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~~((Attachment A to Ordinance 18427, as amended by Ordinance 18623,
Ordinance 18810, Ordinance 19034, Ordinance 19146, and Ordinance
19555~~

~~Adopted December 5, 2016~~

~~Updated December 4, 2017~~

~~Updated October 29, 2018~~

~~Updated February 14, 2020~~

~~Updated July 24, 2020~~

~~Updated December 6, 2022~~

~~2016 King County Comprehensive Plan~~



King County

Office of Performance
Strategy and Budget))

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2024 King County

Comprehensive Plan

Ordinance XXXXX, Attachment A

Adopted TBD



King County



King County

December 2016

Dear King County Resident:

After more than two years of outreach, research and engagement with community members and stakeholders, the King County Council and King County Executive are pleased to present the adopted 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan.

The 2016 update is a major review of the Comprehensive Plan. It builds on King County's 25 years of success in implementing the Growth Management Act. Since adoption of the first Comprehensive Plan in 1994, the vast majority of housing growth countywide—96 percent—has occurred in urban areas. Building on this success, the 2016 plan now also responds to new critical challenges:

Equity and Social Justice. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan includes strong, specific language about how consideration of Equity and Social Justice will shape County actions, how we will move forward with affordable housing and human services goals, how we will work to ensure that undesirable land uses do not overburden historically underserved communities, and how all residents of King County will benefit from careful application of Equity and Social Justice principles when the County sites facilities, operates programs, or launches new initiatives.

Climate Change and Environmental Protection. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan incorporates key goals and policies from the County's 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan. It demonstrates the County's commitment to climate action, with new policies on environmental and climate justice; more specific references to our efforts to reduce County greenhouse gas emissions through new technologies, such as all electric battery buses; commitments to ongoing preservation of valuable open spaces; and development of a Green Building handbook and building codes.

Local Government Responsibilities. At its core, the Comprehensive Plan is a description of King County's role in the unincorporated areas. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan highlights this role and provides additional clarity about the County's responsibility as a local service provider to unincorporated residents through enhancements to policies and text throughout all chapters. At the same time, the adopted Comprehensive Plan describes the County's role as a regional service provider and a leader and convener on regional issues of concern.

Housing and Human Services. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan reflects the importance of serving those most in need by organizing policies related to affordable housing and human services into a new chapter. Language in the adopted Plan strengthens and clarifies these policies to reflect the County's commitment to help people who are experiencing homelessness, those at risk of displacement, and those in need of mental health and behavioral health services. The Plan also adds a new policy that calls for a regional approach to increasing the availability of affordable housing.

Local and Regional Planning. The adopted 2016 Comprehensive Plan complies with the State Growth Management Act and illustrates the County's continued commitment to protect rural lands from expansion of the urban growth area. The Comprehensive Plan also launches a new subarea planning program that will create more detailed, stakeholder-informed local plans across the entire unincorporated area.

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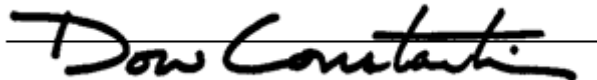
Natural Resource Lands. The adopted 2016 Comprehensive Plan reaffirms King County’s commitment to protecting our valuable forest and agricultural lands in accordance with the State Growth Management Act. The Comprehensive Plan links the production of local food and the proliferation of farmers markets to continued protection for our Agriculture Production Districts, which have remained in place for more than forty years. New policies in this update also encourage the use of Best Management Practices and sustainable farming activities to help protect the environment.

2015 marked the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Growth Management Act. This landmark legislation created a new planning approach in Washington State that sought to address the harmful impacts of uncoordinated and unplanned growth. The Growth Management Act requires jurisdictions to designate an urban growth area within which growth would be encouraged and outside of which growth could occur only if it was not urban in nature. It also requires the adoption of regulations to assure the conservation of agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands of long term significance as well as regulations to protect environmentally critical areas including wetlands, aquifer recharge areas, fish and wildlife habitat corridors, frequently flooded areas, and geologically hazardous areas. By almost any measure, King County has been successful in realizing these broad goals. Since adoption of the first Comprehensive Plan in 1994, the vast majority of housing growth countywide—96 percent—has occurred in urban areas. And, through incorporations and annexations, more than 60 percent of the unincorporated urban area that existed in 1994 is now within cities, which continues to fulfill the goal of transitioning counties to serve as providers of rural and regional services. In Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands, the County has preserved working farms and forests through a balanced strategy that includes regulations, incentives, and technical assistance, and this has led to a sustainable rate of development.

Looking forward, the State, local jurisdictions, and regional partners will soon be reviewing the required timelines for comprehensive plan updates and how that relates to timing of growth forecasts, Buildable Lands Reports, updates to the multicounty planning policies and growth allocations, and updates to countywide planning policies and growth targets. The County will be involved in this work and will determine how it affects our own Comprehensive Plan update schedule to ensure alignment with the broader growth management framework timelines. Review of the King County Comprehensive Plan update process will also evaluate scheduling major updates in odd calendar years, in consideration of the County’s biennial budget cycle.⁺

The adoption of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan marks yet another step of King County’s ongoing success at balancing economic vitality and healthy neighborhoods with careful stewardship of our farms, forests, and open spaces. Together, we can ensure that that our region continues to manage growth effectively while protecting thriving rural and resource lands, and remain in compliance with the Growth Management Act.

Sincerely,

Rod Dembowski
Chair, Transportation, Economy and Environment
Committee
King County Council

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

⁺The work to review the Comprehensive Plan update schedule was completed in 2018 and 2020, through Ordinance 18810 and Ordinance 19146.)

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GLOSSARY

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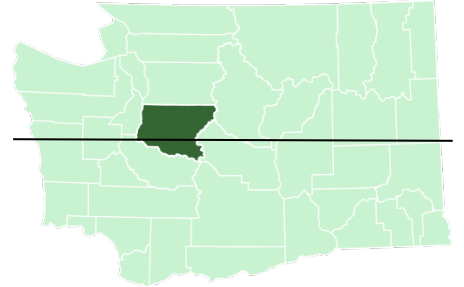
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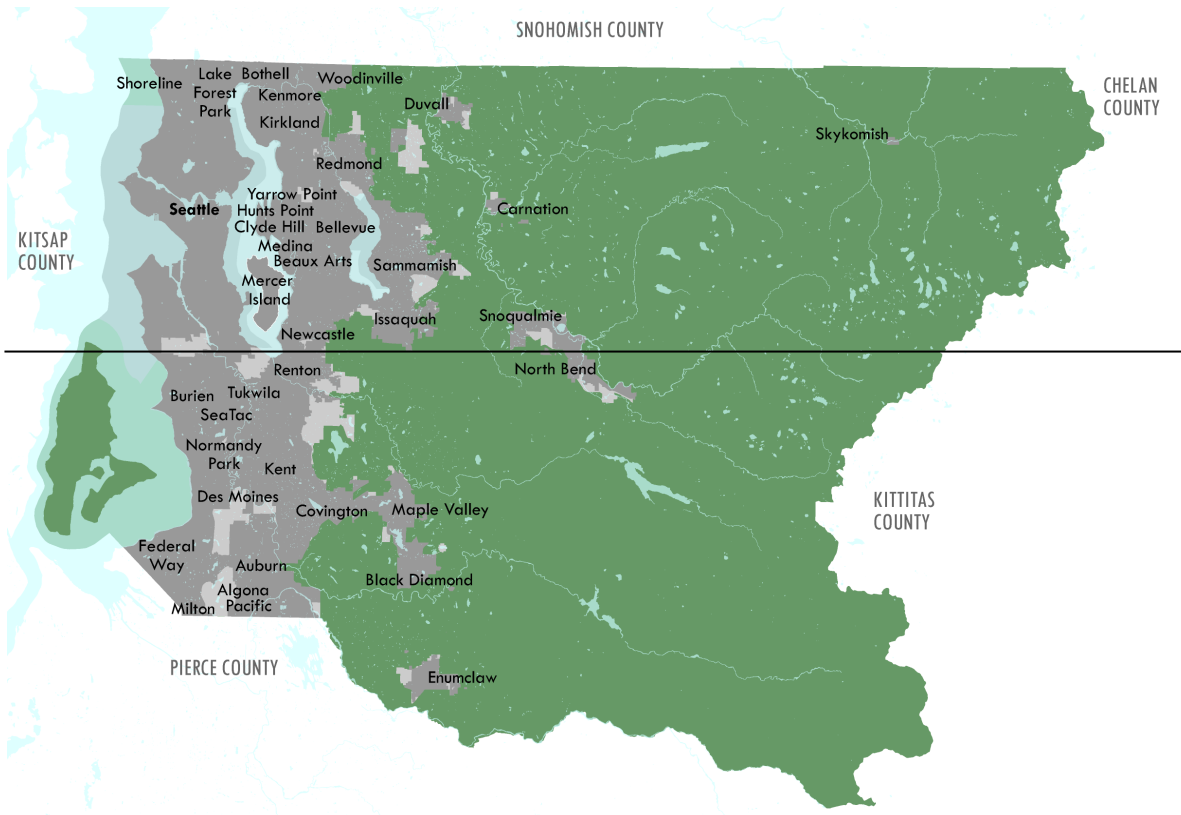
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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In 2015, King County was the most populous county in Washington State and the 13th most populous county in the nation. Between 2015 and 2031, King County is targeted to grow by 252,000 residents.



The King County Comprehensive Plan is fundamental for directing and managing this anticipated growth. It contains policies guiding development and land use in unincorporated areas of the County, as well as service provision throughout the County and the region. Since the 1994 update, the Comprehensive Plan has worked in accordance with the Washington State Growth Management Act to protect resources and enhance quality of life. The Plan does this by emphasizing the protection of Critical Areas and Natural Resource Lands, protecting Rural Areas and rural character, and designating an Urban Growth Area where density and services should be concentrated. In addition, the Plan guides the County's work with its cities through the Countywide and Multicounty Planning Policies in central Puget Sound.



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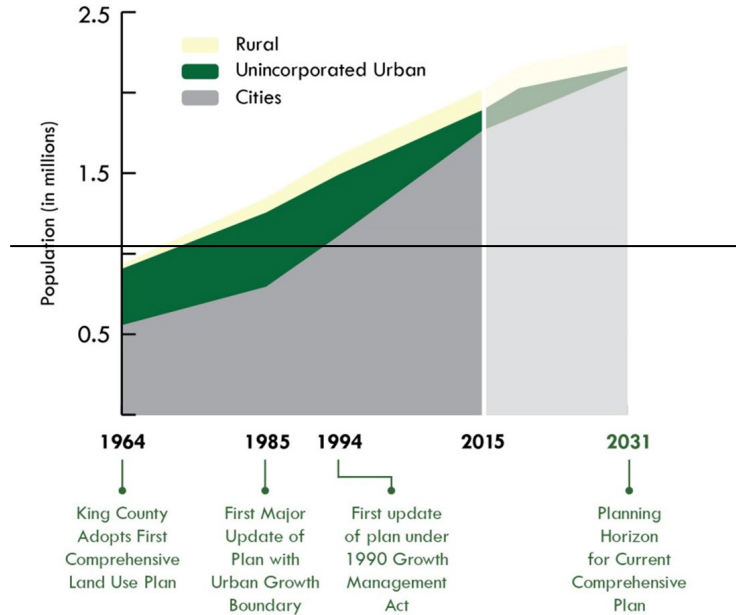
21 **About King County**

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Demographics

According to most recent available data (2015), King County has an estimated population of **2.05 million people**. Approximately **94%** of King County’s residents live in urban areas and **6%** in unincorporated Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands.

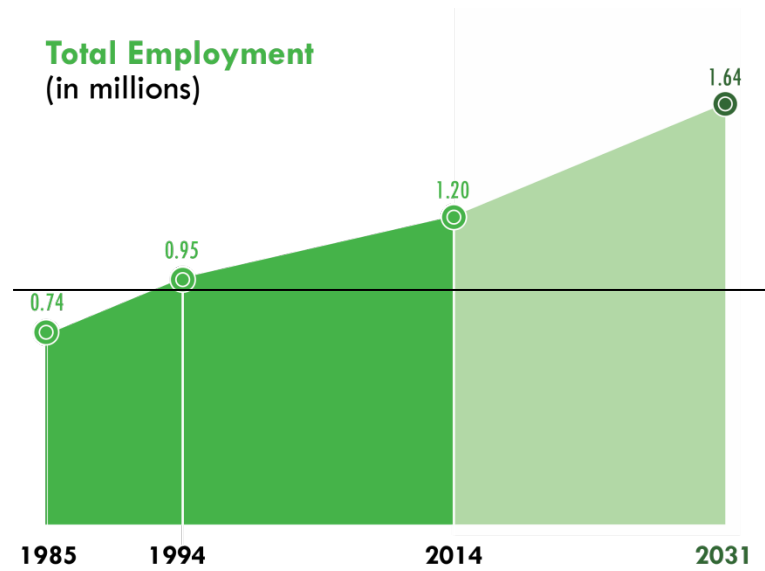
Over the past 20 years, King County has experienced a substantial **25%** growth in its population. By 2031, King County is **expected to grow to a population of 2.3 million, adding just over 250,000 residents** to its overall population. Based on the Guiding Principles of the Comprehensive Plan, **95%** of this growth is targeted to be absorbed by cities and **5%** in unincorporated King County.



Economy

The substantial population growth that King County has experienced in recent years can largely be attributed to the area’s thriving economy, which has fostered a massive influx of individuals adding to the County’s overall workforce. King County comprises the majority of the Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma metropolitan statistical area and consists of **approximately 70,000 businesses providing nearly 1.2 million jobs**.

The vast majority of King County’s workforce is employed in the service sector, such as in the trade-transportation utilities, professional-businesses services, and education-health services industries. Overall, King County **accounts for 50.3% of Washington’s total payroll**.



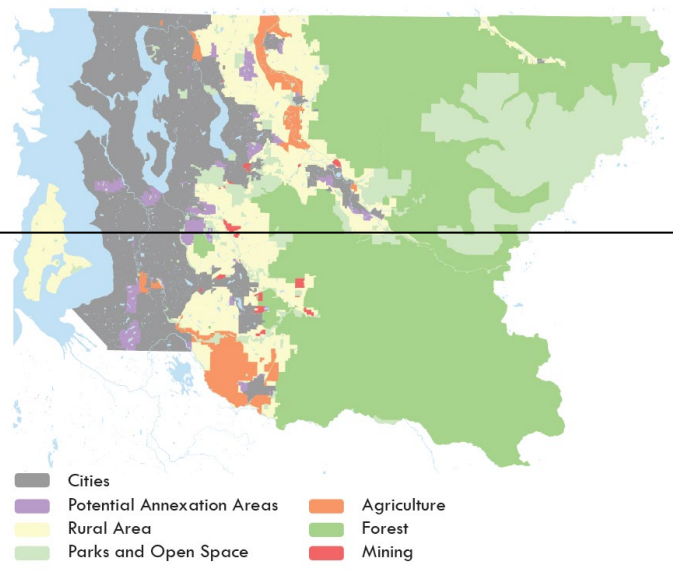
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Geography



King County is characterized by beautiful scenery and geographic diversity, stretching from the Puget Sound in the west to the Cascade Crest in the east. There are 39 cities in the county, ranging in size from the 205-person town of Skykomish to the bustling metropolis of Seattle, with a population greater than 660,000. In addition, King County has a variety of working farm and forestlands, as well as a vast open space network. Numerous water bodies, including rivers, lakes, and streams, provide a key resources and create valuable land assets and unique ecosystems along coastlines and river corridors.

Land Use



King County's total land area is 2,130 square miles, accounting for 3% of all land in Washington State. Through careful zoning and development regulations, King County manages its land use in a manner that ensures a high quality of life for its residents. Growth management in King County is largely implemented by directing development toward the Urban Growth Area, while protecting existing Rural Areas, open spaces, and Natural Resource Land. This map offers a general snapshot of land use across the county, which shows a higher concentration of urban land uses located towards the western Puget Sound area and more rural and resource uses located in the central and eastern parts of the county.

Guiding Principles

Moving Towards a Sustainable King County

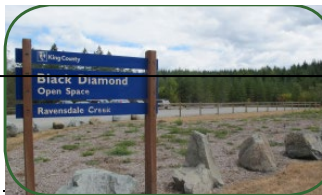
King County's Comprehensive Plan has long been based on a vision of the county as a livable area with healthy, thriving and dense urban communities; ample open space, forest and farm lands preserved for long term use; a vibrant economy inclusive of numerous sectors; and a transportation system providing a variety of options. In addition, the Plan reflects the 14 goals of the Growth Management Act and the goals of the King County Strategic Plan. In 2015, King County adopted an update to its Strategic Plan, which aims to promote: **mobility; health and human services; economic vitality; safety and justice; accessible, affordable housing; a healthy environment; and efficient, accountable regional and local government.** The following principles, first adopted in the 2012 Comprehensive Plan, are updated to reflect these long term goals and priorities.

1. Creating Sustainable Neighborhoods



Strive to promote sustainable neighborhoods and communities. Seek to ensure that the benefits and impacts of the county's activities are equitably distributed among all segments of the population.

2. Preserving & Maintaining Open Space and Natural Resource Lands



Pursue opportunities to preserve and maintain remaining high propriety forest, agriculture and other open space lands.

3. Directing Development Towards Existing Communities



Continue to support the reduction of sprawl by focusing growth and future development in the Urban Growth Area, consistent with adopted growth targets.

4. Providing a Variety of Transportation Choices



Continue to promote an efficient multimodal transportation system that provides residents with a range of transportation choices that respond to community needs and reduce impacts on the natural environment.

5. Addressing Health, Equity and Social and Environmental Justice



Seek to reduce health inequities and proactively address issues of equity, social and environmental justice when evaluating and implementing its land use policies, programs and practices.

6. Achieving Environmental Sustainability



Protect, restore and enhance the county's natural resources and environment, encourage sustainable agriculture and forestry, reduce climate pollution and prepare for the effects of climate change, including consideration of the inequities and disparities that may be caused by climate change.

41 Major Update

42 The 2016 update is a major review of the Comprehensive Plan and, this year marks the 25th anniversary of the passage
43 of the Growth Management Act. This landmark legislation requires jurisdictions to designate an urban growth area,
44 within which growth would be encouraged, and adopt regulations to conserve resource land and environmentally
45 sensitive areas. By almost any measure, King County has been successful in realizing the broad goals of the Growth
46 Management Act. However, success has not been easy and, looking forward, the Comprehensive Plan needs to
47 respond to new challenges, such as equitable access to opportunity, reducing carbon pollution and responding to
48 climate impacts, addressing housing affordability and strengthening mobility. To address these, **the following**
49 **updates are included in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan:**
50

Land Use Policy Amendments

- **Annexation policies revised to be more city-focused.** Creates incentives for annexation by promoting joint planning, encouraging use of city regulations and negotiating on transferable development rights in Potential Annexation Areas (PAAs) where there is an Interlocal Agreement, and revisiting PAA map and Countywide Planning Policies with cities. Amendments in *Chapter 2*.
- **Rural Area policies strengthened to avoid incompatible uses.** Avoiding placement of primarily urban-serving facilities in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands (consistent with the Growth Management Act), and removal of the mining site conversion demonstration program. Amendments in *Chapters 2, 3, 9 and 12*.
- **Transfer of Development Rights policies enhanced for PAAs.** TDRs can be negotiated in PAAs with annexing cities, and directing amenity funding into unincorporated urban areas receiving TDRs. Amendments in *Chapters 2 and 3*.

Equity and Health Policy Amendments

- **Establishes a new chapter on Housing and Human Services.** The new *Chapter 4* consolidates and updates existing policies, and reflects new initiatives. It calls for new community development tools such as food innovation districts and residential local improvement districts, and commits to explore increasing housing density and affordable housing near businesses and transit.
- **Increases emphasis on Equity and Social Justice.** This includes further integration of Equity and Social Justice principles in policies *throughout the plan*.
- **Reflects current Public Health-related programs**— topics include smoke-free housing, healthy food retail, urban agriculture, the **Local Food Initiative** and farm-supportive programs. Amendments in *Chapters 2 and 3*.

Environmental Policy Amendments

- **Increased focus on Climate Change** in *multiple chapters*. Integration of relevant policies from the Strategic Climate Action Plan and the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration.
- **Stormwater Management Program policies updated.** Reflects the County's new municipal stormwater permit requirements, low-impact development, sub-basin planning, infrastructure maintenance and retrofits and infrastructure mapping. Amendments in *Chapters 5 and 9*.
- **New policies on Crude Oil Transport by Rail**— these define the County's role and interests in this emerging policy issue. Amendments in *Chapter 9*.
- **Various environmental topics updated**— topics include noxious weeds, beaver exclusion and removal, enhanced landslide hazard policies, encouraging Green Building, and supporting a market-based price on carbon pollution. Amendments in *Chapters 3, 5, 7 and 9*.

Subarea Planning Program

- **Initiation of a new Community Service Area Subarea Planning Program.** Starting in 2016, this process will use the Community Service Areas as the planning geography. Amendments in *Chapter 11*.

General Amendments

- Changes to make the plan more **user-friendly** such as this Executive Summary, a more navigable Table of Contents, and a new **Workplan** section in *Chapter 12* that identifies major work items that start after adoption in 2016.
- Other updates *throughout the plan* including revised data, refined definitions, minor formatting enhancements, and updated references to partnerships and implementation plans.

51 These amendments, along with others included in the following chapters, are intended to help the
52 Comprehensive Plan remain responsive to the County's growth management challenges of today... and
53 tomorrow.

Plan Elements

Chapters of the Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 1

Regional Growth Management Planning

King County's growth management policies and regulations are consistent and work in coordination with the Growth Management Act, Multicounty and Countywide Planning Policies, and other technical plans.

Chapter 2

Urban Communities

With the majority of King County residents living and working in the urban area, this chapter includes policies that guide urban development with the goal of creating healthy, sustainable communities.

Chapter 3

Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands

King County's Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands are crucial for sustaining quality of life for county residents into the future. This chapter focuses on protecting these assets from urban development, promoting sustainable economic development and supporting rural communities.

Chapter 4

Housing and Human Services

The availability of adequate and affordable housing has become one of the most pressing issues facing King County today. This chapter contains policies regarding the provision of housing and services for all residents.

Chapter 5

Environment

King County's natural environment comprises various unique and valuable assets. This chapter contains King County's approach to environmental protection, conservation, restoration and sustainability.

Chapter 6

Shorelines

Shorelines require particular focus and management given both their immense value and fragility. This chapter contains King County's Shoreline Master Program, which aims to protect and conserve this unique natural resource.

Chapter 7

Parks, Open Space & Cultural Resources

This chapter addresses King County's approach to conserving and maintaining its expansive open space system, which includes numerous local and regional parks, and trails, and its cultural resources and historic properties.

Chapter 8

Transportation

Recognizing that availability of safe, accessible and efficient transportation options has significant implications for the quality of life of all county residents, this chapter addresses how King County will distribute investments equitably.

Chapter 9

Services, Facilities & Utilities

The provision of services, facilities and utilities should be concentrated in areas of density and at levels that can support existing and future demand. This chapter addresses how such crucial infrastructure should be developed.

Chapter 10

Economic Development

In its commitment to foster a prosperous, diverse and sustainable economy, the County recognizes that it must support actions and programs promote the success of both businesses and the workforce.

Chapter 11

Community Service Area Subarea Planning

This chapter includes policies that recognize the unique land use characteristics of particular unincorporated communities, provides significant historical context and describes the new subarea planning program.

Chapter 12

Implementation, Amendments & Evaluation

This chapter describes how the policies should be implemented and monitored, major actions that will occur to implement the plan, the procedure for updating the plan and the role of zoning in the planning process.

Appendices

Integral to the vision and goals of the Comprehensive Plan are the detailed inventories, forecasts, financial plans and Urban Growth Area analysis required by the Growth Management Act. A set of technical appendices are adopted as part of the plan to meet Growth Management Act requirements.

Regulations

The King County Comprehensive Plan is implemented through adopted regulations, including the King County zoning Code and other Code titles. All development must meet the requirements of the Code.))



TRIBAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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King County is a part of a larger area that has been the traditional aboriginal territory of the Coast Salish peoples, who continue to live around the Salish Sea in what is now Washington State and the Canadian province of British Columbia. These sovereign tribal nations enrich the region through environmental stewardship, cultural heritage, and economic development. In planning for growth over the coming decades, the King County Comprehensive Plan seeks to respect and acknowledge the tribes' legacy and present-day contributions through the creation of livable, equitable, and sustainable communities for current and future generations.



CHAPTER 1

REGIONAL GROWTH

MANAGEMENT

PLANNING

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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~~CHAPTER 1~~ ~~REGIONAL GROWTH~~ ~~MANAGEMENT PLANNING~~

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~~King County has some of the most beautiful scenery in the country, some of the most productive farmlands, and one of the most vibrant economies. The ((2016)) King County Comprehensive Plan establishes a vision that preserves this incredible diversity while ((continuing to acknowledge)) acknowledging that residents want options ((as to)) for where they live, work, and play.~~

~~The Comprehensive Plan responds to requirements in state growth management planning laws that require jurisdictions to guide growth and development throughout the unincorporated areas of the county and establishes King County's position on major issues such as transportation, annexations, regional water supply, and environmental protection.)~~

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11 ((I.)) About King County

12 ((King County Geography))

13 King County, covering 2,130 square miles, ((is the size of the state of Delaware, but
14 much more geographically diverse. It)) extends from Puget Sound in the west to
15 8,000-foot Mt. Daniel at the Cascade crest to the east. ((King County's various landforms
16 include saltwater coastline, river floodplains, plateaus, ((slopes)) hills, and mountains;
17 punctuated with lakes and salmon streams. Lake Washington, covering 35 square miles;
18 and Lake Sammamish with ((8)) eight square miles are the two largest bodies of fresh
19 water. Vashon-Maury Island in Puget Sound and Mercer Island in Lake Washington
20 provide different island environments.

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22 King County Jurisdictions

23 In 1994, when King County's first Comprehensive Plan under the Growth Management
24 Act was adopted, the county had 34 cities with 1,116,000 people. More than a third of
25 annual new residential development was occurring in unincorporated areas. Since
26 December 1994, five new cities have incorporated and numerous annexations have
27 occurred, shifting more than 220,000 people into city limits. As of ((2015)) 2023, there
28 are)) With more than 2,320,000 people, it is the largest county in Washington State and
29 the 12th largest in the nation. Within King County, 39 cities cover 418 square miles, or
30 20 percent of the county's total land area. The cities range in population ((ranging in))
31 size from Seattle, with more than ((660,000)) 762,500 people, to Skykomish and Beaux
32 Arts, with fewer than 350 each. ((King County's 39 cities now cover 418 square miles, or
33 20((%) percent of the county's total land area.)) Unincorporated King County ((the
34 territory)) (areas outside any city), now)) has ((about 253,000)) over a population of
35 248,160; 248,000 ((people)), or ((13%)) 11 percent of the ((county's population)) total
36 population of King County.

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38 ((King County Demographics))

39 In ((2015)) 2023, with more than ((2,050,000)) 2,320,000 people, King County is the
40 largest county in Washington State and the ((13th)) 12th largest in the nation. King
41 County exhibits growing diversity ((more than one-third)), nearly half of the population
42 is now ((persons-of-color)) Black, Indigenous, or other People of Color. ((As of 2010,
43 65% of the population is non-Hispanic white, 15% Asian or Pacific Islander, 7.7%
44 African-American, 1% Native American and 8.9% Latino (2010 census data:)) Most of
45 King County's residents are of working age, with the largest share of residents (17
46 percent) being 30 to 39 years old. Approximately 20 percent (449,242) of King County's
47 population is 17 years old or younger. Unincorporated King County residents are older
48 on average than King County residents. As of 2020, 54 percent of the King County's
49 population is non-Hispanic whiteWhite, 20 percent Asian, seven percent Black or African
50 American, one percent Native American, one percent Native Hawaiian or Pacific
51 Islander, and 8.9nine percent Hispanic or Latino/a/x (2020 census data). Unincorporated
52 King County has proportionately more White residents and American Indian/ Alaska
53 Native residents than King County as a whole.

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54
55 The Washington State Office of Financial Management projects King County's
56 population to grow 24.6 percent from 2,317,700 residents in 2022 to 2,887,137 in 2044.
57 Unincorporated King County's population is projected to grow more slowly at a rate of
58 7.3 percent, from 248,160 residents in 2022 to 266,301 in 2044. To meet the housing
59 needs of current and future residents, King County is required by the Growth
60 Management Act and the Countywide Planning Policies to plan for and accommodate

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61 housing that meets the needs of moderate-, low-, very low-, and extremely low-income
62 households, as well as emergency housing, emergency shelters, and permanent
63 supportive housing. The total number of new housing units needed in urban
64 unincorporated King County by 2044 is 5,412. Additionally, 1,034 new emergency
65 housing beds are needed by 2044 to meet temporary housing needs.
66

67 ~~((King County Housing Needs~~

68 The number of housing units in King County is growing ((faster than its population)) but
69 struggled to keep pace with the need induced by population growth and a strong
70 economy. The ((2010)) 2020 Census counted more than ((851,000)) 269,000 houses,
71 apartment and condominium units, and mobile homes. The number of housing units
72 has increased by ((159,000 units (23%) since 1994)) 118,000 units (14 percent) since
73 2010, driven largely by growth in multifamily units. Household size has ((stabilized after
74 declining in the 1970s and 1980s and is now)) increased slightly after the Great
75 Recession of 2008 and is estimated at ((2.39)) 2.42 persons per household ((the same
76 as in 2000)). ((A slight)) Owing to the aging of the population, a decline in household
77 size is anticipated in coming years to about 2.26 in ((2031)) 2044.)
78

79 King County must plan for and accommodate 5,412 net new housing units in urban
80 unincorporated King County between 2020-2044, including 1,034 net new emergency
81 housing/shelter beds. The County adopted development regulation changes with the
82 2024 Comprehensive Plan to create sufficient zoning capacity to accommodate all of
83 these housing needs and types.
84

85 ~~((King County Economy~~

86 King County is truly the economic engine of Washington State, with more than ((1.2)) 1.3
87 million workers employed at ((nearly 80,000)) over 66,000 business firms, excluding sole
88 proprietorships. King County's ((87)) \$142 billion payroll is ((52%)) 67 percent of
89 Washington State's ((167)) \$214 billion payroll and over three ((fourths)) quarters of the
90 four-county region's payroll.
91

92 King County has a cyclical economy, with booms and recessions. ((Since 2000, the
93 region has had two major recessions, a boom, and recovery. The result is that as of 2010
94 the number of jobs was the same as it was in 2000- about 1.1 million. Since 2010, job
95 growth has been substantial. Manufacturing employment remains important, but, since
96 2006, growth has been in the trade, business services and information sectors. The
97 economy has diversified from its traditional aerospace and resource bases to high tech,
98 services and trade, both local and international. Given the county's complement of
99 healthy, innovative businesses and its industrial diversification, its future unemployment
100 rates should be lower than in the state and the nation.)) After the Great Recession, King
101 County's diverse economy rebounded quickly compared to the pace of national
102 recovery, owing largely to strong growth in the information technology and services
103 sectors, supported by retail and construction sector growth. Progressive increases in
104 the minimum wage in several cities in King County raised incomes for the county's
105 lowest wage earners, although the county's prosperity has not been shared by all. With
106 the arrival of the global COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, unemployment soared,
107 particularly for retail and service sector employees, shuttering businesses and
108 amplifying King County's economic, social, and health inequities. While employment
109 has rebounded from initial losses, many workers have permanently left the workforce or
110 remain under-employed. The pandemic has changed the nature of work from
111 increased telework to the types of jobs that are now most available. The long-term
112 impacts fromof the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the rising effects from climate

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113 ~~change discussed later in the plan, will imprint on the King County economy for the next~~
114 ~~20 years and beyond.~~

115 ~~((II.))~~ King County Planning Framework

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116 Prompted by residents concerned about sprawl, King County adopted its first
117 comprehensive land use plan in 1964. Two decades later, the 1985 comprehensive
118 land use plan was the first to identify an urban growth boundary line to limit urban
119 growth to areas with the infrastructure needed for facilities and services. It also
120 established policies to ~~protect~~ the Rural Area, conserve the natural environment, and
121 designate resource lands for long-term agriculture and forest production.

122
123 King County's first Comprehensive Plan under the Washington State Growth
124 Management Act was adopted in 1994. The Growth Management Act directs the state's
125 most populous and fastest-~~growing~~ counties and their cities to prepare comprehensive
126 land use plans that anticipate growth over a 20~~(-)~~-year horizon and provide for it in a
127 managed manner.

128
129 There is a hierarchy of growth management planning in the county with consistency
130 between the levels. Some issues, such as the establishment of the Urban Growth Area,
131 are best decided at the countywide level, while others, such as the amount of
132 commercial space needed in a neighborhood, are best determined at the subarea plan
133 level. At a broader scale, the Growth Management Act requires the development of
134 Multicounty Planning Policies by ~~((the counties of))~~ King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish
135 Counties, as well as the development of Countywide Planning Policies by King County
136 and ~~((its))~~ the 39 cities and towns in King County. These ~~((documents are to be used~~
137 ~~solely))~~ policies are used for establishing a countywide framework from which county
138 and city comprehensive plans are developed and adopted.

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139 A. Planning Framework Hierarchy

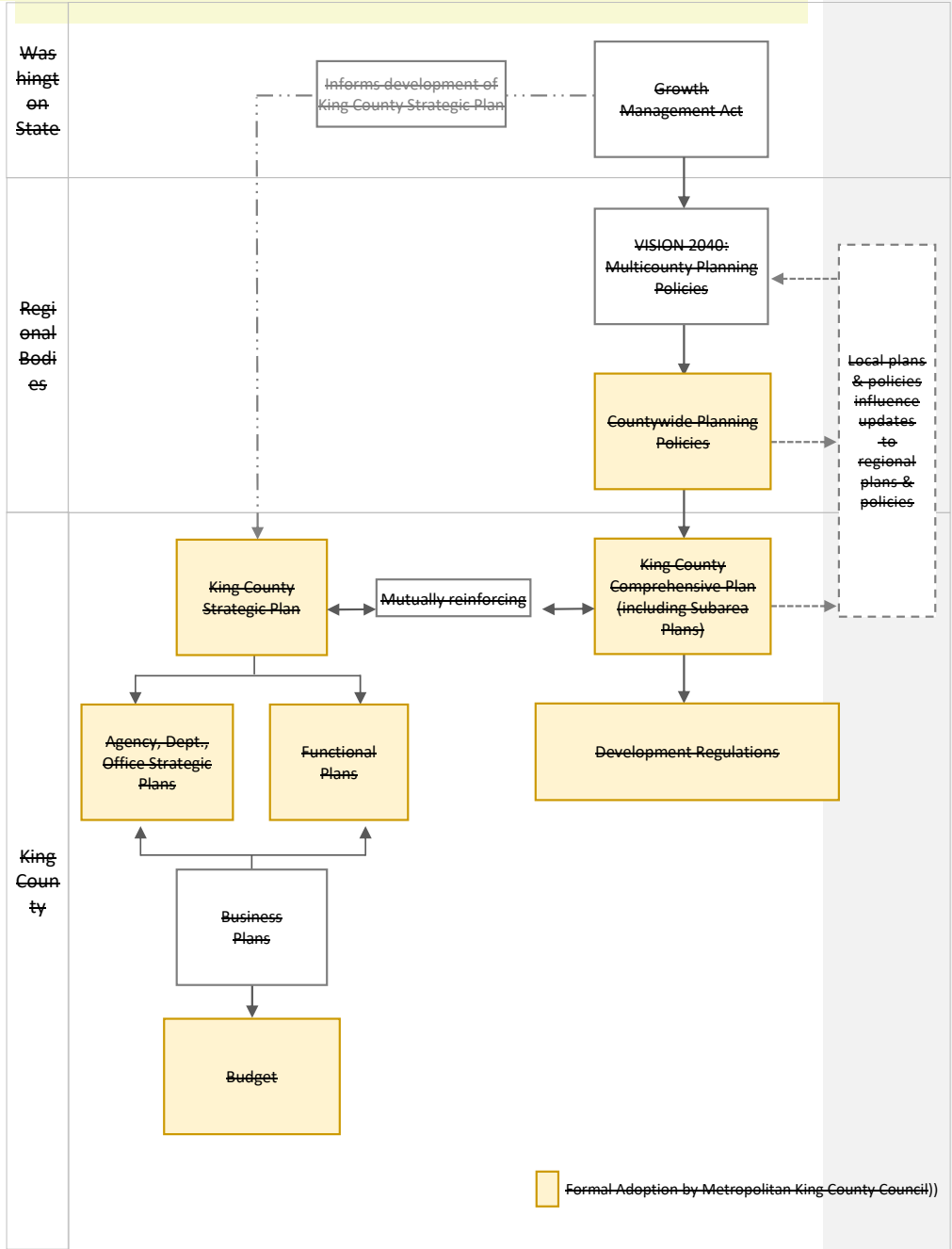
140 ~~((These))~~ The planning processes and structures discussed in this section respond to
141 Growth Management Act, Multicounty Planning Policy, and Countywide Planning Policy
142 requirements and goals and reflect local circumstances and priorities. This complex
143 framework is illustrated in the following graphic.
144
145

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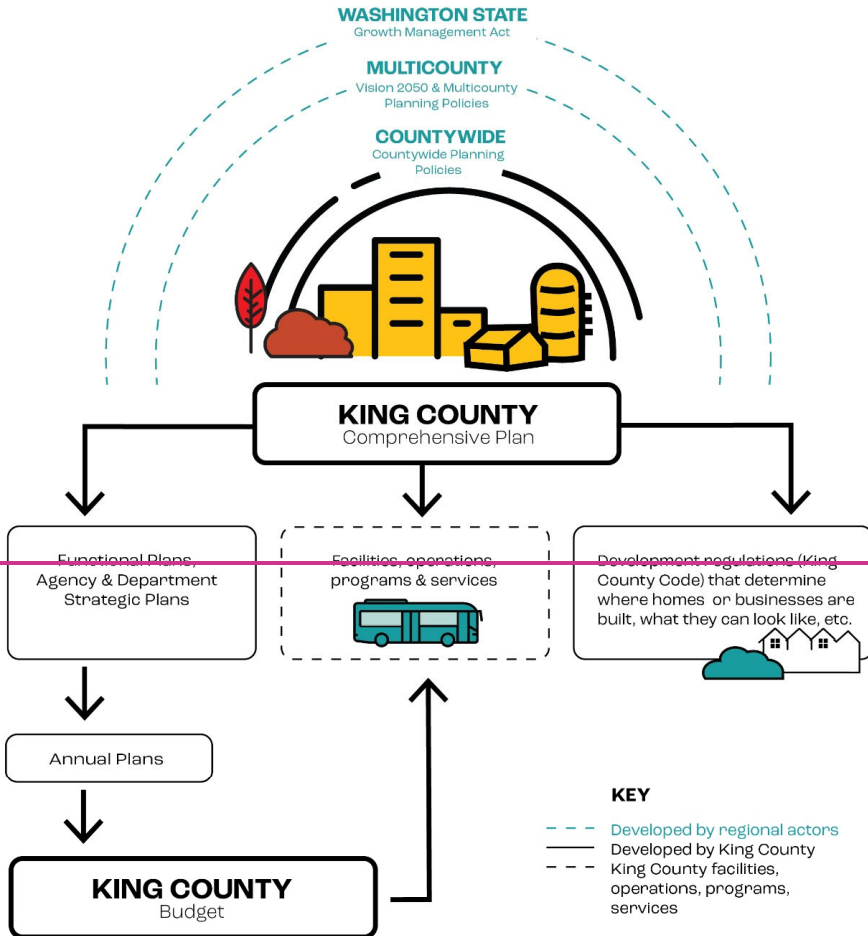
146
147
148

Figure: Planning Hierarchy Relationship to Growth Management Planning

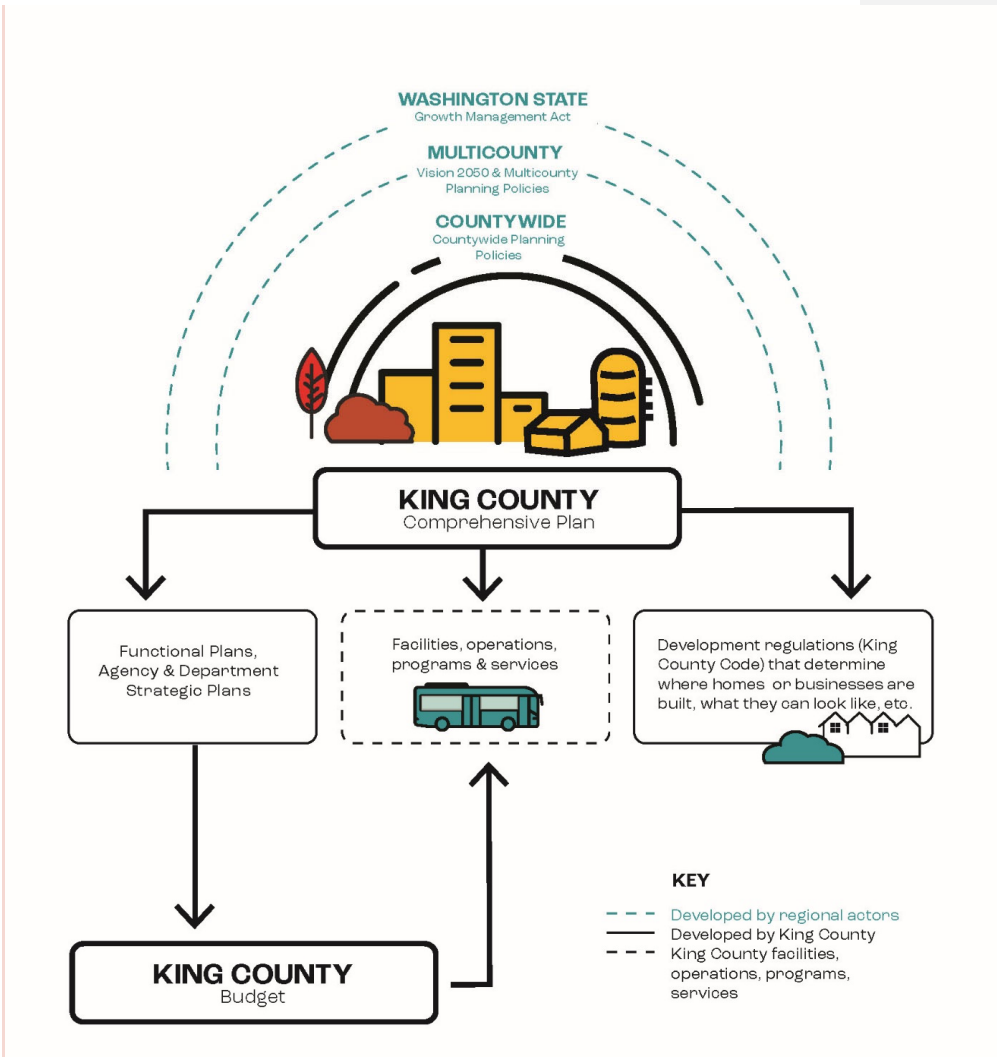
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150
151
152
153

RP-101 King County's planning should implement the County's equity and racial and social justice principles to improve residents' access to the determinants of equity.

154 ~~((A:))~~ B. Public Participation in Planning

155 At the core of King County's planning is the goal of ~~((providing))~~ advancing equitable
156 outcomes that support a high quality of life for all county residents. This can only be
157 achieved by actively ~~((soliciting public participation))~~ and equitably engaging the public
158 to help shape ~~((its))~~ County plans, including strategic, comprehensive, functional, and

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159 subarea plans, and ~~((use))~~ by using these planning processes to strengthen communities
160 and improve access to the Determinants of Equity.¹

161
162 ~~Unfortunately,~~ previous planning processes have excluded and harmed those who are
163 Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color; immigrants; refugees; and households at
164 or below 80 percent of area median income living with low or no incomes. King County
165 is working to ensure that the perspectives of these historically underrepresented groups
166 and those who have been disproportionately harmed by previous planning efforts are
167 engaged by the County and centered throughout planning processes.

