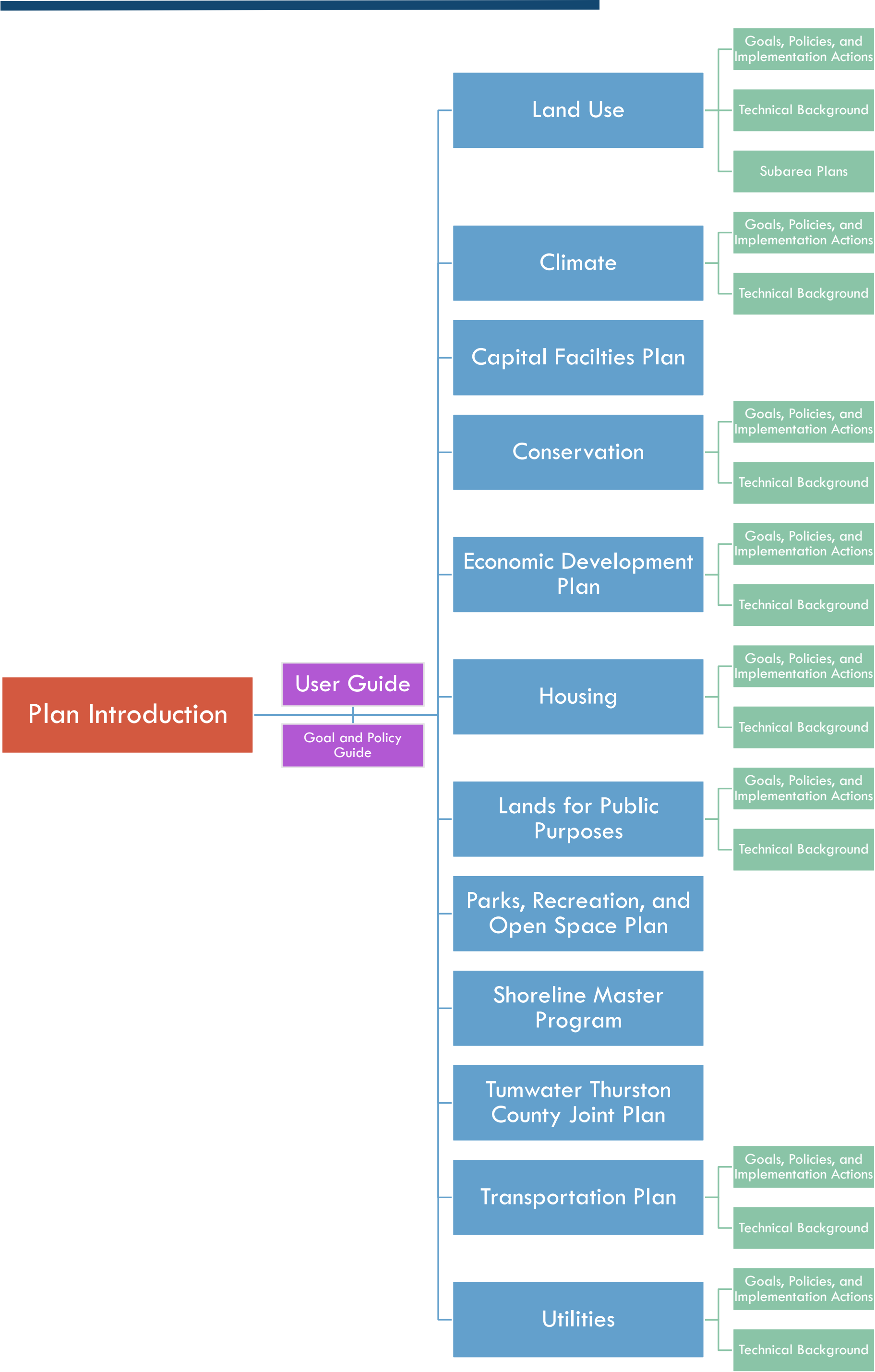
On a ten-year cycle, the City is required to conduct a Growth Management Act periodic update of its Comprehensive Plan and related development regulations. For the current cycle, the City is obligated to complete work on the periodic update by December 31, 2025. Work on the periodic update started last fall.

