

2025 USER GUIDE

City of Tumwater
2025 Comprehensive Plan Update

Balancing Nature and Community: Tumwater's Path to Sustainable Growth



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PURPOSE SCOPE



Where will the people work, live, play? How is the City proposing to address Climate Change?
What types of housing are needed over the next two decades? How will the community get from A to B?

The City of Tumwater's Comprehensive Plan is a large, detailed document that helps determine and plan for how the City is projected to grow over a 20-year period. The Comprehensive Plan is broken up into 12 sections to answer the questions above, also referred to as "elements". The Elements, supporting plans, documents, and maps are divided up further for easier accessibility.

This document is intended to help readers understand the format of the Comprehensive Plan and learn how to navigate between all the components.



THE ELEMENTS

Elements are specific topics addressed under the Growth Management Act. There are 12 Elements total.

Land Use: Managing land resources to balance development with sustainability for community growth.

Capital Facilities Plan: A guide for developing and maintaining essential public infrastructure, like schools and roads.

Conservation: Protecting natural resources and ecosystems to preserve biodiversity and environmental health.

Economic Development: Encouraging business growth and job creation to boost community prosperity.

Housing: Ensuring access to affordable, diverse, and quality housing for all community members.

Climate: Mitigating climate change impacts through sustainable policies and renewable energy.

Lands for Public Purposes: Designating areas for schools, parks, and government buildings.

Parks, Recreation & Open Space: Developing green spaces and recreational facilities to enhance quality of life.

Shoreline Master Plan: Managing shorelines to balance ecological preservation with development.

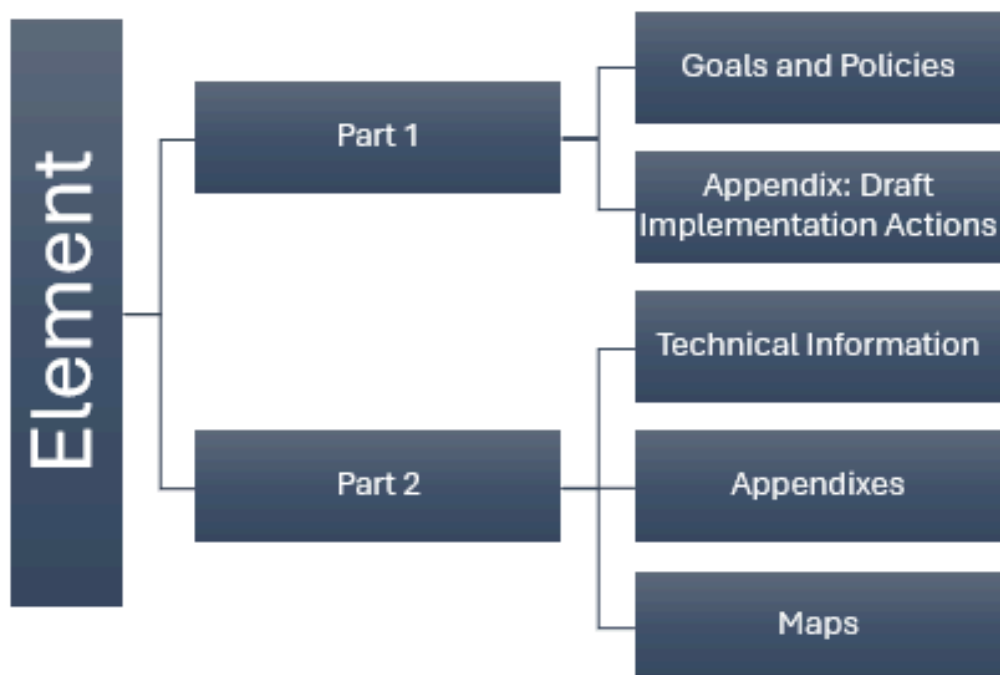
Tumwater Thurston Joint Plan: Coordinated planning between Tumwater and Thurston County for regional growth.

Transportation Plan: Developing a sustainable transportation network to meet community mobility needs.

Utilities: Planning and managing essential services like water and electricity for reliable delivery.

THE STRUCTURE

A plan with 13 elements, broken into 2-3 parts, can be overwhelming and time consuming if you're not sure where to find the information you're looking for. This is an overview of the structure for an element to help readers access information. Each element is split primarily into two parts. There may be additional sections such as appendixes, maps, or supporting documentation or reports. Each element is structured slightly different depending on the information needed. In every element there is a table of contents and explanation of the chapters.



PART 1- GOALS & POLICIES

Goals and Policies are important to the Comprehensive Plan because they are actions not only required by the State, but are priorities identified by the community and staff to help the City plan for the future and accomplish the vision for Tumwater. These are actions the City plans to take and implement over the 10 years.

Part 1 of the Elements is broken up into chapters. The chapters of each element are structured:

Chapter 1: An introduction to the element with background information, how to read the element, and the different parts.

Chapters 2-3: contain applicable Growth Management Act goals and County-Wide Planning Policies. How does this element meet the GMA goals for the state and how is the City Plan consistent with Thurston County's County-Wide planning policies?

Chapter 4 & Appendix: Chapter 4 is the primary focus of Part 1, the Goals, Policies, and Draft Implementation actions. Goals and policies are how Tumwater will plan for and accommodate growth over the next 20 years for each specific element. The draft action items are specific things Tumwater can do to achieve the goals and policies. They are in an appendix as drafts so staff can update or change actions with the needs of Tumwater over a two-decade span.

Lands for Public Purpose Element

Part 1 – Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions

City of Tumwater 2025 Comprehensive Plan
Balancing Nature and Community: Tumwater's Path to Sustainable Growth

DRAFT VERSION MAY 29, 2025

December 2025
Ordinance No. O2025-0XX



PART 2- TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Part 2 is where all the details for each element are located. The technical information was the basis for the goals in part 1. The technical information contains the what, why, and future needs. Staff rely on the technical information to make informed decisions and to identify trends, it's how the City shows it's work and identifies priorities.

Part 2 of the Elements is broken up into chapters. The chapters of each element are structured:

Chapter 1: Contains an introduction to the Element, background on local, state, and federal regulations if applicable, and a discussion of how the Element would apply to the City's Urban Growth Area.

Chapters 2-5: Discusses regulatory context and the systems, services, branches, or structure of the individual elements. These chapters will investigate current levels of service, and projected needs or gaps. Within this section the City references other plans or documents used to provide the information used to write the technical information.

Chapters 6-7: Discuss future demands over the next 20 years and effects of climate change if applicable. The previous chapters review past and current, while this chapter is focused on looking forward and trends.

APPENDIXES, FIGURES, & FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENTS

Appendices are various documents that were used to collect and reference information used in the Comprehensive Plan. Appendices can include survey results, studies, checklists, or reports. These are included outside of the element itself to reduce the size.

Foundational Documents act as works cited. These are the plans staff used to prepare the element and technical information. These documents could include ordinances, department work plans, or other private entities plans.

THE COMPANY VALUES

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BUSINESS GROWTH



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OUR PROJECT

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LET'S WORK TOGETHER



+123-456-7890

www.reallygreatsite.com

hello@reallygreatsite.com

123 Anywhere St., Any City, ST 12345