168
169 Additionally, while the Growth Management Act requires the coordination of local
170 plans, Indian tribes have historically not been included because of their independent
171 sovereign status and unique rights to self-governance. However, King County also
172 recognizes that the lands addressed by the Comprehensive Plan are those that are the
173 traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples that have lived here since time
174 immemorial. Recognizing this, King County will coordinate with Indian tribes as part of
175 the County's planning processes and will seek opportunities to work together to
176 advance key issues, such as environmental stewardship, treaty fishing rights, and
177 protecting cultural heritage.

178
179 **~~((RP-101)) RP-102~~ King County shall strive to provide a high quality of life for**
180 **~~all of its residents by: working with cities, special purpose districts, and~~**
181 **~~residents to develop attractive, safe, and accessible communities at~~**
182 **~~appropriate urban and rural service levels; ((retain)) retaining rural~~**
183 **~~character and rural neighborhoods; planning for and accommodating~~**
184 **~~housing affordable to all income levels; ((support)) supporting~~**
185 **~~economic development; ((promote)) promoting equity and racial and~~**
186 **~~social justice; ((preserve and maintain)) preserving and maintaining~~**
187 **~~resource and open space lands; ((preserve)) preserving the natural~~**
188 **~~environment; and ((protect)) protecting significant cultural and historic~~**
189 **~~resources.~~**

190
191 **~~((RP-102)) RP-103~~ In its planning processes, including the development,**
192 **~~update, and implementation of King County plans, ((King)) the County~~**
193 **~~shall use equitable engagement strategies to actively solicit public~~**
194 **~~participation from a wide variety of sources, particularly from~~**
195 **~~populations historically underrepresented or excluded from planning~~**
196 **~~processes ((in its planning processes, including the development,~~**
197 **~~update, and implementation of its plans)).~~**

198
199 **~~((RP-103)) RP-104~~ King County shall ((seek comment from)) coordinate with**
200 **~~Indian tribes during its planning processes in a manner that respects~~**
201 **~~their sovereign status, promotes tribal self-determination and self-~~**
202 **~~governance, and honors past and present agreements.~~**

203
204 **~~((R-102)) RP-105~~ King County ((will continue to support)) shall work with its**
205 **~~rural constituencies to sustain and enhance continue to support the~~**
206 **~~diversity and richness of ((its rural communities and their distinct~~**
207 **~~character by working with its rural constituencies through its~~**
208 **~~Community Service Areas program to sustain and enhance the rural~~**
209 **~~character of)) the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.~~**

210

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¹ Defined in King County Code 2.10.210.

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211 ~~((B:))~~ C. Multicounty Planning

212 The Puget Sound Regional Council is a regional planning agency with specific
213 responsibilities under federal and state law for transportation planning, economic
214 development, and growth management. ~~((In April 2000, t))~~The general assembly of the
215 Puget Sound Regional Council ~~((adopted VISION 2040=containing))~~ adopts a
216 ~~((numeric))~~ Regional Growth Strategy and the Multicounty Planning Policies~~((=as an~~
217 ~~update to the earlier Vision 2020 regional plan)),~~ which are most recently reflected in
218 VISION 2050 ("VISION"). Multicounty Planning Policies address those issues that benefit
219 from greater consistency across jurisdictions and those that are of a ~~((countywide or))~~
220 regional nature.

221
222 VISION ~~((2040))~~ 2050 is a regional strategy to accommodate the population and job growth
223 expected by ~~((2040))~~ 2050 in the four-county Puget Sound region. As an integrated,
224 long-range vision for maintaining a healthy region, promoting economic vitality, a
225 healthy environment, and well~~((-))~~being of people and communities, VISION ~~((2040))~~
226 provides clear direction to regional, county, and local governments on topics such as
227 setting priorities for transportation investment, stimulating economic development,
228 planning for open space, making ~~((city and town))~~ local jurisdictions' centers more
229 suitable for transit and walking, and improving transportation safety and mobility.
230 ~~((VISION 2040 promotes a triple-bottom-line approach to decision-making that seeks to~~
231 ~~promote social, economic and environmental benefits in all projects, programs and~~
232 ~~plans:))~~

233
234 As part of VISION ~~((2040))~~, the Regional Growth Strategy looks at how the region can
235 distribute ~~((forecast))~~ forecasted growth, primarily within the designated urban growth
236 area. The strategy is a description of a preferred pattern of urbanization that has been
237 designed to minimize environmental impacts, support economic prosperity, promote
238 adequate and affordable housing, improve mobility, and make efficient use of existing
239 infrastructure. The strategy provides regional guidance for counties~~((;))~~ and cities ~~((and~~
240 ~~towns))~~ to use as they develop ~~((new))~~ local population and employment growth targets
241 and update local comprehensive plans.

242
243 ~~((RP-104))~~ **RP-106 King County's planning ~~((should))~~ shall include**
244 **multicounty, countywide, and subarea levels of planning. Working**
245 **with planning partners, such as Indian tribes, residents, special purpose**
246 **districts, ~~((and)),~~ cities, and Indian tribes ~~((as planning partners)),~~ the**
247 **~~((c))~~County shall strive to balance the differing needs identified across**
248 **or within plans at these ~~((geographic))~~ levels.**

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249 ~~((C:))~~ D. Countywide Planning

250 State law requires that planning be coordinated on a countywide level, and that ~~((the))~~
251 King ~~((c))~~County itself adopt a comprehensive plan to regulate those areas for which it
252 has direct responsibility. The Countywide Planning Policies are required by the state
253 Growth Management Act and provide a countywide framework to coordinate local
254 comprehensive plans and implement VISION ~~((2040))~~. King County and all cities ~~((and~~
255 ~~towns=of))~~ in King County are responsible for ensuring that their respective
256 comprehensive plans are consistent with and implement the Countywide Planning
257 Policies.

258
259 The ~~((Growth Management Planning Council is the))~~ formal body charged with
260 developing the Countywide Planning Policies ~~((and then sending a recommendation to~~
261 ~~the King County Council for its review and approval. The Growth Management Planning~~
262 ~~Council))~~; is the Growth Management Planning Council, which is a representative body

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263 consisting of elected officials from King County, Seattle, Bellevue, the Sound Cities
264 Association, and ~~((the City of Bellevue)) special purpose districts.~~^(*) Recommended
265 Countywide Planning Policies are sent to King County for its review and approval and
266 then provided to the cities for ratification.

267
268 ~~((The Countywide Planning Policies were first adopted by King County and ratified by~~
269 ~~the cities within the county in 1992. In response to VISION 2040, the county and the~~
270 ~~cities within the county approved a major overhaul and update to the Countywide~~
271 ~~Planning Policies in 2013. These revised))~~ The Countywide Planning Policies implement
272 ~~((the regional and countywide vision))~~ VISION by providing a countywide framework to
273 plan for job growth and new development, including housing, commercial, institutional,
274 and other non-residential uses. The Countywide Planning Policies provide broad
275 direction to individual jurisdictions's comprehensive plans, including the King County
276 Comprehensive Plan. The goals of the policies include: promoting a compact and
277 centers-focused growth pattern that uses land and infrastructure efficiently, protecting
278 the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, providing affordable housing throughout
279 the county, and coordinating the protection and restoration of the natural environment
280 in King County.^(*)

281
282 **((RP-105)) RP-107 King County ((should)) shall work with the Growth**
283 **Management Planning Council to adopt Countywide Planning Policies**
284 **that support ((annual ratifications to)) allocated housing and**
285 **employment growth targets for cities and the county, approve**
286 **designations of countywide centers, and address other countywide**
287 **planning topics.**

288
289 **((RP-106)) RP-108 ((Except for Four-to-One proposals,)) King County shall not**
290 **amend the Urban Growth Area prior to the Growth Management**
291 **Planning Council ((taking action)) making a recommendation on the**
292 **proposed amendment to the Urban Growth Area.**

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293
294 **((RP-107)) RP-109 King County shall not forward to the Growth Management**
295 **Planning Council for its recommendation any proposed amendment to**
296 **the Urban Growth Area unless the proposal ((was)) is:**
297 **a. Included in the scoping motion for a King County Comprehensive**
298 **Plan update;**
299 **b. ((An)) Subject to an area zoning and land use study ((of the**
300 **proposal)) that was included in the public review draft of a**
301 **proposed King County Comprehensive Plan update; or**
302 **c. Subjected to the hearing examiner process for site specific map**
303 **amendments as ((contemplated)) established by the King County**
304 **Code.**

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305
306 **((RP-108)) RP-110 King County shall implement the Countywide Planning**
307 **Policies through its Comprehensive Plan and ((through)) Potential**
308 **Annexation Area, pre-annexation, and other interlocal agreements with**
309 **((its)) cities.**

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^(*)As amended by Ordinance 17687.
^{*)}As amended by Ordinance 17687.)

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310 ~~((D. Sub-Regional))~~ E. Subregional Planning and
311 Partnerships

312 King County engages with partners in subareas of the county in ~~((sub-regional))~~
313 subregional planning programs and partnerships that are related to the Comprehensive
314 Plan. These activities are guided by the policies in the Comprehensive Plan as well as
315 the other components of the overall King County ~~((P))~~planning ~~((F))~~framework noted in
316 this chapter. ~~((Some key activities are noted below:))~~

- 317
318 ~~((RP-109))~~ **RP-111 King County should establish and/or participate in regional**
319 **and subregional partnerships to advance the objectives of the**
320 **Comprehensive Plan**~~((; such as:~~
321 **a. The King County Cities Climate Collaboration (the "K4C") to**
322 **confront climate change,**
323 **b. The Puget Sound Regional Council's Regional Transit Oriented**
324 **Development Program to advance transit-oriented development**
325 **around transit stations and hubs,**
326 **c. The Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Council, or successor**
327 **groups, to support a vision that includes dual use (recreation trail**
328 **and public transportation) and multiple objectives, consistent with**
329 **its federal railbanked status, and**
330 **d. The Regional Code Collaboration to collaborate on development of**
331 **and updates to green building codes.))**

332
333 ~~These programs are described in greater detail, and where appropriate additional~~
334 ~~policies ((added)) included, in the relevant subsequent chapters of the Comprehensive~~
335 ~~Plan.))~~

336
337 **RP-112 When large, mixed-use developments with more than 50 dwelling**
338 **units are proposed in cities**~~Upon notification from a city that abuts the~~
339 **adjacent to the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands regarding**
340 **proposed large, mixed-use developments, King County shall, upon**
341 **notification from the city, coordinate with the permitting city during the**
342 **development review process to ensure that the development review**
343 **process to avoid and mitigate impacts on county services and facilities,**
344 **water resources, and the surrounding Rural Area and Natural Resource**
345 **Lands.**
346

347 ~~((The cities in King County's rural area))~~ Cities in the Rural Area are incorporated areas
348 substantially ~~substantively~~ surrounded by the Rural Area and whose local governments
349 are involved in the region's planning processes on ~~((an equal legal basis with the~~
350 ~~suburban cities, Bellevue, and Seattle))~~ the same basis as any other city in the County.
351 Cities in the Rural Area have established Potential Annexation Areas to accommodate
352 growth. The ~~((e))~~Cities in the Rural Area are Black Diamond, Carnation, Duvall,
353 Enumclaw, North Bend, Skykomish, and Snoqualmie.

354
355 ~~((The Growth Management Act stipulates that Cities in the Rural Area and their Potential~~
356 ~~Annexation Areas are to be treated as part of the Urban Growth Area. The Countywide~~
357 ~~Planning Policies also provide for urban land uses and densities and urban services in~~
358 ~~those locations.))~~ Excessive growth in Cities in the Rural Area ~~((and in Rural Towns)),~~
359 however, may create pressure for extending urban services (for example, sewers) across
360 the Rural Area or Resource Lands, ~~((may))~~ increase conversion pressure on nearby
361 Resource Lands, and adversely affect rural character. ~~((Therefore, King County views~~
362 ~~Cities in the Rural Area as qualitatively different from the Urban Growth Area as a whole,~~

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363 even though they may provide significant opportunities for residential or employment
364 growth within their boundaries.

365
366 ~~King County has worked with the Cities in the Rural Area to establish Potential~~
367 ~~Annexation Areas to accommodate growth. These areas are shown as part of the Urban~~
368 ~~Growth Area on the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map at the end of Chapter 1,~~
369 ~~Regional Growth Management Planning. ((Additionally, the county is working with~~
370 ~~these cities on individual economic development strategies and options, as well as~~
371 ~~regional economic and tourism opportunities.~~
372

373 **R-510)) RP-113 ((The Cities in the Rural Area and their Potential Annexation Areas**
374 **are part of the overall Urban Growth Area for purposes of planning land**
375 **uses and facility needs.)) King County should work with Cities in the**
376 **Rural Area and coordinate through partnerships, such as the Growth**
377 **Management Planning Council, to:**

- 378 a. ~~((e))~~Encourage the provision of affordable housing~~((, to))~~;
- 379 b. ~~((m))~~Minimize the impacts of new development on the surrounding
380 Rural Area~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands;
- 381 c. ~~Avoid the conversion of rural lands into commercial uses and the~~
382 ~~creation of pressure to extend or expand urban services,~~
383 ~~infrastructure, and facilities, such as roads or sewer, across or into~~
384 ~~the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands; and~~
- 385 d. ~~((to p))~~Plan for growth consistent with long-term protection of
386 significant historic resources~~((:))~~ and the surrounding Rural Area
387 and Natural Resource Lands.

388 ~~((E:))~~ E. Comprehensive Planning

389 ~~((The 2016 update is the fifth major review of the King County Comprehensive Plan.))~~ In
390 accordance with ~~the~~ Growth Management Act, ~~((it))~~ ~~the Comprehensive Plan~~ is
391 designed to manage growth so that development is directed to ~~((designated))~~ urban
392 areas and away from the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. The Growth
393 Management Act also requires King County to designate and protect critical areas and
394 commercially significant forestry, agriculture, and mining areas. The Growth
395 Management Act requires a comprehensive plan to adhere to a set of ~~((fourteen))~~ goals
396 and to include ~~((the following))~~ mandatory plan elements~~((:))~~, such as land use, housing,
397 capital facilities, utilities, rural, shorelines, and transportation elements. The ~~((King~~
398 ~~County))~~ Comprehensive Plan provides a legal framework for managing growth and
399 making decisions about land use in unincorporated King County. ~~((Public and private~~
400 ~~agencies, property owners, developers, community groups, and King County staff use~~
401 ~~the Comprehensive Plan in several ways.))~~
402

403 The Comprehensive Plan ~~((provides guidance to))~~ guides ~~((e))~~ County officials ~~((for~~
404 ~~decisions))~~ on proposals such as zoning changes and developments~~((, - It also ((gives))~~
405 ~~provides~~ the public ~~((direction on))~~ the ~~((c))~~ County's position~~on)),~~ proposed changes in
406 ~~((land use or zoning.))~~ environmental regulations, or broader policy issues. ~~((The Plan))~~ It
407 also serves as a framework for other plans and regulations such as subarea plans and
408 the King County Code that govern the location and density of land uses in
409 unincorporated King County. The Comprehensive Plan provides a basis for decisions
410 about public spending on facilities and services. Finally, ~~((the Plan))~~ it presents other
411 agencies, such as cities and special purpose districts, with King County's position on
412 large-scale matters such as annexation, use of resource lands, environmental protection,
413 service provision, and others.
414

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415 ~~((RP-110))~~ **RP-114** King County's planning should strengthen communities by
416 addressing all the elements, resources, and needs that make a
417 community whole, ~~((including:))~~ such as housing affordable to all
418 income levels, economic growth and the built environment,
419 environmental sustainability, regional and local mobility, health and
420 human potential, and justice and safety.

421
422 ~~((RP-111))~~ **RP-115** King County shall integrate mandated responses to the
423 listings under the Endangered Species Act into future planning,
424 economic development efforts, and resource management programs to
425 achieve, where consistent with the Endangered Species Act, a balance
426 between environmental, social, and economic goals and objectives.
427 King County shall collaborate with others to conserve species and their
428 habitats in order to prevent future listings under the Endangered
429 Species Act.

430
431 ~~((RP-112))~~ King County shall incorporate approaches to reduce greenhouse gas
432 emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change into its land
433 use and transportation planning, economic development efforts, and
434 natural resource management.

435
436 ~~RP-113))~~ **RP-116** The ~~King County ((Comprehensive Plan))~~ Land Use Map is
437 adopted as part of ~~((this))~~ the Comprehensive Plan. ~~((it))~~ The Land Use
438 Map shall depict ~~((s))~~ the ~~((Urban Growth Area;))~~ Urban Growth Area
439 ~~((B))~~ boundary ~~((;))~~; land use designations for unincorporated urban
440 areas, the Rural Area, and Natural Resource Lands; and other ~~((land~~
441 ~~uses))~~ appropriate information. The official Land Use Map shall be
442 maintained in the King County Geographic Information System, and the
443 Land Use Map at the end of this chapter generally represents the
444 official ~~((Comprehensive Plan Land Use M))~~ map.

445
446 ~~((Property Rights: The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to balance~~
447 ~~a variety of goals in the implementation of growth management. One of the goals of~~
448 ~~Growth Management Act is to provide for the protection of private property rights in~~
449 ~~relation to the comprehensive planning process of the county. In support of this goal,~~
450 ~~King County undertakes a review process designed to assess its regulatory and~~
451 ~~administrative actions to avoid unconstitutional takings of private property.~~

452
453 ~~RP-114))~~ **RP-117** ~~When updating the Comprehensive Plan,~~ King County shall
454 ~~((continue its process of reviewing county regulatory and~~
455 ~~administrative actions))~~ review proposals so as to avoid
456 unconstitutional takings of private property in planning, programming,
457 and operations.

458 ~~((H.))~~ ~~Comprehensive Plan Review and Amendment))~~

459 The Growth Management Act allows updates to comprehensive plans once each year.
460 In King County, the annual update allows limited changes. The ~~((eight))~~ County's 10-
461 year update, which aligns the timing with Growth Management Act periodic review and
462 update requirements, allows substantive changes to policies and amendments to the
463 Urban Growth Area boundary ~~((to be proposed and adopted))~~. A smaller ~~((=))~~ range of
464 substantive changes to policies and amendments to the Urban Growth Area boundary
465 may also be considered at the midpoint of the ~~((eight))~~ 10-year update schedule, ~~((but~~
466 ~~only))~~ if authorized by motion. These provisions are detailed in Chapter 12,
467 Implementation, Amendments, and Evaluation, and King County Code ~~((Title))~~ Chapter
468 20.18. ~~((Additional information and policies are found in Chapter 12, Implementation,~~
469 ~~Amendments and Evaluation.~~

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~~As part of) Prior to its review of the Comprehensive Plan, King County, together with ((its)) cities, ((published)) publishes-adopts the ((2007)) King County Urban Growth Capacity Report (previously known as the Buildable Lands Report). ((and updated it in 2014. Ratified in 2015, t))The report fulfills the requirements of the Growth Management Act for the ((c))County and ((its)) cities to evaluate patterns of development every ((eight)) 10 years to determine whether there is sufficient suitable land to accommodate the projected countywide population. The ((Buildable Lands)) Urban Growth Capacity Report ((represents a midcourse check on)) is one of the methods to evaluate the achievement of Growth Management Act goals. The focus of the evaluation is on the designated urban areas of King County and growth targets for those areas as established in the Countywide Planning Policies.~~

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~~((Based on data from 2006 through 2011, the 2014 Buildable Lands Report evaluated the actual housing constructed, densities of new residential development, and the amount of actual land developed for commercial and industrial uses within the Urban Growth Area. Based on that data, it projected that there is a sufficient amount of land within the Urban Growth Area to accommodate housing, commercial and industrial uses through 2031 and beyond. Additional discussion and policies can be found in Chapter 12, Implementation, Amendments and Evaluation.))~~

~~((Docket Request Process:)) Another key element of the Comprehensive Plan review and update process is the Docket ((R))request ((P))process. As required by the Growth Management Act, King County maintains an annual docket for recording comments on suggested changes to the King County Comprehensive Plan and associated development regulations from any interested person, such as permit applicants, residents, and staff of other jurisdictions or agencies. The process and requirements are detailed in ((the)) King County Code ((at)) Chapter 20.18((140)). The County reviews all requests, communicates with docket submitters, ((and)) makes County Executive recommendations to the County Council ((by the first day of December. The docket report includes an Executive recommendation for each item)), and provides information on requests and recommendations to the public.Additional Comprehensive Plan review and assessment actions are discussed in Chapter 12, Implementation, Amendments, and Evaluation.~~

504 ((F.)) G. Subarea Planning

505 ~~((Community Service Area)) Subarea plans, ((as well as other community plans and basin~~
506 ~~plans)) such as but not limited to Community Service Areathe Subarea Plans (see in~~
507 ~~Chapter 11, Community Service Area Subarea Planning), focus the policy direction of~~
508 ~~the Comprehensive Plan to a smaller geographic area. ((See Chapter 11 Community~~
509 ~~Service Area Subarea Planning, for information on large-scale subarea land use plans~~
510 ~~for rural and urban unincorporated areas in King County). Smaller-scale studies, known~~
511 ~~as area zoning and land use studies, per King County Code,⁴ are focused on adoption~~
512 ~~or amendment of land use and zoning maps on an area-wide basis rather than the~~
513 ~~broad range of topics that are addressed in a full subarea plan. Examples of subarea~~
514 ~~plans and area zoning studies include the Duwamish Coalition Project, White Center~~
515 ~~Action Plan, Fall City Subarea Plan, the East Redmond Subarea Plan, and planning~~
516 ~~efforts within a watershed or basin. Development of subarea plans are guided by the~~

⁴ Per King County Code 20.08.030-Area Zoning))

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

517 following policy as well as other applicable policies of the Comprehensive Plan and
518 provisions in the King County Code.²⁾⁾

- 519 ~~RP-115 — Subarea plans, including area zoning studies, provide detailed land use~~
520 ~~plans for local geographic areas.)) Subarea plans implement and shall~~
521 ~~be elements of the King County Comprehensive Plan and shall be~~
522 ~~consistent with the Plan's policies, development regulations, and Land~~
523 ~~Use Map. ((The s))Subarea plans should be consistent with functional~~
524 ~~plans' facility and service standards. ((The s))Subarea plans may~~
525 ~~include, but are not limited to:~~
526 ~~a. Identification of policies in the Comprehensive Plan that apply to~~
527 ~~the subarea;~~
528 ~~b. Review and update of applicable ((c))Community Service Area~~
529 ~~Subarea ((p))Plan policies;~~
530 ~~c. Specific land uses and implementing zoning, consistent with the~~
531 ~~Comprehensive Plan;~~
532 ~~d. Identification of the boundaries of Unincorporated Activity Centers,~~
533 ~~countywide centers, and Rural Towns;~~
534 ~~e. Recommendations for the establishment of new Unincorporated~~
535 ~~Activity Centers((,)) and Regional, Community, and Neighborhood~~
536 ~~Business Centers, if appropriate;~~
537 ~~f. Recommendations for additional Open Space designations and~~
538 ~~park sites;~~
539 ~~g. Recommendations for capital improvements((, the means and~~
540 ~~schedule for providing them and amendments to functional plans))~~
541 ~~to support planned land uses and community priorities;~~
542 ~~h. Resolution of land use and service issues in Potential Annexation~~
543 ~~Areas;~~
544 ~~i. Identification of new issues that need resolution at a countywide~~
545 ~~level;~~
546 ~~j. Identification of all necessary implementing measures needed to~~
547 ~~carry out the plan;~~
548 ~~k. Specific land uses and zoning that encourage healthy, livable~~
549 ~~communities by promoting physical activity of walking and~~
550 ~~bicycling; and~~
551 ~~l. Identification of locations and conditions for special overlay~~
552 ~~districts.~~

553
554
555 The passage of Ordinance 17319 and 17415 in 2011 replaced the Unincorporated Area
556 Councils with the Community Service Area geography. As described more fully in
557 Chapter 11, Community Service Area Subarea Planning, this geography will be used as
558 the guiding structure for subarea planning starting in 2015.

559 To the extent practicable, subarea plans in unincorporated King County should be
560 developed in close coordination between the community and county staff that may have
561 a lead or partial role in implementing the plans to ensure clearer expectations on how
562 and whether community recommendations in a subarea plan are feasible for
563 implementation and within what type of timeframe. This type of coordination, supported
564 by the financial analysis noted in the following policy, is critical to all subarea and
565 functional plans in order to evaluate the resources required and the time frame
566 necessary for full implementation. Plan alternatives and costs should be clearly
567 understood and plans should be financially achievable.
568
569

²⁾⁾ Per King County Code 20.08.060-Subarea plan))

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

570 **RP-116** — **King County should identify the financial costs and public benefits of**
571 **proposed subarea and functional plans prior to adoption to ensure that**
572 **implementation can be appropriately prioritized.**
573

574 In addition to subarea plans and area zoning and land use studies, King County's land
575 use planning also includes other planning processes. These include Comprehensive
576 Plan policy directed subarea studies, such as the establishment of new community
577 business centers, adjusting Rural Town boundaries, or assessing the feasibility of zoning
578 reclassifications in urban unincorporated areas. Subarea studies are focused on specific
579 areas of the County, but do not look at the range of issues that a subarea plan would
580 include. In some cases, an area zoning and land use study may suffice to meet the
581 requirements of the policies. In addition, there are Site Specific Land Use Amendments⁶
582 and Zone Reclassifications,⁷ which are site specific processes that involve County staff
583 review and recommendations, a public hearing and recommendation by a Hearing
584 Examiner and a decision by County Council. These must be consistent with the
585 Comprehensive Plan or be proposed with a Plan update.

586 **G.) H. Functional Planning**

587 Functional plans are detailed plans for facilities and services ((and also include)), as well
588 as action plans and programs for other governmental activities. Some functional plans
589 are operational or programmatic and guide daily management decisions. Others
590 include specific details of facility design and location. Functional ((P)) plans ((that guide
591 specific siting of facilities)) help implement and must be consistent with the
592 Comprehensive Plan. ((Functional plans are prepared by King County, independent
593 special purpose districts or other public and private agencies.)) Examples of functional
594 plans ((in King County)) include((- the Strategic Climate Action Plan, Juvenile Justice
595 Operational Master Plan, Open Space Plan, Regional Wastewater Services Plan,
596 Strategic Plan for Road Services, and Strategic Plan for Public Transportation)) the King
597 County Open Space Plan and King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

598 ((Capital improvements are important components of functional plans. Capital facilities
599 and spending on improvements and new facilities are closely linked to availability of
600 funds. Functional plans must identify costs and services of needed facilities and
601 distinguish between improvements needed for new growth verses those needed to
602 support existing public health and welfare needs.
603
604

- 605 **RP-117)) RP-118 Functional plans for facilities and services ((should)):**
606 a. **Shall ((B)) be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and subarea**
607 **((and neighborhood)) plans;**
608 b. **((Define required)) Shall be consistent with service levels that are**
609 **appropriate for the Urban Growth Area, Rural Area, and Natural**
610 **Resource Lands;**
611 c. **May ((P)) provide standards for location, design, and operation of**
612 **public facilities and services;**
613 d. **Should ((S)) specify adequate, stable, and equitable methods of pay**
614 **for public facilities and services;**
615 e. **May ((B)) be the basis for scheduling needed facilities and services**
616 **through capital improvement programs; and**
617 f. **Should ((P)) plan for maintenance of existing facilities.**
618

⁶Per King County Code 20.08.170-Site Specific Land Use Amendments)
⁷Per King County Code 20.08.160-Reclassification))

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619 ~~((RP-118 Existing functional plans that have not been adopted as part of this~~
620 ~~Comprehensive Plan shall remain in effect and continue as official~~
621 ~~county policy until reviewed and revised to be consistent with the~~
622 ~~Comprehensive Plan, or until repealed or replaced. In case of conflict~~
623 ~~or inconsistency between applicable policies in existing community~~
624 ~~and functional plans and the Comprehensive Plan, the Comprehensive~~
625 ~~Plan shall govern.~~

626
627 ~~RP-119 King County shall prepare functional plans to identify countywide~~
628 ~~facility and service needs and define ways to fund these consistent with~~
629 ~~the King County Comprehensive Plan. Independent special purpose~~
630 ~~districts and other public agencies also prepare functional plans that~~
631 ~~should be considered by King County.))~~

632 I. Other Planning

633 ~~There are also other plans not adopted as part of the Comprehensive Plan, such as~~
634 ~~implementation plans and strategic plans, that King County relies on to help implement~~
635 ~~and inform the Comprehensive Plan. These plans are typically focused on a specific~~
636 ~~policy area, able to provide more detailed planning within topic, and updated on a~~
637 ~~more frequent basis than the Comprehensive Plan. Given this, sometimes those plans~~
638 ~~are updated to be consistent with Comprehensive Plan updates, and sometimes the~~
639 ~~Comprehensive Plan is updated to help advance new initiatives and desired outcomes~~
640 ~~originating from those other planning efforts. Examples of these plans include the~~
641 ~~Strategic Climate Action Plan, the Strategic Plan for Road Services, the King County~~
642 ~~Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, and the King County International Airport~~
643 ~~Strategic Plan. The County also uses issue-specific studies and reports to inform and~~
644 ~~help implement Comprehensive Plan updates, such as area zoning and land use~~
645 ~~studies, outcomes of Comprehensive Plan Work Plan action items (see Chapter 12,~~
646 ~~Implementation, Amendments, and Evaluation), and responses to King County budget~~
647 ~~provisos.~~

648 ((I. Managing Performance

649 ~~As part of a growing national movement at all levels of government, King County is~~
650 ~~embracing performance measurement and management. Performance measurement is~~
651 ~~measuring and reporting performance data while performance management is using~~
652 ~~performance information to inform management decisions. Successful organizations~~
653 ~~rely on performance management to inform leadership about how well they are~~
654 ~~reaching their goals and where improvements can be made. With adoption of the King~~
655 ~~County Strategic Plan (discussed below), King County committed to the development of~~
656 ~~a unified and meaningful measurement framework to manage performance at all levels~~
657 ~~of government.~~

658
659 ~~The policies in the King County Strategic Plan ensure that appropriate monitoring of the~~
660 ~~Countywide Planning Policies and Comprehensive Plan will contribute to this~~
661 ~~measurement framework. King County is carrying out performance management to:~~

- 662 ~~• Ensure county goals are being met;~~
- 663 ~~• Improve county services, where necessary;~~
- 664 ~~• Serve as both a local and a regional government;~~
- 665 ~~• Increase transparency with the public;~~
- 666 ~~• Increase use of data for more informed public discussion and decision-making;~~
- 667 ~~• Increase accountability at all levels of government; and~~
- 668 ~~• Increase attention to effective performance measurement as called for in the~~
669 ~~King County Strategic Plan.~~

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670

671 ~~RP-120 — King County will measure and assess agency performance and the~~
672 ~~achievement of Countywide Planning Policies and Comprehensive Plan~~
673 ~~goals.~~

674

675 ~~RP-121 — Using best management practices, King County shall develop~~
676 ~~assessment and review tools to ensure that health, equity, social, and~~
677 ~~environmental justice impacts are considered in the development,~~
678 ~~implementation and funding of county projects and programs.~~

679

680 Additional information and provisions related to monitoring can be found in Chapter
681 12, Implementation, Amendments and Evaluation.

682 ~~J. — King County Strategic Plan~~

683 In 2010, the King County Council adopted the "King County Strategic Plan, 2010-2014:
684 Working Together for One King County" through Ordinance 16897. The Strategic Plan
685 was developed to serve as the framework for countywide priority setting, business
686 planning, budget development, resource allocation, and leadership and managerial
687 accountability. The Strategic Plan represented a significant countywide effort that
688 obligated all departments and agencies to work together as a single county
689 government.

690

691 In 2015, the King County Council passed Motion 14317, which adopted new goals and
692 initiated an update of the Strategic Plan. Motion 14317 outlines goals and guiding
693 principles that address topics in the Growth Management Act and other locally-defined
694 priorities. These are as follows:

695

696 *King County's Goals*

697 ● ~~Mobility: Deliver a seamless network of transportation options to get people where~~
698 ~~they need to go, when they need to get there.~~

699 ● ~~Health and Human Services: Improve the health and well-being of all people in the~~
700 ~~community.~~

701 ● ~~Economic Vitality: Increase access to family wage job opportunities throughout the~~
702 ~~county.~~

703 ● ~~Safety and Justice: Provide for a safe and just community through proactive law~~
704 ~~enforcement and an accessible and fair justice system, while implementing~~
705 ~~alternatives to divert people from the criminal justice system.~~

706 ● ~~Accessible, Affordable Housing: Increase access to quality housing that is~~
707 ~~affordable to all.~~

708 ● ~~Healthy Environment: Preserve open space and rural character while addressing~~
709 ~~climate change.~~

710 ● ~~Efficient, Accountable Regional and Local Government: Ensure that County~~
711 ~~government operates efficiently and effectively and is accountable to the public.~~

712

713 *Guiding Principles that Direct our Efforts*

714 ● ~~Equitable and Fair: Address the root causes of inequities to provide for equal~~
715 ~~access to opportunities for all.~~

716 ● ~~Financially Sustainable: Align funding, policy and operational goals of King County~~

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- 717 government.
- 718 • ~~Regionally Collaborative: Engage with partners, stakeholders, and public and~~
- 719 ~~private organizations to achieve goals:~~
- 720 • ~~Quality Local Government: Provide effective, efficient local governance and~~
- 721 ~~services to unincorporated areas:~~
- 722
- 723 **RP-122** ~~Planning in King County shall be consistent with the King County~~
- 724 ~~Strategic Plan by:~~
- 725 ~~a. Encouraging vibrant, economically thriving and sustainable~~
- 726 ~~communities;~~
- 727 ~~b. Enhancing the county's natural resources and the environment;~~
- 728 ~~c. Supporting safe communities; and~~
- 729 ~~d. Providing equitable opportunities for all individuals.))~~

730 J. Four-to-One Program

731 ~~((While urban separators complement the regional open space system by helping to~~

732 ~~define urban communities, t))The King County Four-to-One Program provides an~~

733 ~~opportunity to add land to the regional open space system through the dedication of~~

734 ~~permanent ((open space)) natural areas. The Four-to-One Program has been~~

735 ~~recognized as an innovative land use technique under the Growth Management Act((⁶))~~

736 ~~and for King County, the purpose of the program is to create a contiguous band of~~

737 ~~((open space)) natural areas, running ((north and south)) along the ((main)) Urban~~

738 ~~Growth Area ((B))boundary. Since its inception in 1994, just over ((1,300)) 360 acres~~

739 ~~have been added to the Urban Growth Area while nearly ((4,500)) 1,300 acres of~~

740 ~~permanent ((open space)) natural areas have been conserved through the Four-to-One~~

741 ~~Program. Changes to the Urban Growth Area through this program are processed as~~

742 ~~((t))and ((t))use ((A))amendments to the King County Comprehensive Plan((, subject to~~

743 ~~the provisions in King County Code ((c))Chapter 20.18)).~~

744

745 ~~((U-185)) RP-119 Through the Four-to-One Program, King County shall~~

746 ~~((actively pursue dedication of open space along)) dedicate natural~~

747 ~~areas adjacent to the original Urban Growth Area ((line)) boundary,~~

748 ~~which was adopted in the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan.~~

749 ~~Through this program, ((one acre of)) Rural Area zoned land may be~~

750 ~~added to the Urban Growth Area in exchange for ((a)) dedication ((to~~

751 ~~King County)) of at least four ((acres)) times the size of permanent~~

752 ~~((open space)) natural area. ((Land added to the Urban Growth Area~~

753 ~~for drainage facilities that are designed as mitigation to have a natural~~

754 ~~looking visual appearance in support of its development, does not~~

755 ~~require dedication of permanent open space.))~~

756

757 **RP-120** ~~The Four-to-One Program shall not result in more than a total of 4,000~~

758 ~~acres being added to the Urban Growth Area.~~

759

760 ~~((U-189)) RP-121 Land added to the Urban Growth Area under the Four-to-~~

761 ~~One Program shall:~~

762 ~~a. Not expand the Urban Growth Area from a location that was~~

763 ~~previously expanded through the Four-to-One Program;~~

764 ~~b. Be limited to residential development and have a minimum density~~

765 ~~of ((four)) eight dwellings per acre; ((and));~~

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((⁶ 36.70A.070 (5)(b) and .090 Revised Code of Washington))

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- c. ~~((shall b))~~ ~~Be~~ ~~((physically contiguous))~~ adjacent to the original Urban Growth Area boundary adopted in the 1994 Comprehensive Plan, unless there are limitations due to the presence of critical areas ~~((, and));~~
- bd. ~~((shall b))~~ ~~Be~~ able to be served by sewers and other efficient urban services and facilities ~~((;));~~ provided that such sewer and other urban services and facilities shall be provided ~~((,))~~ directly from the urban area and ~~((shall))~~ not cross the open space or Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands ~~((;));~~
- e. b. ~~Locate~~ ~~((D))~~ drainage facilities ~~((to s))~~ support the urban development ~~((shall be))~~ with drainage facilities that are located ~~((,))~~ and roads within the urban portion of the development ~~((;));~~ and
- cf. ~~((In some cases, lands must m))~~ Meet affordable housing requirements. ~~((under this program((;)); and~~
- g. ~~((The total area))~~ Not result in more than a total of 4,000 acres being added to the Urban Growth Area as a result of this ~~((policy shall not exceed 4,000 acres))~~ program.

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U-186)) RP-122 King County shall evaluate Four-to-One proposals for both quality of ~~((open space))~~ the natural area and feasibility of urban development and annexation. The highest quality proposals shall be recommended for adoption as amendments to the Urban Growth Area. ~~((Lands preserved as open space shall retain their Rural Area designations ((and should)); generally be configured in such a way as to connect with open space on adjacent properties; include half of the site in dedicated open space; and fully buffer the new urban area from surrounding Rural Area lands and Natural Resource Lands;~~

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U-187 King County shall use the following criteria for evaluating open space in Four-to-One proposals:

- a. Quality of fish and wildlife habitat areas;
- b. Connections to regional open space systems;
- c. Protection of wetlands, stream corridors, ground-water, and water bodies;
- d. Unique natural, biological, cultural, historical, or archeological features;
- e. Size of proposed open space dedication and connection to other open space dedications along the Urban Growth Area ~~((line))~~ boundary; and
- f. The land proposed as open space shall remain undeveloped, except for those uses allowed in ~~((U-188))~~ in King County Code 20.18.180;

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RP-123 Lands preserved under the Four-to-One Program as natural area shall:

- a. Be reserved as natural areas, or for passive recreation, farming, or forestry. Trails or active recreation may be allowed if located on a small portion of the natural area and are compatible with the site's habitat values and functions;
- b. Retain their Rural Area designations; and
- c. Generally be configured in such a way as to connect with open space on adjacent properties.

~~((U-188))~~ King County shall preserve the open space acquired through the Four-to-One Program primarily as natural areas, passive recreation sites, or resource lands for farming or forestry. King County may allow ~~((the following))~~ additional uses only if located on a small portion of the open space, provided that these uses are found to be compatible with

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the site's natural open space values and functions, such as those listed in ~~((the preceding policy:~~

- a. ~~Trails;~~
- b. ~~Compensatory mitigation of wetland losses on the urban designated portion of the project, consistent with the King County Comprehensive Plan and the Critical Area Ordinance; and~~
- c. ~~Active recreation uses not to exceed five percent of the total open space area. Support services and facilities for the active recreation uses may locate within the active recreation area only, and shall not exceed five percent of the active recreation area. An active recreation area shall not be used to satisfy the active recreation requirements for the urban designated portion of the project as required by)) King County Code ((Title 21A)) King County Code 20.18.180.~~

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U-190)) RP-124 ~~((King County shall amend the Urban Growth Area)) Amendments to the Urban Growth Area to add Rural Area lands to the Urban Growth Area ((consistent with Policy U-185 during the)) through the Four-to-One Program may be made as part of an during the annual, midpoint, or 10-year Comprehensive Plan ((amendment process)) update. ((Open space dedication shall occur at final formal plat recording.)) If the applicant decides not to pursue urban development or fails to record the final plat prior to expiration of preliminary plat approval, the urban properties shall be restored to a Rural Area land use designation and associated zoning during the next ((annual ((review-of)) update to the King County Comprehensive Plan.~~

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RP-125 ~~For Four-to-One proposals adjacent to an incorporated area, development proposals and/or activities shall not be allowed until the land added to the Urban Growth Area is annexed into a city. A tri-party agreement with the property owner, city, and King County shall be required, to be transmitted and adopted concurrent with the Four-to-One proposal.~~

~~((III.)) III. King County Guiding Principles~~

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The Comprehensive Plan is based on the principles of creating sustainable neighborhoods, preserving open space, farmland, and rural communities, directing development toward existing communities, addressing climate change, and providing a variety of transportation choices. These guiding principles are consistent with the ~~((Washington State))~~ Growth Management Act and guide funding decisions, creation and operation of programs and projects, and how the County interacts with local, state, and federal agencies. The impact of implementing these principles has been to:

- create higher urban densities by directing ~~((96%)) 99 percent~~ of the growth into the urban core ~~((s)) of the region (Urban Growth Area),~~
- preserve irreplaceable resource lands, parks, and critical areas,
- improve mobility by making transit service more accessible,
- sustain a vibrant economy,
- serve in the capacity of both a local and a regional government, and
- improve water quality and manage stormwater runoff ~~((;~~
- improve air quality and particulate emissions, and
- reduce per-capita greenhouse gas emissions).

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874 Guiding Principles

875 ~~((A.))~~ Creating Sustainable Neighborhoods

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876 Neighborhoods are the backbone of any community. Creating sustainable
877 neighborhoods may mean using incentives, programs, or regulations to help create
878 new neighborhoods and support existing neighborhoods. Encouraging mixed land
879 use and making access to jobs, shopping, and schools easier establishes the
880 cohesiveness of a neighborhood. Having opportunities for physical activity and
881 providing for people, if they choose, to age in place and remain in their neighborhood
882 as their lifestyle changes or they face changing physical capabilities establishes the
883 stability of a neighborhood. All of these factors contribute to creating a sustainable
884 neighborhood.

885
886 Sustainable neighborhoods are important areas where housing affordable to all
887 economic segments income levels of the populations can and should be located.
888 Sustainability of a neighborhood also relates to the impact the neighborhood has on the
889 environment. Incorporation of sustainable development practices into the design,
890 construction, and maintenance of the neighborhood can reduce greenhouse gas
891 emissions, reduce pollution, reduce the use of natural resources, reduce energy and
892 other maintenance costs, and enhance property values.

893
894 **RP-201** ~~((In its policies and regulations,))~~ King County shall ~~((strive to))~~ promote
895 sustainable, healthy, thriving, and equitable neighborhoods and
896 communities. ~~((King County shall seek to ensure that the benefits and
897 impacts of the ((c))County's activities are equitably distributed among
898 all segments of the population.))~~ King County shall ensure that the
899 benefits and impacts of County actions support this vision.
900

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901 ~~((B.))~~ Preserving and Maintaining Open Space and
902 Natural Resource Lands

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903 The people of King County have long recognized that open space ~~((lands are))~~ is
904 essential to what makes this county unique. ~~((Since the inception of the Countywide
905 Planning Policies, p))~~ Preserving open space, including enhancing working resource
906 lands such as farmlands and forests, ~~((has been))~~ continues to be a priority of the County
907 and ~~((its 39))~~ the cities, as reflected in the Countywide Planning Policies. It is also a
908 cornerstone of the Growth Management Act.
909

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910 The Growth Management Act requires the County and ~~((its))~~ the cities in King County to
911 form linkages between and within population centers with lands useful for recreation,
912 trails, wildlife habitat, and connection of critical areas. To fulfill that mandate, King
913 County operates a regional and local open space system consisting of parks, trails,
914 natural areas, working resource lands, and flood hazard management lands. These
915 open spaces provide multiple benefits and functions, including visual variety and relief
916 from developed areas, protection of environmental and ecological processes, provision
917 of wildlife habitat, promotion of mental and physical health, and creating creation of
918 opportunities for outdoor recreation. However, preserving open space requires careful
919 planning and management to ensure compatibility and long-term viability of these
920 benefits and functions.
921

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922 **RP-202 King County shall pursue opportunities to preserve and maintain**
923 **remaining high-priority forest, agriculture, and other open space lands.**

924 ~~((C.))~~ **Directing Development Toward Existing**
925 **Communities**

926 Beginning in the 1940s, a sprawling pattern of low-density development emerged in
927 King County. This sprawl resulted in the accelerated conversion of forests and farms to
928 subdivisions and made it increasingly expensive to provide water, schools, sewer
929 connections, streets, and other services. In addition, zoning codes tended to separate
930 the differing types of land uses, with jobs and stores in one location, homes in another,
931 and schools and parks in yet another.

