

TO: General Government Committee
FROM: Brad Medrud, Planning Manager
DATE: November 9, 2022
SUBJECT: 2022-25 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update Process Work Program

1) Recommended Action:

This is a discussion item about the 2022-25 Comprehensive Plan periodic update process work program. Review the attached memorandum and be prepared to discuss.

2) Background:

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 required to complete work on the periodic update by June 30, 2025. Work on the periodic update started this fall.

At the direction of the City Administrator, the Comprehensive Plan document that will come out of the periodic update process will be shorter, leaner, and more user friendly. The updated Comprehensive Plan will consist of shorter individual Elements and Plans with appendices that contain the required technical information. At the end of the process, there will also be a brief Comprehensive Plan goal and policy guide for use by staff and policymakers.

The updated Comprehensive Plan will address diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the Plan and incorporate climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainability goals and actions in all the individual Elements and Plans.

For most of the Elements and Plans that make up the Comprehensive Plan, the data used is now more than 6 years old with the notable exception of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan where the data is more than 14 years out of date. This means that the current Comprehensive Plan does not reflect the increases in City population, the growth of City through annexations, and the transformation of semi-rural areas to urban development. Most importantly, it does not reflect the current needs of City residents.

The intent of our meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, is to start the discussion with the City Council about the work program to complete the periodic update, the schedule for the periodic update, and the stakeholders in the process. Staff has met with all affected departments and the Planning Commission to discuss the work program.

3) Policy Support:

Goal LPP-1: Provide sufficient and efficient services to Tumwater and the Urban Growth Area.

Goal LU-1: Ensure the Land Use Element is implementable and coordinated with all applicable City plans and the plans of other jurisdictions in the Thurston region.

4) Alternatives:

A. None.

5) Fiscal Notes:

This is primarily an internally funded work program task. A Washington State Department of Commerce grant funding to support the periodic update of \$125,000 will be available July 1, 2023.

6) Attachments:

A. 2022-25 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update Process Work Program
Memorandum