The presentation of the Comprehensive Plan will be changing as part of the 2025 periodic update and the Planning Commission will be asked for their input on the new format. The intent of the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, is to review the proposed format for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan using rough drafts of the Utilities Element and the new Plan Introduction as examples. The 2025 Comprehensive Plan will be primarily an online document but formatted for printing as needed.

In the Fall of 2022 at the direction of John Doan, the City Administrator, it was decided that the Comprehensive Plan document that would come out of the 2025 periodic update process would be shorter, leaner, and more user friendly. The updated Comprehensive Plan will consist of shorter individual Elements and Plans containing the necessary goals, policies, and implementation actions with a separate section that contains the required technical information. At the end of the process, there will also be a Plan Introduction that contains information relevant to all the Elements, a brief Comprehensive Plan Goal and Policy Guide for use by staff and policymakers and a User Guide for the community.

1. Proposed Comprehensive Plan Structure

The updated Comprehensive Plan will consist of the following individual parts as shown in the diagram on the next page.



2. Plan Introduction Example

Attachment B in the packet is the proposed template for the Plan Introduction section of the Comprehensive Plan.

A. Foundation of the Plan

Chapter 1 of the Plan Introduction contains the purpose and scope of the entire Comprehensive Plan as well as the City's Vision, Mission, and Beliefs that guide the periodic update and subsequent annual amendment process. The chapter contains the City's 2024-25 Strategic Plan goals, State Growth Management Act goals, and the County-Wide Planning Policies that are applicable to the whole Comprehensive Plan.

Chapter 1 also includes sections addressing the ongoing Comprehensive Plan review program, the Plan amendment and update process, as well as public participation and intergovernmental coordination.

All the text in the template of this chapter is from the 2016 Plan and will need to be updated.

B. Overall Plan Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

Chapters 2 and 3 focus on overarching goals, policies, and implementation actions that are applicable to the entire Comprehensive Plan. Staff's initial draft goals include the following, which are not listed in an order of priority:

Engagement

Goal CP-1 Continuously engage with the community and the region.

Coordination

Goal CP-2 Ensure coordination between Elements, Plans, and Subarea Plans of the Comprehensive Plan.

Community Vibrancy

Goal CP-3 Foster livability by evoking a sense of identity through arts and culture, attracting and sustaining desired economic activity that supports the community. Make investments that emphasize Tumwater as a welcoming place and enhance community building.

Equity

Goal CP-4 Ensure that all members of the community, especially those whose needs have been systematically neglected, are well served by making decisions and investments through an anti-racist and inclusive process which results in equitable outcomes.

Climate Resilience

Goal CP-5 Increase climate resiliency by promoting sustainability, reducing pollution, promoting healthy habitats, and supporting clean air and water.

Fiscal Stewardship

Goal CP-6 Make wise investments of public and private funds in community infrastructure and projects.

Environmental

Goal CP-7 Protect and enhance the environment.

C. How to Use the Plan

Whether the information in Chapter 4 belongs in the Plan Introduction section or in a separate User's Guide is still under discussion.

D. Summary of the Elements of the Plan

Chapter 5 contains a brief summary of each of the elements of the Plan addressing issues and opportunities and general implementation strategies in the Plan. All the text in this chapter is from the 2016 Plan and will need to be updated.

3. Utilities Element Example

A. Part 1 – Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

Introduction

Chapter 1 contains a brief introduction to the Element and instructions about how to read this element. All of the text in this chapter is from the 2016 Plan and will need to be updated.

County-Wide Planning Policies

Chapters 2 and 3 contain the Growth Management Act Goals and County-Wide Planning Policies that are relevant to the Utilities Element and an explanation of how the Element addresses each.

Element Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

Chapters 4 and 5 contain the Utilities Element goals, policies, and implementation actions.

B. Part 2 – Technical Information

Introduction

Chapter 1 contains a brief introduction to the Element, background on local, state, and federal regulations of private utilities, and a discussion of how the Element would apply to the City's Urban Growth Area. All of the text in this chapter is from the 2016 Plan and will need to be updated.

Individual Utility Types

Chapters 2 through 5 discuss regulatory context and the systems of the individual private utilities in the City that include natural gas, electricity, natural gas and fuel pipelines, and telecommunication.

Future Demand

Chapters 6 and 7 discuss future demands on the utility system because of growth and climate change.

Maps

The Element also includes maps of the utility systems.