932
933 The separate land uses were served by a roadway system of wide streets~~((;))~~ with
934 infrequent crosswalks, designed to accommodate cars, ~~((but))~~ not people. This pattern
935 did not support using transit, bicycling, or walking to meet daily transportation needs,
936 ~~((thus))~~ leading to an overburdening of the roadway system and a loss of regional and
937 personal mobility. Low-density patterns that emerged relied on driving alone for many
938 trips, contributing to persistent air pollution problems and increasing greenhouse gas
939 emissions.

940
941 Reducing sprawl by focusing development into existing urban areas is one of the
942 statutory goals of the ~~((state's))~~ Growth Management Act. To achieve that goal, in the
943 1990s, King County and the cities worked to ((steering)) steer growth to already
944 developed communities (both within urban areas and, at much smaller scales, in the
945 Rural Area~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands, in a system of central places) with existing
946 infrastructure and services can result in (1) protecting the Rural Area~~((s))~~, (2) conserving
947 natural resources, and (3) providing more economical and equitable services and
948 facilities. ~~Work to maintain those growth patterns and limit new sprawl from happening~~
949 ~~continues today, as it is critical to supporting efficient and sustainable communities and~~
950 ~~protecting rural character, the environment, and natural resources.~~

951
952 ~~((This broader approach does not mean that all new urban development will be~~
953 ~~high-density. In many cases, existing moderate-density locations, especially~~
954 ~~single-family neighborhoods, will not significantly change. Rather, King County will work~~
955 ~~to better integrate the locations where people work, shop, live, and play in a manner~~
956 ~~that uses public and private resources more efficiently.))~~

957
958 **RP-203 King County shall continue to ((support the reduction of)) limit sprawl**
959 **by focusing growth and future development in the Urban Growth Area,**
960 **consistent with adopted growth targets.**

961 ~~((D.))~~ **Providing a Variety of Transportation**
962 **Choices**

963 Transportation is critically important to King County and the surrounding region,
964 ~~((facilitating))~~ which facilitates access to jobs, education, services, recreation, and
965 housing. King County plays a central role in the region's transportation sector,
966 supporting a variety of ~~((motorized and nonmotorized))~~ travel modes, involving ground,
967 air, and marine transportation. The ~~((e))~~ County has direct responsibility for (1) the
968 unincorporated area road network, (2) public transit services and facilities throughout
969 the county, ~~and~~ (3) operation of the King County International Airport ~~((and (4)~~
970 ~~operation of passenger-only ferry service to Vashon Island and West Seattle)).~~ ~~((King~~

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971 County's services and facilities affect not only the local bus ~~((passenger)) rider~~ but also
972 the jumbo airliner loaded with cargo and bound for destinations overseas.))

974 The ability to access various transportation modes has a profound effect on quality of
975 life for ~~((this county's)) county~~ residents and the vitality of ~~((its)) the~~ economy. The
976 ~~((c))County's~~ transportation system must be designed, operated, and maintained in a
977 manner that (1) provides access to mobility options for a wide range of users, including
978 historically ~~((disadvantaged)) underinvestedserved~~ populations, (2) contributes to safe
979 communities, (3) reduces impacts on the county's natural resources and environment,
980 and (4) fosters a vibrant community.

981
982 **RP-204 King County shall continue to promote an efficient multimodal**
983 **transportation system that provides residents with a range of**
984 **transportation choices that respond to community needs and reduce**
985 **impacts on the natural environment.**

986 ~~((E.)) Addressing Health, Equity, Displacement, and~~
987 ~~Racial, Social, and Environmental Justice~~

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988 Despite broad economic and social gains in society and ~~((in)) this country~~ in recent
989 history, inequities exist and continue to persist for significant segments of the
990 population—particularly for ~~((communities of color)) Black, Indigenous, or other People~~
991 ~~of Color~~ and people living ~~((in poverty)) with low or no incomes~~—across the continuum
992 of measures of social and economic health and wellbeing. In some cases, inequities are
993 worsening over time. King County is not immune to ~~((national trends and statistics))~~
994 ~~these inequalities~~, despite its location in the relatively prosperous Puget Sound area.
995 ~~((In the United States and in King County, children and adults ((who live at the bottom of~~
996 ~~the social and economic ladder face life threatening and debilitating conditions, and~~
997 ~~lack access to opportunities, far more often than those in the middle, who in turn are~~
998 ~~more at risk than those at the top.)) experience marginalization and/or oppression.~~

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999
1000 On average, ~~Black, Indigenous, or other ((p))People of ((c))Color and ((people living ((in~~
1001 ~~poverty)) with low or no incomes~~households at or below 80 percent of area median
1002 income have ~~((lower levels of)) less~~ access to quality education; are more likely to be
1003 unemployed or underemployed; are more likely to pay too much of their income for
1004 housing costs and other necessities; and are more likely to experience adverse health
1005 outcomes, such as obesity, diabetes, or asthma, that can have the effect of reducing life
1006 expectancy. These challenges affect specific communities and, in turn, the entire
1007 region, resulting in a number of adverse socioeconomic consequences, including, for
1008 example, unfilled high-skilled jobs, higher levels of homelessness, and higher health
1009 care costs.

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1010
1011 ~~((Promoting economic opportunity for areas with fewer assets is a key goal of the~~
1012 ~~Growth Management Act. In 2010, King County adopted Ordinance 16948, which~~
1013 ~~defined and established)) King County Code Chapter 2.10 establishes ~~((the "Fair and~~
1014 ~~Just" principle in the County's Strategic Plan. This transformed the work on equity and~~
1015 ~~social justice from an initiative to)) an integrated effort that intentionally applies ~~((this))~~
1016 ~~the "Fair and Just" principle to all work ((in order)) to achieve equitable opportunities for~~
1017 ~~all people and communities. A key component of this ((ordinance was defining)) work~~
1018 ~~are is~~ the "Determinants of Equity," which are the social, economic, geographic,
1019 political, and physical environment conditions in which people in the county are born,
1020 grow, live, work, and age that lead to a just and thriving society. Access to these
1021 determinants of equity is necessary to have equity for all people regardless of race,
1022 class, gender, or language spoken. Inequities are created when structural barriers exist~~~~

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1023 that prevent individuals and communities from accessing these conditions and reaching
1024 their full potential.

1025 ~~((Figure: Determinants of Equity*))~~



1027
1028 Credit: Office of Equity and Racial and Social Justice

1029
1030 There is a clear relationship between the majority of the Determinants of Equity and the
1031 long-range planning role of the King County Comprehensive Plan. Land use patterns
1032 and transportation investments play key roles in making communities healthier, more
1033 connected, and more equitable. Well-planned neighborhoods have features such as
1034 connected street networks, nearby shopping, walking paths, and transit service. Access
1035 to healthy and culturally relevant food and the protection of agricultural lands affect the
1036 rate of obesity, food insecurity, and malnutrition. These amenities reduce dependence
1037 on cars, increase opportunities to be physically active, decrease the likelihood ~~((to be))~~
1038 of being overweight, improve air quality, ~~((and))~~ create opportunities for residents to

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*King County Office of Equity and Racial and Social Justice

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1039 access jobs ~~((,))~~ and services, and ~~((other key destinations that))~~ provide a path toward a
1040 higher quality of life.

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1042 ~~((As noted previously, t))~~The Comprehensive Plan plays multiple roles related to land
1043 use planning - a countywide collaborative role in how growth is accommodated in the
1044 county and region, and a local land use regulatory role for how growth occurs in
1045 unincorporated areas. This dual role is important to recognize given the geographic
1046 distribution of communities that are the focus of the County's ~~((E))~~equity and racial and
1047 ~~((S))~~social ~~((J))~~justice work.

1049 King County is committed to working to reduce inequities and address concerns of
1050 social justice by incorporating the values of the ~~((c))~~County's ~~((E))~~equity and racial and
1051 ~~((S))~~social ~~((J))~~justice work into the daily practice of developing policies and programs,
1052 ~~((making))~~ informing funding decisions and delivering services. Further, King County
1053 ~~((with))~~ continues to identify and address the conditions at the root of disparities, engage
1054 communities to have a strong voice in shaping their future, and raise and sustain the
1055 visibility of ~~((E))~~equity and racial and ~~((S))~~social ~~((J))~~justice. The goal is to start by
1056 focusing on prevention and addressing the fundamental causes of the inequities ~~((in
1057 order))~~ to have a greater overall impact.

1059 ~~((In order t))~~To achieve this, the County uses ~~((the E))~~equity ~~((t))~~impact ~~((R))~~reviews
1060 ~~((Foot))~~ as a process to identify, evaluate, and communicate the potential equity impact -
1061 both positive and negative - of a proposed policy, program, or service. The ~~((E))~~equity
1062 ~~((t))~~impact ~~((R))~~review ~~((Foot))~~ process merges empirical (quantitative) data and
1063 community engagement findings (qualitative data) to inform planning, decision-making,
1064 and implementation of actions ~~((which))~~ that affect equity in King County. Quantitative
1065 ~~((D))~~data are developed and compiled through a number of efforts, ~~((and published in
1066 a number of sources, including King County's January 2015 report, The Determinants of
1067 Equity, the King County Performance Dashboard, the public-private Communities
1068 Count initiative, and the Public Health Community Health Indicators Project. Data from
1069 these sources and others))~~ and should be); disaggregated when possible, combined
1070 with qualitative data from communities, and analyzed carefully to ensure that equity
1071 impacts are rigorously and holistically considered and advanced in the design and
1072 implementation of a proposed action (plan, policy, and program development; service
1073 delivery; operations modification; capital programs and projects~~((,))~~ etc.).

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1075 **RP-205 King County ~~((will))~~ shall, when implementing and evaluating its land
1076 use policies, programs, investments, and practices, ~~((seek to reduce
1077 health inequities))~~ identify and proactively address issues of equity~~((,))~~;
1078 racial, social, and environmental justice; disparate health outcomes;
1079 and physical, economic, and cultural displacement ~~((when evaluating
1080 and implementing its land use policies, programs, and practices)).~~**

1081 ~~((F.))~~ ~~((Achieving Environmental Sustainability))~~
1082 Enhancing Natural Resources and the
1083 Environment

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1084 King County can influence environmental sustainability through its land use and
1085 transportation policies and plans, investments in capital projects and facilities, economic
1086 development initiatives, and day-to-day operations. To be effective, sustainability
1087 actions need to be taken at many scales: in unincorporated land use regulations; in
1088 coordination with neighboring local governments, and across county departments~~((,))~~
1089 and through the day-to-day actions of individual employees~~((,))~~.

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1091 ((The county's approach to mitigation of and adaption to the effects of climate change
1092 have evolved over the last four years. Responding to climate change is an important
1093 element of the broader concept of environmental sustainability. This means meeting the
1094 needs of the current generation without compromising the capacity of the environment
1095 to support future generations.))

1096
1097 **RP-206** ~~King County ((will)) shall protect, restore, and enhance its natural
1098 resources and environment(,;) and encourage sustainable agriculture
1099 and forestry(, reduce climate pollution and prepare for the effects of
1100 climate change, including consideration of the inequities and
1101 disparities that may be caused by climate change)).~~

1102 G. Preparing for and Responding to Climate
1103 Change

1104 Climate change is a paramount challenge with fundamental and far-reaching
1105 consequences, a "threat multiplier" ~~that exacerbating-exacerbates~~ inequities and
1106 ~~intensifying-intensifies~~ natural hazards - such as flooding, landslides, wildfires, and
1107 extreme heat - that put the County's ~~peoplere~~residents, economy, and environment at
1108 risk. ~~The County's approach to climate action has three core elements: (1) reducing
1109 greenhouse gas emissions, both from government operations and at the countywide
1110 scale; (2) advancing climate equity and community-driven climate policy, especially
1111 for frontline communities; and (3) preparing for the impacts of climate change while
1112 increasing climate resilience.~~ The following ~~guiding~~ principles for climate action
1113 formalize the County's commitment to lead on climate action, while also integrating
1114 and highlighting principles that guide County climate action:

- 1115 • ~~Act with urgency and intention;~~
- 1116 • ~~Lead with racial justice and equity;~~
- 1117 • ~~Respond to community needs and priorities;~~
- 1118 • ~~Use and develop a comprehensive and data- and science-driven approach;~~
- 1119 • ~~Seek systemic solutions;~~
- 1120 • ~~Build partnerships;~~
- 1121 • ~~Lead through local action;~~
- 1122 • ~~Prioritize health and co-benefits; and~~
- 1123 • ~~Be transparent and accountable.~~

1124
1125
1126 **RP-207** ~~King County shall reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance climate
1127 equity, and prepare for and respond to climate change impacts. The
1128 following principles shall guide and be integrated in County climate
1129 action:~~

- 1130 ~~a. Act with urgency and intention;~~
- 1131 ~~b. Lead with racial justice and equity;~~
- 1132 ~~c. Respond to community needs and priorities;~~
- 1133 ~~d. Use and develop a comprehensive and data- and science-driven~~
- 1134 ~~approach;~~
- 1135 ~~e. Seek systemic solutions;~~
- 1136 ~~f. Build partnerships;~~
- 1137 ~~g. Lead through local action;~~
- 1138 ~~h. Prioritize health and co-benefits; and~~
- 1139 ~~i. Be transparent and accountable.~~

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~~((IV. Summary of the King County Comprehensive Plan~~

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The Comprehensive Plan contains twelve chapters that address all of the requirements of the Growth Management Act, Countywide Planning Policies and Multicounty Planning Policies. They are as follows:

1145

Chapter 1: Regional Growth Management Planning

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1150

The vision and goals of this Plan are based on the 14 planning goals specified in the Washington State Growth Management Act, the Countywide Planning Policies, the region's VISION 2040 and the values voiced by the residents of King County. The official King County Land Use Map is included in this chapter.

1151

Chapter 2: Urban Communities

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1156

The Urban Communities chapter focuses on the importance of creating and sustaining livable communities. A major tenet of the Growth Management Act is to focus growth in the urban areas. The policies in this chapter facilitate urban development where infrastructure and facilities exist or can be readily provided.

1157

Chapter 3: Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands

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Protecting Rural Areas, Natural Resource Lands and rural communities in King County is a major focus of the Comprehensive Plan in compliance with both the Growth Management Act and the King County Strategic Plan. This chapter delineates the county's approach to conserving Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands, supporting rural communities and their heritage, and supporting the agriculture, forestry, and mining economies. Integral to these efforts are incentive tools such as the Transfer of Development Rights program that ensure the protection of environmental quality and wildlife habitat, while respecting economic values and property rights.

1167

Chapter 4: Housing and Human Services

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1174

The availability of adequate and affordable housing has become one of the most pressing issues facing King County today. Similarly, partnering with other organizations and jurisdictions to deliver human services is a critical component for creating sustainable communities and supporting environmental justice. In the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update, policies on these topics were consolidated into a new chapter.

1175

Chapter 5: Environment

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King County includes a rich and valuable array of land and water resources ranging from lowland lakes, rivers, and wetlands in highly urbanized areas, to saltwater shorelines, to nearly pristine landscapes in the foothills of the Cascades. This chapter establishes policies to ensure future protection of the environment and its contribution to the quality of life in King County. King County's programs for protecting its environment include some of the most progressive in the country. The policies in this chapter will help to ensure that the environment is protected and sustained, and that the healthy environment goal of the Strategic Plan is achieved.

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1187
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King County seeks to combat climate change through actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make the natural and built environment more resilient in the face of a changing climate. King County policies and programs support habitats for native plant and animal species, including those listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The Environment Chapter includes policies guiding King County's actions to protect critical areas, improve water quality, and manage invasive species. The county

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1192 uses a combination of habitat restoration, incentives, education, technical assistance,
1193 and regulations to protect the natural environment. This chapter also reflects the role of
1194 the Puget Sound Partnership in coordinating environmental management, including
1195 providing leadership for a coordinated and comprehensive environmental monitoring
1196 program across Puget Sound.
1197

1198 **Chapter 6: Shorelines**

1199 King County adopted its first Shoreline Master Program in 1977. In November, 2010,
1200 King County approved an update to the Shoreline Master Program. This update
1201 incorporated the shoreline policies in the Comprehensive Plan for the first time and was
1202 approved by the Department of Ecology in 2014.
1203

1204 **Chapter 7: Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources**

1205 Protecting and enhancing King County's environment and quality of life through the
1206 stewardship and enhancement of its open space system of parks, trails, natural areas
1207 and working resource lands along with its valued cultural resources continues to be the
1208 central focus of this chapter. Furthering the regional trail system will be guided by the
1209 Regional Trails Needs Report (Technical Appendix C2).
1210

1211 **Chapter 8: Transportation**

1212 This chapter sets the policy framework that guides efficient provision of vital
1213 transportation infrastructure and services that support a vibrant economy, thriving
1214 communities, and the county's participation in critical regional transportation issues. The
1215 chapter reflects the goals of the King County Strategic Plan and the priorities
1216 established in the strategic plans for public transportation, airport and road services. It
1217 also reflects the county's continuing transition to becoming a road service provider for a
1218 primarily rural road system, and speaks to the challenges of providing transportation
1219 services and infrastructure in a time of growing need and severely constrained financial
1220 resources.
1221

1222 The chapter promotes an integrated, multimodal transportation system that provides
1223 mobility options for a wide range of users, including historically disadvantaged
1224 populations. It also emphasizes safety, options for healthful transportation choices, and
1225 support for greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. Additional policy focus is
1226 provided on maintaining and preserving existing services and infrastructure,
1227 implementing clear service priorities and guidelines, using transportation resources
1228 wisely and efficiently, and developing sustainable funding sources to support the level
1229 of services needed by communities.
1230

1231 **Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities**

1232 This chapter guides service provision in King County, while recognizing the different
1233 service levels within the Urban Growth Area and the Rural Area and Natural Resource
1234 Lands. The Growth Management Act requires coordinated planning so that the services
1235 required by new residents and their homes and businesses are available as growth
1236 occurs. This chapter addresses a wide range of facilities and services provided by the
1237 county consistent with specific operational plans, such as the Flood Hazard
1238 Management Plan and the Strategic Climate Action Plan, and recognizes that the county
1239 is both a regional and a local service provider. The chapter also clarifies the County's
1240 intent regarding water supply planning.
1241

1242 **Chapter 10: Economic Development**

1243 This chapter supports the county's long-term commitment to a prosperous, diverse, and
1244 sustainable economy by promoting public programs and actions that create the
1245 foundation for a successful economy whether within the Urban Growth Area, the Rural
1246 Area or on Natural Resource Lands. A successful economy is one in which the private;

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1247 nonprofit, and public sectors can thrive and create jobs compatible with the
1248 environment and community and land use expectations. King County understands that
1249 a successful and diverse economy contributes to a strong and stable tax base and a high
1250 quality of life for all residents. This chapter recognizes businesses and the workforce as
1251 customers of an economic development system and supports actions and programs
1252 that promote the strength and health of both groups.

1253 **Chapter 11: Community Service Area Subarea Planning**

1254 This chapter uses King County's seven Community Service Areas as the framework for
1255 its renewed subarea planning program that offers long-range planning services to
1256 unincorporated communities. The majority of King County's community plans are no
1257 longer in effect as separately adopted plans. In many cases, however, the plans contain
1258 valuable historical information about King County's communities and often provide
1259 background for the land uses in effect today. Policies from the community plans were
1260 retained as part of the Comprehensive Plan to recognize the unique characteristics of
1261 each community and to provide historical context. This chapter will be updated, where
1262 appropriate, to reflect the new Community Service Area subarea plans as they are
1263 adopted.

1264 **Chapter 12: Implementation, Amendments and Evaluation**

1265 The Comprehensive Plan policies, development regulations and Countywide Planning
1266 Policy framework have been adopted to achieve the growth management objectives of
1267 King County and the region. This chapter describes the County's process for updating
1268 the Comprehensive Plan and outlines and distinguishes the annual, midpoint, and the
1269 eight-year-cycle updates. The chapter identifies a series of major Workplan actions that
1270 will be undertaken between the eight-year updates to implement or refine provisions
1271 within the Plan. This chapter further explains the relationship between planning and
1272 zoning.

1273
1274
1275 **V. Technical Appendices**

1276 Integral to the vision and goals of the Comprehensive Plan are the detailed inventories,
1277 forecasts, finance plans and Urban Growth Area analysis required by the Growth
1278 Management Act. Four technical appendices (Volume 1) are adopted as part of the plan
1279 to implement these Growth Management Act requirements (RCW 36.70A.070,
1280 36.70A.110, 36.70A.130). Technical Appendices A, B, C, and D were updated in 2008,
1281 2012, 2016, and 2020.

1282 **Volume 1**

- 1283 Technical Appendix A. Capital Facilities and Services
- 1284 Technical Appendix B. Housing
- 1285 Technical Appendix C. Transportation
- 1286 C1. Transportation Needs Report
- 1287 C2. Regional Trail Needs Report
- 1288 Technical Appendix D. Growth Targets and the Urban Growth Area

1289
1290 Additional important information also supports the vision and goals of the
1291 Comprehensive Plan. Nine technical appendices (Volume 2) were prepared to provide
1292 supporting documentation to the 1994 plan:

1293 **Volume 2 (1994)**

- 1294 Technical Appendix D. Growth Targets and the Urban Growth Area
- 1295 Technical Appendix E. Washington State Laws
- 1296 Technical Appendix F. History of Planning in King County

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- 1299 Technical Appendix G. Economic Development
- 1300 Technical Appendix H. Natural Resource Lands
- 1301 Technical Appendix I. Natural Environment
- 1302 Technical Appendix J. Potential Annexation Areas
- 1303 Technical Appendix K. King County Functional and Community Plans
- 1304 Technical Appendix L. Public Involvement Summary
- 1305
- 1306 Information that supported amendments subsequent to 1994 is included as follows:
- 1307
- 1308 **Volume 3**
- 1309 Technical Appendix M. Public Participation Summary 2000
- 1310
- 1311 **Volume 4**
- 1312 Technical Appendix N. Public Participation Summary 2004
- 1313
- 1314 **Volume 5**
- 1315 Technical Appendix O. Public Participation Summary 2008
- 1316
- 1317 **Volume 6**
- 1318 Technical Appendix P. Public Participation Summary 2012
- 1319 Technical Appendix Q. School Siting Task Force Report
- 1320
- 1321 **Volume 7**
- 1322 Technical Appendix R. Public Participation Summary 2016
- 1323 Technical Appendix S. Public Participation Summary 2020
- 1324

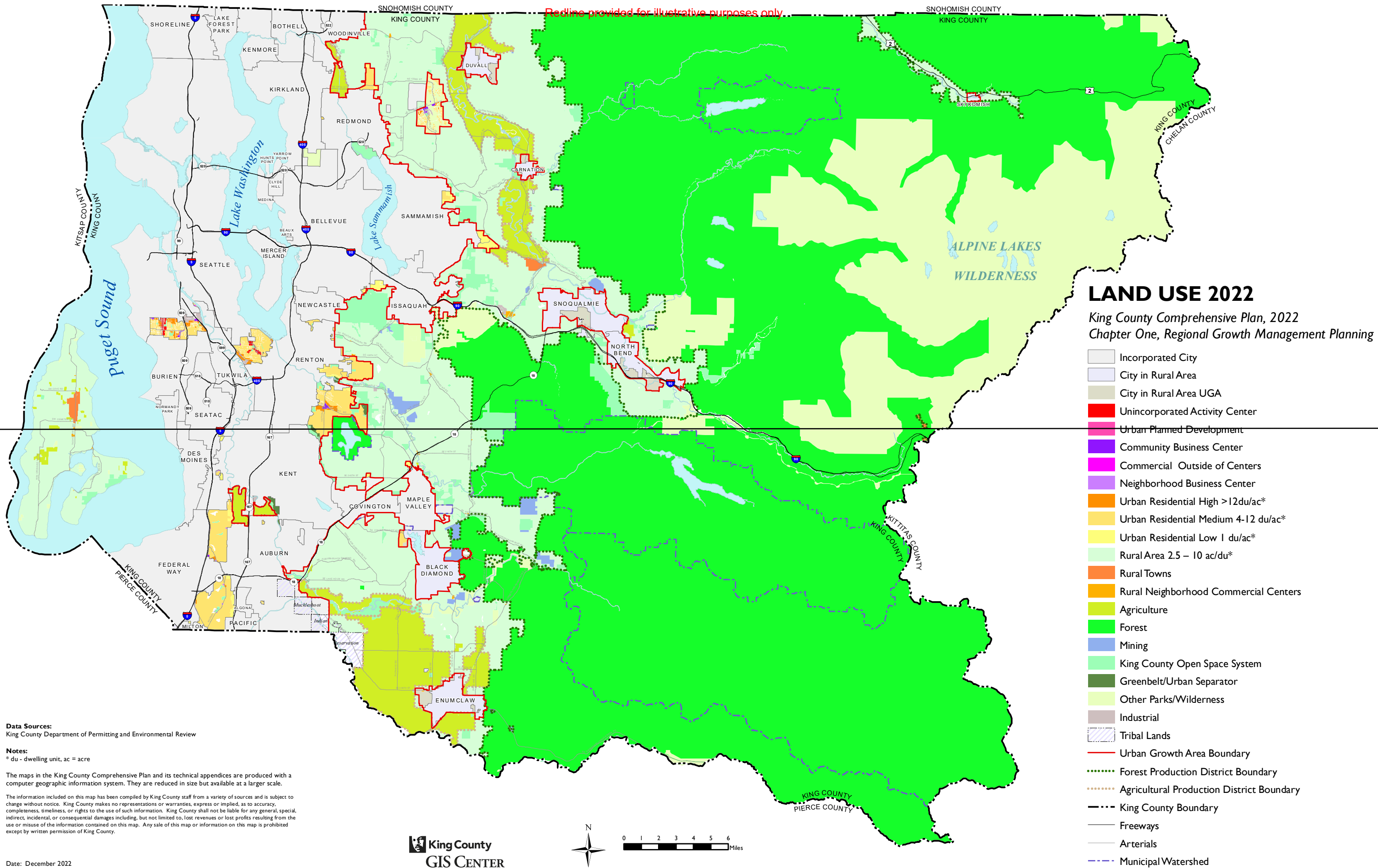
~~VI. The Regulations~~

- 1325 The King County Comprehensive Plan is implemented through regulations adopted as
- 1326 part of the King County Code. All development proposals in King County must meet the
- 1327 requirements of the Code. Additional information and policies are found in Chapter 12,
- 1328 Implementation, Amendments and Evaluation.
- 1329

~~VII. For More Information~~

- 1331 Please visit the web site of the King County Department of Performance, Strategy and
- 1332 Budget at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/compplan> for current information on planning in
- 1333 King County and to view electronic versions of the plan and related documents.))

Redline provided for illustrative purposes only



LAND USE 2022

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2022
Chapter One, Regional Growth Management Planning

- Incorporated City
- City in Rural Area
- City in Rural Area UGA
- Unincorporated Activity Center
- Urban Planned Development
- Community Business Center
- Commercial Outside of Centers
- Neighborhood Business Center
- Urban Residential High >12du/ac*
- Urban Residential Medium 4-12 du/ac*
- Urban Residential Low 1 du/ac*
- Rural Area 2.5 – 10 ac/du*
- Rural Towns
- Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers
- Agriculture
- Forest
- Mining
- King County Open Space System
- Greenbelt/Urban Separator
- Other Parks/Wilderness
- Industrial
- Tribal Lands
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- Forest Production District Boundary
- Agricultural Production District Boundary
- King County Boundary
- Freeways
- Arterials
- Municipal Watershed

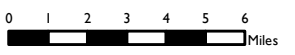
Data Sources:
King County Department of Permitting and Environmental Review

Notes:
* du - dwelling unit, ac = acre

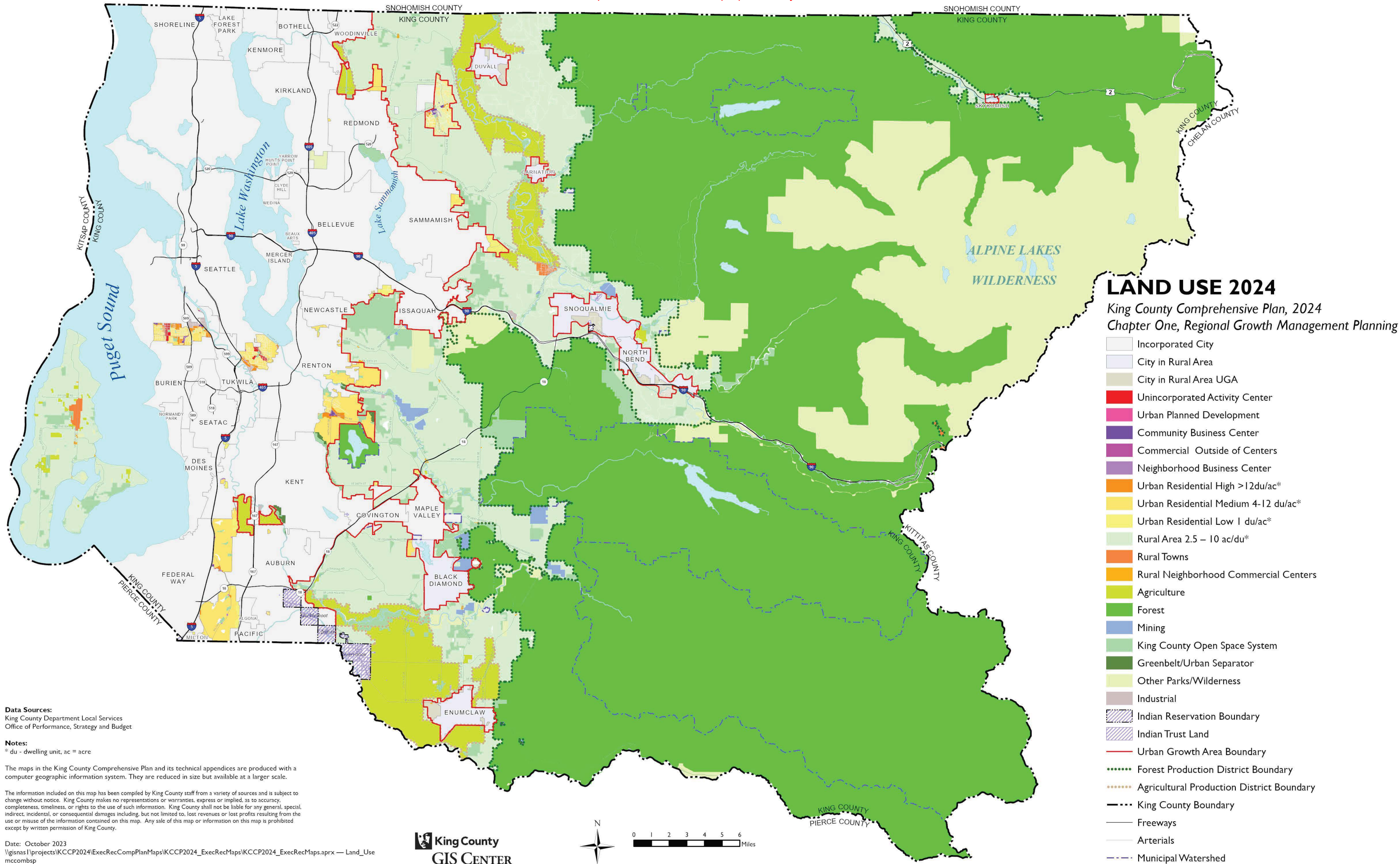
The maps in the King County Comprehensive Plan and its technical appendices are produced with a computer geographic information system. They are reduced in size but available at a larger scale.

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Date: December 2022



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Data Sources:
King County Department Local Services
Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Notes:
* du - dwelling unit, ac = acre

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CHAPTER 2

URBAN

COMMUNITIES

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

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CHAPTER 2

5

URBAN COMMUNITIES

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~~((The Urban Communities chapter brings together many of the major elements that combine to make a healthy and vibrant urban community whole: culture, recreation, business centers, jobs, and sustainability. By merging these elements of urban life into one chapter, King County emphasizes the importance each plays as part of a livable, sustainable, and equitable community.~~

~~The chapter first defines the Urban Growth Area, where most growth has, will, and should continue to occur, and major land uses within it. The chapter then provides the framework to guide the development of new urban communities and redevelopment of existing communities within the unincorporated portion of the Urban Growth Area.~~

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~~((Related components in the plan include Chapter 4, Housing and Human Services, Chapter 7, Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources, Chapter 8, Transportation and others.~~

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14 It is the goal of King County to work toward a model sustainable community to balance
15 growth with natural resource protection while addressing climate change. Sustainable
16 development creates a balance between people, economy, and environment, balancing
17 using resources to meet current needs while ensuring future generations can benefit
18 from equivalent resources. Sustainable development seeks to achieve this goal by
19 addressing the impacts of the built environment in which the residents of King County
20 live and work. To highlight the importance of sustainable development and to
21 consolidate policies applicable to both Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands as well
22 as urban communities, text and policies regarding sustainable development for public
23 projects can be found in Chapter 9, Services, Facilities and Utilities, Section II (Facilities
24 and Services), subpart D (Capital Facility Planning). Text and policies regarding
25 sustainable development in the private sector can be found in Chapter 10, Economic
26 Development, Section V (Sustainable Development in the Private Sector);
27
28

29 ~~((A.))~~ I. The Urban Growth Area

30 The Growth Management Act requires the ~~((e))~~ County to designate an Urban Growth
31 Area where most growth and development forecasted for King County will be
32 accommodated. By designating an Urban Growth Area and focusing growth within it,
33 King County ~~((and other counties in the state will))~~ can:

- 34 • Limit sprawl ~~((ing development));~~
- 35 • Improve efficiencies and ~~((R))~~ reduce costs of service provision ~~((by encouraging~~
36 ~~concentrated development));~~
- 37 ~~((• ((Improve the efficiency of transportation and utilities;~~
38 ~~• Improve equitable access to human services;))~~
- 39 • Protect the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands;
- 40 • Enhance the preservation of open space; and
- 41 • ~~((Mitigate the impacts of climate change and adapt to its effects))~~ Reduce
42 ~~greenhouse gas emissions by creating walkable, transit-oriented communities~~
43 ~~that are less reliant on single-occupant vehicles.~~
- 44

45 The Urban Growth Area for King County is designated on the official Land Use Map
46 ~~((adopted with this Comprehensive Plan)),~~ which is generally depicted at the end of
47 Chapter 1, Regional Growth Management Planning. ~~((The original Countywide Planning~~
48 ~~Policies provided the framework that the Metropolitan King County Council used when~~
49 ~~adopting the Urban Growth Area as part of the 1994 Comprehensive Plan.))^(†)~~

50
51 The Urban Growth Area includes all cities within the county, including the Urban Growth
52 Area(s) for Cities in the Rural Area, the cities' Potential ~~((a))~~ Annexation ~~((a))~~ Areas, and
53 other land within the unincorporated part of the county characterized by urban-type
54 growth. ~~((The Urban Growth Area also includes the Bear Creek Urban Planned~~
55 ~~Developments))~~ such as the Redmond Ridge, Redmond Ridge East, and Trilogy
56 neighborhoods east of Redmond. ~~((See Chapter 3, Rural Areas and Natural Resource~~
57 ~~Lands, for additional policy guidance on growth within the annexation areas of Cities in~~
58 ~~the Rural Area.~~

59
^(†) As amended by Ordinance 17687.)

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60 King County's total Urban Growth Area covers 461 square miles, less than one-quarter
61 of the county's total land area of 2,130 square miles. Cities comprise most of the land
62 mass of the Urban Growth Area, at 418 square miles; the unincorporated portion of the
63 Urban Growth Area is now about 43 square miles. A general representation of the
64 official Land Use Map is located at the end of Chapter 1, Regional Growth Management
65 Planning:))

66
67 The Urban Growth Area is also where King County plans for and accommodates
68 housing needs for unincorporated King County, consistent with housing need
69 allocations in the Countywide Planning Policies; policies in Comprehensive Plan
70 Chapter 4, Housing and Human Services; and analysis in Appendix B, Housing Needs
71 Assessment.

73 ~~((I.)) Urban Communities))~~

74 A critical challenge for King County ~~((and its residents))~~ is to ~~((create))~~ encourage urban
75 communities that provide ~~((the sense of place and the range of choices people want for
76 a quality urban life and experience, as well as to respond to the cultural and economic
77 needs of diverse urban communities. Urban areas need more than physical
78 infrastructure. They also need a broad range of amenities and human services that
79 make them attractive and safe places to work and live, while protecting the physical
80 environment and maintaining the region's quality of life. In short, they need to become
81 and be sustained as healthy and equitable communities. The design goals of healthy
82 communities include making it easier for people to live healthy lives by encouraging
83 mixed))~~ a healthy, safe built environment for people from all backgrounds at all stages
84 of life, as well as accommodate housing affordable to all income levels. Components of
85 creating such a community include: cultivating a sense of place; responding to cultural
86 and economic needs; supporting access to affordable and healthy food and housing;
87 providing a broad range of amenities; and planning for a mix of land uses and greater
88 land density to shorten distances between housing, workplaces, transit, schools, and
89 recreation so people can choose to ~~((walk or bicycle))~~ use active transportation to more
90 easily access ~~((to))~~ these destinations. The County can meet this challenge these goals
91 through periodic review and updates to its development regulations and functional and
92 long-range plans.

93
94 People are more likely to walk to their destination if the distance is less than one-half
95 mile ("walking distance") or to bicycle if the distance is less than three miles ("bicycling
96 distance"). Incorporating high comfort pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure for all ages
97 and abilities, especially sidewalks and bicycle paths that are separated from
98 ~~((automobile))~~ vehicle traffic, can increase the safety and frequency of bicycle,
99 pedestrian, and transit trips. ~~((Healthy communities provide opportunities for people to
100 be physically active and socially engaged as part of their daily routine and include
101 access to open space and parks. People can, if they choose, age in place and remain in
102 their community as their lifestyle changes or as they face changing physical capabilities.
103 This contributes to a healthy community, as does ensuring access to affordable, healthy
104 food, especially fruits and vegetables, and limiting access to unhealthy substances. An
105 integral part of a healthy community is "healthy housing," which protects residents from
106 exposure to harmful substances and environments, and reduces the risk of injury. These
107 goals can be achieved, in part, through implementing building practices that promote
108 health.))~~

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~~((U-201a))~~ **U-101** In all urban unincorporated areas, King County shall consider equity and racial and social justice in its planning, project development, and service delivery approach.

~~((U-101))~~ **U-102** Development within the Urban Growth Area should create and maintain safe, healthy, and diverse communities. These communities should contain a range of affordable, healthy housing, and employment opportunities, as well as school and recreational facilities, and should be designed to protect the natural environment and significant cultural resources.

~~((U-101a))~~ **U-103** The Urban Growth Area is considered long-term and can only be amended consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies ~~((;))~~ and the King County Comprehensive Plan ~~((policies))~~.

~~((U-102))~~ **U-104** The Urban Growth Area ~~((designations))~~ shown on the official Land Use Map includes enough land to provide the countywide capacity, as required by the Growth Management Act, to accommodate ~~((residential))~~ ~~((including housing affordable to all income levels))~~ ~~((;))~~ and commercial, and institutional growth expected ~~((over the period 2006-2031))~~ between 2019 and 2044. These lands ~~((should))~~ include only those lands that meet the following criteria:

- a. ~~1.~~ Are characterized by urban development that can be efficiently and cost effectively served by roads, water, sanitary sewer and storm drainage, schools, and other urban governmental services within the next 20 years;
- ~~((b-))~~ ~~2.~~ Do not extend beyond natural boundaries, such as watersheds, ~~((which))~~ that impede provision of urban services;
- ~~((c-))~~ ~~3.~~ Respect topographical features that form a natural edge, such as rivers and ridge lines;
- ~~((d-))~~ ~~4.~~ Are sufficiently free of environmental constraints to be able to support urban growth without major environmental impacts, unless such areas are designated as an urban separator by interlocal agreement between jurisdictions;
- ~~((e-))~~ ~~Are included within the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development sites; and~~
- ~~f-))~~ ~~5.~~ Are not Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands; and
- ~~6.~~ Are not within the 100-year floodplain of any river or river segment that has a mean annual flow of 1,000 or more cubic feet per second, as determined by the Washington State Department of Ecology, unless otherwise exempted under Chapter 36.70A Revised Code of Washington; or
- ~~b.~~ Are included within the Redmond Ridge, Redmond Ridge East, and Trilogy neighborhoods.

~~((U-103))~~ **U-105** Parcels that are split by the Urban Growth Area boundary ~~((line))~~ should be reviewed for possible redesignation to either all urban area or all Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands taking into consideration:

- a. Whether the parcel is split to recognize ~~((environmentally-sensitive features))~~ critical areas;
- b. The parcel's geographic features;
- c. Whether the parcel will be added to an adjoining city's Potential Annexation Area; and
- d. The requirements of interlocal agreements, or the requirements of King County plans.

~~((Some cities that border the Urban Growth Area operate parks in the Rural Area. These parks may have been acquired by the city through a direct purchase or through a transfer agreement with King County. Cities can continue to operate parks in the Rural Area consistent with rural development standards. In specific circumstances, cities can~~

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170 request that these parks be redesignated to urban to allow future annexation by the
171 city.))

172
173 ~~**((U-104)) U-106 Rural area zoned properties that are currently a park immediately**~~
174 ~~**adjacent to a city ((and are planned or designated for park purposes by**~~
175 ~~**that city)) may be redesignated to urban when the city has committed**~~
176 ~~**to designate the property in perpetuity for park purposes ((in ((a form**~~
177 ~~**satisfactory to)) an interlocal agreement or conservation easement**~~
178 ~~**adopted by the King County Council ((for park purposes)) and:**~~
179 ~~**a. The property is ((no more)) less than 30 acres in size and was**~~
180 ~~**acquired by the city prior to 1994; or**~~
181 ~~**b. ((The property is no more than 30 acres in size and receives county**~~
182 ~~**support through a park or recreation facility transfer agreement**~~
183 ~~**between King County and a city; or**~~
184 ~~**c.) The property is ((or was formerly)) a King County park and is being**~~
185 ~~**((or has been)) transferred to a city)).**~~

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186
187 ~~**((U-105) Existing or proposed churches in the Rural Area may be included within**~~
188 ~~**the Urban Growth Area when all of the following criteria are met:**~~
189 ~~**a. The church property must have an interior lot line as defined by**~~
190 ~~**King County Code 21A.06.730 that is adjacent to the original**~~
191 ~~**Urban Growth Area boundary as established by the 1994 King**~~
192 ~~**County Comprehensive Plan, excluding the Urban Growth Areas of**~~
193 ~~**Cities in the Rural Area and excluding Urban Growth Area**~~
194 ~~**boundaries established through the Four-to-One Program;**~~
195 ~~**b. The church property shall not be adjacent to an Agricultural**~~
196 ~~**Production District or the Forest Production District;**~~
197 ~~**c. Sewer service is required once the property is included in the**~~
198 ~~**Urban Growth Area;**~~
199 ~~**d. Direct vehicular access to a principal arterial road is required; and**~~
200 ~~**e. The church property shall be included in the Potential Annexation**~~
201 ~~**Area of the appropriate city at the same time it is included in the**~~
202 ~~**Urban Growth Area.))**~~

203 ~~**((2:)) A. Urban Growth Area Targets**~~

204 The Growth Management Act requires the ((e))County and ((its)) cities to plan for future
205 housing and employment growth target ranges for each jurisdiction. ((In 1994, the
206 Growth Management Planning Council adopted household and job targets for each
207 jurisdiction to distribute the expected growth in the Countywide Planning Policies:

208
209 Growth target ranges represent regional agreement on jurisdictions' policy choices
210 regarding the amount of growth they intend to accommodate. King County and its
211 cities have also developed targets for employment to foster a local balance between
212 population and employment. The countywide and unincorporated King County's
213 housing growth target and employment targets are contained in the Countywide
214 Planning Policies. In 2008, VISION 2040 was adopted and established a Regional
215 Growth Strategy that provides guidance to countywide target setting. The Regional
216 Growth Strategy built upon King County's target setting process and now requires the
217 establishment of housing and employment targets:

218
219 In November 2009, consistent with the new guidance found in VISION 2040, a new set
220 of housing and job growth targets were established to guide growth for the period
221 2006-2031. Each urban jurisdiction including unincorporated King County was
222 assigned a growth target based on land capacity and other factors. The complete table
223 of city growth targets approved in December 2010, and updated for annexations
224 through 2016, is included in this chapter to provide the regional context for the
225 unincorporated area targets.)) Growth targets are adopted in the Countywide Planning

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226 Policies for each city and unincorporated urban area in King County. The targets are
 227 updated on timelines consistent with the state's 10-year comprehensive planning
 228 periodic update schedule to incorporate current demographic data and to align with
 229 the current Regional Growth Strategy adopted in VISION. Jurisdictions must then reflect
 230 the adopted targets in their local comprehensive plans.

231
 232 The following Figure, Table DP2-1, King County Jurisdiction Growth Targets 2019-2044,
 233 portrays the housing and job growth targets for each jurisdiction as adopted in the
 234 Countywide Planning Policies. The complete table, including city growth targets, is
 235 included here to provide regional context for the unincorporated area targets.

236
 237 The table includes targets for Potential Annexation Areas with development capacity.
 238 Portions of growth targets for Potential Annexation Areas will transfer into cities when
 239 annexation takes place in the future at the time of annexation. Although they may be
 240 refined through future planning with affected communities and adjacent cities, these
 241 urban unincorporated targets are intended to be used as a guide for future planning of
 242 land uses and decisions on services and infrastructure.

243
 244 **Figure: Table DP2-1: King County Jurisdiction Growth Targets 2019-2044**

Jurisdiction	Net New Units and Jobs	
	2019-2044 Housing Target	2019-2044 Jobs Target
Metropolitan Cities		
Bellevue	35,000	70,000
Seattle	112,000	169,500
Metropolitan Cities Subtotal	147,000	239,500
Core Cities		
Auburn	12,000	19,520
Bothell	5,800	9,500
Burien	7,500	4,770
Federal Way	11,260	20,460
Issaquah	3,500	7,950
Kent	10,200	32,000
Kirkland	13,200	26,490
Redmond	20,000	24,000
Renton	17,000	31,780
SeaTac	5,900	14,810
Tukwila	6,500	15,890
Core Cities Subtotal	112,860	207,170
High Capacity Transit Communities		
Des Moines	3,800	2,380
Federal Way PAA*	1,020	720
Kenmore	3,070	3,200
Lake Forest Park	870	550
Mercer Island	1,239	1,300
Newcastle	1,480	500

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<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Net New Units and Jobs</u>	
	<u>2019-2044 Housing Target</u>	<u>2019-2044 Jobs Target</u>
<u>North Highline PAA*</u>	<u>1,420</u>	<u>1,220</u>
<u>Renton PAA* - East Renton</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Renton PAA* - Fairwood</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>Renton PAA* - Skyway-West Hill</u>	<u>670</u>	<u>600</u>
<u>Shoreline</u>	<u>13,330</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<u>Woodinville</u>	<u>2,033</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<u>High Capacity Transit Communities Subtotal</u>	<u>29,942</u>	<u>25,570</u>
<u>Cities and Towns</u>		
<u>Algona</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>325</u>
<u>Beaux Arts</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Black Diamond</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>680</u>
<u>Carnation</u>	<u>799</u>	<u>450</u>
<u>Clyde Hill</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Covington</u>	<u>4,310</u>	<u>4,496</u>
<u>Duvall</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>990</u>
<u>Enumclaw</u>	<u>1,057</u>	<u>989</u>
<u>Hunts Point</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Maple Valley</u>	<u>1,720</u>	<u>1,570</u>
<u>Medina</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Milton</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>900</u>
<u>Normandy Park</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>North Bend</u>	<u>1,748</u>	<u>2,218</u>
<u>Pacific</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>Sammamish</u>	<u>2,100</u>	<u>728</u>
<u>Skykomish</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Snoqualmie</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>4,425</u>
<u>Yarrow Point</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Cities and Towns Subtotal</u>	<u>17,583</u>	<u>17,891</u>
<u>Urban Unincorporated</u>		
<u>Auburn PAA*</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Bellevue PAA*</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Black Diamond PAA*</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Issaquah PAA*</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Kent PAA*</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>300</u>
<u>Newcastle PAA*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Pacific PAA*</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Redmond PAA*</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Sammamish PAA*</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Unaffiliated Urban Unincorporated</u>	<u>448</u>	<u>400</u>

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Jurisdiction	Net New Units and Jobs	
	2019-2044 Housing Target	2019-2044 Jobs Target
Urban Unincorporated Subtotal	1,292	700
Urban Growth Area Total	308,677	490,831

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		Net New Units and Jobs	
Jurisdiction		2019-2044 Housing Target	2019-2044 Jobs Target
Metro Cities	Bellevue	35,000	70,000
	Seattle	112,000	169,500
Metropolitan Cities Subtotal		147,000	239,500
Core Cities	Auburn	12,000	19,520
	Bothell	5,000	9,500
	Burien	7,500	4,770
	Federal Way	11,260	20,460
	Issaquah	3,500	7,950
	Kent	10,200	32,000
	Kirkland	13,200	26,490
	Redmond	20,000	24,000
	Renton	17,000	31,700
	SeaTac	5,900	14,810
	Tukwila	6,500	15,890
Core Cities Subtotal		112,860	207,170
High Capacity Transit Communities	Des Moines	3,000	2,300
	Federal Way PAA*	1,020	720
	Kenmore	3,070	3,200
	Lake Forest Park	870	550
	Mercer Island	1,239	1,300
	Newcastle	1,480	500
	North Highline PAA*	1,420	1,220
	Renton PAA* - East Renton	170	0
	Renton PAA* - Fairwood	840	100
	Renton PAA* - Skyway/West Hill	670	600
	Shoreline	13,330	10,000
Woodinville	2,033	5,000	
High Capacity Transit Communities Subtotal		29,942	25,570
Cities and Towns	Algona	170	325
	Beaux Arts	±	0
	Black Diamond	2,900	680

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	Jurisdiction	Net New Units and Jobs	
		2019-2044 Housing Target	2019-2044 Jobs Target
	Garnation	799	450
	Clyde Hill	10	10
	Covington	4,310	4,496
	Duvall	890	990
	Enumclaw	1,057	989
	Hunts Point	1	0
	Maple Valley	1,720	1,570
	Medina	19	0
	Milton	50	900
	Normandy Park	153	35
	North Bend	1,748	2,218
	Pacific	135	75
	Sammamish	2,100	728
	Skykomish	10	0
	Snoqualmie	1,500	4,425
	Yarrow Point	10	0
	Cities and Towns Subtotal	17,583	17,891
Urban Unincorporated	Auburn PAA*	12	0
	Bellevue PAA*	17	0
	Black Diamond PAA*	320	0
	Issaquah PAA*	35	0
	Kent PAA*	3	300
	Newcastle PAA*	1	0
	Pacific PAA*	134	0
	Redmond PAA*	120	0
	Sammamish PAA*	194	0
	Unaffiliated Urban Unincorporated	440	400
	Urban Unincorporated Subtotal	1,292	700
	Urban Growth Area Total	308,677	490,831

*PAA means Potential Annexation Area

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((U-106)) U-107 Most population and employment growth should locate in the contiguous Urban Growth Area in western King County (~~especially in cities and their Potential Annexation Areas~~). Cities in the Rural Area should accommodate growth in accordance with adopted growth targets.

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((U-114)) U-108 (~~Land use policies and regulations~~) King County shall accommodate (~~(a)~~) assigned urban unincorporated area growth targets of (~~(approximately ((11,140))~~) 5,412 housing units and (~~(approximately ((6,810))~~) 3,340 jobs by ((2031)) 2044, ~~as ((established in the~~

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~~Countywide Planning Policies for the unincorporated portion of the Urban Growth Area)) and provide for housing needs for all incomes. The growth targets should be monitored and further refined over the planning period.~~

- ~~a. As part of accommodating the housing growth target, King County shall plan for and accommodate its jurisdictional housing need, as established in the Countywide Planning Policies; and~~
- ~~b. The targets allocated to urban unincorporated King County shall be monitored and may be refined through future planning that includes the community, adjacent cities, and service providers.~~

~~((U-115)) U-109 King County shall provide adequate land capacity ((for residential)) (including to plan for and accommodate housing affordable to all income levels) to accommodate housing affordable to all incomes, commercial, industrial, and other non-residential growth in the urban unincorporated area consistent with ((As required under)) the Growth Management Act. ((this land capacity shall~~

~~a. ((b))Be calculated on a countywide basis and be consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies; and~~

~~b. ((shall i))include both redevelopment opportunities as well as opportunities for development on vacant lands.((²))~~

~~((U-116)) King County shall use housing and employment targets to implement the Comprehensive Plan in urban communities. The targets allocated to subareas of unincorporated King County will be monitored and may be refined through future planning that includes communities, affected cities and service providers.~~

The following Figure: King County Growth Targets Update: Revised Table DP-1-adjusted 2015, portrays housing and job growth targets for each jurisdiction. It has been updated to reflect annexations that occurred between 2010 and 2016 in the cities of Burien, Kent, Kirkland, Bellevue, Bothell, Sammamish and Tukwila. These cities annexed large areas of unincorporated King County, shifting those areas' Potential Annexation Area (PAA) targets into the respective cities. That adjustment of Potential Annexation Area targets into cities was acknowledged by the Growth Management Planning Council, adopted by the County Council, and ratified by the cities in 2012-2013 and adjusted again in 2015. The time horizon remains 2006-2031, and the targets for all other jurisdictions remain the same.

The table further provides guidance, in the Potential Annexation Area columns, for transfer of portions of growth targets into cities when annexation takes place in the future. Although they may be refined through future planning with affected communities and adjacent cities, these ranges are intended to be used as a guide for future planning of land uses and decisions on services and infrastructure.

Figure: King County Growth Targets Update: Revised Table DP-1-adjusted 2015

Regional Geography City/Subarea	Housing Target	PAA Housing Target	Employment Target	PAA Emp. Target
	Net New Units	Net New Units	Net New Jobs	Net New Jobs
	2006-2031	2006-2031	2006-2031	2006-2031
Metropolitan Cities				
— Bellevue	17,290		53,000	

((²As amended by Ordinance 17687.))

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Regional Geography City / Subarea	Housing Target	PAA Housing Target	Employment Target	PAA Emp. Target
	Net New Units	Net New Units	Net New Jobs	Net New Jobs
	2006-2031	2006-2031	2006-2031	2006-2031
— Seattle	86,000		146,700	
Total	103,290		199,700	
Core Cities				
— Auburn	9,620		19,350	=
— Bothell	3,810	810	5,000	
— Burien	4,440		5,610	
— Federal Way	8,100	2,390	12,300	290
— Kent	9,270	90	13,280	210
— Kirkland	8,570	0	20,850	0
— Redmond	10,200	640	23,000	=
— Renton	14,835	3,895	29,000	470
— SeaTac	5,800		25,300	
— Tukwila	4,850	50	17,550	0
Total	79,495		170,590	
Larger Cities				
— Des Moines	3,000		5,000	
— Issaquah	5,750	110	20,000	
— Kenmore	3,500		3,000	
— Maple Valley**	1,800	1,060	2,000	
— Mercer Island	2,000		1,000	
— Sammamish	4,100	350	1,800	
— Shoreline	5,000		5,000	
— Woodinville	3,000		5,000	
Total	28,230		42,800	
Small Cities				
— Algona	190		210	
— Beaux Arts	3		3	
— Black Diamond	1,900		1,050	
— Carnation	330		370	
— Clyde Hill	10		=	
— Covington	1,470		1,320	
— Duvall	1,140		840	
— Enumclaw	1,425		735	
— Hunts Point	4		=	
— Lake Forest Park	475		210	
— Medina	19		=	
— Milton	50	90	160	

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Regional Geography City / Subarea	Housing Target	PAA Housing Target	Employment Target	PAA Emp. Target
	Net New Units	Net New Units	Net New Jobs	Net New Jobs
	2006-2031	2006-2031	2006-2031	2006-2031
— Newcastle	1,200		735	
— Normandy Park	120		65	
— North Bend	665		1,050	
— Pacific	285	135	370	
— Skykomish	10		=	
— Snoqualmie	1,615		1,050	
— Yarrow Point	14		=	
Total	10,922		8,168	
Urban-Unincorporated				
— Potential Annexation Areas	8,760		970	
— North Highline	820		2,170	
— Bear Creek Urban Planned Dev	910		3,580	
— Unclaimed Urban Unincorp.	650		90	
Total	11,140		6,810	
King County UGA Total	233,077		428,068	

*— King County Growth Management Planning Council, adopted October 2009 and ratified by cities in 2010. These were re-adopted with the countywide planning policies in 2012 and ratified in 2013.

— Targets base year is 2006. PAA / city targets have been adjusted to reflect annexations through 2016.

** Target for Maple Valley PAA is contingent on approval of city-county joint plan for Summit Place.))

305 ~~((H.))~~ B. Potential Annexation Areas

306 ~~((The annexation of urban unincorporated areas is good public policy.)) The ((State))~~
 307 ~~Growth Management Act and the regionally adopted Countywide Planning Policies~~
 308 ~~stipulate that counties are the appropriate providers of regional services and of local~~
 309 ~~services to the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. For their part, cities are the~~
 310 ~~appropriate providers of local urban services to all areas within the designated Urban~~
 311 ~~Growth Area ((B)) boundary. ((This logical split of government services is in part a~~
 312 ~~reflection of the greater taxing authority afforded to cities by the state Legislature.))~~
 313 ~~Annexation is a means to achieve the desired governmental service and land use vision~~
 314 ~~set forth in regional policy and state law so that residents of urban areas receive urban~~
 315 ~~level services.))~~

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 317 King County's annexation efforts are ~~((particularly))~~ important given the impacts of
 318 historical patterns of annexation. Over time, higher tax revenue-generating areas -
 319 retail, industrial, and commercial centers and more affluent residential neighborhoods -
 320 have incorporated or annexed first, while lower income, ethnically diverse communities
 321 remained unincorporated. Given the County's limited taxing authority, promoting

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322 annexation of these areas into cities, where a higher level of service can be provided, ~~((is~~
323 ~~((the best way to advance equity))) will foster more equitable and socially just outcomes~~
324 for residents in unincorporated urban areas.

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326 Although it is the policy of the County to support and promote annexation, its formal
327 ability to do so is extremely limited. State laws provide the cities, county residents, and
328 property owners with the authority to initiate the annexation process. A successful
329 annexation initiative depends on establishing a collaborative and ongoing dialogue
330 between the three affected interest groups: residents, the County, and the affected city.
331 ~~((However, King County has a successful history of engaging in annexation discussions~~
332 ~~with urban unincorporated area residents. ((Most recently, from 2008 to 2019, there~~
333 ~~have been six major annexations:~~

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- 334 ~~• Lea Hill and Auburn West Hill into Auburn;~~
- 335 ~~• Benson Hill into Renton;~~
- 336 ~~• North Highline Area X into Burien;~~
- 337 ~~• Panther Lake into Kent;~~
- 338 ~~• Juanita-Finn Hill-Kingsgate into Kirkland; and~~
- 339 ~~• Klahanie into Sammamish.~~

340 As a result of these and some smaller annexations, by 2016, King County's urban
341 unincorporated population dropped by more than 110,000 persons from its 2007 level,
342 to an estimated population of 119,900 (comparable to the population of Kent, the third
343 largest city in the county:))

346 Much of the remaining urban unincorporated area is made up of geographically
347 isolated islands surrounded by cities or adjacent to the ~~((r))Urban ~~((g))Growth Area~~~~
348 boundary. Because these areas are scattered across the county, the provision of local
349 services is costly. ~~((Covering the cost of serving these areas reduces the amount of~~
350 ~~revenue available for regional services and for local services in the Rural Area and~~
351 ~~Natural Resource Lands. Therefore, King County has a strong fiscal interest in seeing~~
352 ~~the remaining urban unincorporated areas annexed to cities within the next several~~
353 ~~years:))~~

355 The policies in this section are intended to guide the ~~((c))County's~~ decision making on
356 annexation-related issues to ensure the needs of residents in the urban unincorporated
357 area are considered, the perspective of the future annexing city is considered, and that
358 a smooth transition from ~~((c))County~~ to city government occurs.

360 ~~((U-201)) U-110 ~~((in order t))To meet the Growth Management Act and ~~((the~~~~
361 ~~regionally adopted)) Countywide Planning Policies goal of becoming a~~
362 ~~regional service provider for all county residents and a local service~~
363 ~~provider in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, King County~~
364 ~~shall encourage annexation of the remaining urban unincorporated~~
365 ~~area. The ~~((c))County may also act as a contract service provider where~~~~
366 ~~mutually beneficial.~~~~

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~~((U-202))~~ **U-111** To help create an environment that is supportive of annexations, King County shall work with cities and with neighborhood groups, local business organizations, public service providers, and other ~~((stakeholders))~~ affected parties on annexation-related activities to move the remaining urban islands towards annexation by the city most appropriate to serve it. King County ~~((with))~~ shall also seek changes at the state level that would facilitate annexation of urban unincorporated areas.

~~((U-202a))~~ **U-112** The County should seek state legislative authority to impose taxes in unincorporated urban areas consistent with the taxing authorities and rates of cities, and seek to impose rates consistent with ~~((the city))~~ cities to improve service delivery and infrastructure levels.

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~~((U-203))~~ **U-113** The Potential Annexation Areas Map adopted ~~((by the Growth Management Planning Council))~~ in the Countywide Planning Policies illustrates city-designated ~~((p))~~ Potential ~~((a))~~ Annexation ~~((a))~~ Areas ~~((PAAs))~~. This may include contested areas (where more than one city claims a ~~((PAA))~~ Potential Annexation Area), and those few areas that are unclaimed by any city. For contested areas, the ~~((c))~~ County should attempt to help resolve the matter, or to enter into an interlocal agreement with each city for the purpose of bringing the question of annexation before voters. For unclaimed areas, King County should work with adjacent cities and service providers to develop a mutually agreeable strategy and timeframe for annexation. ~~((For areas affiliated with a city for annexation, King County should proactively support annexations.~~

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~~U-204))~~ **U-114** King County shall support annexation proposals that are consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies and the Washington State Growth Management Act, when the area proposed for annexation is wholly within the annexing city's officially adopted ~~((PAA))~~ Potential Annexation Area, and when the area is not part of a contested area.

~~((U-205))~~ **U-115** King County shall not support annexation proposals that would:

- a. Result in illogical service areas;
- b. Create unincorporated islands, unless the annexation is preceded by an interlocal agreement in which the city agrees to pursue annexation of the remaining island area in a timely manner;
- c. Focus solely on areas that would provide a distinct economic gain for the annexing city at the exclusion of other proximate areas that should logically be included;
- d. Move designated Agricultural and/or Forest Production District lands into the Urban Growth Area, except as allowed in Policies R-760656, R-671, and R-762656a; or
- e. Apply zoning to maintain or create permanent, low-density residential areas, unless such areas are part of an urban separator or are environmentally constrained, rendering higher densities inappropriate.

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~~((U-206))~~ **U-116** King County shall favor annexation over incorporation as the preferred method of governance transition. King County ~~((with))~~ shall not support incorporations when the proposed incorporation ~~((area))~~ is financially infeasible.

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~~((U-207))~~ **U-117** King County shall work with cities to develop pre-annexation or annexation interlocal agreements to address the transition of services from the ((c))County to the annexing cities. The development of such agreements should include a public outreach process to include but not be limited to residents and property owners in the Potential Annexation Areas, as well as residents and property owners in the surrounding areas. Such agreements may address a range of considerations, including but not limited to:

- a. Establishing a financing partnership between the ((c))County, city, and other service providers to address needed infrastructure;
- b. Providing reciprocal notification of development proposals in Potential Annexation Areas, and opportunities to identify and/or provide mitigation associated with such development;
- c. Supporting the city's desire, to the extent possible, to be the designated sewer or water service provider within the Potential Annexation Area, where this can be done without harm to the integrity of existing systems and without significantly increasing rates;
- d. Assessing the feasibility and/or desirability of reverse contracting in order for the city to provide local services on the ((c))County's behalf prior to annexation, as well as the feasibility and/or desirability of the ((c))County continuing to provide some local services on a contract basis after annexation;
- e. Exploring the feasibility of modifying development, concurrency, and infrastructure design standards prior to annexation, when a specific and aggressive annexation timeline is being pursued;
- f. Assessing which ((c))County-owned properties and facilities should be transferred to city control, and the conditions under which such transfers should take place;
- g. Transitioning ((c))County employees to city employment where appropriate;
- h. Ensuring that land use plans for the annexation area are consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies with respect to: planning for urban densities and efficient land use patterns; provision of urban services, affordable housing, and transportation; the protection of critical areas; and the long-term protection of urban separators;
- i. Continuing equivalent protection of cultural resources, and county landmarks and historic resources listed on the King County Historic Resource Inventory;
- j. Maintaining existing equestrian facilities and establishing equestrian linkages; and
- k. Establishing a timeline for service transitions and for the annexation.

~~((King County will explore new options to affiliate unincorporated urban areas with cities, and to make the provision of services to such areas financially sustainable.~~

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~~U-208))~~ **U-118** King County should engage in joint planning processes for the urban unincorporated areas with the area's designated annexation city. Alternatively, upon a commitment from the city to annex through an interlocal agreement, King County ((with)) shall engage in joint planning processes for the urban unincorporated areas in tandem with the annexing city. Such planning may consider land use tools such as:

- a. ~~((traditional s))~~ Subarea plans ~~((, subarea studies))~~ or area ~~((rezoning))~~ zoning and land use studies;
- b. ~~((a))~~ Allowing additional commercial and high-density residential development through the application of new zoning;
- c. Transfers of Development Rights that add units to new development projects; and

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d. ((a)) Application of collaborative and innovative development approaches, such as design standards.

((King County will work through the Growth Management Planning Council to develop a plan to move the remaining unincorporated urban Potential Annexation Areas towards annexation:

R-514)) U-119 Within Potential Annexation Areas of Cities in the Rural Area, ((the following uses)) residential development at a density of one home per five acres or less shall be ((permitted)) allowed until the area annexes to the city((:

- a. Residential development at a density of one home per five acres or less with mandatory clustering; and
- b. Nonresidential development such as commercial and industrial as determined through ((previous)) subarea plans)).

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((1.)) II. Growth in ((Urban)) Centers and the Promotion of Public Health for All

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((The Multicounty and Countywide Planning Policies guide the development of urban centers, which are principally located in cities, and should accommodate concentrations of housing and employment.)) Focusing growth into centers helps achieve the goals of a sustainable and equitable community. ((However, in its unincorporated urban area,)) King County has a ((small)) number of smaller-scale ((urban)) centers, which includes ((an)) unincorporated activity centers, community business centers, and neighborhood business centers. These are represented on the ((Urban)) Countywide and Local Centers map at the end of this chapter. The two unincorporated activity centers (Skyway and White Center) meet the criteria for countywide center designation in the Countywide Planning Policies. King County intends to apply for this designation following adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan.

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((Focusing development in urban areas can have a positive effect on public health while also addressing climate change. The percentage of King County residents who are overweight or obese has risen rapidly since the late 1980s. With obesity comes increased risk for diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease. Evidence suggests one major reason for rising obesity is the lack of physical activity. Growth patterns in suburban areas, which discourage active transportation modes such as walking and bicycling and promote a reliance on private ((auto)) vehicle use, have contributed to this public health problem.))

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Communities that feature a variety of land uses; access to healthy, affordable foods; higher housing density; sidewalks; bicycle infrastructure; and street connections to nearby services promote health and quality of life. Urban areas that are interesting and safe for pedestrians and bicyclists, and that provide many necessary services close to residential developments, can promote public health by increasing opportunities for physical activity during daily activities. ((Tobacco remains a major contributor to the leading cause of death for King County residents. Zoning regulations ((can be used to reduce concentrated exposure to alcohol, tobacco and marijuana by regulating the number of outlets that can sell these products and)) support equitable outcomes when they limit circumstances where tobacco and cannabis retail activities, including advertising that is in view of the general public, are disproportionately located in areas with a high percentage of youth and/or Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color residents. Tobacco use also creates environmental tobacco smoke, which contains more than 4,000 substances and has been classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a Group A carcinogen. Tobacco-free area policies reduce this hazard.))

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While creating communities that have a positive effect on public health, the ~~((c))~~ County is also ~~((creating))~~ supporting the creation of communities that will have a positive effect on climate change. When people replace their ~~((auto))~~ vehicle trips with transit, walking, or biking, they are improving their health and reducing their carbon footprint at the same time. Communities that have integrated street networks, a mix of uses, and residential densities supportive of public transportation can reduce vehicle miles traveled because ~~((auto))~~ vehicle trips are being replaced with more walking, biking, and transit use.

~~((U-107)) U-201~~ King County should support ~~((land use and zoning))~~ actions that promote public health ~~((by increasing opportunities for every resident to be more physically active));~~ address racially and environmentally geographically disparate health outcomes; support safe and convenient daily physical activity and social connectivity; protect from exposure to harmful substances and environments; and increase life access to opportunities and access to employment, and support housing in high opportunity areas~~((Land use and zoning actions include)),~~ through activities actions such as:
a. ~~((c))~~ Concentrating growth, infrastructure, and services into the Urban Growth Area;
b. ~~((p))~~ Promoting ~~((urban))~~ the development of countywide and local centers;
c. ~~((a))~~ Allowing mixed-use developments;
d. ~~((s))~~ Supporting access to healthy, affordable retail foods; ~~((and))~~
e. ~~((a))~~ Adding pedestrian and bicycle facilities and connections; and
f. ~~(((a)))~~ Prioritizing affordable housing in high opportunity areas.

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~~((U-154)) U-202~~ ~~((Design features of unincorporated activity centers))~~ New development in centers should include the following:
a. Safe and attractive walkways, trails, and bicycle facilities for all ages and abilities with access to ~~((each))~~ major destinations, including schools, community ~~((centers))~~ facilities, and commercial areas;
b. Buildings close to sidewalks ~~((to promote walking and access to transit));~~
c. Compact design with close grouping of compatible uses;
d. Off-street structured parking ~~((in multistory structures))~~ located to the side or rear of buildings or underground;
e. Public art;
f. Public spaces, such as plazas and building atriums;
g. Retention of attractive natural features, historic buildings, and established character;
h. Aesthetic design and compatibility with adjacent uses through setbacks, building orientation, and landscaping; ~~((and traffic control));~~
i. Screening of unsightly views, such as heavy machinery, outdoor storage areas, loading docks, and parking areas from ~~((the view of))~~ adjacent uses and from arterials; ~~((and))~~
j. Signs ~~((should be regulated to reduce))~~ that contribute to the character of the center while minimizing glare and other adverse visual impacts on nearby residences; ~~((without limiting their potential contribution to the color and character of the center.))~~
k. Low-impact design features; and
l. Recreation space such as pocket parks.

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~~((U-108))~~ King County should support the development of Urban Centers to meet the region's needs for housing, jobs, services, culture and recreation and to promote healthy communities; improving access to these

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~~services helps address social and economic needs of all residents, including disadvantaged communities. Strategies may include exploring opportunities for joint development or transit-oriented development, siting civic uses in mixed-use areas, and leveraging or utilizing existing county assets in urban centers.~~

~~U-109 King County should concentrate facilities and services within the Urban Growth Area to make it a desirable place to live and work, to increase the opportunities for walking and biking within the community, to more efficiently use existing infrastructure capacity and to reduce the long-term costs of infrastructure maintenance.~~

~~U-109a King County should encourage development, facilities and policies that lead to compact communities that transit can serve efficiently and effectively. As funding permits, King County should partner with jurisdictions and the private sector to spur development of compact communities and infrastructure investments that enhance alternatives to single occupant vehicles such as transit, safe walking paths and trails, bicycle facilities, car and van pools, and other modes.~~

~~((U-110 King County shall work with cities, especially those designated as Urban Centers, in collaborative efforts that result in transfers of development rights from the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.))~~

~~U-111) U-203 Development standards for urban areas should emphasize ways to allow maximum ((permitted)) densities and uses of urban land while not compromising the function of critical ((environmental)) areas. ((Mitigating measures should serve multiple purposes, such as drainage control, groundwater recharge, stream protection, air quality improvement, open space preservation, cultural and historic resource protection and landscaping preservation. When technically feasible, s)) Standards should be simple and measurable, so they can be implemented without lengthy review processes.~~

~~((U-132a)) U-204 King County shall allow and support the development of ((innovative)) community gardens and urban agriculture throughout ((the public realm of)) residential and commercial areas.~~

~~While there are many benefits of focusing growth into centers, one impact of climate change is a greater likelihood ((that the frequency of hazardous)) of extreme heat in urban heat islands ((in urban areas will increase)). The term "heat island" refers to ((urban)) areas where air and surface temperatures ((that)) are higher than the nearby Rural Area(s) and Natural Resource Lands due to development. Heat islands form as cities replace natural land cover with pavement, buildings, and other built infrastructure. Heat islands exacerbate heat-related illnesses, such as heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Dense urban areas with a lot of paved surfaces and limited shade can be up to 20°F hotter during extreme heat events, when compared to areas with more trees and less pavement. The higher the temperature, the higher the likelihood people will suffer from heat-related illnesses and not be able to cool themselves sufficiently. Homes without air conditioning in urban heat islands may also be more prone to overheating further exacerbating residents' risk of heat-related illness. Heat islands can affect the health of residents living in those areas. The heat island effect can be reduced by requiring cool roofs, cool pavements, tree canopy, and other vegetation. ((These tools are discussed in King County's Green Building Handbook:))~~

~~U-112) U-205 King County ((will)) shall work with cities, communities, residents, and developers to ((design communities and development projects that)) employ green infrastructure and other ((techniques)) approaches that help reduce heat islands ((throughout the community and the~~

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region)) and the health effects of extreme heat on residents, particularly in frontline communities and historically underserved neighborhoods with less tree canopy and open spaces.

~~((King County is successfully promoting and supporting policies and programs that focus on the health of students at school. However, the school environment is only one aspect of the overall health of the student.)) The environment surrounding a school and the routes a typical student travels to school or nearby school-related destinations ~~((also must be considered, including))~~ can affect health outcomes of youths. Strategies to improve these factors include managing density of retail uses that primarily sell alcohol, tobacco ~~((and marijuana)), cannabis,~~ and low-nutrition products; enhancing green space sites; creating safe areas to walk and bicycle to school; providing for transit and related facilities; and~~((:))~~ reducing exposure to environmental toxins and other types of unsafe environments.~~

~~((U-113)) U-206 King County shall promote children’s health by encouraging and supporting land uses in the environment surrounding a school and on travel routes to schools that complement and strengthen other formal programs, such as Safe Routes to School.~~

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~~((1-))~~ A. Unincorporated Activity Centers

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Unincorporated activity centers are the primary locations for commercial and industrial development in urban unincorporated King County. White Center and Skyway are the only designated unincorporated activity centers ~~and meet the criteria for countywide centers designation. King County intends to apply for this designation following adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan.~~ ~~((The North Highline Community Service Area Subarea Plan establishes the size of, and mix of uses allowed in, the White Center Unincorporated Activity Center. The Skyway West Hill Community Service Area Subarea Plan establishes the size and mix of uses in the Skyway Unincorporated Activity Center. The Land Use Map designates unincorporated activity centers. The North Highline Community Service Area Subarea Plan and Skyway West Hill Community Service Area Subarea Plan establishes policy direction for development and uses in each respective activity center.~~

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~~U-151)) U-207 Within unincorporated activity centers, the following zoning is appropriate: Urban Residential, with a density of ~~((twelve)) 12 to ((forty-eight)) 48~~ dwelling units per acre; Community Business; Neighborhood Business; Office; and Industrial.~~

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~~((U-150)) U-208 Unincorporated activity centers ~~((in urban areas))~~ should provide employment, housing, shopping, services, and ~~((leisure-time)) other~~ amenities to meet the needs of the local economy. The mix of uses may include:~~

- a. Health, human service, and public safety facilities;
- b. Retail stores and services;
- c. Professional offices;
- d. Business/office parks;
- e. ~~((Multifamily)) Multiunit~~ housing and mixed-use developments;
- f. Heavy commercial and industrial uses, when there is direct freeway or rail access;
- g. Light manufacturing;
- h. Parks and open space; and
- i. Farmers Markets.

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708 ~~((U-152)) U-209~~ King County may designate new unincorporated activity centers or
709 expand existing unincorporated activity centers only through a subarea
710 planning process that should address:
711 a. The relationship and role of the ~~((entire))~~ center to its surrounding
712 uses, including adjacent cities; and to other nearby centers;
713 b. Availability of supporting public services;
714 c. ~~((The function of the center to other centers in the sub-region;~~
715 ~~d-))~~ The need for additional commercial and industrial development;
716 ~~((e-))~~ d. The size and boundaries of the center; and
717 ~~((f-))~~ e. Zoning.

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719 ~~((U-153)) U-210~~ The size, uses, and boundaries of unincorporated activity centers
720 should ~~((be consistent with the following criteria))~~:
721 a. Be ~~((M))~~ more than ~~((forty))~~ 40 acres in size, excluding land needed
722 for surface water management or protection of ~~((environmentally))~~
723 critical areas;
724 b. Include ~~((R))~~ retail space based on the amount of residential
725 development planned for the surrounding area to provide for
726 community and local shopping needs; and
727 c. Limit ~~((R))~~ retail space ~~((should not exceed))~~ to a maximum of 60
728 acres and 600,000 square feet unless ~~((it is served by direct~~
729 ~~freeway access by))~~ located on a principal or minor arterial that
730 connects directly to a freeway and the retail space is well served by
731 transit.
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733 ~~((U-158))~~ ~~New major residential, commercial, and mixed-use developments in~~
734 ~~unincorporated activity centers should include low impact design~~
735 ~~features and should promote public health by increasing opportunities~~
736 ~~for physical activity in daily life. The development should include: safe~~
737 ~~walkways and bicycle facilities for all ages and abilities with access to~~
738 ~~commercial areas, schools, and community facilities; trails; and pocket~~
739 ~~parks.~~

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740 ~~((2-))~~ B. Community Business Centers

741 Community business centers are primarily retail developments designed to serve a
742 moderately-sized nearby market area ~~((of 15,000 to 40,000 people. Community~~
743 ~~business centers should be sited so they do not adversely affect other centers and are~~
744 ~~easily accessible by motor vehicles or public transportation, walking or bicycling.~~
745 ~~Community business centers should be designed to be compatible with adjacent~~
746 ~~residential uses, and should promote pedestrian and bicycle access)).~~ As shown on the
747 ~~((Urban))~~ Countywide and Local Centers map at the end of this chapter, these centers
748 include Fairwood, Roxhill, Glendale, and Top Hat.
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750 ~~((U-159)) U-211~~ Community business centers in the urban areas should provide
751 primarily shopping and personal services for nearby residents. Offices
752 and ~~((multifamily housing))~~ mixed-use development are also
753 encouraged. Industrial and heavy commercial uses should be
754 ~~((excluded))~~ limited. Community business centers should include the
755 following mix of uses:
756 a. Retail stores and services;
757 b. Professional offices;
758 c. Community and human services;
759 d. ~~((Multifamily))~~ Multifamily housing as part of a mixed-use
760 development, with higher residential densities ~~((of at least 12 units~~
761 ~~per acre when well served by))~~ near transit; and
762 e. Stands or small outlets that offer fresh, affordable fruit and produce
763 and locally produced value-added food products.
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~~((U-160)) U-212 ((Designated community business centers are shown on the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map.)) Expansion of existing or designation of new community business centers shall be ((permitted)) allowed only through a subarea plan or area zoning and land use study. ((Redevelopment and infill development of existing community business centers is encouraged.~~

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~~U-161)) U-213~~ Within community business centers, the following zoning is appropriate: Neighborhood Business, Community Business, and Office.

~~((U-162)) U-214~~ The specific size and boundaries of community business centers should be ((consistent with the criteria listed below.)):

- a. ~~((More than))~~ Between 10 acres and ((up to)) 40 acres in size, excluding land needed for surface water management or protection of ((environmentally)) critical areas;
- b. Designed to provide shopping and services for a market population of 15,000 to 40,000 people;
- c. Located one to three miles from an unincorporated activity center or from another community business center. May be located less than two miles from a neighborhood business center when it is demonstrated the neighborhood business center will not be adversely affected; and
- d. ~~((Must be 1))~~ Located at the intersection of two principal or minor arterials.

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~~((U-163))~~ Design features of community business centers should include the following:

- a. Safe and attractive walkways and bicycle facilities for all ages and abilities;
- b. Close grouping of stores;
- c. Off-street parking behind or to the side of buildings, or enclosed within buildings;
- d. Public art;
- e. Retention of attractive natural features, historic buildings, and established character;
- f. Landscaping, which may include planters and street trees;
- g. Appropriate signage;
- h. Public seating areas; and
- i. Architectural features that provide variation between buildings or contiguous storefronts.

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806 ~~((3.))~~ C. Neighborhood Business Centers

807 Neighborhood business centers are shopping areas offering convenience goods and services to local residents. Neighborhood business centers are intended to be small and compatible with adjacent residential areas and often are used on the way to another destination (for example, a fuel stop before or after commuting). Sometimes they consist of only one use or business. Neighborhood business centers should be designed to promote pedestrian and bicycle access.

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814 As shown on the ((Urban)) Countywide and Local Centers map at the end of this chapter, King County has seven of these centers, including Avondale Corner, Beverly Park, Jovita, Lake Geneva, Martin Luther King Jr. Way ((/)) between 60th Ave ((=)) S and 64th Ave ((=)) S, Rainier Ave ((=)) S ((/)) between S ((=)) 114th St ((=)) and S ((=)) 117th St ((=)), and Spider Lake.

~~((U-164)) U-215~~ Neighborhood business centers in urban areas should include primarily retail stores and offices designed to provide convenient

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shopping and other services for nearby residents. Industrial and heavy commercial uses should be ~~((excluded)) prohibited~~. Neighborhood business centers should include the following mix of uses:

- a. Retail stores and services;
- b. Professional offices;
- c. ~~((Multifamily)) Multiunit housing as part of a mixed-use development ((with residential densities up to 12 units per acre when convenient to a minor arterial. Higher densities are appropriate when the center is a walkable community, convenient to a principal arterial or well-served by transit));~~ and
- d. Farmers Markets.

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~~((U-165)) U-216 ((Designated neighborhood business centers are shown on the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map.)) Expansion of existing or the designation of new neighborhood business centers shall only be ((permitted)) allowed through a subarea plan or area zoning and land use study. ((Redevelopment and infill development of existing neighborhood business centers is encouraged.))~~

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~~((U-166)) U-217~~ Within neighborhood business centers, the following zoning is appropriate: Neighborhood Business and Office.

~~((U-167)) U-218~~ The specific size and boundaries of neighborhood business centers should be ~~((consistent with the criteria listed below.)):~~

- a. Ten acres or less in size, excluding land needed for surface water management or protection of ~~((environmentally sensitive features)) critical areas;~~
- b. Designed to provide convenience shopping for a market population of 8,000 to 15,000 people;
- c. Located within walking distance of transit corridors or transit activity centers; and
- d. Located one to three miles from another neighborhood business center.

~~((U-168)) Design features of neighborhood business centers should include the following:~~

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- a. ~~Safe and attractive walkways and bicycle facilities for all ages and abilities;~~
- b. ~~Close grouping of stores;~~
- c. ~~Off-street parking behind or to the side of buildings, or enclosed within buildings;~~
- d. ~~Public art;~~
- e. ~~Retention of attractive natural features, historic buildings, or established character;~~
- f. ~~Landscaping, which may include planters and street trees;~~
- g. ~~Appropriate signage;~~
- h. ~~Public seating areas; and~~
- i. ~~Architectural features that provide variation between buildings or contiguous storefronts.~~

4.)D. Commercial Development Outside of Centers

The Commercial Outside of Center ~~((CO))~~ Land Use designation recognizes commercial uses predating the adoption of the ~~((c))~~ County's first Growth Management Act ~~mandated~~ Comprehensive Plan. These isolated unincorporated urban areas ~~((were and remain)) are~~ located outside a designated ~~((urban center ((f)) unincorporated activity center, community business center, or neighborhood business center ((j)).~~ The ~~((CO))~~ ~~Commercial Outside of Center~~ designation is also appropriate) and serve as a

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879 transitional designation within certain potential annexation areas. ~~((In these areas, the~~
880 ~~((c))County will utilize the memorandum of understanding and applicable~~
881 ~~Comprehensive Plan policies to determine the appropriate zoning to implement this~~
882 ~~transitional designation.~~

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884 ~~**U-169)) U-219 Stand-alone commercial developments legally established outside**~~
885 ~~**designated centers in the unincorporated urban area ((may)) should be**~~
886 ~~**recognized with the ((EO)) Commercial Outside of Center designation**~~
887 ~~**and appropriate commercial zoning, including any identified potential**~~
888 ~~**zoning classification. An action to implement a potential zoning**~~
889 ~~**classification shall not require ((a-detailed-subarea)) an area zoning**~~
890 ~~**and/or land use study, if the current ((EO)) Commercial Outside of**~~
891 ~~**Center designation is to remain unchanged. When ((more-detailed))**~~
892 ~~**subarea plans are prepared, these developments may be designated as**~~
893 ~~**centers and allowed to grow if appropriate, or may be encouraged to**~~
894 ~~**redevelop consistent with the residential density and design policies of**~~
895 ~~**the Comprehensive Plan.**~~

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897 ~~**((U-170)) U-220 The ((EO)) Commercial Outside of Center designation ((may))**~~
898 ~~**should be applied as a transitional designation in Potential Annexation**~~
899 ~~**Areas identified in a signed memorandum of understanding between a**~~
900 ~~**city and the ((c))County for areas with a mix of urban uses and zoning**~~
901 ~~**((in-order)) to facilitate the joint planning effort directed by the**~~
902 ~~**memorandum of understanding. Zoning to implement this transitional**~~
903 ~~**designation should recognize the mix of existing and planned uses. No**~~
904 ~~**zone changes to these properties to allow other nonresidential uses, or**~~
905 ~~**zone changes to allow expansion of existing nonresidential uses onto**~~
906 ~~**other properties, should occur unless or until a subarea plan or area**~~
907 ~~**zoning and land use study ((with-the-city)) is completed in consultation**~~
908 ~~**with the city.**~~
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910 ~~**((C)) E. Commercial Land Use**~~

911 ~~((The Countywide Planning Policies call for a significant share of new jobs and housing~~
912 ~~to occur within cities and in ((urban)) regional and countywide growth centers, which are~~
913 ~~areas of concentrated employment and housing. ((The designated urban centers are to~~
914 ~~accommodate 15,000 jobs within a one-half-mile radius of a major transit stop, an~~
915 ~~average employment density of 50 jobs per gross acre and an average of 15 housing~~
916 ~~units per gross acre.)) Criteria related to densities, planning, and infrastructure for~~
917 ~~growth centers are included in the Multicounty Planning Policies and Countywide~~
918 ~~Planning Policies. ((All of the urban)) Regional centers are designated by the Puget~~
919 ~~Sound Regional Council ((as Regional Growth Centers)) and all are located in cities.~~
920 ~~Countywide centers are designated by the Growth Management Planning Council and~~
921 ~~are located in both incorporated and unincorporated areas. The County's two~~
922 ~~unincorporated activity centers (Skyway and White Center) meet the criteria for~~
923 ~~countywide center designation. King County intends to apply for this designation~~
924 ~~following adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan.~~

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926 ~~((In addition to the urban centers, cities and unincorporated urban King County have~~
927 ~~existing intensive industrial, commercial, and residential areas that will continue to grow~~
928 ~~and provide employment, services, shopping, and housing opportunities, but not at the~~
929 ~~same level as urban centers.)) Three categories of centers are established for urban~~
930 ~~unincorporated areas of King County. Higher density, more-concentrated developed~~
931 ~~industrial and commercial areas are classified as unincorporated activity centers and are~~
932 ~~intended to be the primary location for this type of commercial development. Midrange~~
933 ~~centers are called community business centers and smaller, local centers are called~~
934 ~~neighborhood business centers. The locations of these centers are shown on the Urban~~

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935 ~~Centers map at the end of this chapter. This Comprehensive Plan also recognizes~~
936 ~~existing commercial and industrial development that is outside of unincorporated~~
937 ~~activity centers, community business centers, and neighborhood business centers.))~~

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939 ~~((U-148)) U-221 New commercial and office development shall locate in designated~~
940 ~~unincorporated activity centers, community business centers, and~~
941 ~~neighborhood business centers, and in areas designated commercial~~
942 ~~outside of centers.~~

943
944 ~~((U-147)) U-222 Business((f)) and office park developments should be located in or~~
945 ~~adjacent to an unincorporated activity center. They may serve as a~~
946 ~~transition between office((f)) and retail areas and residential areas.~~
947 ~~They should be designed to take advantage of on-site or nearby~~
948 ~~structured parking, and((for bus)) transit service ((and passenger~~
949 ~~facilities should be compatible with the objective of higher~~
950 ~~employment densities)).~~

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952 ~~((Warehouse-style retail businesses, large retail complexes, stadiums, large ((churches))~~
953 ~~places of worship, and colleges are examples of land uses that serve as destinations~~
954 ~~from throughout the region. Such uses require a full range of urban services including~~
955 ~~transit, substantial parking, and access to arterials and freeways, and therefore should~~
956 ~~locate in the urban area where these services are available. In addition, these land uses~~
957 ~~have traffic and impervious surface impacts that are inappropriate for the Rural Area and~~
958 ~~Natural Resource Lands.))~~

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960 ~~((U-149)) U-223 New facilities and businesses that draw from throughout the~~
961 ~~region, such as large retail uses, large public assembly facilities, and~~
962 ~~((institutions off) higher education institutions should locate in the~~
963 ~~Urban Growth Area.~~

964 ~~((6.)) E. Industrial Development~~

965 Maintaining a strong industrial land supply is an important factor in maintaining the
966 county's economic base and providing family-wage jobs. The following policies assure
967 that industrial development is supported and is also compatible with adjacent land uses
968 while providing appropriate services for employees. In addition, King County is
969 committed to helping return contaminated sites to productive use.

970
971 ~~((U-172)) U-224 Within the Urban Growth Area((but outside unincorporated~~
972 ~~activity centers;)) properties with existing industrial uses shall be~~
973 ~~protected.~~

974
975 ~~U-225 The ((c))County ((may)) should use tools such as special district overlays~~
976 ~~to identify ((them)) existing industrial uses and address impacts for~~
977 ~~property owners and residents of surrounding neighborhoods.~~

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979 ~~((U-173)) U-226 Industrial development should have direct access from arterials or~~
980 ~~freeways. Access points should be combined and limited in number to~~
981 ~~allow smooth traffic flow on arterials. Access through residential areas~~
982 ~~should be avoided.~~

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984 ~~((U-174)) U-227 Small amounts of retail and service uses in industrial areas may be~~
985 ~~allowed for convenience to employees and users.~~

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inclusion of well-designed and accessible public gathering spaces in the site design.
~~((U-132b)) U-233 King County shall allow and support mixed-use food innovation districts supportive of affordable, healthy local food.~~

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~~((B:))~~ **H. Residential Land Use**

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~~((Housing is the major use of urban land in King County, occupying well over half of the county's developed land area. This plan supports the creation of a full range of housing choices for county residents.)) ~~The Comprehensive Plan supports planning for and accommodating housing that is affordable to all economic segments of the population, promoting a variety of residential densities and types, and encouraging preservation of existing housing stock. The Comprehensive Plan proposes ways to develop housing densities so that urban land is used more efficiently, homes are more affordable, more housing choices are available, and densities are adequate to support effective and efficient transit services.~~~~

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~~((U-118)) U-234 New residential development in the Urban Growth Area should occur where facilities and services can be provided at the lowest public cost and in a timely fashion. The Urban Growth Area ((should have)) shall include zoning that provides for a variety of housing types, sizes, and ((prices)) affordability levels, including ((mobile)) manufactured home parks, ((multifamily development)) apartments, middle housing, townhouses, and small-lot(;) single((-family)) detached home residential development.~~
~~((U-181)) U-235 ((Except for existing Fully Contained Community designations, n))No new Urban Planned Developments or Fully Contained Communities shall be designated or approved in King County.~~

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~~((1.))~~ **Residential Densities**

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~~((The density of eight homes per acre expressed below is a long-term goal and would be an average density of single-family and multifamily developments. Single-family homes will continue to account for most of the land area used for new development in the county. This pl)) ~~The Comprehensive Plan proposes ways to develop single((-family)) detached homes and densities so that urban land is used more efficiently, homes are more affordable, more housing choices are available, and densities are adequate to support effective and efficient transit services. Housing at higher densities can promote public health by creating urban communities that support public transportation and nearby services and thereby increase opportunities for walking or biking.~~~~

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~~U-119)) U-236 King County shall seek to achieve ((through future planning efforts, over the next 20 years, including collaborative efforts with cities;)) an average zoning density of at least eight ((homes)) dwelling units per acre in the ((Urban Growth Area)) urban unincorporated area, ((through a mix of densities and housing types. A lower density zone may be used to recognize existing subdivisions with little or no opportunity for infill or redevelopment.~~

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~~U-123~~ **U-237** King County should apply minimum density requirements to all unincorporated urban residential zones of four or more ~~((homes))~~ **dwelling units** per acre, except under limited circumstances such as the:

- a. Presence of significant physical constraints such as those noted in policy U-~~((120))~~**238**, or
- b. Implementation of standards applied to a property through a property-specific development condition~~((,))~~ **or** special district overlay~~((, or subarea study))~~.

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~~((U-120))~~ **U-238** King County should apply the urban residential, low land use designation in limited circumstances ~~((in unincorporated urban areas ((in order)))~~ to protect~~((,))~~ floodplains, critical aquifer recharge areas, high function wetlands and unstable slopes on degradation, and the link these ~~((environmental features))~~ **critical areas** have to a network of open space, fish and wildlife habitat, and urban separators. The residential density for **this** land ~~((so designated))~~ should be maintained at one unit per acre, and lands that are sending sites under the Transfer of Development Rights Program may transfer density at a rate of at least four units per acre.

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~~((U-121))~~ **U-239** ~~((New multifamily housing should be built to))~~ **King County shall explore zoning regulations and provisions that increase housing density and affordability that is compatible with the character and scale ((and design)) of the existing communities((y or neighborhood)), ((while contributing to an area-wide density and)) with a focus on development patterns that support((s)) frequent transit and allow((s)) for a range of housing choices. ((Multifamily housing in unincorporated urban areas should be sited as follows:**

- a. ~~In or next to unincorporated activity centers or next to community or neighborhood business centers;~~
- b. ~~In mixed-use developments in centers and activity areas; and~~
- c. ~~On small, scattered parcels integrated into existing urban residential areas. Over time, zoning should encourage a larger proportion of multifamily housing to be located on small, scattered sites rather than on larger sites.))~~

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U-240 **King County shall allow for the development of single detached residences through the splitting of a single residential lot into two residential lots.**

~~((U-122))~~ Land zoned for multifamily uses should be allowed to be converted to nonresidential zone categories only after new multifamily sites are identified and rezoned to replace the multifamily housing capacity lost due to the conversion.))

~~((U-122a))~~ King County ~~((should))~~ **shall** explore zoning policies and provisions and tools that increase housing density and affordable housing opportunities within unincorporated urban ~~((growth))~~ areas, with a focus on areas near frequent transit and commercial areas.))

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~~((E-))~~ **2. Urban Separators ((and the Four-To-One Program))**

The Countywide Planning Policies call for the ((c))County and cities to implement urban separators. Different from the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, these are low-density areas within the Urban Growth Area that create open space corridors, provide a visual contrast to continuous development, and reinforce the unique identities of communities. Urban separators can play a significant role in preserving ~~((environmentally))~~ critical areas and in providing habitat for fish and wildlife. They also

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1147 provide recreational benefits, such as parks and trails, and meet the Growth
1148 Management Act's requirement for greenbelts and open space in the Urban Growth
1149 Area. Urban Separators are ~~((mapped on the Land Use 2008 map in))~~ designated in the
1150 Countywide Planning Policies and are shown in the Land Use Map at the end of Chapter
1151 1, Regional Growth Management Planning.

1152 ~~((U-182)) U-241 Urban separators ~~((are corridors of land that define community or~~
1153 ~~municipal identities and boundaries, provide visual breaks in the urban~~
1154 ~~landscape, and link parks and open space within and outside the Urban~~
1155 ~~Growth Area. These urban corridors))~~ should include and link parks
1156 and other lands that contain significant ~~((environmentally sensitive~~
1157 ~~features))~~ critical areas, provide fish and wildlife habitat or critical
1158 resource protection, contain defining physical features, or contain
1159 historic resources. The residential density for ~~((land so designated))~~
1160 urban separators should be maintained at one unit per acre, and lands
1161 that are sending sites under the Transfer of Development Rights
1162 Program may transfer density at a rate of at least four units per acre.~~

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1163 ~~((U-183)) U-242 King County should ~~((actively pursue designating urban separators~~
1164 ~~in the unincorporated area and))~~ work with the cities to establish and
1165 maintain permanent urban separators within the incorporated area that
1166 link with and enhance King County's urban separator corridors.~~

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1167 ~~((U-184)) U-243 Designated urban separators should be preserved through park,~~
1168 ~~trail, and open space acquisitions; incentive programs such as the~~
1169 ~~Transfer of Development Rights Program; the Public Benefit Rating~~
1170 ~~System Program; and ~~((regulatory measures))~~ regulations.~~

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1171 ~~((2.)) Minimum Density~~

1172 ~~In accordance with the Countywide Planning Policies, King County has included a~~
1173 ~~minimum density requirement in its zoning regulations for all new urban residential~~
1174 ~~development with a zoned density of four or more homes per acre.~~

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1175 ~~((3.)) Increases of Zoning Density~~

1176 ~~((While King County supports higher densities in unincorporated urban areas, increased~~
1177 ~~densities that would be incompatible with existing neighborhoods or cause significant~~
1178 ~~impacts on roads, services and the environment are discouraged.))~~ The following
1179 policies will guide decisions on application of densities and proposed rezones.

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1180 ~~((U-124)) U-244 Requests for increases in density of unincorporated urban~~
1181 ~~residential property zoned for one dwelling unit per acre shall be~~
1182 ~~considered unless the property meets the criteria for low land use~~
1183 ~~designation ~~((in))~~ as set forth in Policy U-~~((120))~~238.~~

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1184 ~~((U-125)) U-245 King County should ~~only~~ support proposed zoning ~~((changes))~~
1185 ~~reclassifications to increase density within the urban unincorporated~~
1186 ~~((urban)) area when consistent with the ~~((King County Comprehensive~~
1187 ~~Plan)) Land Use Map and when the following conditions are ~~((present))~~
1188 ~~met:~~~~~~~~

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1189 a. ~~((The development will be))~~ The proposed zoning reclassification is
1190 compatible with the character and scale of the surrounding
1191 neighborhood;

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1192 b. ~~((Urban-p))~~ Public facilities and services are adequate~~((,))~~ and
1193 consistent with adopted levels of service and meet ~~((Growth~~
1194 ~~Management Act))~~ concurrency requirements~~((, including King~~
1195 ~~County transportation concurrency standards));~~

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c. The proposed ~~((density change will not increase unmitigated adverse impacts on environmentally))~~ zoning reclassification will cause no net loss to critical areas; ~~((or))~~

d. The proposed zoning classification will not increase unmitigated ~~((adverse))~~ displacement impacts ~~((on))~~ to residents or businesses, either on or adjacent to the site ~~((or in the vicinity of the proposed development));~~

~~((d.))~~ e. The proposed ~~((density increase will be))~~ zoning reclassification is consistent with or contributes to achieving the goals and policies of ~~((this))~~ the ~~((c))~~ Comprehensive ~~((p))~~ Plan ~~((:))~~ and the subarea plan ~~((or subarea study))~~ for that geography, if applicable ~~((, or))~~;

f. ~~((t))~~ The ~~((development))~~ proposed zoning reclassification is within ~~((walking distance))~~ one-quarter mile of transit corridors or transit activity centers, ~~((e))~~ and retail and commercial activities, and is accessible to parks and ~~((other))~~ recreation opportunities; and

~~((e.))~~ g. An ~~((equity impact))~~ analysis has been completed that identifies all potential equity impacts and displacement risk to residents or businesses located on or adjacent to the site proposed for zoning reclassification:

1. For ~~((area zoning or))~~ zoning reclassifications initiated by the County ~~in a subarea plan or area zoning and land use study~~, the analysis shall include, at a minimum, ~~((use of the County's Equity Impact Review tool))~~ an equity impact review.
2. For zoning reclassifications not initiated by the County, a community meeting shall be held that meets the requirements of ~~((K.C.C.))~~ King County Code 20.20.035 prior to submittal of the application. Notice of the community meeting should be provided, at a minimum, in the top six languages ~~other than English~~ ~~((identified by the tier map of limited-English-proficient persons maintained by the office of equity and social justice and the county demographer))~~ spoken in that community. ~~As part of the zoning reclassification application, the applicant shall provide a summary of the feedback provided at the community meeting and a description of how that feedback was incorporated into the proposal.~~

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~~((U-126))~~ U-246 King County, when evaluating rezone requests, shall consult with the city whose Potential Annexation Area includes the property under review; if a pre-annexation agreement exists, King County shall work with the city to ensure compatibility with the city's pre-annexation zoning for the area. King County shall also notify special purpose districts and local providers of urban utility services and should work with these service providers on issues raised by the proposal.

~~((As part of its voluntary program with the Federal Aviation Administration to reduce aircraft noise inside residences surrounding the King County International Airport, the County completed a Federal Aviation Administration Part 150 Noise and Land Use Compatibility Study. As part of the study, noise contours were developed and plotted as part of a Noise Mitigation Boundary. Over the past seven years and with available Federal Aviation Administration funding, the County completed a residential sound mitigation program within the Noise Mitigation Boundary. The program provided a variety of noise mitigation components, including insulation, windows, and ventilation to 609 homes surrounding the airport. The program was completed in 2015.~~

~~U-127))~~ U-247 King County shall not support requests for residential density increases or conversion of non-residential property to residential uses on lands located within the outer boundaries of the Federal Aviation Administration approved Noise Mitigation Boundary as identified by

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Seattle-Tacoma International Airport and King County International Airport.

~~((Development in the Unincorporated Urban Growth Area at a greater density than permitted by the minimum zoning density, but equal to or less than the maximum zoning density allowed under the Residential Density Incentive Program, will be allowed in exchange for public amenities such as low-income housing, preservation of designated historic features or extra energy conservation measures, or through the transfer of development rights from other parts of the county.~~

~~**U-128** — Density incentives should encourage private developers to provide affordable housing, significant open space, trails and parks; use the Transfer of Development Rights Program, Low Impact Development and Green Building; locate development close to transit; participate in historic preservation; and include energy conservation measures.))~~

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~~((5)) 4. Urban Residential Neighborhood Design and Infill/Redevelopment~~

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~~((King County unincorporated)) Urban unincorporated areas should be designed so that residents enjoy them both for their unique character and for the amenities they provide. These areas, through ~~((local))~~ subarea planning processes and permitting and design standards, should support development that is of the same quality as adjacent cities.~~

The high level of amenities and development include outdoor spaces that are usable, attractive, comfortable, and enjoyable. The design of urban streets, including features such as parking strips, street trees, alleys, and off-street parking all contribute to the character of urban neighborhoods. Careful site planning can incorporate neighborhood features, contribute to aesthetic value, minimize site disturbance, conserve energy, reduce urban heat, and, in some cases, reduce development costs. Neighborhood shopping, grocery stores with fresh fruits and vegetables, libraries, larger parks, and schools; ~~((and public golf courses))~~ are examples of uses that provide amenities for nearby residents.

Small retail establishments integrated into residential development ~~((e.g.))~~ such as a laundromat ~~((s))~~ can provide convenient services and help residents reduce ~~((automobile))~~ vehicle trips. ~~((Urban areas that are interesting and safe for pedestrians and bicyclists, and that provide many necessary services close to residential developments, can promote public health by increasing opportunities for physical activity during daily activities.~~

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~~U-133~~ **U-248** King County shall encourage(s) affordable, innovative, quality infill development and redevelopment in existing unincorporated urban areas that considers the size and scale of existing buildings and improves the overall character of existing communities. A variety of regulatory, incentive, and program strategies ((could)) should be considered, including:

- a. Special development standards for infill sites;
- b. Assembly and resale of sites to providers of affordable and healthy housing;
- c. ((Impact mitigation fee structures that favor infill developments;
- d.)) Greater regulatory flexibility in allowing standards to be met using innovative techniques;
- ((e.)) d. Coordination with incentive programs of cities affiliated to annex the area;
- ((f.)) e. Green ((B))building techniques that create sustainable development; and
- ((g.)) f. Joint public/private loan guarantee pools.

~~((U-134)) U-249~~ Single(~~family~~) detached ((homes)) residences, accessory dwelling units, townhomes, ((duplexes)) middle housing, and ((apartments)) houseplexes shall be allowed in all urban residential zones((, provided that apartments, duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes shall not be:

- a. ((Apartments shall not be a))Allowed in the R-1 zone unless 50((%) percent or more of the site is environmentally constrained; and
- b. ((Apartments in R-1, R-4, R-6 and R-8 shall not be d))Developed at densities in excess of 18 units per acre in the net buildable area in the R-1, R-4, R-6, or R-8 zone)).

~~((U-135)) U-250~~ Urban residential neighborhood design should preserve historic structures, natural features, and neighborhood identity, while accommodating housing affordable to all income levels and providing privacy, community space, and safety and mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities.

~~((U-136)) U-251~~ Site planning tools, such as clustering, shall be ((permitted ((in order)) allowed to ((allow)) accommodate preservation or utilization of unique natural features or critical areas within a development.

~~((U-137))~~ New urban residential developments should provide recreational space, community facilities, and neighborhood circulation for pedestrians and bicyclists to increase opportunities for physical activity and ensure access to transit facilities where they exist or are planned.

~~U-138~~ **U-252** Residential developments should provide a variety of housing types and lot patterns through ((lot clustering,)) flexible setback requirements, and mixed attached and detached housing.

~~((U-139)) U-253~~ Nonresidential uses, such as schools, ((religious facilities)) places of worship, libraries, and small-scale retail and personal services, should be integrated into urban residential neighborhoods to support compact and walkable communities ((to create viable neighborhoods with reduced dependence on ((the automobile)) vehicles. These uses should be sited, designed, and scaled to be compatible with existing residential character and should provide convenient and safe walking and bicycling connections to neighboring residences.

~~((U-139a)) U-254~~ King County shall support ((policy and system changes that)) increased access to affordable, healthy foods ((in neighborhoods)).

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~~((U-139b)) U-255~~ King County should allow the creation of local improvement districts, where required to carry out important public functions that are not otherwise able to be carried out by existing local governments.

~~((Multifamily residential development is important to King County's housing supply because it uses land and energy efficiently and provides opportunities for affordable rental and ownership housing. Multifamily development is defined as one building that contains two or more separate dwelling units. Multifamily developments can be apartments, ((duplexes)) middle housing, townhouses, or ((other)) innovative housing types.~~

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~~U-140)) U-256 ((Multifamily ((residential)) Multiunit and mixed-use development should provide common and private open space; variation in facades and other building design features that may include varying window treatments, building colors, and materials; and light fixtures that will give a residential scale and identity to ((multifamily)) multiunit development.~~

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~~((Generally, larger parcels of buildable vacant land in the Urban Growth Area have been preferred for development. Development of these large parcels, especially for attached units at higher densities, often provoked concerns about compatibility due to their scale and design.~~

~~As larger vacant lots become increasingly scarce, attention will turn more and more towards smaller vacant lots often located within built neighborhoods (i.e., infill) and to redevelopment. Residential development proposals on small lots and redevelopment often can be an unobtrusive and desirable means of increasing density and affordable housing within existing neighborhoods.)) Infill development and redevelopment are necessary to achieve growth management objectives such as maximizing the efficient use of land and increasing the variety of housing choices and prices.~~

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~~U-141 King County should support infill and redevelopment proposals in unincorporated urban areas that serve to improve the overall character of existing communities or neighborhoods. New development should consider the scale and character of existing buildings.))~~

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~~((5.)) Commercial)) I. Site Improvement Standards and Public Services~~

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~~((The following policy governs King County land use regulations and functional plans that contain improvement standards for the review of proposed rezones and commercial construction permits.~~

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~~U-171)) U-257 The design and construction quality of development in unincorporated urban areas should meet or exceed the quality in the area's designated annexation city. Residential, ((C))commercial, retail, and industrial developments in the unincorporated urban area should foster community, create enjoyable outdoor areas, and balance needs of ((automobile)) vehicle movement with pedestrian and bicycle mobility and safety. ((Commercial and industrial d))Developments shall provide the following improvements:~~

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- a. Paved streets and alleys;
- b. Sidewalks and internal walkways for all ages and abilities and bicycle facilities ((in commercial and retail areas));
- c. Adequate parking for employees, business patrons, and ((business users)) residents;

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d. Safe and comfortable access to transit centers and frequent transit corridors;
e. Landscaping along or within streets, sidewalks, and parking areas to provide an attractive appearance;
f. Street lighting and street trees;
((e.)) g. Adequate stormwater control, including curbs, gutters, and stormwater ((retention)) facilities;
((f.)) h. Public water supply;
((g.)) i. Public sewers;
((h.)) j. Controlled traffic access to arterials and intersections; and
((i.)) k. Where appropriate, ((in commercial areas,)) common facilities, such as shared streets, walkways, and waste disposal and recycling, with appropriate levels of landscaping.

((The design and construction quality of development in unincorporated urban areas should meet or exceed the quality in the area's designated annexation city.

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~~((6.)) Residential Site Improvement Standards and Public Services~~

~~((The following policies govern King County land use regulations and functional plans that contain improvement standards for the review of proposed rezones, residential subdivisions, short subdivisions, multifamily buildings, and construction permits.~~

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~~**U-142 Residential developments within the unincorporated urban area, including mobile home parks, shall provide the following improvements:**~~

- ~~a. Paved streets (and alleys if appropriate), curbs and sidewalks, and internal walkways when appropriate;~~
- ~~b. Adequate parking and consideration of access to transit activity centers and transit corridors;~~
- ~~c. Street lighting and street trees;~~
- ~~d. Stormwater treatment and control;~~
- ~~e. Public water supply;~~
- ~~f. Public sewers; and~~
- ~~g. Landscaping around the perimeter and parking areas of multifamily developments.~~

~~The design and construction quality of development in unincorporated urban areas should meet or exceed the quality in the area's designated annexation city.~~

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~~**U-143)) U-258 Common facilities with appropriate levels of landscaping, such as recreation space, internal walkways ((that provide convenient and safe inter- and intra-connectivity)), roads, parking (including secure bicycle parking), and solid waste and recycling areas. ((with appropriate levels of landscaping should be included in ((multifamily)) multiunit developments. Common ((A)) areas ((of multifamily buildings that are open to the public)) (such as common hallways and elevators) shall be smoke-free and vapor-product free to the extent allowed by state and local regulations to avoid exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and emissions from electronic smoking and vaping devices.**~~

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~~((Neighborhood recreation space and parks are important amenities for residents. The higher the density, the more essential such amenities become to a desirable living environment. If the site of a proposed development is large enough, a park site dedication or private park site can be required as a condition of a rezone, subdivision, or site plan approval.~~

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((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD

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~~U-144)) U-259~~ **New residential developments should provide recreation space, community facilities, and neighborhood circulation for pedestrians and bicyclists access to transit where they exist or are planned. Recreation space shall be on-site and based on the size of the development** ~~((s shall be provided on site)), except that in limited cases, fee payments for local ((level)) park and outdoor recreation needs may be accepted by King County.~~

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~~((U-145))~~ Recreation spaces located within ~~((a residential))~~ **the following developments, except those for elderly or other special needs populations, shall include a child's play area:**

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- ~~a.~~ **single detached subdivisions;**
- ~~b.~~ **apartment, townhouse, and mixed-use developments, of more than four units in the UR and R-4 through R-48 zones; and**
- ~~c.~~ **stand-alone townhouse developments in the NB zone of more than four units on property designated commercial outside of center in the urban area.**

~~U-146)) U-260~~ Recreation spaces located in residential developments in the Urban Area should include amenities such as **children's play areas, play equipment, open grassy areas, barbecues, benches, bicycle racks, trails, and picnic tables.**

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~~((D.)) Urban Planned Developments and Fully Contained Communities~~

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~~The Growth Management Act allows, within the designated Urban Growth Area, development of large land ownerships that may offer the public and the property owner opportunities to realize mutual benefits when such development is coordinated through the review process as an Urban Planned Development. ((Possible public benefits include greater preservation of public open space, proponent contributions to major capital improvement needs, diversity in housing types and affordability, and the establishment of the specific range and intensity of uses for the entire Urban Planned Development. A property owner and the public could benefit from the efficiency of combined hearings and land use decision making, as well as the establishment of comprehensive and consistently applied project-wide mitigations guiding the review of subsequent land use approvals.))~~ ~~In the mid-1990s, King County approved the Bear Creek Urban Planned Developments (also referred to as the Novelty Hill Urban Planned Developments) in the communities of Redmond Ridge, Redmond Ridge East, and Trilogy.~~

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~~The Growth Management Act also allows counties to establish a process, as part of the Urban Growth Area designation, for reviewing proposals to authorize new Fully Contained Communities. The Bear Creek Urban Planned Developments were also approved as Fully Contained Communities.~~

~~The Bear Creek Urban Planned Development agreements and Fully Contained Community approvals expired in 2020 and 2023. At that time, the former Urban Planned Development and Fully Contained Community areas were redesignated in the Comprehensive Plan consistent with their developed conditions. Their zoning was also changed to ensure the areas could continue to be used in a manner consistent with the Comprehensive Plan land use designations.~~

~~At this time, there are no longer large, undeveloped unincorporated urban areas that would be suitable for future designation and development of additional Urban Planned Developments or Fully Contained Communities.~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD

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~~((U-176)) Sites for potential new Urban Planned Developments may be designated within the established Urban Growth Area to realize mutual benefits for the public and the property owner. Two Urban Planned Developments areas have been designated by the county: the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area, comprised of the Redmond Ridge (formerly known as Northridge) Urban Planned Development, the Trilogy at Redmond Ridge (formerly known as Blakely Ridge) Urban Planned Development, and the Redmond Ridge East Urban Planned Development, and Cougar Mountain Village Urban Planned Development. Future Urban Planned Development sites in the Urban Growth Area shall be designated through a subarea planning process, or through a Comprehensive Plan amendment initiated by the property owner.~~

~~U-177 The creation of Urban Planned Developments is intended to serve as a model for achieving a mix of uses, appropriate development patterns, and high quality design, as well as providing for public benefits that shall include:~~

- ~~a. Open space and critical areas protection;~~
- ~~b. Diversity in housing types and affordability;~~
- ~~c. Quality site design; and~~
- ~~d. Transit and nonmotorized transportation opportunities.~~

The Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area was first designated for urban development in 1989 in the Bear Creek Community Plan. The urban designation of this area under the Growth Management Act was established in the Countywide Planning Policies in 1992 and affirmed in 1994. The Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area was included in the Urban Growth Area designated in the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan. Since the adoption of the 1994 Comprehensive Plan, both Redmond Ridge and Trilogy have been approved as Urban Planned Developments and King County has entered into development agreements governing the development of these sites. The legality of these development approvals was challenged and these legal challenges have been rejected. Therefore, these sites will be, and are being, developed at urban densities.

Through the adoption of the 2000 King County Comprehensive Plan update, King County reaffirmed its urban designation of the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area. In addition to the reasons that led the County (and the region) to originally include this area within the County's Urban Growth Area, when the County adopted the 2000 update, it noted that: two sites within this area had been approved for urban development after the adoption of the original Growth Management Act Comprehensive Plan; significant infrastructure improvements had been made at these sites; and the ultimate development of these sites was proceeding in accordance with issued permit approvals. The existence of these urban improvements further supported a conclusion that this area is characterized by urban growth within the meaning of the Growth Management Act and was therefore appropriately included within the County's Urban Growth Area.

Since the county considered and adopted the 2000 update, significant development within the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area has taken place. The Urban Planned Development permits approved by the county required the construction of infrastructure needed to support urban development of the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area. Those infrastructure improvements have now been completed or are under construction. This includes sanitary sewer trunk lines and pump stations; water trunk lines, pump stations, and storage facilities; stormwater collection, detention, treatment and discharge facilities; other utilities; a park and open space system linked by trails; and required road improvements. In addition, King County has granted final

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1586 plat approval for lots for more than 2,100 of the dwelling units approved by the
1587 Redmond Ridge and Trilogy Urban Planned Development permits and more than 1,600
1588 of those dwelling units have been built, are under construction, or have been permitted.
1589 Furthermore, major community facilities and services such as the 18-hole golf course
1590 and clubhouse, the Redmond Ridge Community Center, and the retail center and
1591 grocery store have been completed or are under construction. All of these
1592 developments support the conclusion that the Redmond Ridge and Trilogy Urban
1593 Planned Development sites are now fully characterized by and irrevocably committed to
1594 urban growth, and the county therefore reaffirms its urban designation of the Bear
1595 Creek Urban Planned Development area.

1596
1597 The urban designation of the Bear Creek, now referred to as Redmond Ridge East, has
1598 an approved Urban Planned Development permit and a Fully Contained Community
1599 permit that authorized the urban development of Redmond Ridge East. Redmond
1600 Ridge East is served by the urban infrastructure that has already been constructed to
1601 serve the Redmond Ridge and Trilogy Urban Planned Development sites.

1602
1603 The county reaffirms its urban designation of the Redmond Ridge East for the following
1604 reasons: this site has always been treated by King County as part of the Bear Creek
1605 Urban Planned Development urban area; this site is adjacent to the urban development
1606 that has already occurred and that will continue to occur at Trilogy and Redmond Ridge;
1607 this site is located in relationship to the rest of the Bear Creek Urban Planned
1608 Development area so as to be appropriate for urban growth; and this site is an area that
1609 will be served by existing urban public facilities and services that have been provided in
1610 accordance with Trilogy and Redmond Ridge Urban Planned Development permit
1611 requirements.

1612
1613 The Growth Management Act allows counties to establish a process, as part of the
1614 Urban Growth Area designation, for reviewing proposals to authorize new Fully
1615 Contained Communities. Criteria for approval of Fully Contained Communities are
1616 contained in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 36.70A.350. If a county establishes in
1617 its comprehensive plan a process for authorizing Fully Contained Communities, it must
1618 adopt procedures for approving Fully Contained Communities in its development
1619 regulations. King County has established a Fully Contained Community consisting of
1620 the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area.

1621
1622 ~~**U-178 King County has established a Fully Contained Community. This one**~~
1623 ~~**area is designated through this Comprehensive Plan and is shown on**~~
1624 ~~**the Land Use Map as the urban planned community of the Bear Creek**~~
1625 ~~**Urban Planned Development area comprised of Trilogy at Redmond**~~
1626 ~~**Ridge, Redmond Ridge, and Redmond Ridge East Urban Planned**~~
1627 ~~**Development sites. Nothing in these policies shall affect the continued**~~
1628 ~~**validity of the approved Urban Planned Development permits for these**~~
1629 ~~**sites. This Fully Contained Community designation may be**~~
1630 ~~**implemented by separate or coordinated Fully Contained Community**~~
1631 ~~**permits.**~~

1632
1633 ~~**U-179 The population, household, and employment growth targets and**~~
1634 ~~**allocations for the county's Urban Growth Area in this plan include the**~~
1635 ~~**Bear Creek Urban Planned Development area. Accordingly, the**~~
1636 ~~**requirements in Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.350(2) that the**~~
1637 ~~**county reserve a portion of the 20-year population projection for**~~
1638 ~~**allocation to new Fully Contained Communities has been satisfied.**~~
1639

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD

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- ~~U-180~~ — ~~The review and approval process for a Fully Contained Community permit shall be the same as that for an Urban Planned Development permit, except the following additional criteria shall be met, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.70A.350:~~
- ~~a. New infrastructure (including transportation and utilities infrastructure) is provided for and impact fees are established and imposed on the Fully Contained Community consistent with the requirements of RCW 82.02.050;~~
 - ~~b. Transit-oriented site planning and traffic demand management programs are implemented in the Fully Contained Community. Pedestrian, bicycle, and high occupancy vehicle facilities are given high priority in design and management of the Fully Contained Community;~~
 - ~~c. Buffers are provided between the Fully Contained Community and adjacent non-Fully Contained Community areas. Perimeter buffers located within the perimeter boundaries of the Fully Contained Community delineated boundaries, consisting of either landscaped areas with native vegetation or natural areas, shall be provided and maintained to reduce impacts on adjacent lands;~~
 - ~~d. A mix of uses is provided to offer jobs, housing, and services to the residents of the new Fully Contained Community. No particular percentage formula for the mix of uses should be required. Instead, the mix of uses for a Fully Contained Community should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, in light of the geography, market demand area, demographics, transportation patterns, and other relevant factors affecting the proposed Fully Contained Community. Service uses in the Fully Contained Community may also serve residents outside the Fully Contained Community, where appropriate;~~
 - ~~e. Affordable housing is provided within the new Fully Contained Community for a broad range of income levels, including housing affordable by households with income levels below and near the median income for King County;~~
 - ~~f. Environmental protection has been addressed and provided for in the new Fully Contained Community, at levels at least equivalent to those imposed by adopted King County environmental regulations;~~
 - ~~g. Development regulations are established to ensure urban growth will not occur in adjacent nonurban areas. Such regulations shall include but are not limited to: rural zoning of adjacent Rural Areas; Fully Contained Community permit conditions requiring sizing of Fully Contained Community water and sewer systems so as to ensure urban growth will not occur in adjacent nonurban areas; and/or Fully Contained Community permit conditions prohibiting connection by property owners in the adjacent Rural Area (except public school sites) to the Fully Contained Community sewer and water mains or lines;~~
 - ~~h. Provision is made to mitigate impacts of the Fully Contained Community on designated agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands; and~~
 - ~~i. The plan for the new Fully Contained Community is consistent with the development regulations established for the protection of critical areas by King County pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170.~~

~~For purposes of evaluating a Fully Contained Community permit the following direction is provided: The term "fully contained" is not intended to prohibit all interaction between a Fully Contained Community and adjacent lands but to limit impacts on adjacent lands and contain them within the development site as much as possible. "Fully contained" should be achieved through the imposition of development conditions that limit impacts on adjacent and nearby~~

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~~lands and do not increase pressures on adjacent lands for urban development. "Fully contained" is not intended to mandate that all utilities and public services needed by an urban population both start and end within the property (since sewer, water, power, and roads, are of such a nature that the origin and/or outfall cannot reasonably exist within the property boundaries), but that the costs and provisions for those utilities and public services that are generated primarily by the Fully Contained Community (schools, police, parks, employment, retail needs) be reasonably accommodated within its boundaries and not increase pressure for more urban development on adjacent properties.}}~~

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~~((F. Eastside Rail Corridor~~

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~~The Eastside Rail Corridor is a former freight-rail facility railbanked under the National Trails System Act, 16 USC 1247(d), extending approximately 19 miles on its mainline from Renton to Woodinville with an approximately seven-mile "spur" extending from Woodinville to Redmond. King County, the cities of Redmond and Kirkland, Sound Transit, and Puget Sound Energy have acquired Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway's (BNSF) property interests in the Eastside Rail Corridor and have established a shared policy goal of dual use (recreational trail and public transportation), supporting mobility through transit, nonmotorized and active transportation, including access to transit outside the corridor, consistent with its federal railbanked status. The owners share other multiple objectives for the corridor, including accommodating utilities, parks, recreation and cultural amenities, and encouraging equitable access to these facilities, and to housing and jobs, in support of economic opportunity for all King County residents.~~

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~~**U-191** King County shall collaborate with all Eastside Rail Corridor owners, adjacent and neighboring jurisdictions, and other interested and affected parties in support of achieving a vision for the corridor that includes dual use (recreational trail and public transportation) and supports multiple objectives, consistent with federal railbanking.~~

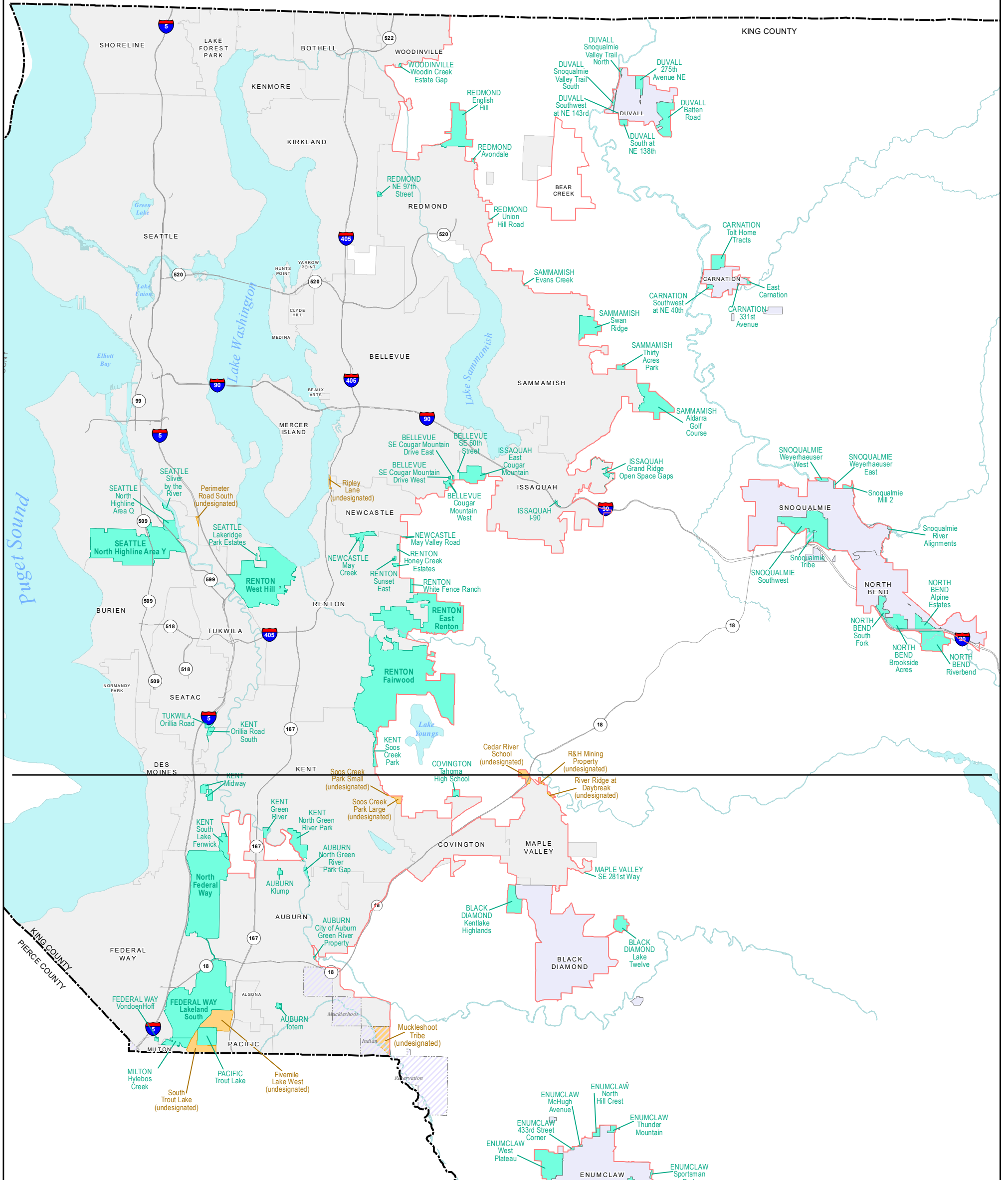
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~~**U-192** King County shall identify and implement actions that support development of the Eastside Rail Corridor to include dual use (recreational trail and public transportation), consistent with federal railbanking, and to achieve multiple objectives, such as actions to include property management and maintenance, service and capital planning and improvements, community and stakeholder engagement, securing funding to implement priority activities, and other actions.~~

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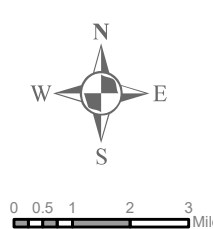
~~**U-193** King County shall work within all appropriate planning venues and processes to integrate the Eastside Rail Corridor into land use plans, transportation system plans, trail system plans, utility plans, and other plans, including significant capital projects or plans that affect and relate to dual use (recreational trail and public transportation), consistent with federal railbanking, and achieving multiple objectives for the corridor.}}~~

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**King County's
Urban Potential Annexation Areas and
City in Rural Area Potential Annexation Areas**
King County Comprehensive Plan, 2020
Chapter 2, Urban Communities

- Designated City PAAs
- Undesignated PAAs
- Incorporated City
- City in Rural Area
- Urban Growth Area Boundary

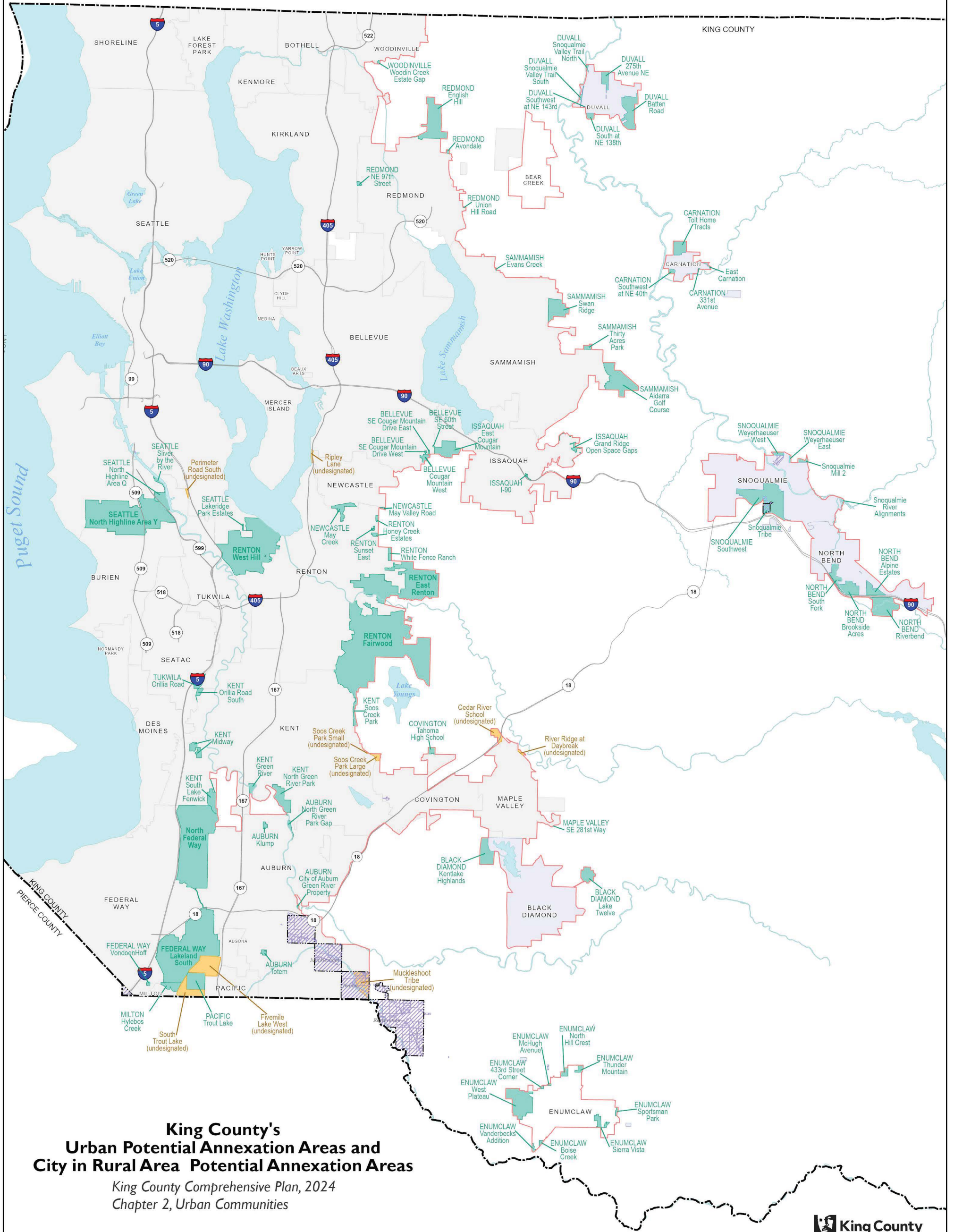


Data Sources:
King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Regional Planning Section

Notes:
The maps in the King County Comprehensive Plan and its technical appendices are produced with a computer geographic information system. They are reduced in size but available at a larger scale.

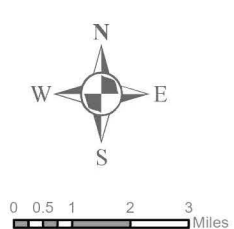
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**King County's
Urban Potential Annexation Areas and
City in Rural Area Potential Annexation Areas**
King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter 2, Urban Communities

- Designated City PAAs
- Undesignated PAAs
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- King County Boundary
- Incorporated City
- City in Rural Area
- Indian Reservation Boundary
- Indian Trust Land

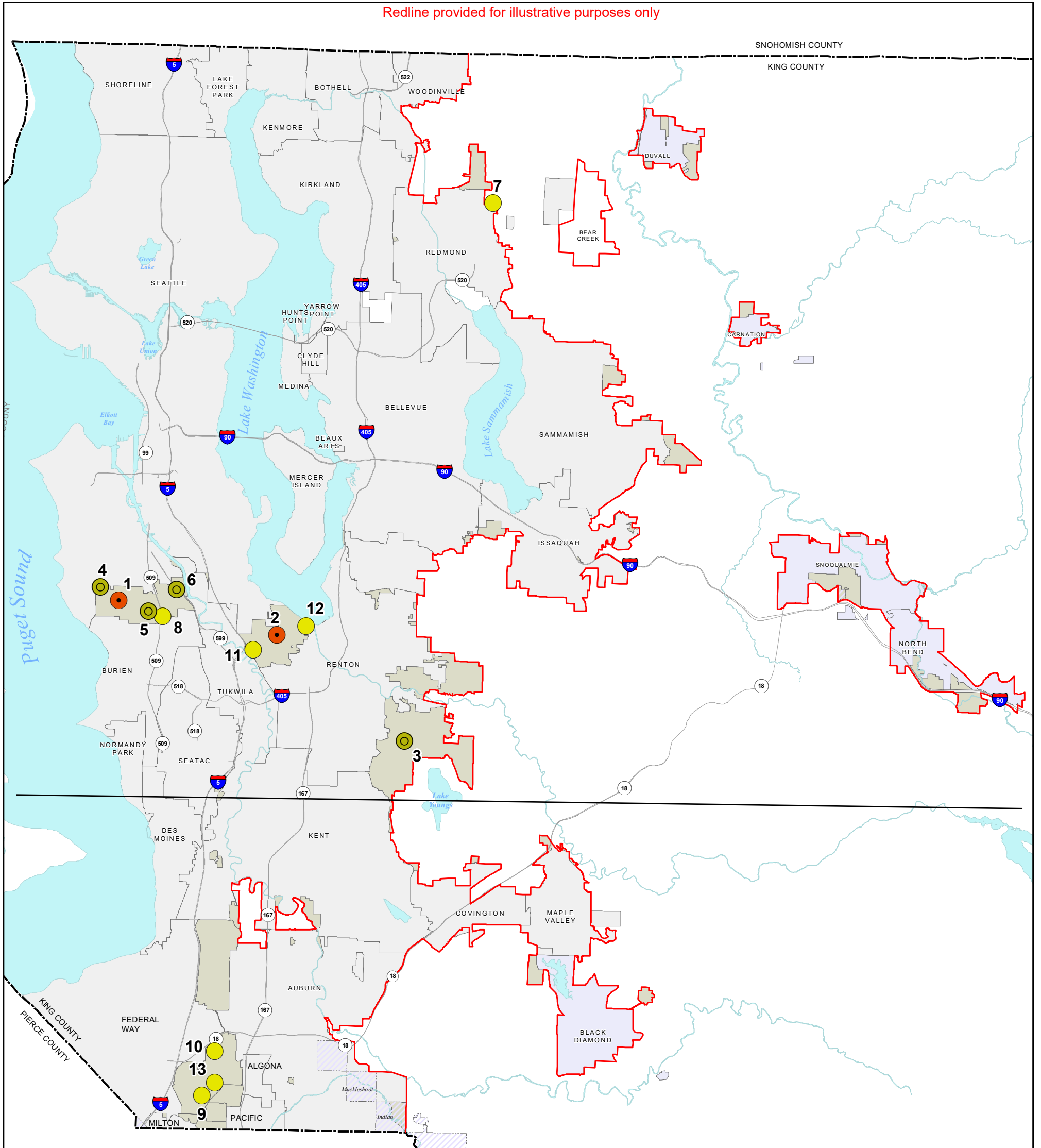


Data Sources:
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Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

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URBAN CENTERS 2022

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2022
Chapter Two, Urban Communities

- Unincorporated Activity Center
- 1** White Center
- 2** Skyway
- Community Business Centers
- 3** Fairwood
- 4** Roxhill
- 5** Top Hat
- 6** Glendale
- Neighborhood Business Centers
- 7** Avondale Corner
- 8** Beverly Park
- 9** Jovita
- 10** Lake Geneva
- 11** Martin Luther King Jr. Way/60th Ave.-64th Ave. S
- 12** Rainier Ave. S/S. 114th St.-S. 117th St.
- 13** Spider Lake

- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- Tribal Lands
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- King County Boundary
- Freeways



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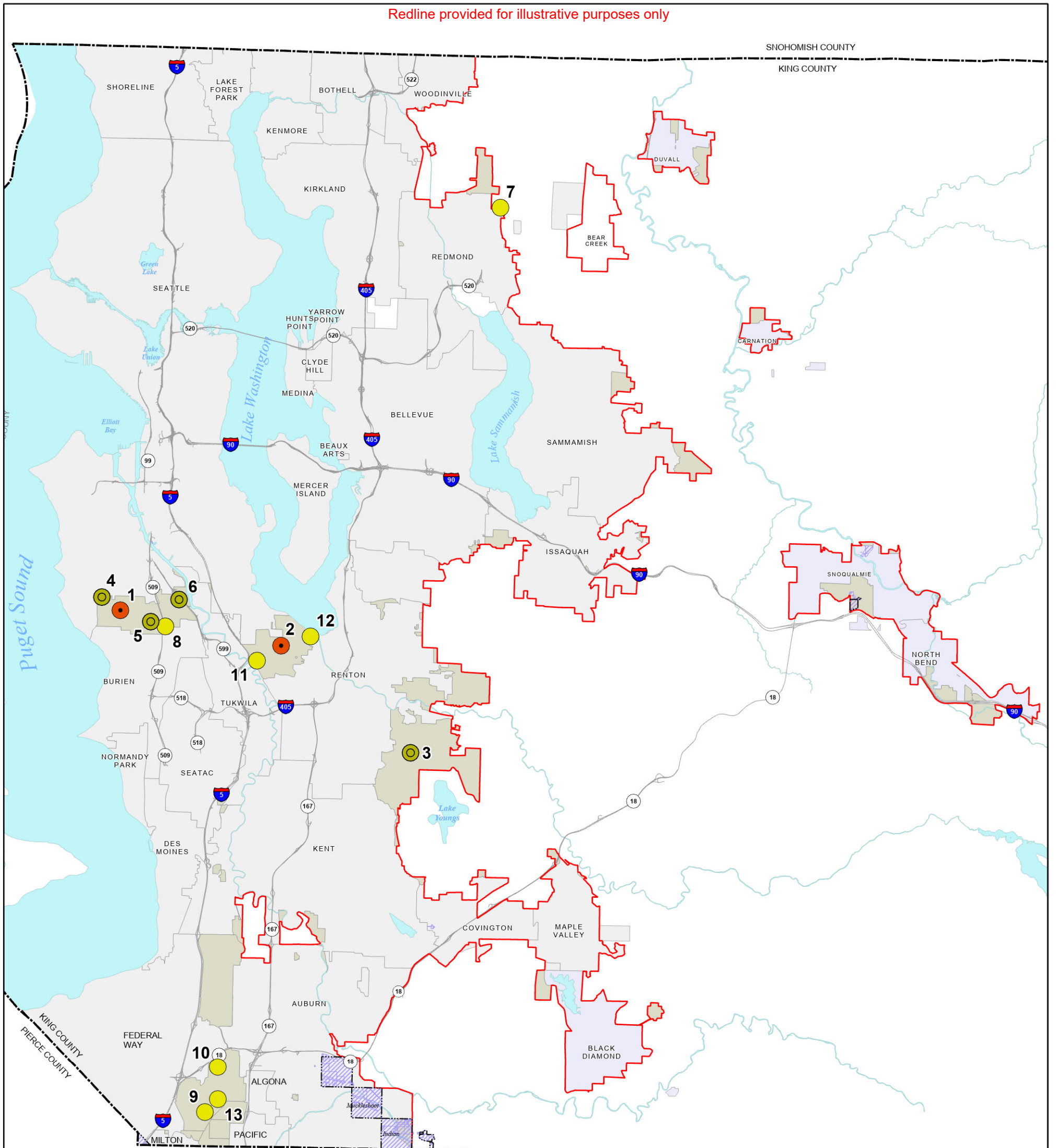


Data Sources:
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Date: 4/4/2022
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COUNTYWIDE AND LOCAL CENTERS IN UNINCORPORATED KING COUNTY

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter Two, Urban Communities

- Unincorporated Activity Center
- 1 White Center
- 2 Skyway
- Community Business Centers
- 3 Fairwood
- 4 Roxhill
- 5 Top Hat
- 6 Glendale
- Neighborhood Business Centers
- 7 Avondale Corner
- 8 Beverly Park
- 9 Jovita
- 10 Lake Geneva
- 11 Martin Luther King Jr. Way/60th Ave.-64th Ave. S
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- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- Indian Reservation Boundary
- Indian Trust Land
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
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- Freeways



Data Sources:
King County Department Local Services
Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

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A scenic rural landscape featuring a large, rugged mountain range in the background, partially covered in dense green forest. In the middle ground, a weathered wooden barn with a grey roof stands amidst more trees. The foreground is dominated by a lush field of green leafy vegetables, likely chard or spinach, with a person visible on the left side working in the field. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

CHAPTER 3

RURAL AREA(S) AND NATURAL RESOURCE LANDS

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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~~CHAPTER 3~~

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~~RURAL AREAS AND NATURAL~~

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~~Rural King County is an essential part of the County's rich diversity of communities and lifestyle choices; encompassing landscapes of scenic and great natural beauty. This chapter sets forth the County's intent and policies to ensure the conservation and enhancement of rural communities and natural resource lands:~~

~~In addressing these Rural Area needs, this chapter also comprises the rural land use designations, such as Rural Area, Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, and Rural Towns. It also addresses the ((designated)) Natural Resource Lands, which include lands designated Agriculture, ((Forest)) Forestry, or Mining ((on the Land Use Map.)):~~

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I. Introduction

~~((1. Growth Management Act Goals, Elements, and Requirements))~~

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The "Rural Area and Natural Resource LandsHistory and Character," "Rural Area GeographyDesignation," "Rural Densities and Development," "~~Rural Public Facilities and Services~~," and "Rural Commercial centers" ((5))sections ((I through V)) of this chapter satisfy the Growth Management Act's mandatory rural element by designating Rural Area lands ((in order)) to limit development and prevent sprawl, by permitting land uses that are supportive of and compatible with the rural character established in the King County Countywide Planning Policies, and by providing for a variety of rural densities. These sections also satisfy the mandatory land use element by indicating the population densities that are appropriate for the Rural Area. The policies in these sections also encourage natural resource_based industries and uses in the Rural Area as required by the Growth Management Act.

The "Natural Resource Lands" ((5))section ((VI)) of this chapter satisfies ~~((Growth Management Act Goal 8 to maintain and enhance natural resource-based industries,))~~ the Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.170 requirement to designate Natural Resource Lands; and the Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.080 optional conservation element by conserving Natural Resource Lands.

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Preserving rural King County plays a key role in ensuring a continuing variety of landscapes, maintaining the diverse communities that often portray the county's rural ~~((legacy)) history and character~~, and supporting the evolving rural economic opportunities for the county and its residents. The rural landscape is characterized by extensive forests and farm lands, free-flowing rivers and streams that provide high-quality habitat for fish and wildlife, and a mixture of housing types along with small commercial enterprises and business hubs. The Rural Area~~((s))~~ and rural-based economies contribute to the range of choices and enhance the quality of life ~~((of))~~ for all county residents. ~~((The Growth Management Act ((and the King County Strategic Plan)) envision_s different landscapes, infrastructure, and levels_s of service((s)) for urban and rural communities.))~~ King County is committed to sustaining rural economic clusters and rural character.

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Traditional rural economic activities have evolved over the decades as residents have responded to changing markets and the expansion of urban areas. Large-scale, commercial forestry and mining have been and continue to be the traditional land uses in the eastern half of King County. Farming continues in the prime soils found in the river valleys and on the Enumclaw Plateau. Although certain historically prevalent types of agriculture such as hops_farming have disappeared, and the number of dairy farms has declined, today's farmers are exploring new crops, value-added products, and creative direct marketing. County residents raise livestock, such as poultry, cattle, sheep, ~~((llamas, alpacas, and buffalo)), hogs, and goats~~. Equestrian activities, including breeding, training, boarding, and recreation, have become a more significant part of the rural economy. The types of businesses now locating in the Rural Towns and Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers and those being developed as home-based businesses have also responded to these changes in the county, and in the commercial market((-))place.

~~((The glacial soils and terrain that give King County its natural beauty also create significant environmentally critical areas, such as steep, erodible slopes, wetlands, and groundwater recharge areas. ((Maintenance)) Retention of tree cover, natural vegetation, and wetlands are critical to the continued functioning of the ecosystem and preservation of rural character. The interplay of forest cover, soils, and water are~~

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65 essential to watershed health, ensuring adequate unpolluted groundwater recharge;
66 stormwater runoff flow control and pollution reduction, carbon sequestration, and
67 habitat functions.))

68
69 Conserving the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands in King County is integral to
70 providing diversity in lifestyle choices; sustaining farming(~~((livestock))~~) and forestry
71 economies; protecting environmental quality and wildlife habitat; providing recreation
72 opportunities; and maintaining a link to the county's resource-based heritage.

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73 ~~((2.))~~ **Equity and Social Justice Initiative**

74 It is the county's goal to consider Equity and Social Justice in its planning, project
75 development and local government service delivery throughout the Rural Area and
76 Natural Resource Lands. Policies consistent with the county's Environmental and Social
77 Justice Initiative in this chapter are related to local service delivery, natural resources,
78 food systems and economic development determinants, respectively.

79
80 In its role as a local government in the unincorporated area, King County is committed
81 to work to reduce inequities and provide opportunities by incorporating the values of
82 the county's Equity and Social Justice work into the daily practice of developing policies
83 and programs, making funding decisions and delivering services.

84
85 Policies in this chapter also support healthy built and natural environments by
86 protecting Natural Resource Lands from development and ensuring a mix of land uses
87 that support rural jobs, natural resource-based businesses and conserved open spaces
88 that provide environmental services such as clean air, clean water and wildlife habitat.
89 Agricultural policies support local food systems and provide access to affordable,
90 healthy, and culturally appropriate foods for county residents. Agricultural policies in
91 this chapter that implement the county's 2015 Local Food Initiative address the need to
92 bring additional land into food production, to improve access to technical and financial
93 resources for farmers that need them, and make local food more accessible in
94 underserved communities.

95
96 Additional policies related to economic development in the agriculture and forestry
97 sectors are located in Chapter 10, Economic Development.

98
99 The King County Rural Forest Commission and Agriculture Commission advise the
100 county on the development and implementation of strategies, programs, policies and
101 regulations that affect rural communities and resource lands. The members of these
102 advisory boards are chosen to represent the diverse interests of affected rural residents
103 and business owners.

104 **3. Rural Area and Communities))**

105 Throughout this chapter and elsewhere the Comprehensive Plan, references are made
106 to the "Rural Area" and to "Natural Resource Lands." This terminology aligns with two of
107 the three geographies delineated in the Growth Management Act: the Urban Growth
108 Area, the Rural Area, and Natural Resource Lands.

- 109 • The "Rural Area" (capitalized) is a geography that includes the Rural Area (ra) land
110 use designation and Rural Area (RA) zoning classifications. The Rural Area
111 geography also includes other zoning classifications and land use designations on
112 properties that are also located outside of the Urban Growth Area and designated
113 Natural Resource Lands, such as in Rural Towns and Rural Neighborhood
114 Commercial Centers.

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- 115 • If only the Rural Area land use designation (ra) or Rural Area zoning (RA) are meant,
116 the words "land use designation" or "zone" (or equivalent term) will be included,
117 respectively.
- 118 • "Natural Resource Lands" (capitalized) are a separate geography from the Rural
119 Area and include lands of long-term commercial significance that are required to be
120 designated and protected under the Growth Management Act, such as Agricultural
121 Production Districts, Forest Production Districts, and Mineral lands.
- 122 • There are also other, non-designated resource lands (lower-case) that are not of
123 long-term commercial significance that occur in the Rural Area geography.
- 124 • The term "rural" (lower-case), such as in "rural character" or "rural history," can apply
125 to both the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands geographies.

126
127 Refer to the Glossary for more information about how these terms are used in the
128 Comprehensive Plan.

129
130 ~~((Understanding and c))~~Conserving the unique characteristics of the Rural Area and
131 ~~((each of the county's distinct rural communities))~~ Natural Resource Lands will help King
132 County retain its rural character and ~~((it's))~~ its agricultural, forestry, and mining heritage.

133
134 King County's Rural Area, including communities such as the Hobart Plateau, Vashon-
135 Maury Island, the Snoqualmie Valley, and the Enumclaw Plateau, ~~((are))~~ is characterized
136 by low density residential development, farms, ranches, forests, watersheds crucial for
137 both fisheries and flood hazard management, mining areas, ~~((small cities and towns,))~~
138 historic sites and buildings, archaeological sites, and regionally important recreation
139 areas. These rural uses complement and support the more extensive resource uses in
140 the ~~((designated))~~ Natural Resource Lands. The location of the Rural Area between the
141 Urban Growth Area and the ~~((designated))~~ -Natural Resource Lands helps to protect
142 commercial agriculture and timber from incompatible uses.

143
144 Designation and conservation of the Rural Area supports and sustains rural communities
145 and rural character as valued parts of King County's diversity. It also provides choices in
146 living environments; maintains a link to King County's heritage; allows farming~~((;~~
147 ~~livestock uses,))~~ and forestry to continue; and helps protect environmental quality and
148 ~~((sensitive resources))~~ critical areas, such as groundwater recharge areas and
149 watersheds crucial for both fisheries and flood hazard management. Rural King County
150 also acts to enhance urban areas by providing ~~((a safe and reliable local food source,))~~
151 nearby open spaces and parks for a variety of recreation and tourism opportunities,
152 ~~((and))~~ as well as educational opportunities to explore current and ~~((historic))~~ historical
153 agricultural and forestry practices.

154
155 ~~((The purpose of the zoning and land use designations in the Rural Area is to provide~~
156 ~~services and limited goods that satisfy rural residents' and local businesses' daily needs.~~

157
158 ~~4. —~~ **Resource Lands))**

159 The growing, ~~((harvest))~~ harvesting, extraction, processing, and use of products from
160 ~~((the))~~ ~~designated~~ Natural Resource Lands play an important role in King County's
161 economy by providing jobs and products for local use and export. Agricultural and
162 forest lands also provide scenic views, links to King County's cultural heritage, and
163 environmental benefits such as wildlife habitat, improvements in air and water quality,
164 food security, a climate-resilient ecosystem, and carbon sequestration. In large
165 measure, King County's quality of life is dependent upon the thoughtful planning and
166 sound management of these lands to ensure their long-term conservation and
167 productive use.

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168
169 ((The p)) Population growth in the Puget Sound Region since 1945 has resulted in the
170 conversion of agricultural and forest lands to other uses, and the reduction of mining
171 opportunities. The natural resource land base has diminished for many reasons, among
172 them the demand for more land for urban land uses, fragmentation of large acreages
173 into rural residential properties, loss of infrastructure such as local processing facilities
174 for resource-based industries, and the high cost of land. Since 1994, when King County
175 designated its Natural Resource Lands of long ~~((-))~~ term commercial significance under
176 Growth Management Act, it has been much more successful in retaining these areas.
177

178 ~~((Section VI contains King County's strategy for conservation of these valuable resource
179 lands and for encouraging their productive and sustainable management. The strategy
180 consists of policies to guide planning, incentives, education, and regulation. Although
181 Section VI focuses on the designated Resource Lands of long term commercial
182 significance, many of the policies are applicable to farm, forest and mineral lands in the
183 Rural Area as well.))~~
184

185 ~~I.)~~ II. ~~((Rural Area)) Rural History and~~
186 Character and Natural Resource Lands

187 ~~((A.))~~ Rural ~~((Legacy)) History and Communities~~

188 King County's rural ~~((legacy)) history and character~~ is found in ~~((the rich history of))~~ its
189 rural communities ~~((and continues today))~~, in the preservation of the county's historic,
190 cultural, ecological, and archaeological sites, and ~~((to))~~ in its rich and varied forestry,
191 agricultural, and mining heritage. ~~((The)) Development of~~ railroads played a significant
192 role in the ~~((historic)) historical~~ growth and development of the county ~~((, its legacy)) that~~
193 is still seen in tourism opportunities in the Cities in the Rural Area such as Skykomish and
194 Snoqualmie. Historic barns and farmhouses are found throughout the agricultural areas
195 of the county. A few commercial-scale ~~((L))lumber~~ saw-mills influenced the
196 development of communities, such as ~~((the Rural ((Commercial)) Neighborhood~~
197 Commercial Center of)) in Preston ~~((, (where the mill site is still in existence and historic~~
198 photos adorn the walls of the community center. Chapter 7, Parks Open Space and
199 Cultural Resources of this Comprehensive Plan provides the direction and policies for
200 preserving the county's rural heritage. The policies that relate to conserving the farms
201 and forests in King County are discussed in sections II and VI of this chapter) which was
202 active from 1896 to 1990 and is now preserved as part of Preston Mill Park.
203

204 **R-101** **King County ~~((with)) shall continue to preserve and sustain its rural~~**
205 **~~((legacy)) history, character, and communities through programs and~~**
206 **~~partnerships that support, preserve, and sustain its historic, cultural,~~**
207 **~~ecological, agricultural, forestry, and mining heritage through~~**
208 **~~collaboration with Indian tribes, local and regional preservation and~~**
209 **~~heritage programs, community groups, rural residents, and business~~**
210 **~~owners including forest and farm owners, ((rural communities, towns,~~**
211 **~~and c)) Cities in the Rural Area, and other interested ((stakeholders))~~**
212 **~~parties.~~**

213 ~~((B.))~~ Rural Character

214 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires the protection of traditional rural activities and~~
215 ~~rural character.))~~ King County is committed to protecting rural character and recognizes
216 that each of its rural communities has distinct and unique characteristics. These
217 communities vary depending on settlement and economic history, geography, and

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218 distance from the urbanizing areas of the region. ~~((For example, residents of Vashon-~~
219 ~~Maury Island, accessible ((only)) mainly by ferry((, sea or air)), enjoy an island((s leisurely~~
220 ~~and scenic)) lifestyle with marine recreational activities.)) Residents of the hilly gorge~~
221 ~~region around Black Diamond enjoy numerous recreational opportunities. There are~~
222 ~~small communities throughout rural King County, such as Hobart and Cumberland, each~~
223 ~~with its own unique history and lifestyle. Other communities with rich rural heritages,~~
224 ~~such as Old Maple Valley, are in transition as development of land in and adjacent to the~~
225 ~~areas is occurring. In the Snoqualmie Valley, farming is still the mainstay, while further~~
226 ~~east, the Town of Skykomish has a significant railroad and forestry history.~~

227
228 Population growth in Puget Sound communities affects rural character everywhere in
229 the region. ~~((King County was once firmly rooted in agriculture, forestry and mining.~~
230 ~~However, w))With regional growth both the rural economy and the rural population are~~
231 ~~changing, as are the expectations of some rural residents for ((e))County services. Some~~
232 ~~residents are more accustomed to independent lifestyles focused around resource uses~~
233 ~~such as farming((, dairying, keeping of livestock,)) or forestry. Other residents and~~
234 ~~visitors can be surprised by the sights, sounds, and smells associated with rural living;~~
235 ~~and can be accustomed to higher levels of service and facilities than are traditionally~~
236 ~~provided in the Rural Area.~~

237
238 One of the challenges facing the ((c))County is to provide for a diversity of lifestyle
239 choices while providing public services at rural levels. ~~((As the ((c))County recognizes a~~
240 ~~profound difference between the nature and character of unincorporated rural King~~
241 ~~County as compared to the urban areas, it is the intent of the ((c))County to continue to~~
242 ~~provide services at established rural levels that support and help maintain rural~~
243 ~~character.~~

244 ~~((C. Public Engagement~~

245 In order to implement its goals, objectives, and strategies for broader public
246 engagement, King County has created several Community Service Areas that
247 encompass all of unincorporated King County, including areas without representation
248 by any Unincorporated Area Council. The Community Service Areas provide a conduit
249 for greater participation by all residents in unincorporated King County and increase
250 opportunities for residents to inform county decisions relating to programs and capital
251 projects within each Community Service Area.))R-102 — King County will continue to
252 support the diversity and richness of its rural communities and their distinct character by
253 working with its rural constituencies through its Community Service Areas program to
254 sustain and enhance the rural character of Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.
255

256 ~~H.))III. Rural Area ((Designation))~~ 257 ~~Geography~~

258 ~~((A.))((Rural Area Designation Criteria)) Designation~~ 259 ~~of the Rural Area Geography~~

260 The Rural Area ~~((designation))~~ in King County represents the multi-use nature of rural
261 lands, including working farms and forests, livestock uses, home-based businesses and
262 housing. The sustainability and enhancement of these areas and their underlying
263 economic health is critical to the range of lifestyle choices available in King County. ~~It is~~
264 ~~a fundamental objective of the King County Comprehensive Plan to maintain the~~
265 ~~character of its designated Rural Area. The Growth Management Act specifies that the~~
266 ~~rural element of comprehensive plans include measures that apply to rural~~

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267 ~~development and protect the rural character of the area (Revised Code of Washington~~
268 ~~36.70A.070. The Growth Management Act defines rural character as it relates to land~~
269 ~~use and development patterns (Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.030). Rural~~
270 ~~development can consist of a variety of uses that are consistent with the preservation of~~
271 ~~rural character and the requirements of the rural element. In order to implement the~~
272 ~~Growth Management Act, it is necessary to define the development patterns that are~~
273 ~~considered rural, historical, or traditional and do not encourage urban growth or create~~
274 ~~pressure for urban facilities and service.~~

275
276 The criteria set forth in this section were used to draw the boundaries of the Rural Area
277 designated by this plan.

278
279 **R-201** ~~((It is a fundamental objective of the King County Comprehensive Plan~~
280 ~~to maintain the character of its designated Rural Area. The Growth~~
281 ~~Management Act specifies the rural element of comprehensive plans~~
282 ~~include measures that apply to rural development and protect the rural~~
283 ~~character of the area (Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.070((5)))).~~
284 ~~The Growth Management Act defines rural character as it relates to land~~
285 ~~use and development patterns (Revised Code of Washington~~
286 ~~36.70A.030((15))). ((This definition can be found in the Glossary of~~
287 ~~this Plan.)) Rural development can consist of a variety of uses that are~~
288 ~~consistent with the preservation of rural character and the~~
289 ~~requirements of the rural element. ((In order to)) To implement the~~
290 ~~Growth Management Act, it is necessary to define the development~~
291 ~~patterns that are considered rural, historical, or traditional and do not~~
292 ~~encourage urban growth or create pressure for urban facilities and~~
293 ~~service.~~

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294
295 ~~Therefore,)) King County's land use regulations and development~~
296 ~~standards shall protect and enhance the following attributes associated~~
297 ~~with rural character and the Rural Area:~~

- 298 a. ~~The natural environment, particularly as evidenced by the health of~~
299 ~~wildlife and fisheries (especially salmon and trout), aquifers used~~
300 ~~for potable water, surface water bodies including Puget Sound and~~
301 ~~natural drainage systems and their riparian ((corridors)) areas;~~
- 302 b. ~~Commercial and noncommercial farming, forestry, fisheries,~~
303 ~~mining, home((-))occupations, and home industries;~~
- 304 c. ~~Historic resources, historical character, and continuity important to~~
305 ~~local communities, as well as archaeological and cultural sites~~
306 ~~important to Indian tribes;~~
- 307 d. ~~Community small-town atmosphere, safety, and locally((-))owned~~
308 ~~small businesses;~~
- 309 e. ~~Economically and fiscally healthy Rural Towns and Rural~~
310 ~~Neighborhood Commercial Centers with clearly defined identities~~
311 ~~compatible with adjacent rural, agricultural, forestry, and mining~~
312 ~~uses;~~
- 313 f. ~~Regionally significant parks, trails, and open space for all King~~
314 ~~County residents;~~
- 315 g. ~~A variety of low-density housing choices compatible with adjacent~~
316 ~~farming, forestry, and mining and not needing urban facilities and~~
317 ~~services;~~
- 318 h. ~~Traditional rural land uses of a size and scale that blend with~~
319 ~~((historic)) historical rural development; and~~
- 320 i. ~~Rural uses that do not ((include)) primarily ((urban-serving~~
321 ~~facilities)) serve the urban area.~~

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- 323 **R-202** ~~The Rural Area geography shown on the ((King County Comprehensive~~
 324 ~~Plan)) Land Use Map shall include areas that are rural in character and~~
 325 ~~((meet one or more of the following criteria)) that:~~
 326 a. ~~Have ((Ø))opportunities ((exist)) for significant commercial or~~
 327 ~~noncommercial farming and forestry (large-scale farms and forest~~
 328 ~~lands are designated as Natural Resource Lands);~~
 329 b. ~~((The area w))Will h))Help buffer nearby Natural Resource Lands~~
 330 ~~from conflicting urban uses;~~
 331 c. ~~((The area is)) Are contiguous to other lands in the Rural Area,~~
 332 ~~Natural Resource Lands, or large, predominantly~~
 333 ~~((environmentally)) critical areas;~~
 334 d. ~~((There are)) Have major physical barriers to providing urban~~
 335 ~~services at reasonable cost, or ((such areas)) that will help foster~~
 336 ~~more logical boundaries for urban public services and~~
 337 ~~infrastructure;~~
 338 e. ~~((The area is)) Are not needed for the foreseeable future that is well~~
 339 ~~beyond the 20-year forecast period to provide capacity for~~
 340 ~~population or employment growth;~~
 341 f. ~~((The area has)) Have outstanding scenic, historic, environmental,~~
 342 ~~resource, or aesthetic values that can best be protected by a rural~~
 343 ~~designation; or~~
 344 g. ~~Have ((S))significant ((environmental constraints)) critical areas that~~
 345 ~~make the area generally unsuitable for intensive urban~~
 346 ~~development.~~

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348 The Rural Area geography is generally located east of the Urban Growth Area, with the
 349 exception of the entirety of Vashon-Maury Island. Within the Rural Area, three land use
 350 categories are primarily applied:

- 351 • ~~Rural Area (encompassing the Rural Area-2.5, Rural Area-5, Rural Area-10, and Rural~~
 352 ~~Area-20 zones), allowing a range of low-density residential developments, forestry,~~
 353 ~~farming, livestock uses, recreation, and a range of traditional rural uses;~~
 354 • ~~Rural Town, recognizing historical settlement patterns and allowing commercial~~
 355 ~~uses to serve rural residents; and~~
 356 • ~~Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, allowing small-scale convenience~~
 357 ~~services for nearby rural residents.~~

359 ~~((While the Growth Management Act, the Countywide Planning Policies and King~~
 360 ~~County's policies and regulations call for protecting the Rural Area by limiting housing~~
 361 ~~densities, there are many other features in addition to density that characterize the Rural~~
 362 ~~Area. Some of the most important features include integration of housing with~~
 363 ~~traditional rural uses such as forestry, farming and keeping of livestock; protection of~~
 364 ~~streams, wetlands and wildlife habitat; preservation of open vistas, wooded areas and~~
 365 ~~scenic roadways; and availability of and reliance on minimal public services. King~~
 366 ~~County is committed to maintaining these features as well, and the policies in this~~
 367 ~~chapter call for continuing and expanding upon these efforts.))~~

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369 **R-203** ~~((King County's)) The Rural Area geography is considered to be~~
370 ~~permanent and shall not be redesignated to ((an)) be in the Urban~~
371 ~~Growth Area ((until)) unless reviewed pursuant to)) except when~~
372 ~~consistent with the Growth Management Act (Revised Code of~~
373 ~~Washington 36.70A.130((3))), ((and)) the Countywide Planning~~
374 ~~Policies, and the Comprehensive Plan.~~

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375 ~~((B.)) Forestry and Agriculture in the Rural ((King~~
376 ~~County)) Area Geography~~

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377 ~~((The Rural Area includes working farms and forests. These contribute to rural~~
378 ~~character, the diversity and self-sufficiency of local economies, and open space, wildlife~~
379 ~~habitat, flood hazard management, ((and)) environmental protection, water quality,~~
380 ~~carbon sequestration, and climate resiliency. However, Rural Area land in farm and~~
381 ~~forest use has diminished since 1985, mostly through the conversion of these lands to~~
382 ~~residential uses. Pressures to convert from resource use include the high land value for~~
383 ~~alternative uses and the encroachment of residential and other development that~~
384 ~~conflicts with the resource use.))~~

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385
386 Although most of King County's agriculture and timber lands are within designated
387 Agricultural and Forest Production Districts, there is a significant land base for
388 agriculture and forestry in the Rural Area. King County has ~~((studied this land base, has))~~
389 ~~mapped agricultural use((;)) and ((has)) identified rural forest areas where forestry will be~~
390 ~~enhanced and protected. Efforts to conserve ((the)) forest((;)) and farm((, and livestock))~~
391 ~~uses are important and include training, technical assistance, and incentive programs~~
392 ~~such as the Transfer of Development Rights Program ((as presented in Section III)).~~

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393
394 **R-204** **Farming and forestry are vital to the preservation of rural King County**
395 **and should be encouraged throughout the Rural Area. King County**
396 **should encourage ((the retention of existing and establishment of**
397 **new)) rural resource-based uses, with appropriate site management**
398 **that protects habitat resources. King County's regulation of ((farming((;**
399 **keeping of livestock;)) agriculture and forestry in the Rural Area should**
400 **be consistent with these guiding principles:**

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- 401 a. Homeowner covenants for new subdivisions and short subdivisions
- 402 in the Rural Area should not restrict farming and forestry;
- 403 b. Development regulations for resource-based activities should be
- 404 tailored to support the resource use and its level of impact;
- 405 c. Agricultural and silvicultural management practices should not be
- 406 construed as public nuisances when carried on in compliance with
- 407 applicable regulations, even though they may impact nearby
- 408 residences; and
- 409 d. County environmental standards for forestry and agriculture should
- 410 protect environmental quality, especially in relation to water and
- 411 fisheries resources, while encouraging forestry and farming.

412
413 **R-205** **Uses related to and appropriate for the Rural Area include those**
414 **relating to agriculture, forestry, mineral extraction, and fisheries, such**
415 **as the raising of livestock, growing of crops, ((creating)) creation of**
416 **value-added products, and sale of agricultural products; small-scale**
417 **((cottage)) home occupations and home industries; and recreational**
418 **and small-scale tourism uses that rely on a rural location.**

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419
420 ~~((Most of the policies related to agriculture and forestry are found in the Resource Lands~~
421 ~~section (Section VI) of this chapter. Many of these policies are relevant to agriculture~~
422 ~~and forestry in the Rural Area as well as in the designated Agricultural and Forest~~
423 ~~Production Districts.~~

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425 The importance of farming and forestry to the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands
426 was first emphasized in the 1994 Comprehensive Plan. Subsequently, the county took
427 steps to encourage the continuation of farm and forestry practices in the Rural Area and
428 Natural Resource Lands, including developing a *Farm and Forest Report* in 1996. The
429 report recommended a series of actions to protect the rural farm and forest land base as
430 well as the practices of farming and forestry, including the provision of technical
431 assistance to aid property owners in land management, outreach to owners of
432 properties vulnerable to development, creating opportunities for property owners to
433 sell their development rights, and seeking funding for public acquisition of rural
434 properties that had an existing resource-based use. The report also recommended the
435 continuation of the King County Agriculture Commission and the appointment of a Rural
436 Forest Commission to review the impact of proposed regulations on rural forestry and
437 recommend incentive programs.))

438 ~~((1.))~~ Forestry

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439 ((Since 1996, King County has been actively implementing the recommendations of the
440 *Farm and Forest Report* through the Forestry Program.)) Throughout the Rural Area,
441 King County encourages small-scale forestry and land stewardship through a variety of
442 ((hand-owner incentive)) landowner-focused and community-based programs. ~~((that))~~
443 These programs provide technical assistance and information to promote forest
444 stewardship that:

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- 445 a. ((Promote forest stewardship through education and technical assistance programs;
446 such as the Washington State University Extension Forest Stewardship Programs
- 447 b. Provide technical assistance and information to landowner groups and community
448 associations seeking to implement land/water stewardship, management of
449 stormwater runoff, habitat restoration and management plans;
- 450 c. Create opportunities and incentives for voluntary, cooperative management of
451 woodlots and open space currently in separate ownership;
- 452 d. Offer technical assistance and information to landowners who are interested in
453 managing their forest for non-timber specialty forest products;
- 454 e. Explore opportunities for providing relief from special levies and assessments;
- 455 f. Conduct projects on King County park lands to demonstrate sustainable forestry
456 practices.)) improves forest health and climate resiliency, reduces wildfire risk,
457 controls stormwater runoff, and improves wildlife habitat; and

458 ~~((g.))~~ b. ((Provide education and assistance in the control of)) Controls noxious and
459 invasive weeds, ~~((including ((information on))~~ through methods such as integrated
460 pest management and protection of pollinators ~~((in accordance with the best~~
461 management practices established by the Environmental Protection Agency and
462 Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, and as implemented by the King
463 County Noxious Weeds Program)).

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465 The ~~((c))~~ County encourages forest stewardship planning and active forest management
466 as a means of reducing conversion of forestland to other uses, improving forest health
467 and climate resiliency, increasing rural economic prosperity, increasing potential to
468 sequester and store carbon, and reducing risks from wildfire. Hundreds of landowners
469 have written forest stewardship plans and have enrolled in current use taxation
470 programs, ~~((demonstrating))~~ which demonstrates a commitment to private forest
471 management.

472
473 ~~((The county has worked with the Rural Forest Commission to identify and propose~~
474 ~~changes to the King County Code to remove impediments to the implementation of~~
475 ~~forest stewardship plans. However, t))~~ The small size of most rural forest properties
476 presents ~~((another))~~ an obstacle to implementation of private forest stewardship plans.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

477 Because the volume of timber harvested at any one time is usually small, it is difficult for
478 landowners to find forestry services or log buyers. Many contractors do not consider
479 small sites to be forestland with potential management opportunities, and they have not
480 developed the tools and skills to work with small sites. There is untapped potential for
481 work to be done by the private sector on small private forestlands. Outreach to forestry
482 consultants and labor contractors concerning the potential small lot forest market is
483 needed. Continuing forestry technical assistance and cost share to landowners, who
484 otherwise are unlikely to pursue management activities, will encourage active forest
485 stewardship and rural economic development.
486

487 King County continues to explore ways to facilitate the harvest, utilization, and
488 marketing of wood products grown in the Rural Area.
489

490 **R-206** ~~((The)) King County shall prioritize, c)) Conservation of forest land and
491 forestry throughout the Rural Area ((shall remain a priority for King
492 County)). Landowner property tax incentives, technical assistance,
493 permit assistance, regulatory actions, and community-based education
494 shall be used throughout the Rural Area to sustain the forest land base
495 and forestry activities. King County should ensure that its regulations,
496 permitting processes, and incentive programs facilitate and encourage
497 active forest management and implementation of forest stewardship
498 plans.
499~~

500 ~~((The Forestry Program will)) King County continues to evaluate additional ways to
501 conserve rural forest lands and encourage forestry. For example, King County's is
502 implementing the Land Conservation Initiative is, which is a regional collaboration
503 between King County, cities, businesspeople, farmers, environmental partners, and
504 others to conserve the last, most important natural lands and urban green spaces in
505 King County between 2016 and 2050. It -- it calls for a series of accelerated actions to
506 address rapidly shrinking open spaces and climbing land prices, which is estimated to
507 save \$15 billion over what it would take under the previous land conservation trajectory
508 and will protect many of these lands before they are lost. The initiative has identified
509 approximately 20,000 acres of forestland that are high priorities for conservation, either
510 through easement or fee title acquisition, or through one of the Current Use Taxation
511 programs. ((In addition, King County has identified properties for acquisition, and has
512 worked)) King County will work in partnership with other jurisdictions and ((stakeholder
513 groups)) community partners to match high priority sites with funding sources for
514 permanent conservation.
515~~

516 ~~Another strategy is the 30-Year Forest Plan, which was developed in partnership with
517 Indian tribes, nonprofits, municipalities, forestland owners and managers, and
518 community members as a strategy to expand and enhance rural and urban forest cover
519 and forest health between 2021 and 2051. Additionally,~~

521 King County owns and manages approximately ~~((26,000)) 30,000~~ acres of forestland. Of
522 this, ~~((3,850)) 4,300~~ acres (14 percent) are designated as working forests ~~((Taylor
523 Mountain Forest, Ring Hill, Sugarloaf, Island Center, Docketon, Mitchell Hill, Tokul Creek
524 and Preston Ridge forests. The county has extended its forest stewardship program to
525 implement active management for forest health on other forested open space
526 properties.)) In support of the goals outlined in the Strategic Climate Action Plan, and
527 30-year Forest Plan, the County is accelerating development and implementation of
528 forest stewardship plans for County-owned forestland to improve forest health, enhance
529 climate resilience, reduce wildfire risk, and increase potential to sequester carbon. The
530 ((e)) County has also conserved more than 142,000 acres of forested properties by
531 purchasing ~~((the))~~ development rights and over 230,000 acres of privately-owned
532 forestland through the Current Use Taxation programs. ~~((These properties remain in~~~~

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533 either private ownership or under Washington State Department of Natural Resources
534 ownership:))

536 Although economic incentive programs and technical assistance are available to all
537 property owners of forestland in the Rural Area ~~((interested in pursuing small-scale~~
538 ~~forestry)),~~ special efforts to maintain forest cover and the practice of sustainable forestry
539 are warranted where there are opportunities to sustain large, contiguous blocks of rural
540 forest adjacent to or in close proximity of the Forest Production District. The
541 Agricultural and Forest Lands map ~~((identifies))~~ such areas as Rural Forest Focus Areas
542 and notes the locations and boundaries of each focus area.

544 **R-207** King County shall designate Rural Forest Focus Areas ((are identified))
545 shall be designated geographic areas)) where special efforts are
546 necessary and feasible to maintain forest cover and the practice of
547 sustainable forestry. King County shall continue to target funding,
548 when available, ((new)) economic incentive programs, regulatory
549 actions, fee and easement acquisition strategies, and ((additional))
550 technical assistance to the Rural Forest Focus Areas. ((Strategies
551 specific to each Rural Forest Focus Area ((shall)) should be developed,
552 employing the combination of incentive and technical assistance
553 programs best suited to each focus area.))

555 **R-208** King County should maintain ((The)) Rural Forest Focus Areas ((should
556 be maintained)) in parcels of 20 acres or more. ~~((in-order))~~ to retain
557 large, contiguous blocks of rural forest. Regulations and/or incentives
558 should seek to achieve a maximum density of one home per 20 acres.

559 ~~((2.))~~ Farming

560 ~~((The 1996 Farm and Forest Report provided a series of strategies for conserving~~
561 ~~farmland and sustaining farming both within the designated Agricultural Production~~
562 ~~District where some of the County's best agricultural soils are found and outside the~~
563 ~~Agricultural Production District, where there continues to be a significant amount of~~
564 ~~farming. A 2013 aerial photo survey identified about 12,000 acres of Rural Area land in~~
565 ~~active agriculture, much of it in livestock production.))~~ The King County Local Food
566 Initiative is a strategy that aims to build a stronger farm-to-plate pipeline by setting
567 targets and ~~taking bold steps to better~~ connecting local farms to consumers, increase
568 access to healthy and affordable foods in ~~underserved-underinvested~~ areas, support
569 farmers and protect farmland, and create a sustainable food system that is more resilient
570 to the effects of climate change. King County has a long history of conserving and
571 sustaining farmland both within and outside of Agricultural Production Districts and
572 continues to adapt strategies in expanding ~~our the County's~~ local food economy to
573 ensure job growth, economic viability, and climate resiliency for King County food
574 businesses and farms. Although most active farmland in King County is found within
575 Agricultural Production Districts, approximately 40 percent of the County's farmland is
576 located in the Rural Area.

577
578 **R-209** King County should develop incentives to encourage agricultural
579 activities ((in the remaining)) ~~on~~ prime farmlands located outside the
580 Agricultural Production District. These incentives could include tax
581 credits, expedited permit review, reduced permit fees, permit
582 exemptions for activities complying with best management practices
583 such as ~~regenerative agriculture~~, assistance with agricultural waste
584 management, or similar programs.

586 ~~((The r))~~ Raising and management of livestock and ~~((the))~~ production of associated
587 products are components of the county's agricultural economy. Livestock raised in the

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588 county includes, but is not limited to, cattle, ~~((buffalo,))~~ sheep, hogs, ~~((llamas, alpacas,))~~
589 goats, and poultry.))

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591 **R-210 King County shall support~~((s))~~ the raising and management of livestock**
592 **and the production of related value-added products. The management**
593 **of livestock and the lands and structures supporting the raising of**
594 **livestock~~((,))~~ should be consistent with industry best management**
595 **practices ~~((and ((must)) shall comply with county, state, and federal~~**
596 **regulations related to the specific industry)).**

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597
598 ((Additional policies related to farming can be found in Section VI. Resource Lands.))
599

600 ~~((III.))IV. Rural Densities and Development~~

601 ~~((A.))Rural Growth Forecast~~

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602 ((The Growth Management Act requires new growth to be substantially accommodated
603 in Urban Growth Areas, yet growth may be permitted outside the Urban Growth Area
604 provided it is not urban in character.))

606 The Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands are restricted from accommodating large
607 amounts of growth, but low-density residential development and other traditional rural
608 uses are allowed. ~~((The Growth Management Act requires that rural development be~~
609 ~~contained and controlled to ensure the protection of rural character, assure the visual~~
610 ~~compatibility of rural development with the surrounding Rural Area and Natural~~
611 ~~Resource Lands, protect environmentally critical areas and habitat, and protect against~~
612 ~~conflicts with natural resource uses, such as farming, forestry, and mining.))~~

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614 ~~In ~~((in 2009))~~ 2021, the ~~((Growth Management Planning Council adopted))~~ Countywide
615 Planning Policies established new urban area targets to accommodate the most recent
616 countywide population projections supplied by the state. ~~Consistent with the Regional~~
617 Growth Strategy in VISION, ~~((These urban))~~ the targets)) assume ~~((d))~~ growth in the Rural
618 Area and Natural Resource Lands ~~((forecast of fewer than 6,000))~~ of approximately 4,200
619 additional housing units during the period ~~((2006 to 2031))~~ 2019 to 2044. No attempt
620 has been made to allocate ~~((this))~~ the assumed rural ~~((forecast))~~ growth to subareas of
621 rural King County. ~~((As targets will not be updated until approximately 2019, these~~
622 assumptions remain unchanged.))~~

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625 Rural growth is projected as a part of King County's countywide population projection
626 and growth target allocation process. While the Rural Area is not assigned a growth
627 target, the Puget Sound Regional Council's VISION 2050 Regional Growth Strategy
628 shares are used to project growth in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.
629 Approximately 4,200 additional housing units during the period 2019 to 2044 are
630 assumed in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.

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632 ~~((Since adoption of King County's initial Comprehensive Plan under the Growth~~
633 ~~Management Act in 1994, annual building permit activity in the Rural Area and on~~
634 ~~Natural Resource Lands has continued to drop to an average of less than 200 new~~
635 ~~building permits per year since 2007. ~~Between 2000 and 2010))~~ Between 2010 and
636 2020, the Rural Area~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands grew by about ~~((4,000))~~ 500
637 housing units to a total of approximately 49,000 and a population of about 128,000.
638 ((However, the population of these areas actually declined slightly during the decade,
639 and stood at 124,000 in 2010. Since then, the population has grown slightly.
640 Application of new zoning measures and other regulatory tools have helped to reduce~~

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641 subdivision activity. The current rate of 200 new homes per year could continue for
642 ~~decades.)) At the current rate of growth, the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands will~~
643 ~~continue to have undeveloped lots through the 20-year planning period.~~

644
645 ~~((The application of lower-density zoning or more restrictive standards could reduce the~~
646 ~~creation of new lots, but there are limited opportunities to address development of~~
647 ~~existing legal lots. One measure that would slow the growth rate on existing lots would~~
648 ~~be the establishment of an annual limit on the number of building permits to be issued~~
649 ~~in the Rural Area and on Natural Resource Lands. This alternative would be more~~
650 ~~palatable if it were linked to a development rights transfer or purchase program.))~~

651
652 **R-301** King County shall use all appropriate tools at its disposal to limit
653 growth in the Rural Area ~~outside of Rural Towns~~ and Natural Resource
654 Lands, such as land use designations, development regulations, level of
655 service standards, and incentives, to:

- 656 a. ~~Retain ((A)) a low growth rate ((is desirable for the Rural Area,~~
657 ~~including Rural Towns and Rural Neighborhood Commercial~~
658 ~~Centers, to);~~
- 659 b. ~~((c))Comply with the State Growth Management Act((:));~~
- 660 c. ~~((continue preventing)) Prevent sprawl, the conversion of rural~~
661 ~~land, and the overburdening of rural services((:));~~
- 662 d. ~~((r))Reduce the need for capital expenditures for rural roads((:));~~
- 663 e. ~~((m))Maintain rural character((:));~~
- 664 f. ~~((p))Protect the environment; and~~
- 665 g. ~~((r))Reduce ((transportation-related)) greenhouse gas emissions.~~
666 ~~((All possible tools may be used to limit growth in the Rural Area.~~
667 ~~Appropriate tools include land use designations, development~~
668 ~~regulations, level of service standards and incentives.))~~

669 **B.)) Residential Densities**

670 The low-density residential living choices available in the Rural Area provide an
671 important part of the variety of housing options for King County residents. The
672 residential land use policies in this section, together with their implementing
673 regulations, strike a balance between making rural housing available to those who
674 desire a rural way of life and keeping densities and the number of housing units low
675 enough so they can be supported by a rural level of public facilities and services, be
676 compatible with nearby ~~((commercial and noncommercial))~~ farming and forestry, and
677 prevent or significantly reduce adverse impacts of development on the natural
678 environment.

679
680 ~~((These policies and implementing regulations could allow 14,000 to 24,000 more~~
681 ~~housing units at ultimate buildout in addition to the roughly 45,000 residences existing~~
682 ~~in the designated Rural Area in 2000. The Transfer of Development Rights Program will~~
683 ~~help reduce development capacity in the Rural Area, and King County should continue~~
684 ~~to seek other programs that provide economic incentives for property owners to~~
685 ~~voluntarily limit residential development of their land.))~~

686
687 **R-302** Residential development in the Rural Area should only occur ((as
688 follows)):

- 689 a. ~~In Rural Towns at a variety of densities and housing types as~~
690 ~~services and infrastructure allows, compatible with ((maintenance))~~
691 ~~protection of historic resources and community character; ((and))~~
- 692 b. ~~In rural neighborhood commercial centers at low or middle~~
693 ~~densities that support housing co-located with commercial~~
694 ~~development, compatible with rural character and service levels;~~
695 ~~and~~

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c. Outside Rural Towns and rural neighborhood commercial centers at low densities compatible with traditional rural character and uses~~((:))~~; farming, forestry, and mining; and rural service levels.

~~((The use of land and the density of development (measured as the number of homes or other structures per acre or per square mile of land) are)) Residential densities are a key determinant~~((s))~~ and contributor~~((s))~~ to the character of the Rural Area~~((, as described above in Section A. Although human settlement of King County's)). Although the Rural Area has a wide variety of uses and densities, ((both the historical and desirable)) the range of uses and densities defined here are necessarily narrower and less intense than that found in the Urban Growth Area. ((Residential development at very low densities (including the land for accessory uses, on-site sewage disposal and local water supply) consumes or will consume most of the land in the Rural Area:)) Residential density may be the single~~((:))~~ most important factor in protecting or destroying rural character that can be influenced by government policies and regulations.~~~~

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Low overall densities in the Rural Area ~~((will be))~~ are achieved through very large minimum lot sizes or limited clustering at the same average densities when facilities and services permit ~~((for example, soil conditions allow on-site sewage disposal on smaller lots)). The Rural Area cannot be a significant source of affordable housing for King County residents, but it will contain diverse housing opportunities ((through a mix of large lots, clustering, existing smaller lots)), and higher densities are offered in Cities in the Rural Area and Rural Towns~~((:))~~ (as services and infrastructure permits).~~

R-303 Rural Area zoned properties ~~((should))~~ shall have low residential densities that:

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- ~~a. ~~((c))~~Can be sustained by minimal infrastructure improvements, such as septic systems and rural roads~~((:))~~;~~
- ~~b. ~~((should c))~~Cause minimal environmental degradation and impacts to significant historic resources~~((:))~~; and~~
- ~~c. ~~((that))~~ ~~((w))~~Will not cumulatively create the future necessity or expectation of urban levels of services.~~

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R-304 ~~((Rural Area zoned residential densities shall be applied in accordance with R-305 – R-309. Individual zone reclassifications are discouraged and should not be allowed in the Rural Area. ((Property owners seeking i))Individual zone reclassifications ((should)) are discouraged and should not be allowed in the Rural Area unless the applicant shall demonstrates compliance with the applicable policiescriteria in Policies R-305 - R-~~((309))~~308.~~

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~~((Although King County designated Resource Lands and zoned extensive portions of its ((territory)) land base as Agricultural Production Districts or Forest Production Districts, v))Very low residential densities adjacent to Natural Resource Lands are essential to minimize land use conflicts. In addition, a significant part of the Rural Area land base is still used for farming or forestry uses. Therefore, suitability of lands for continuing resource uses and proximity to ~~((designated))~~ designated ~~((n))~~ Natural Resource Lands ~~((will be))~~ are important considerations in applying the lower rural densities.~~

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R-305 A residential density of one home per ~~((20))~~ 10 acres or ~~((10))~~ 20 acres shall be achieved through regulatory and incentive programs on lands in the Rural Area that are managed, preserved, or prioritized for forestry or farming respectively, and lands that are found to qualify for a Rural Forest Focus Area designation in accordance with R-207.

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- R-306** A residential density of one home per 10 acres shall be applied in the Rural Area where:
- a. The lands are adjacent to or within one-quarter mile of ~~((designated ((Agricultural Production Districts, the Forest Production District or legally approved long-term mineral resource extraction sites)) Natural Resource Lands; ((or))~~
 - b. The lands contain moderate or significant ~~((environmentally constrained))~~ critical areas; ~~((as defined by county ((ordinance, policy or federal or)), state, or federal law, or regionally significant resource areas; or substantial critical habitat as determined by legislatively approved ((basin plans or)) Watershed Resource Inventory Area Plans; ((and)) or~~
 - c. ~~((The predominant lot size is greater than or equal to 10 acres in size))~~ A residential density of one home per five acres would harm or diminish the surrounding area, burden infrastructure, increase development pressure, or be inconsistent with the development patterns promoted by the Comprehensive Plan.

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- ~~((R-308))~~ **R-307** A residential density of one home per five acres shall be applied in the Rural Area where:
- a. The lands are more than one-quarter mile away from designated Natural Resource Lands;
 - b. The lands ~~((is))~~ are physically suitable for development with minimal: ~~((environmentally sensitive features))~~ critical areas as defined by county, state, or federal law; regionally significant resource areas; ((or critical habitat as determined by legislatively ((adopted watershed based)) approved Watershed Resource Inventory Area plans)); and
 - ~~((b. Development can be supported by rural services;~~
 - c. ~~The land does not meet the criteria in this plan for lower density designations; and~~
 - d. ~~The predominant lot size is less than 10 acres.)~~
 - c. This residential density would not harm or diminish the surrounding area, burden infrastructure, increase development pressure, ~~or~~ be inconsistent with the development patterns promoted by the Comprehensive Plan.

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((Although King County intends to retain low residential densities in the Rural Area, residential development has occurred in the past on a wide variety of lot sizes. Both existing homes on small lots and rural infill on vacant, small lots contribute to the variety of housing choices in the Rural Area. In some cases, however, rural-level facilities and services (e.g. on-site sewage disposal, individual water supply systems) may not permit development of the smallest vacant lots. Policy R-309 recognizes that some of the Rural Area has already been subdivided at a density greater than one lot per five acres (for example, parts of the shoreline of Vashon-Maury Island) when the original 1994 Comprehensive Plan was adopted, and applied a zoning category to just those properties in existence at that time. Zoning to implement policies R-306 through R-309 has been applied through subarea and local plans and area zoning maps:

- ~~((R-309))~~ **R-308** The RA-2.5 zone has generally been applied to properties in the Rural Area((s)) with an existing pattern of lots below five acres in size that were created prior to the adoption of the 1994 Comprehensive Plan. These smaller lots may still be developed individually or combined, provided that applicable standards for sewage disposal, environmental protection, water supply, roads, and rural fire protection can be met. A subdivision at a density of one home per 2.5 acres shall only be ~~((permitted))~~ allowed through the Transfer of Development Rights from property in the designated Rural Forest Focus Areas. The site receiving the density must be approved as a Transfer of Development Rights receiving site in accordance with the King County

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Code. Properties on Vashon-Maury Island shall not be eligible as receiving sites.

~~((Accessory dwelling units provide opportunities for affordable housing, on-site housing for workers and caretakers, housing for extended family members, and rental income for landowners. However, detached accessory dwelling units function similarly to separate homes on separate lots and should be treated as such. When a subdivision is proposed for a property that already has a house and a detached accessory dwelling unit, the house and accessory dwelling unit shall count as two units. For example, on an RA-5 zoned 20((-)) acre parcel, which could be subdivided into four lots, the existing primary dwelling and the accessory unit in a separate building shall count as two of the four units allowed on the site.))~~

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~~**R-310** Accessory dwelling units in structures detached from the primary dwelling shall be counted as a separate dwelling unit for the purpose of lot calculations under the zoning in place at the time of a proposed subdivision.~~

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~~**R-311)) R-309 ((The)) King County ((Residential Density Incentive)) density-based affordable housing ((Inclusionary Housing P)) programs shall not be available for development in the Rural Area zones.**~~

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C.((E.)) Character and Development Standards

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The aesthetic qualities and character of the Rural Area depend on a combination of factors, including low densities; a high ratio of undeveloped or undisturbed soil and natural or crop vegetation to development (impervious surfaces), such as roads and structures; historic buildings and landscapes; and minimal development standards, public facilities, and services beyond those needed for environmental protection and basic public health and safety.

~~**((R-330)) R-310** New subdivisions in the Rural Area should strive to maintain the size and scale of traditional development patterns and rural character.~~

~~**((R-331)) R-311** New subdivisions in the Rural Area should be designed and developed to maximize conservation of existing forest cover and native vegetation, and to minimize impervious surfaces within individual lots and in the subdivision as a whole. ~~((King County ((shall develop additional site design standards for new subdivisions that further reduce the impacts of new homes in the Rural Area)) should continue to evaluate whether existing subdivision standards and new subdivisions in the Rural Area minimize impacts on the natural environment, resource uses, and other adjacent land uses.))~~~~

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~~**((R-332)) R-312** Site design standards for new subdivisions in the Rural Area should include: minimization of impervious surfaces; maximizing retention of native soil and vegetation; supporting green stormwater infrastructure; site layout and landscaping that minimizes wildfire risk; limitations on entrance signage; preservation of natural contours, existing meadows, and opportunities for keeping of horses; and other standards to limit features typical of urban or suburban development.~~

~~**((R-333)) R-313** Rural residential development adjacent to Agricultural and Forest Production Districts shall be sited to minimize interference with activities related to resource uses. Residences next to the Forest Production District shall be built with greater setbacks from the Forest Production District boundaries for safety and to reduce nuisance complaints.~~

~~((2016))~~ 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ~~((updated December 6, 2022))~~ Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ~~((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555))~~ xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)

868 ~~((ED-502))~~ **R-314** In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, King County shall
869 provide assistance through development of customized stewardship
870 plans for individual properties, to help property owners understand
871 their properties' characteristics and the potential impacts of their
872 actions, and to make sustainable land management choices that protect
873 natural resources.

875 ~~((R-334))~~ **R-315** To maintain traditional rural development patterns and ~~((assure))~~
876 ensure continued opportunities for resource activities in the Rural Area,
877 large lot development is preferred in the Rural Area. Clustering of lots
878 is ~~only ((permitted))~~ allowed when:

- 879 a. The development provides equal or greater protection of the
880 natural environment, natural resource lands, historic resources, or
881 archaeological sites;
- 882 b. Clusters are limited in size to be compatible with surrounding large
883 lots or nearby agricultural and forestry uses;
- 884 c. The clustered development is offset with a permanent open space
885 or resource land tract preserved for forestry or agriculture, as
886 designated by the owner at time of subdivision or short
887 subdivision, or a permanent open space tract. Under no
888 circumstances shall the tract be reserved for future development;
889 and
- 890 d. The development can be served by rural facilities and service levels
891 (such as on-site sewage disposal and fire protection).

892
893 ~~((Resource and open space tracts often require stewardship over time to control
894 stormwater runoff and associated pollutants, prevent or control invasive species
895 encroachment and to restore forest health, species diversity, and wildlife habitat
896 structure.~~

897
898 **R-335))** **R-316** When a resource or open space tract is created as part of a plat, the
899 ~~((c))~~ County should require a stewardship plan to ensure appropriate
900 management of the tract.

901
902 ~~((Low-density development in the Rural Area ((will have)) has different residential street
903 needs from those in the Urban Growth Area. ((Travel demand is generally lower on rural
904 roads and road maintenance is a proportionately greater per capita cost than in the
905 Urban Growth Area.~~

906
907 ~~((Rural streets and roads outside Rural Towns generally will have no more than two
908 travel lanes, no curbs or sidewalks, and feature unpaved shoulders and open drainage
909 ditches. Local access streets for residential subdivisions will constitute a significant
910 proportion of the site disturbance and impervious surface associated with new
911 development in the Rural Area and therefore must take the environment into
912 consideration equally with traffic flow and vehicular access.~~

913
914 **R-336))** **R-317** King County shall continue to support the rural development
915 standards that have been established to protect the natural
916 environment by addressing seasonal ~~((and maximum))~~ clearing limits,
917 impervious surface limits, and resource-based practices. Stormwater
918 management practices should be implemented that emphasize
919 preservation of natural drainage systems ~~((, protect))~~ and protection of
920 water quality and natural hydrology of surface waters and
921 groundwater. Rural development standards should also, where
922 feasible, incorporate and encourage ~~((L))~~ low ~~((I))~~ impact ~~((D))~~ design
923 principles for managing stormwater ~~((onsite))~~ on-site by minimizing
924 impervious surfaces, preserving ~~((onsite))~~ on-site hydrology, retaining
925 native vegetation and forest cover, capturing and reusing rainwater,
926 controlling pollution at the source, and protecting groundwater. King

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County shall take care that requirements for ~~((onsite)) on-site~~ stormwater management complement requirements for ~~((onsite)) on-site~~ wastewater management.

~~((R-336a)) **To help achieve the goal of reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions associated with new construction, King County should adopt and implement green building codes that are appropriate, ambitious, and achievable.**~~

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~~((E.)) Promoting Public Health in the Rural Area for AH))~~

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Planning for and features of the built environment are important in providing healthy, safe places for people regardless of whether the setting is rural or urban. The built environment refers to various physical features, such as buildings, parks, and roadways, and their spatial arrangement in neighborhoods and communities. These features influence public health through the range of choices provided for engaging in various activities. For example, well ~~((-))~~ designed roads can enhance the safety and walkability of neighborhoods, while having a park or other gathering place to come together with family, friends, or community members can strengthen social and mental health and increase community cohesiveness. People with access to places to play are twice as likely to reach recommended levels of physical activity than those who have little or no access. ~~((See Chapter 2, Urban Communities, for additional information on the linkages between the built environment and various aspects of health.))~~

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Many locations in King County's Cities in the Rural Area ~~((-))~~ and Rural Towns ~~((- and Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers))~~ function as important hubs for their respective communities because they provide shops and services. Parks, schools, or other public services within walking distance of these community hubs cannot always be safely or conveniently reached without a car. Opportunities for daily physical activity can be increased by establishing safe walking and bicycling connections to and within these rural hubs.

In addition to physical activity, another major determinant of health is what people eat. Everything from quality and location of food retail outlets and restaurants to food cost to school food choices influence the food choices of rural residents. ~~((According to data from national surveys, adults in the United States consume on average only 1.1 and 1.7 servings of fruits and vegetables daily.))~~ There are people in every community for whom hunger is a daily issue. Land use planning can play a role in providing and improving access to healthy foods. Garden plots located in neighborhoods, parks, vacant lots, surplus public rights-of-way, and public utility lands in various communities can be used as places to grow fruits and vegetables, build community, and address hunger. Similar locations in the Rural Area of King County should be explored for this purpose.

~~((R-516)) **R-318 ((Within Rural Towns and larger Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, non-motorized connectivity, where consistent with rural character.)) Connectivity for active transportation uses should be encouraged in Rural Towns and larger Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, where consistent with rural character, to promote ((walking and bicycling)) physical activity and to improve public health.**~~

~~((R-517)) **R-319 King County should explore ways of creating and supporting community gardens, ~~((F))~~ farmers ~~((M))~~ markets, produce stands, and other similar community ~~((-))~~-based food growing projects to provide and improve access to healthy, affordable food for all rural residents.**~~

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982 ~~((R-517a)) R-320 King County shall promote children’s health by encouraging and~~
983 ~~supporting land uses in the environment surrounding a school and on~~
984 ~~travel routes to schools that complement and strengthen other formal~~
985 ~~programs, such as Safe Routes to School, at a size and scale appropriate to~~
986 ~~the Rural Area.~~

987 **D.)) Rural Nonresidential Uses**

988 Although low-density residential development, farming, and forestry are the primary
989 uses in the Rural Area, some compatible ~~((public and private)) nonresidential~~ uses are
990 appropriate and contribute to rural character. Compatible uses might include small,
991 neighborhood ~~((churches))~~ ~~places of worship/religious facilities~~, feed and grain stores,
992 produce stands, ~~value -added products~~, forest product sales, and home occupations
993 such as woodcrafters, small day care facilities, or veterinary services. In addition, it may
994 be necessary to locate some public facilities in the Rural Area, such as utility installations
995 that serve rural homes. Any allowed nonresidential uses should be designed to blend
996 with rural residential development and resource uses.

998 ~~((R-324)) R-321 Nonresidential uses in the Rural Area shall be consistent with the~~
999 ~~other applicable policies in this chapter and limited to those that:~~

- 1000 a. Provide convenient local products and services for nearby
- 1001 residents;
- 1002 b. Require location in a Rural Area;
- 1003 c. Support ~~the economic vitality of~~ natural resource-based industries;
- 1004 d. Provide adaptive reuse of significant historic resources; ~~((or))~~
- 1005 e. Provide recreational ~~((and)) or~~ tourism opportunities that are
- 1006 compatible with the surrounding Rural Area;
- 1007 f. Provide or support infrastructure for nearby residents; or
- 1008 g. In Rural Towns and on industrial-zoned properties, involve
- 1009 commercial or manufacturing-related development.

1011 **R-322** ~~((These)) Nonresidential uses in the Rural Area shall be sited, sized, and~~
1012 ~~landscaped to complement rural character((as defined in policy R-101~~
1013 ~~and R-201)), prevent impacts to the environment, and function with~~
1014 ~~rural services, including on-site wastewater disposal.~~

1016 ~~((R-325)) R-323 Golf facilities ((shall be permitted)) may be allowed as a conditional~~
1017 ~~use in the RA-2.5 and RA-5 zones and when located outside of Rural~~
1018 ~~Forest Focus Areas((Regionally Significant Resource Areas and Locally~~
1019 ~~Significant Resource Areas((, as a conditional use, in the RA-2.5 and~~
1020 ~~RA-5 zones)).~~

1022 In 2011, a School Siting Task Force was convened at the request of the Growth
1023 Management Planning Council to examine the issue of siting schools in ~~the~~ Rural
1024 Area~~((s))~~, including whether they may be served by sewers. The Task Force examined
1025 undeveloped rural properties owned by school districts and made recommendations as
1026 to their use or disposition. In its final report, the Task Force recommended that all
1027 future school siting be consistent with the policies in VISION 2040. Placing schools in
1028 cities in the Rural Area, or in Rural Towns, reduces transportation and environmental
1029 impacts, protects rural character, and allows schools to be served with urban-level
1030 utilities and fire protection and used efficiently for other community activities. ~~Some of~~
1031 ~~the properties listed in R-325 have already been developed or otherwise no longer~~
1032 ~~apply; however, they are retained here for transparency and guidance for review of~~
1033 ~~future redevelopment proposals.~~

1035 ~~((R-326)) R-324 Except as provided in R-((327))325:~~
1036 a. New schools and institutions primarily serving rural residents shall
1037 be located in ~~((neighboring)) cities and ((r))Rural ((t))Towns;~~

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- b. New schools, institutions, and other community facilities primarily serving urban residents shall be located within the Urban Growth Area; and
- c. New community facilities and services that primarily serve rural residents shall be located in ~~((neighboring))~~ cities and ~~((r))~~Rural ~~((t))~~Towns, ~~((with limited exceptions))~~ except when ~~((their use is))~~ dependent on a rural location and ~~((their))~~ at a size and scale that supports rural character.

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~~((R-327))~~ **R-325** Consistent with the recommendations of the School Siting Task Force, included as Appendix ~~((Q))~~ E, in the Rural Area:

- a. Except as otherwise provided in subsections d. and e. of this policy, an existing elementary, middle, or junior high school may be modified or expanded but shall not be converted to a high school;
- b. An existing high school may be modified or expanded or converted to an elementary, middle, or junior high school;
- c. Snoqualmie Valley 1: parcel number 1823099046, as shown on the King County Department of Assessments map as of March 31, 2012, may develop as a new school;
- d. Lake Washington 4: parcel numbers 0825069008 and 0825069056, as shown on the King County Department of Assessments map as of March 31, 2012, may develop as a new school and convert an existing school on the site to a high school use;
- e. Tahoma 1: parcel number 2622069047, as shown on the King County Department of Assessments map as of March 31, 2012, may develop as a new school and convert an existing school on the site to a high school use only if no feasible alternative site can be located within the Urban Growth Area;
- f. Lake Washington 2: parcel numbers 3326069010 and 3326069009, as shown on the King County Department of Assessments map as of March 31, 2012, may develop as a new school only if no feasible alternative site can be located within the Urban Growth Area, in which case it may be incorporated into the Urban Growth Area; and
- g. Enumclaw A and D: the rural portions of parcel numbers 2321069064, 2321069063, and 2321069062, as shown on the King County Department of Assessments map as of March 31, 2012, may develop as ballfields or recreational playfields only, for a school located on the urban portions of the parcels.

~~((R-328))~~ **R-326** Small airfields beyond those already established in the Rural Area should not be ~~((permitted))~~ allowed, due to their cumulative impacts on air traffic and nearby uses.

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~~((R-329))~~ **R-327** Library services for the Rural Area should be provided by bookmobiles, or by libraries in Rural Towns or Cities in the Rural Area, ~~or may be allowed as an accessory use to a park or in a historic building in the Rural Area.~~

~~((R-631))~~ **R-328** ~~No m~~Master planned resorts as defined in Chapter 36.70A Revised Code of Washington shall ~~not be permitted~~allowed in ~~((the Forest Production District))~~ unincorporated King County.

R-329 ~~((Adoption of such codes may result in an increased use of r))~~Renewable energy technologies ~~((that))~~ may be sited in the Rural Area ~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands, as appropriate. Development standards ~~((will seek to))~~ should ensure that the siting, scale, and design of these facilities respect and support rural character.

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~~((IV.)) Rural Public Facilities and Services~~

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~~((The policies below set forth King County's general approach to providing services and setting facility standards for the Rural Area and provide guidance for siting those facilities that require Rural Area locations. See Chapter 8, Transportation, and Chapter 9, Services, Facilities and Utilities, for more detailed policies on specific facilities and services such as roads, on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems and water supply.))~~

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~~((In order)) To focus growth within the Urban Growth Area, financial resources must be prioritized to develop and maintain sufficient urban infrastructure and services in the Urban Growth Area to accommodate that growth. Further, the presence of a high level of public infrastructure and services has been demonstrated to create pressure for new growth. To use financial resources efficiently and reduce growth pressure in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, King County will not provide an urban level of infrastructure and services to the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. Chapter 8, Transportation, and Chapter 9, Services, Facilities, and Utilities, clarify King County's priorities for transportation and other facility improvements in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. The policies below set forth King County's general approach to providing services and setting facility standards for the Rural Area and provide guidance for siting those facilities that require Rural Area locations.~~

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~~((R-401)) **R-330 King County shall work with cities and other agencies providing services to the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands to adopt standards for those partners' facilities and services in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. Those standards shall ((that)):**~~
~~**a. ((p))Protect ((basic)) public health and safety and the environment((-but));**~~
~~**b. ((a))Are financially supportable at appropriate densities;**~~
~~**c. Are appropriate size and scale; and**~~
~~**d. ((d))Do not encourage urban development.**~~

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~~((R-402)) **R-331 Public spending priorities for facilities and services within the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands should be as follows:**~~
~~**a. First, to maintain existing facilities and services that protect public health and safety;**~~
~~**b. Second, to upgrade facilities and services when needed to correct ((level of service)) level-of-service deficiencies without unnecessarily creating additional capacity for new growth; and**~~
~~**c. Third, to support sustainable economic development that is sized and scaled at levels appropriate for the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands and does not ((foster)) promote urbanization.**~~

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~~((In 2014, King County adopted an update to the Rural Economic Strategies Plan, through Ordinance 17956, this ordinance provides guidance to economic development activities in the Rural Area, as well as on Natural Resource Lands, and is described in more detail in Chapter 10, Economic Development.))~~

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~~((R-403)) **R-332 In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, standards and plans for utility service should be consistent with long-term, low-density development and resource industries. Utility facilities that serve the Urban Growth Area but must be located in the Rural Area or on Natural Resource Lands (for example, a pipeline from a municipal watershed) should be designed and scaled to serve primarily the Urban Growth Area. Sewers needed to serve the previously established ((urban**~~

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~~“islands,”) Redmond Ridge, Redmond Ridge East, and Trilogy neighborhoods. Cities in the Rural Area, Rural Towns, or new or existing schools pursuant to R-((327))325 and ((F-264)) F-262a 452 shall be tightlined and have access restrictions precluding service to other lands in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.~~

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~~((D.)) Non-Resource Industrial Uses and Development Standards in the Rural Area))~~

There are ~~((three)) five~~ existing industrial ~~zoned~~ areas in the Rural Area containing multiple industrial uses on several sites~~((One is located within the southwest portion of the Town of Vashon. The second is a designated industrial area adjacent to the Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center of Preston. The Preston Industrial Area recognizes an existing concentration of industrial uses that contributes to the economic diversity of the Rural Area, but expansion of this industrial area beyond the identified boundaries is not permitted (see Policy CP-547). The third industrial area is located along State Route 169 on lands that have been and continue to be used as for industrial purposes and have a designation as a King County Historic Site.))~~ in the following locations:

- ~~W~~within the southwest portion of Vashon Rural Town;
- ~~the~~The Preston Industrial Area;
- ~~along~~ Along State Route 169 ~~on lands that have been and continue to be used as for industrial purposes;~~
- ~~between~~ Between Covington and Auburn ~~and contains a regional motor sports facility; and~~
- ~~east~~ East of Enumclaw along State Route 410 ~~and contains an assortment of warehousing and industrial uses.~~

~~((R-512)) R-333 The creation of new Industrial zoned lands in the Rural Area shall be limited to those that have long been used for industrial purposes, that do not have potential for conversion to residential use due to a historic designation, and that may be accessed directly from State Route 169.~~

~~((R-513)) R-334 Rural Public Infrastructure Maintenance Facilities, and agriculture and forestry product processing should be allowed in the Rural Area. Other new industrial uses in the Rural Area shall be ((permitted)) allowed only on existing Industrial zoned properties in Rural Towns and ((in the designated industrial area adjacent to the Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center of)) the Preston Industrial Area.~~

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~~((In order to)) To preserve rural character and protect sensitive natural features, new rural industrial development in the Rural Area needs to be of a scale and nature that is distinct from urban industrial development. The scale and intensity and many of the uses allowed in urban industrial development are not appropriate for rural industrial areas. The following policy applies to all new industrial development in the Rural Area:~~

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~~R-514)) R-335 Development regulations for new industrial development in the Rural Area shall require the following:~~

- ~~Greater setbacks, and reduced building height, floor/lot ratios, and maximum impervious surface percentage standards in comparison to standards for urban industrial development;~~
- ~~Maximum protection of ((sensitive natural features)) critical areas, especially with regards to salmonid habitat and water quality;~~

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- c. **Building and landscape design that respects the aesthetic qualities and character of the Rural Area, and provides substantial buffering from the adjoining uses and scenic vistas;**
- d. ~~((Building ((colors and materials that are muted,)) design that is compatible with a rural setting, s))~~ **Signs that are not internally illuminated, and site and building lighting that is held to the minimum necessary for safety;**
- e. **Prohibition of ((H))heavier industrial uses, new industrial uses producing substantial waste byproducts or wastewater discharge, or new paper, chemical and allied products manufacturing uses allowed in the urban industrial zone ((shall be prohibited)); and**
- f. **Industrial uses ((requiring)) be sized to not require be sized to avoid substantial investments in infrastructure, such as water, sewers, or transportation facilities, or facilities that generate substantial volumes of heavy-gross weight truck trips((, shall be reduced in size to avoid the need for public funding of the infrastructure)).**

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~~((The intent of this policy is to preclude expansion of the industrial area beyond the identified boundaries and to ensure that new development (not previously constructed or vested) in the industrial area meets rural character standards. Site design, landscaping, design, and construction of internal and access roads and building scale should reinforce the set boundaries and rural nature of the industrial area to further discourage future industrial expansion beyond the industrial boundary.))~~

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There are also existing, isolated industrial sites in the Rural Area that are recognized, but are not appropriate for new industrial uses. Further expansion of these isolated industrial uses is not encouraged, and therefore they are not zoned Industrial.

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~~((R-515)) **R-336 Existing industrial uses in the Rural Area outside of Rural Towns((, the industrial area on the King County-designated historic site along State Route 169 or the designated industrial area adjacent to the Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center of Preston)) without Industrial zoning currently shall be zoned rural ((residential)) area but may continue if they qualify as legal, conforming and/or nonconforming uses.**~~

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~~((V.)) Rural Commercial Centers~~

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~~((This section addresses Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, Rural Towns, Cities in the Rural Area, industrial uses in the Rural Area, and promoting public health in the Rural Area.))~~

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The Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers ~~((,))~~ and Rural Towns ~~((, the Cities in the Rural Area, and non-resource industrial uses located in rural King County))~~ contribute to the vitality of the rural economy. ~~((Additionally, the Cities in the Rural Area and))~~ Rural Towns provide a variety in development patterns and housing choices and provide employment opportunities, retail shopping, and other services to nearby residents ~~((,))~~ ~~((These cities and towns also))~~ and contain a significant portion of King County's historic architecture and are the primary locations for nonresidential uses in the Rural Area. The Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers and ~~-,~~ Rural Towns ~~and Cities in the Rural Area~~ provide limited, local convenience shopping, restaurants, and services to meet the daily needs of rural residents.

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1256 ~~((A.))~~ Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center~~((s))~~
1257 Designation

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1258 ~~The Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center~~~~((s-are))~~ land use designation is used to
1259 recognize existing small pockets of commercial development~~((s)),~~ or in some cases,
1260 historic ~~((towns))~~ communities or buildings, that are too small to provide more than
1261 convenience shopping and services to surrounding residents. They generally do not
1262 have infrastructure or services such as water supply or sewage disposal systems any
1263 different from those serving the surrounding area. ~~((Examples of Rural Neighborhood~~
1264 ~~Commercial Centers include the store at Stillwater on the Carnation-Duvall Road, the~~
1265 ~~town of Cumberland on the Enumclaw Plateau, and Preston. The county is~~
1266 ~~implementing projects and exploring new options to ensure the continuation of the~~
1267 ~~character and businesses in these important rural centers.))~~

1268
1269 The locations of existing nodes of lands designated as Rural Neighborhood Commercial
1270 Centers are:

- Bear Creek/Sammamish: Cottage Lake and Redmond-Fall City Road/236th NE
- Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain: Issaquah-Hobart Road/Cedar Grove Road SE, SE Renton-Issaquah Road and 164th Avenue SE, and SE 128th Street/164th Avenue SE
- Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River: Renton-Maple Valley Road SE/State Route 18, Ravensdale, Hobart, Kangley, and Kanasket
- Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County: Preston, Timberlane Village, and Baring
- Southeast King County: Enumclaw-Black Diamond Road SE/SE Green Valley Road, Cumberland, Krain's Corner, Newaukem, and 228th Ave SE/State Route 164
- Vashon-Maury Island: Burton, Dockton, Tahlequah, Portage Heights Dock, Jack's Corner, Valley Center, Vashon Service Center, Vashon Heights, and Maury Island Service Center

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1272 ~~((R-501))~~ **R-401** The range of uses allowed on lands with the Rural Neighborhood
1273 Commercial Center~~((s designated on the Comprehensive Plan Land Use~~
1274 Map are)) land use designation shall be limited to:

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- a. ~~((scaled to be s))~~Small ~~((scale ((business areas))~~ businesses that
1276 ~~((should))~~ provide convenience shopping and services for ~~((the~~
1277 ~~surrounding community))~~ surrounding Rural Area and Natural Resource
1278 Land residents, such as retail, community and human services, and
1279 personal services; and
- b. Housing, when part of a mixed-use development that is
1280 appropriately sized and scaled to be compatible with rural character.

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1283 **R-402** ~~((No n))~~ New and expansion of existing nodes of lands shall be
1284 designated as Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center~~((s ((are needed~~
1285 to serve the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands)) shall only be
1286 designated through a subarea plan or area zoning and land use study.

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1288 **R-501b** ~~((Expansion of the boundaries of the))~~ Adding the Rural Neighborhood
1289 Commercial Center land use designation to land adjacent to an existing
1290 Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center~~((s))~~ shall not be ~~((permitted))~~
1291 allowed except through a subarea plan or area zoning and land use
1292 study.
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1294 The designated Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers shown on the Land Use map
1295 are:

- 1296 ~~**Bear Creek:**~~ Cottage Lake and Redmond-Fall City Road/236th NE
- 1297 ~~**East King County:**~~ Greenwater, Baring and Timberlane Village
- 1298 ~~**Enumclaw:**~~ Cumberland, Krain's Corner and Newaukum
- 1299 ~~**Newcastle:**~~ Coalfield and East Renton Plateau
- 1300 ~~**Snoqualmie:**~~ Preston and Stillwater
- 1301 ~~**Tahoma/Raven Heights:**~~ Maple Valley, Hobart, Ravensdale and North Cedar
1302 Grove Road
- 1303 ~~**Vashon:**~~ Burton, Dockton, Tahlequah, Portage, Heights Dock,
1304 Jack's Corner, Valley Center, Vashon Service Center,
1305 Vashon Heights and Maury Island Service Center
1306

1307 The policies in this section are based on a recognition of the limited size of most Rural
1308 Neighborhood Commercial Centers, the limited utilities and other services available to
1309 them, and a desire to preserve their existing character and relationship to the
1310 surrounding rural community.

1311
1312 ~~**R-502 Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers should accommodate only**~~
1313 ~~**small-scale retail, community and human services, and personal service**~~
1314 ~~**uses that provide convenience shopping and services to nearby Rural**~~
1315 ~~**Area and Natural Resource Lands residents.**~~

1316
1317 ~~**R-503)) R-403 King County commercial development standards for Rural**~~
1318 ~~**Neighborhood Commercial Center(s) lands should facilitate economic**~~
1319 ~~**reuse of existing structures, minimize increases in impervious surfaces,**~~
1320 ~~**and encourage retention of historic character and scale. Urban-level**~~
1321 ~~**parking, landscaping, and street improvement standards are not**~~
1322 ~~**appropriate for Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers except ((as**~~
1323 ~~**demonstrated as being)) when needed to address the safety of the**~~
1324 ~~**public.**~~

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1325
1326 ~~**((R-503a)) R-404 ((Where appropriate,)) King County should allow the use of**~~
1327 ~~**existing structures((f)) and parcels to accommodate Farmers Markets**~~
1328 ~~**((within)) on Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center(s) lands.**~~

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1329 ~~**((B.)) Rural Towns**~~

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1330 Rural Towns are unincorporated towns governed directly by King County((, but may
1331 provide a focal point for community groups such as chambers of commerce or
1332 community councils to participate in public affairs)).

1333
1334 The purposes of the Rural Town designation are to recognize existing concentrations of
1335 higher density and economic activity in the Rural Area((, whether by virtue of historical
1336 rural settlements or redesignation of an urban commercial center)); provide a physical
1337 focus for the historic identity of rural communities; and allow for modest growth of
1338 residential and economic uses within these designations if supported by the community
1339 and adequate utilities and other public services are available. ((At the present time,
1340 t))The Rural Towns designated by the Comprehensive Plan are Fall City, Snoqualmie
1341 Pass, and ((the Town of)) Vashon. ((and are recognized as such within the
1342 Comprehensive Plan)). The ((c))County supports the economic vitality of these
1343 communities and is offering programs and working with the businesses and residents in
1344 and near these communities to help ensure their continued economic health;))
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1346 Each of these three Rural Towns has unique features and needs, and therefore different
1347 standards may be appropriate for each, while meeting the purposes described above.
1348 For instance, Snoqualmie Pass is adjacent to a significant seasonal recreation area that
1349 draws thousands of visitors during the winter months. Fall City, on the other hand, is
1350 adjacent to prime agricultural land and can provide housing opportunities for seasonal
1351 agricultural workers. Vashon, accessible mainly by ferry and limited in terms of water
1352 supply, has natural constraints upon the type and intensity of development that can
1353 occur.

1354
1355 Although higher-density development in Rural Towns may require public sewers,
1356 applying the full range of urban development standards ~~((e.g.)) such as~~ for street
1357 improvements or landscaping ~~(())~~ may not be necessary, and may not be consistent with
1358 the historic character of these communities. Although Rural Towns ~~((also))~~ may ~~((in~~
1359 ~~some circumstances))~~ develop at densities similar to those in the Urban Growth Area
1360 ~~((or in Cities in the Rural Area))~~ when appropriate infrastructure is available, ~~((they))~~ Rural
1361 Towns are considered part of the Rural Area for purposes of the Growth Management
1362 Act, do not provide significant growth capacity, and are not subject to the growth
1363 targets adopted for the Urban Growth Area.

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1364
1365 **~~((R-507)) R-405~~ Rural Towns shall serve as activity centers for the Rural Area and**
1366 **~~Natural Resource Lands. ((and))~~ may be served by a range of utilities**
1367 **~~and services, and may include several or all of the following land uses,~~**
1368 **~~if supported by necessary utilities and other services and if scaled and~~**
1369 **~~designed to protect rural character:~~**

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- 1370 a. Retail, commercial, and industrial uses to serve the surrounding
1371 Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands population;
- 1372 b. Residential development, including single~~((family))~~ detached
1373 ~~((housing)) residences~~ on small lots, as well as ~~((multifamily))~~
1374 ~~multiunit~~ housing and mixed-use developments;
- 1375 c. Other retail, commercial, and industrial uses, such as resource
1376 industries, tourism, commercial recreation, and light industry; and
- 1377 d. Public facilities and services such as community services, parks,
1378 ~~((churches))~~ places of worship religious facilities, schools, and fire
1379 stations.

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1380
1381 **~~((R-504)) R-406~~ King County designates ~~((the Rural Towns of))~~ Fall City, Snoqualmie**
1382 **~~Pass, and ((the ((Town of))~~ Vashon as unincorporated Rural Towns.**
1383 **~~These historical settlements in unincorporated King County should~~**
1384 **~~provide services and a range of housing choices for Rural Area~~**
1385 **~~residents. The boundaries of the designated Rural Towns are shown on~~**
1386 **~~the ((Comprehensive Plan)) Land Use Map. Adjustments to these~~**
1387 **~~boundaries shall only occur through a subarea plan or area zoning and~~**
1388 **~~land use study, and shall not allow significant increases in development~~**
1389 **~~potential or environmental impacts. ((No new Rural Towns ((are~~**
1390 **~~needed to serve the Rural Area)) shall be created.))~~**

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1391
1392 **~~((R-505)) R-407~~ Commercial and industrial development that provides**
1393 **~~employment, shopping, and community and human services that~~**
1394 **~~strengthen the fiscal and economic health of rural communities should~~**
1395 **~~locate in Rural Towns if utilities and other services permit.~~**
1396 **~~((Urban-level parking ((, landscaping,)) and street improvement~~**
1397 **~~standards are not appropriate for Rural Towns.))~~ Sidewalks and other**
1398 **~~pedestrian safety measures should be provided to serve ((the)) Rural~~**
1399 **~~Towns.~~**

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1401 ~~R-408~~ Roads in Rural Towns should, to the extent practical, allowed by law,
1402 and consistent with rural character, incorporate universal design and
1403 complete streets infrastructure, to accommodate multimodal
1404 transportation, including active transportation users.

1405
1406 ~~((R-506)) R-409~~ Rural Towns may contain higher-density housing than ((permitted))
1407 allowed in the surrounding Rural Area, and should provide affordable
1408 and resource-worker housing ((if utilities and other services permit)).
1409 Development density in Rural Towns may approach that achieved in
1410 Cities in the Rural Area, when appropriate infrastructure is available.

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1411
1412 ((The policies in this section apply only to the unincorporated Rural Towns. King County
1413 encourages Cities in the Rural Area to adopt land use policies and development
1414 standards that protect and enhance their historical character.

1415
1416 ~~R-507~~ Rural Towns serve as activity centers for the Rural Area and Natural
1417 Resource Lands and may be served by a range of utilities and services,
1418 and may include several or all of the following land uses, if supported
1419 by necessary utilities and other services and if scaled and designed to
1420 protect rural character:
1421 a. Retail, commercial, and industrial uses to serve the surrounding
1422 Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands population;
1423 b. Residential development, including single-family housing on small
1424 lots as well as multifamily housing and mixed-use developments;
1425 c. Other retail, commercial, and industrial uses, such as resource
1426 industries, tourism, commercial recreation, and light industry; and
1427 d. Public facilities and services such as community services, churches,
1428 schools, and fire stations.))

1429
1430 ~~R-508)) R-410~~ Sewers may be allowed in Rural Towns if necessary to solve
1431 existing water quality and public health problems ((which)) that cannot
1432 be addressed by other methods, provided that any extension of sewer
1433 mains from urban areas to serve a Rural Town shall be tightlined
1434 systems designed to not serve any intervening lands. All alternatives
1435 shall be exhausted before sewers may be allowed. Rural Towns shall
1436 not be enlarged to facilitate provision of sewers.

1437
1438 ((Rural and urban residents alike value the historic character of King County's Rural
1439 Towns. New development can enhance the character and valuable features of Rural
1440 Towns through careful design and location.

1441
1442 ~~R-509)) R-411~~ Rural Towns should be compact, promoting ((pedestrian and
1443 nonmotorized travel)) active transportation while ((permitting
1444 automobile)) allowing vehicle access to most commercial and industrial
1445 uses. New development should be designed to strengthen the
1446 desirable characteristics and the historic character of the town, be
1447 supported by necessary public facilities and services, and be
1448 compatible with historic resources and nearby Rural Area or Natural
1449 Resource Land uses. New industrial uses should locate where they do
1450 not disrupt pedestrian or bicycle traffic in established retail areas of
1451 town or conflict with residential uses.

1452 VI. ((C.)) Transfer of Development Rights
1453 Program

1454 The Growth Management Act encourages the use of innovative techniques for land use
1455 management. King County has a long tradition of using such techniques, including

~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

1456 programs promoting transfers of development rights, to achieve its land management
1457 goals. ~~Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands face ongoing/increasing~~ development
1458 ~~pressure, yet the County must simultaneously plan for and allow future residential~~
1459 ~~growth. This tension makes it incumbent on the County to strengthen its transfer of~~
1460 ~~development rights efforts. For this reason, King County seeks to increase the number~~
1461 ~~of development rights transfers via its Transfer of Development Rights Program to~~
1462 ~~reduce and redirect rural development potential into urban areas.~~

1463
1464 To that end, King County promotes the transfer of development rights from land
1465 ~~((valuable to the public as undeveloped))~~ with conservation values whose protection
1466 ~~creates public benefit~~ ("sending sites"), to land better able to accommodate growth
1467 ("receiving sites"). The Transfer of Development Rights Program is a voluntary program
1468 that allows sending site landowners to achieve an economic return on their property
1469 while maintaining it in forestry, farming, habitat, ~~((parks,))~~ or open space in perpetuity. It
1470 also increases housing opportunities in Urban Area receiving sites where urban services
1471 and infrastructure can accommodate additional growth.

1472
1473 Sending site landowners choose to sever the right to develop their land from the land
1474 itself and sell their development rights to ~~the King County Transfer of Development~~
1475 ~~Rights Bank, or directly to~~ receiving site landowners who are ~~((permitted))~~ allowed
1476 to build additional development capacity above the base density, but at or below the
1477 allowed maximum density under current zoning, with the purchase of Transferable
1478 Development Rights. ~~((When Transferable Development Rights are allocated to~~
1479 ~~sending site property owners, the land is protected from future development in~~
1480 ~~perpetuity through a conservation easement:))~~

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1481
1482 In so doing, the Transfer of Development Rights Program: (1) benefits Rural Area and
1483 Natural Resource Land property owners by providing them financial compensation to
1484 not develop their land, (2) directs future Rural Area and Natural Resource Land
1485 development growth into urban areas, saving the County the cost of providing services
1486 to rural development, ~~supporting County and regional growth management objectives,~~
1487 and yielding climate change benefits ~~((through reduced household~~
1488 ~~transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions)),~~ and (3) permanently ~~((preserves))~~
1489 ~~conserves~~ land through private market transactions. Transfer of Development Rights
1490 can also be used to permanently protect open space and ~~((parks))~~ natural resources in
1491 urban portions of the County while still focusing growth into other urban areas.

- 1492
1493 **~~((R-312)) R-501 ((As an innovative means to)) King County shall continue to operate~~**
1494 **~~an effective Transfer of Development Rights Program to:~~**
- 1495 **~~a. ((p))~~ Permanently ~~((preserve))~~ conserve private lands with**
1496 **~~countywide public benefit((:));~~**
 - 1497 **~~b. ((to e))~~ Encourage higher densities in urban areas; ~~((and))~~**
 - 1498 **~~c. ((r))~~ Reduce residential development ~~((capacity))~~ potential and**
1499 **maintain low density in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands,**
1500 **and on low-density urban lands along the Urban Growth Area**
1501 **boundary;**
 - 1502 **~~d. Incentivize establishment of parks and regional open space, as well~~**
1503 **~~as local open space in urban areas((, King County shall continue to~~**
1504 **~~operate an effective Transfer of Development Rights Program));~~**
1505 **and**
 - 1506 **e. Protect natural resources while preserving housing potential and**
1507 **incentivizing development in locations best suited for growth**
 - 1508 **f. Steer development growth inside the Urban Growth Area in ways**
1509 **that promote quality urban neighborhoods where residents want**
1510 **to work and live; and**
 - 1511 **g. Support the County's climate resilience goals** ~~Contribute to climate~~
1512 **change benefits.**
- 1513

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~~((R-313))~~ The purpose of the Transfer of Development Rights Program is to reduce development potential in the Rural Area, ~~((and))~~ on designated on Natural Resource Lands, and on urban open space lands acquired using conservation futures tax funding. ~~((its))~~ The Program's priority is to encourage the transfer of development rights from private rural and resource properties into the Urban Growth Area to protect natural resources while preserving housing potential and incentivizing development in locations best suited for growth.

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~~R-314~~ King County supports and shall work actively to facilitate the transfer of Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands development rights to:
a. ~~((Preserve))~~ Conserve the rural environment, encourage retention of resource-based uses and reduce service demands;
b. Provide permanent protection to significant natural resources;
c. Increase the regional open space system;
d. Maintain low density development in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands;
e. Steer development growth inside the Urban Growth Area in ways that promote quality urban neighborhoods where residents want to work and live; and
f. ~~((Provide mitigation for the impacts of urban development on global climate change by simultaneously reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions and sequestering carbon through retention of forest cover and conserving agricultural lands))~~ Contribute to climate change benefits.

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~~R-315))~~ R-502 To promote transfers of development rights, King County shall:
a. Facilitate transfers from private property owners with sending sites to property owners with receiving sites;
b. Operate the King County Transfer of Development Rights Bank to facilitate the Transfer of Development Rights market, maintain supply to the extent practicable feasible, and bridge the time gap between willing sellers and buyers of Transferrable Development Rights through buying, holding, and selling Transferable Development Rights;
c. Work with cities to develop interlocal agreements that encourage transfers of development rights ~~((from Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands))~~ into cities;
d. Work with cities regarding annexation areas where Transferrable Development Rights are likely to be used;
e. Work with communities and seek funding and other means to provide public amenities to enhance the livability of incorporated ~~((and unincorporated))~~ area neighborhoods accepting increased densities through the Transfer of Development Rights Program; ~~((and))~~
f. Provide amenities to urban unincorporated Transferrable Development Right receiving areas to improve the livability of the receiving area; the type, timing, and location of amenities provided to urban unincorporated Transferrable Development Right receiving areas should be informed by a public engagement process including members of the affected receiving area and the city affiliated with annexation;
g. Work with the Washington State Department of Commerce, Puget Sound Regional Council, and King County cities to implement Washington State Regional Transfer of Development Rights legislation; and
h.g Explore new opportunities to increase Transfer of Development Right demand, prioritizing new receiving sites or Transfer of Development Right use within urban areas.

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~~((1. — Sending and Receiving Sites~~

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~~R-316)) R-503 ((Eligible sending sites shall be lands designated on the ((King County Comprehensive Plan land use map)) Land Use Map as: Rural Area (with RA-2.5, RA-5, or RA-10 zoning); Agriculture (with A zoning); Forestry (with F zoning); Urban Separator (with R-1 zoning); or Urban Residential Medium or Urban Residential High (with R-4, R-6, R-8, R-12, R-18, R-24 or R-48 zoning) and that are approved for Conservation Futures Tax funding(()). These)) Sending sites shall provide permanent land ((protection)) conservation to create a significant public benefit. ((Priority s))Sending sites ((are)) shall include, but not be limited to:~~

- ~~a. Lands in Rural Forest Focus Areas;~~
- ~~b. Lands adjacent to the Urban Growth Area boundary;~~
- ~~c. Lands contributing to the protection of endangered and threatened species;~~
- ~~d. Lands that are suitable for inclusion in and provide important links to the regional open space system;~~
- ~~e. Agricultural and Forest Production District lands;~~
- ~~f. Intact shorelines of Puget Sound;~~
- ~~g. Lands ((identified as important according to the Washington State Department of Ecology’s Watershed Characterization analyses)) in the RA zone with conservation values related to farming, forestry, carbon sequestration, or open space; or~~
- ~~h. Lands contributing to urban open space or strengthening protection of flood hazard areas or other critical area function and values in ((urban-unincorporated areas)) any area.~~

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~~((R-317 — For Transfer of Development Rights purposes only, qualified sending sites are allocated development rights as follows:~~

- ~~a. Sending sites in the Rural Area zoned RA-2.5 shall be allocated one Transferrable Development Right for every two and one-half acres of gross land area;~~
- ~~b. Sending sites in the Rural Area zoned RA-5 or RA-10 or Agricultural zoning shall be allocated one Transferrable Development Right for every five acres of gross land area;~~
- ~~c. Sending sites with Forest zoning shall be allocated one Transferrable Development Right for every eighty acres of gross land area;~~
- ~~d. Sending sites with Urban Separator land use designation shall be allocated four Transferrable Development Rights for every one acre of gross land area;~~
- ~~e. Sending sites with an Urban Residential, Medium or Urban Residential, High land use designation shall be allocated Transferrable Development Rights equivalent to the zoning base density for every one acre of gross land area;~~
- ~~f. If a sending site has an existing dwelling or retains one or more development rights for future use, the gross acreage shall be reduced in accordance with the site’s zoning base density for the purposes of Transferrable Development Right allocation; and~~
- ~~g. King County shall provide bonus Transferrable Development Rights to sending sites in the Rural Area as follows:~~
 - ~~1. The sending site is a vacant RA zoned property and is no larger than one-half the size requirement of the base density for the zone; and~~
 - ~~2. The sending site is a RA zoned property and is located on a shoreline of the state and has a shoreline designation of conservancy or natural.))~~

~~((R-318 — ((Prior to the county’s allocation of Transferable Development Rights to a sending site landowner, the landowner shall record and place on title~~

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of sending site parcel a conservation easement documenting the development restrictions. If development rights are being retained for future development, the subsequent development must be clustered, and the tract preserved with a permanent conservation easement shall be larger than the developed portion. In the case of lands within the Rural Forest Focus Areas, no more than one dwelling unit per 20 acres shall be retained, and the tract preserved with a conservation easement shall be at least 15 acres in size.)) Transfer of Development Right sending sites shall be permanently protected with a conservation easement or similar encumbrance to ensure perpetual conservation benefit.

~~((R-319~~ Transferrable Development Rights may be used on receiving sites in the following order of preference as follows:
a. Incorporated Cities. Transfers into incorporated areas shall be detailed in an interlocal agreement between the city receiving the development rights and the county;
b. Unincorporated urban commercial centers;
c. Other unincorporated urban areas; and
d. Rural Areas zoned RA-2.5, unless they are on Vashon-Maury Island, may receive transfers of development rights, but only from the Rural Forest Focus Areas.

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~~U-110)) R-504~~ King County shall work with cities, especially those designated as Urban Centers, in collaborative efforts that result in transfers of development rights from the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.

~~((R-319a~~ King County should designate urban unincorporated areas as Transferrable Development Right receiving sites for short subdivisions. Use of Transferrable Development Rights in formal subdivisions shall be allowed only through a subarea study.))

~~R-505~~ King County should prioritize Transferable Development Rights uses for residential density in urban areas. King County may also allow Transferrable Development Rights:
a. In limited instances for development in the Rural Area, except for Vashon-Maury Island; and
b. To provide incentives to developers for uses other than additional residential density.

~~((R-320~~ King County should seek other public funding and private-public partnerships for incorporated and unincorporated urban area amenities to strengthen the Transfer of Development Rights Program ((and facilitate the transfer of development rights from Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands into the King County Urban Growth Area to preserve the rural environment, encourage retention of rural and resource-based uses, and avoid urban service demands in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands)).

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~~R-320a~~ King County shall provide amenities to urban unincorporated Transferrable Development Right receiving areas to improve the livability of the receiving area. Amenities should be provided at levels commensurate with the number of Transferrable Development Rights used in the receiving area. The type, timing, and location of amenities provided to urban unincorporated Transferrable Development Right receiving areas should be informed by a public engagement process including members of the affected receiving area and the city affiliated with annexation.))

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~~**(R-321)** King County should pursue public funding and public-private partnerships, and bond or levy proposals, for additional Transfer of Development Rights Bank funding to target threatened private Rural Areas or Natural Resource Lands. Development rights purchased through such a program should be sold into any appropriate urban location.~~

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~~**2. Rural and Resource Land Preservation Transfer of Development Rights Program**~~

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~~Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands face increasing development pressure, yet the county must simultaneously plan for, and allow, future development growth. This tension makes it incumbent on the county to strengthen its Transfer of Development Rights efforts. For this reason, King County seeks to increase the number of development right transfers and adopt an expanded Rural and Resource Land Preservation Transfer of Development Rights Program to reduce and redirect rural development potential into the urban areas.~~

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~~**R-322** The goals of the Rural and Resource Land Preservation Transfer of Development Rights Program are to: (1) reduce the development potential in Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands by 25%; (2) increase activity in the Transfer of Development Rights market; (3) bolster demand for Transferrable Development Rights; (4) offer Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands property owners access to incentive programs; (5) protect low-density Rural Areas from encroaching urban development; and (6) reduce greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing vehicle miles traveled from the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands and by sequestering carbon.~~

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~~**R-323** The Rural and Resource Land Preservation Transfer of Development Rights Program shall include, but is not limited to, the following:~~

- ~~a. In addition to the density that is allowed on a receiving site in the urban growth area from the purchase of Transferrable Development Rights, the county shall evaluate the climate change benefits achieved by reducing transportation related greenhouse gas emissions that result from the transfer of development rights from the sending site, provided that such consideration is not precluded by administrative rules promulgated by the state;~~
- ~~b. In order to satisfy transportation concurrency requirements in the Rural Area in a transportation concurrency travel shed that is non-concurrent, a development proposal for a short subdivision creating up to four lots may purchase Transferrable Development Rights from other Rural Area or Natural Resource Land properties in the same travel shed; allowing this is intended to reduce overall traffic impacts in rural travel sheds by permanently removing development potential. The transfer shall not result in an increase in allowable density on the receiving site. A short subdivision creating two lots where the property has been owned by the applicant for five or more years and where the property has not been subdivided in the last ten years shall satisfy the transportation concurrency requirements without having to purchase Transferrable Development Rights;~~
- ~~c. King County shall provide an added density bonus of up to a 100% increase above the base density allowed in K.C. Code 21A.12.030, when Transferrable Development Rights are used for projects within any designated commercial center or activity center within the Urban Growth Area that provides enhanced walkability design and incorporates transit oriented development, and may provide an added density when Transferrable Development Rights are used~~

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~~for projects that provide affordable housing in the R-4 through R-48 zones;~~
~~d. King County may allow accessory dwelling units in the Rural Area that are greater than one thousand square feet, but less than 1,500 square feet, if the property owner purchases one Transferrable Development Right from the Rural Area, Agriculture or Forestry designations; ((and))~~
~~e. King County may allow a detached accessory dwelling unit on a RA-5 zoned lot that is two and one-half acres or greater and less than three and three-quarters acres if the property owner purchases one Transferrable Development Right from the Rural Area, Agriculture or Forestry designations.))~~

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VII.C.)) Equestrian Activities

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King County recognizes the contributions of equestrian livestock husbandry, training, competition, and recreation activities to the overall rural quality of life and economic base in King County. ((Equestrian activities provide a lifestyle value to numerous county residents and visitors and a source of revenue for rural residents and business owners. There are numerous organizations that support the equestrian industry by providing education and promoting equine husbandry, including the King County Agriculture Program, Washington State University Extension, Future Farmers of America, 4-H, the King County Executive Horse Council, Backcounty Horsemen, the Enumclaw Forested Foothills Recreation Association, and numerous other special interest equestrian-related groups.

In recent years the diversity of equestrian uses has expanded throughout the rural portions of the county, going well beyond the traditional uses of a child and his or her favorite horse, a 4-H horse show, or a trail ride through the woods.)) Today's equestrian uses include raising and training a variety of horse breeds((, an increase in the number of)) and riding arenas((, and the construction of a state-of-the-art horse rehabilitation facility)). ((This diversity of)) These equestrian uses should be sustained and encouraged where compatible with the existing character of the area in which equestrian facilities are proposed to be built or expanded.

((Several constraints may limit the development or expansion of equestrian activities. Even though the Growth Management Act limits growth in the Rural Area, some growth continues to occur throughout the Rural Areas of the county, reducing the availability of open land to sustain livestock, equestrian activities, and threatening existing or potential trail segments that may be lost to uncoordinated land developments.

R-211)) R-601 King County should continue to support and sustain equestrian activities and ensure that regulations support those activities compatible with the area in which they are located. The ((c))County should encourage subdivision layouts that preserve opportunities for livestock and equestrian activities.

((Trail riding throughout rural King County is a popular equestrian use enjoyed by both urban and rural residents. Although llama and alpaca treks are becoming increasingly popular, most of the trail riding in King County is on horses and mules. Several constraints, including uncoordinated land development, may limit the continuation, development, or expansion of equestrian trails or trail segments. Additionally, as ownership of private and/or public land with existing trails is transferred, these trails may be lost when easements are not in place to protect the trails at the time of the transaction or if the new owner is not aware that a trail runs across the parcel.

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1803 The following policies address the need to continue to support trails for equestrian,
1804 multi-use, and existing trail linkage purposes.

1805 **R-212)) R-602** King County should support equestrian use trails throughout the
1806 Rural Area and in the Agricultural and Forest Production Districts, as
1807 appropriate, by:

- 1808 a. Working with local communities to identify and protect multiple-
- 1809 use trails and key linkages that support equestrian travel;
- 1810 b. Maintaining equestrian links, including multiple-use trails, where
- 1811 appropriate;
- 1812 c. Ensuring parking areas serving multiple-use trails are designed and
- 1813 constructed, whenever possible to handle parking for horse
- 1814 trailers; and
- 1815 d. Constructing and maintaining equestrian trails under County
- 1816 ownership or management consistent with King County
- 1817 Backcountry Trail or Regional Trail Standards whenever possible.
- 1818
- 1819

1820 ~~((R-213)) R-603~~ Soft-surface multiple-use trails in corridors ~~((separate from road~~
1821 ~~right-of-way)) not associated with a road~~ are the preferred option for
1822 equestrian travel for safety reasons and to avoid conflicts with
1823 residential activities associated with the ~~((street)) road~~. Existing off-
1824 road trails should be preserved during site development, with
1825 relocation as appropriate to accommodate development while
1826 maintaining trail connections. ~~Where appropriate, capital~~
1827 ~~improvement programs for transportation or park facilities shall also~~
1828 ~~enable the use of new facilities by equestrians. Construction standards~~
1829 ~~for soft-surface multiple-use trails shall be consistent with current trail~~
1830 ~~construction and maintenance practices as promulgated by the U.S.~~
1831 ~~Forest Service.~~

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1832 **R-604** The King County Road Design and Construction Standards ~~((will)) shall~~
1833 ~~ensure adequate space to~~ accommodate safe equestrian travel within
1834 road rights-of-way. ~~((Where appropriate, capital improvement~~
1835 ~~programs for transportation and park facilities shall also enable the use~~
1836 ~~of new facilities by equestrians. Construction standards for~~
1837 ~~multiple-use ((nonmotorized)) trails to be established in road~~
1838 ~~rights-of-way within the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands should~~
1839 ~~assure a minimum eight-foot-wide gravel shoulder on arterial roads~~
1840 ~~and 4.0 foot gravel shoulder on local access roads, or provide a trail~~
1841 ~~separated from the driving lanes by a ditch or other barrier.~~
1842 ~~Construction standards for soft-surface multiple-use ((nonmotorized))~~
1843 ~~trails in corridors separate from road rights-of-way shall be consistent~~
1844 ~~with current trail construction and maintenance practices as~~
1845 ~~promulgated by the U.S. Forest Service.~~

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1846 **R-214)) R-605** King County's land use regulations should protect rural equestrian
1847 community trails by supporting preservation of equestrian trail links in
1848 the Rural Area and within the Agricultural and Forest Production
1849 District. Representatives of the equestrian community should be given
1850 the opportunity to review and monitor regulatory and policy actions by
1851 King County, such as Rural Area development regulations, that have
1852 the potential to affect equestrian trails.

1853 ~~((R-215)) R-606~~ King County should encourage ~~((P))~~ property owners in the
1854 Agricultural and Forest Production Districts ~~((are encouraged))~~ to
1855 voluntarily allow continued equestrian access to existing trails or
1856 alternative access if the existing trail impedes future use of their
1857 property.

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1862 ~~((R-216))~~ R-607 Equestrian trails should be a category in the (c)County's Public
1863 Benefit Rating System, so that a landowner who provides trail access
1864 may qualify for a tax reduction under the program.
1865

1866 ~~((R-217))~~ R-608 County departments negotiating trades or sales of ((c)County-
1867 owned land shall determine whether any historically established trails
1868 exist on the property, and, when economically feasible, ensure that
1869 those trails are retained or replaced and are not lost as a condition of
1870 the trade or sale. Trails that provide key linkages, for either multi-use
1871 or equestrian trails, shall be considered to have strategic value to the
1872 county's trail network and shall be retained or replaced whenever
1873 possible.
1874

1875 VIII. ~~((VI.))~~ Natural Resource Lands

1876 ~~((A.))~~ ~~((Ensuring Conservation and Sustainable Use of~~
1877 ~~Resource Lands))~~ Resource Conservation

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1878 This section contains King County's strategy for conservation of valuable resource lands
1879 and for encouraging their productive and sustainable management. The strategy
1880 consists of policies to guide planning, incentives, education, and regulation. Although
1881 this section focuses on the ~~designated~~ Natural Resource Lands of long-term commercial
1882 significance, many of the policies are applicable to farm, forest, and mineral lands in the
1883 Rural Area as well.

1884 King County's Natural Resource Lands ~~((contribute to the economic prosperity of the~~
1885 ~~region. They))~~ are the lands with long-term commercial significance for farming,
1886 forestry, and mineral extraction. Businesses that rely on resource lands provide jobs
1887 and products, such as food, wood, and gravel. ~~((They also are an important part of the~~
1888 ~~cultural heritage.))~~ Conservation and responsible stewardship of working farm and
1889 forest lands also produces multiple environmental benefits, such as:

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- 1890 • Stream and salmon protection;
- 1891 • Clean air and water;
- 1892 • Wildlife habitat;
- 1893 • Landslide hazard reduction;
- 1894 • Flood risk reduction;
- 1895 • Groundwater recharge and protection; and
- 1896 • Carbon sequestration and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

1897
1898 For mineral extraction, responsible stormwater management, erosion and sediment
1899 control, and site remediation can help to mitigate many of the impacts while providing
1900 local sources of materials such as sand and gravel.

1901
1902 King County has taken major steps to conserve ~~((and manage agricultural soils and~~
1903 ~~activities.))~~ farmland and forestland to support commercial agriculture and forestry
1904 ~~((and))~~, while also allowing for regulated extraction of minerals ~~((extraction~~
1905 ~~opportunities))~~. Natural Resource Lands and the industries they support are conserved
1906 by encouraging development to occur primarily in the Urban Growth Area as directed
1907 by the Growth Management Act. Under this Comprehensive Plan, Natural Resource
1908 Lands, including designated Agricultural Production Districts, the Forest Production
1909 District, and sites of long-term commercial significance for mineral resource uses, will
1910 have minimal new residential and commercial development. New development that
1911 does occur will be designed to be compatible with active resource-based uses.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1912
1913 ((This chapter contains King County's strategy for conservation of these valuable
1914 Resource Lands and for encouraging their productive and sustainable management.
1915 The strategy consists of policies to guide planning, incentives, education, regulation and
1916 purchase or transfer of development rights:))

1917
1918 Forest, agriculture, and mineral resource lands are not King County's only natural
1919 resources. Many other resource-based industries, such as the recreational and
1920 commercial fisheries (industry) industries, are influenced by King County's land use
1921 and planning policies. Policies for the protection and enhancement of fisheries, as well
1922 as air, water, vegetation, wildlife, and other natural resources, can be found in Chapter
1923 5, Environment.

1924
1925 ((The Rural Forest Commission was established in 1997 to represent the diversity of
1926 forest interests in King County. The Commission reviews the development and
1927 implementation of strategies, programs, policies and regulations that benefit forestry
1928 and advises the county on ways to preserve rural forests and promote rural forestry.

1929
1930 **R-601) R-701 The Rural Forest Commission shall advise the King County**
1931 **Executive and Council on the development and implementation of**
1932 **((innovative)) strategies, programs, policies, and regulations that**
1933 **benefit forestry ((and)), that encourage the retention of the forest land**
1934 **base in King County, and that support rural forest landowners. King**
1935 **County shall continue to support the Rural Forest Commission with staff**
1936 **and other resources.**

1937
1938 ((In 1994, the Agriculture Commission was established as a forum for farmers to take an
1939 active role in land use decisions, policies and regulations affecting commercial
1940 agriculture. The commission solicits input from agricultural agency technical advisors
1941 and others with land use and technical expertise, as well as other affected groups:))

1942
1943 **((R-602)) R-702 The Agriculture Commission shall advise the King County Executive**
1944 **and Council on ((agricultural issues and programs, including, but not**
1945 **limited to:**
1946 **a. Existing and proposed legislation and regulations affecting**
1947 **commercial agriculture;**
1948 **b. Land use issues that affect agriculture; and**
1949 **c. Ways to maintain, enhance and promote agriculture and**
1950 **agricultural products in the region:)) programs, policies,**
1951 **regulations, and land use issues that affect commercial agriculture,**
1952 **encourage retention of farmland, support farmland access for**
1953 **traditionally underserved-underinvested communities, and**
1954 **contribute to a strong local food system. King County shall**
1955 **continue to support the Agriculture Commission with staff and**
1956 **other resources.**

1957 ~~((B.)) Resource Conservation Strategy~~

1958 ((In 1985, the King County Comprehensive Plan designated the county's initial Forest
1959 Production District and five Agricultural Production Districts. Subsequent) ~~The Growth~~
1960 ~~Management Act requires designation of agricultural and forest lands of long-term~~
1961 ~~commercial significance. King County designates agricultural lands of long-term~~
1962 ~~commercial significance as Agricultural Production Districts and forest lands of long-~~
1963 ~~term commercial significance as the Forest Production District, as shown on the~~
1964 ~~Agricultural and Forest Lands Map in this chapter. These designations and~~
1965 ~~accompanying planning efforts establish((ed)) minimum lot sizes and uses for these~~
1966 ~~districts and their surrounding areas. These land use regulations are consistent with the~~
1967 ~~requirements of the Growth Management Act to ((designate productive lands and to))~~

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1968 plan for adjacent and nearby land uses compatible with long-term commercial farming
1969 and forestry. ~~((The Growth Management Act requires designation of agricultural and
1970 forest lands of long-term commercial significance. Agricultural lands of long-term
1971 commercial significance are designated as Agricultural Production Districts and forest
1972 lands of long-term commercial significance are designated as the Forest Production
1973 District as shown on the Agricultural and Forest Lands Map.))~~

1974
1975 The Growth Management Act also requires designation of mineral resource lands that
1976 are primarily devoted to the extraction of minerals or that have known or potential
1977 long-term commercial significance for the extraction of minerals. Minerals include, but
1978 are not limited to, gravel, sand, and valuable metallic substances. Coal is not
1979 considered a mineral resource in King County. Such lands are shown as ~~((D))~~
1980 designated Mineral Resource Sites on the Mineral Resources Map in this chapter. ~~((The
1981 role of the Forest Production District in the conservation of mineral resources is also
1982 explained below.))~~

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1983
1984 ~~((R-606))~~ **R-703 Farm lands, forest lands, and mineral resources shall be conserved**
1985 **for productive use through the use of ~~((D))~~designated Agricultural and**
1986 **Forest Production Districts and ~~((D))~~designated Mineral Resource Sites**
1987 **where the principal ~~((and preferred))~~ land uses ~~((will))~~ shall be**
1988 **commercial resource management activities~~((, and by the designation~~**
1989 **of appropriate compatible uses on adjacent Rural Area and urban**
1990 **lands)).**

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1991
1992 ~~((R-604))~~ **R-704 King County shall promote and support commercially viable and**
1993 **environmentally sustainable forestry, agriculture, and other**
1994 **resource-based industries as a part of a diverse and regional economy.**

1995
1996 ~~((R-604a))~~ **R-705 King County shall support ~~((and designate))~~ mineral resource lands**
1997 **of long-term commercial significance and promote policies,**
1998 **environmental reviews, and management practices that minimize**
1999 **conflicts with neighboring land uses and mitigate environmental**
2000 **impacts.**

2001
2002 ~~((R-605))~~ **Forestry and agriculture best management practices are encouraged**
2003 **because of their multiple benefits, including natural resource**
2004 **preservation and protection.))**

2005
2006 ~~R-606~~ **Farm lands, forest lands and mineral resources shall be conserved for**
2007 **productive use through the use of Designated Agricultural and Forest**
2008 **Production Districts and Designated Mineral Resource Sites where the**
2009 **principal and preferred land uses will be commercial resource**
2010 **management activities, and by the designation of appropriate**
2011 **compatible uses on adjacent Rural Area and urban lands.))**

2012
2013 ~~((R-607))~~ **R-706 Land uses, utilities, and transportation facilities within and adjacent**
2014 **to ~~((D))~~designated Agricultural and Forest Production Districts and**
2015 **~~((D))~~designated Mineral Resource Sites~~((,))~~ shall be sited and designed**
2016 **to ensure compatibility with resource management.**

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2017
2018 ~~((R-608))~~ **R-707 King County should encourage infrastructure and services that**
2019 **support ~~((resource lands))~~ Natural Resource Land management and**
2020 **resource-based businesses. These should be sited ~~((in close proximity))~~**
2021 **close to designated Agricultural and Forest Production Districts and**
2022 **~~((D))~~designated Mineral Resource Sites ~~((when))~~ where potential**
2023 **adverse impacts and incompatibilities can effectively be mitigated.**

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2024
2025 ~~((King County recognizes that maintaining viable resource-based businesses is~~
2026 ~~challenging. Owners of resource lands make substantial investments in managing their~~

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2027 land. Market uncertainties, labor costs, vandalism, taxes and fees can affect the
2028 profitability of resource-based industries.

2029
2030 Conflicts with surrounding land uses and environmental problems can arise even with
2031 the best of precautions. Resource-based industries need reasonable certainty that
2032 policies are in place to help avoid such conflicts and operations can continue if activities
2033 are performed in an environmentally sound manner.))

2034
2035 The ~~((Forest Lands)) Designated Forestland Program (Chapter 84.33 Revised Code of~~
2036 ~~Washington ((84.33)), ((and the Open Space Taxation Program, which includes the~~
2037 ~~Timberland)) Farm and Agriculture Program Chapter 84.34 Revised Code of~~
2038 ~~Washington) and Public Benefit Rating System ((p)) Program((s)) (Chapter 84.34 Revised~~
2039 ~~Code of Washington ((84.34)) are property tax incentives that encourage continued~~
2040 ~~farm and forest management both within and outside the Forest Production District and~~
2041 ~~Agricultural Production Districts.))~~

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2042
2043 **((R-609)) R-708 King County should expand access to property tax incentive**
2044 **programs to encourage landowners to continue ((practicing)) and**
2045 **expand farming and forestry and to help ensure retention of the**
2046 **resource land base. These programs should be publicized and**
2047 **marketed to ensure equitable access to program benefits.**

2048
2049 **((R-610)) King County shall employ a variety of innovative programs and**
2050 **incentives to help maintain and enhance resource-based industries.**

2051
2052 Examples of such programs include technical assistance and education for sustainable
2053 land management, education for urban and suburban residents, purchases of land or
2054 development rights, transfer of development rights, the purchase of scenic easements
2055 and other less-than-fee ownership interests that conserve resource uses, establishment
2056 of buffers and setbacks for adjacent properties, and relief from special levies and local
2057 improvement district fees.))

2058
2059 ~~When urban development occurs near Resource Lands, conflicts can result. Examples~~
2060 ~~of such conflicts are greater risk of forest fires, vandalism to logging, farm and mining~~
2061 ~~equipment, destruction of young trees, and increased mixing of heavy truck and~~
2062 ~~residential traffic, which presents safety problems. Increased development near~~
2063 ~~resource lands also results in increased encroachment of noxious weeds into forests and~~
2064 ~~farmland. It is important for neighboring property owners to understand the value of~~
2065 ~~resource industries and what kinds of resource activities are likely to occur.))~~

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2066
2067 **((R-611)) R-709 King County should develop and employ effective means to inform**
2068 **affected property owners about nearby resource management**
2069 **activities. This may include, but not be limited to:**
2070 **a. Notice on title, and notification on recorded subdivisions, short**
2071 **subdivision maps, and issued development permits for properties**
2072 **within five hundred feet of designated agriculture, forestry, and**
2073 **mineral resource lands;**
2074 **b. Signage; and**
2075 **c. Community meetings and other public notification tools.**

2076
2077 Successful Natural Resource Land conservation requires a regional perspective and
2078 intergovernmental cooperation. Although the ~~((designated)) Natural Resource Lands~~
2079 ~~are located in unincorporated King County, they benefit nearby cities and can be~~
2080 ~~affected by activities in those cities. Furthermore, some ((R))resource ((L))lands in King~~
2081 ~~County are owned or managed by Indian tribes or city, county, state, and federal~~
2082 ~~agencies; ((and Indian tribes. ((A regional perspective is also important because many~~
2083 ~~resource activities are regulated or supported by state and federal programs).)) As the~~
2084 ~~population in the Puget Sound area continues to grow, the protection of Natural~~

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2085 Resource Lands and the continued success of commercial agriculture and forestry is a
2086 regional challenge.

2087 ~~((R-612)) R-710 King County shall work cooperatively with ((cities,)) Indian tribes,~~
2088 ~~cities, other public agencies, private utilities, resource managers, land((~~
2089 ~~))owners, and residents to conserve ((public and private)) Natural~~
2090 ~~Resource Lands for long-term productivity and environmental~~
2091 ~~protection in a consistent and predictable manner.~~

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2092 ~~((R-613)) R-711 Designated Forest and Agricultural Production District lands shall~~
2093 ~~not be annexed by cities, except as allowed in Policies R-656-760, R-~~
2094 ~~761, and R-R-656a762.~~

2095 ~~((R-614)) R-712 King County should establish written agreements with Indian~~
2096 ~~tribes, agencies, Indian ((tribes)), and other affected parties whose~~
2097 ~~close coordination and collaboration are essential to effective~~
2098 ~~implementation of resource management programs. Such agreements~~
2099 ~~should serve to establish consensus and commitment to achieving~~
2100 ~~specific resource management goals and to define the specific roles~~
2101 ~~and responsibilities of each agency.~~

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2102 ~~((R-615) King County should avoid duplication of federal and state regulations~~
2103 ~~that apply to resource-based industries. However, King County~~
2104 ~~reserves the authority to address issues of local concern with regard to~~
2105 ~~resource-based activities and operations.))~~

2106 ~~((Many of the issues facing King County's resource industries are also faced by~~
2107 ~~neighboring counties. Furthermore, some of the infrastructure and support businesses~~
2108 ~~necessary to sustain agriculture and forestry may serve more than a single county.~~
2109 ~~Therefore, King County's efforts to retain healthy resource economies will be more~~
2110 ~~successful if the ((c)) County collaborates with other agencies and agriculture and~~
2111 ~~forestry interest groups in the region. These efforts may include policy development,~~
2112 ~~training for service providers and outreach that is supportive of commercial agriculture~~
2113 ~~and timber production and encourages the purchase of local food and local wood.))~~

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2114 ~~((R-615a)) R-713 King County should work with other jurisdictions,~~
2115 ~~agencies, and agriculture and forestry interest groups to help maintain~~
2116 ~~and enhance commercial agriculture and forestry production by~~
2117 ~~addressing challenges common across the region.~~

2118 ~~((Resource management strategies that protect the environment are necessary to~~
2119 ~~maintain the long-term productivity of the resource. Chapter 5, Environment, describes~~
2120 ~~the value of using an integrated, ecosystem-based approach to natural resource and~~
2121 ~~environmental planning and management. This approach, along with sound~~
2122 ~~operational practices by resource-based industries, may be able to prevent or minimize~~
2123 ~~environmental impacts associated with common agricultural and forest practices and~~
2124 ~~mineral extraction while maximizing co-benefits.))~~

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2125 ~~((R-616)) R-714 King County should encourage ((R)) resource-based industries~~
2126 ~~((should)) to use practices that:~~
2127 ~~a. Protect the long-term integrity of the built environment, adjacent~~
2128 ~~land uses, and cultural resources;~~
2129 ~~b. Maintain the long-term productivity of the resource base; and~~
2130 ~~c. Result in maintenance of ecosystem health and habitat.~~

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2140 ~~((R-617)) R-715~~ **Habitat protection requirements should not fall disproportionately**
2141 **on land maintained in agriculture or forestry, and the costs of such**
2142 **protection shall not be disproportionately placed on the owners of such**
2143 **land.**

2144
2145 ~~((R-618)) R-716~~ **King County shall be a leader in resource management by**
2146 **demonstrating environmentally sound agriculture and forestry on**
2147 **((c))County-owned land.**

2148
2149 ~~((R-619)) R-717~~ **King County shall include resource education through its signs on**
2150 **trail systems that are linked with working farms, forests, and mines.**
2151 **((Interpretation should:**
2152 **a. Provide historical perspective;**
2153 **b. Demonstrate current adaptive resource management practices**
2154 **(forestry, fisheries, wildlife, agriculture); and**
2155 **c. Explain economics of various resource uses.**

2156 ~~C.))~~ **B. Forestry**

2157 ~~((King County forestlands provide local, regional and national benefits that are basic to~~
2158 ~~quality of life. In addition to supplying a variety of wood and other products, forests~~
2159 ~~emit oxygen, filter water, reduce risks from flooding and soil erosion, enhance~~
2160 ~~groundwater recharge, provide habitat for innumerable plant and animal species,~~
2161 ~~capture carbon, and offer scenic vistas and recreational opportunities. Conservation of~~
2162 ~~the extensive forests in the county saves the region millions of dollars by reducing the~~
2163 ~~need for costly infrastructure for stormwater and flood control, water treatment, and air~~
2164 ~~quality remediation. King County's forests provide employment in forestry, wood~~
2165 ~~products, ((paper,)) recreation, and tourism industries. In sum, properly managed~~
2166 ~~forests are fundamental to a healthy, diverse economy and environment.~~

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2167
2168 ~~The growth in human population has resulted in the loss of forestlands through~~
2169 ~~conversion to non-forest uses. Increasing demands are being placed upon the~~
2170 ~~remaining forest land base to provide goods, recreational opportunities and ecological~~
2171 ~~functions. Climate change has the potential to put additional stress on forestlands due~~
2172 ~~to changes in seasonal temperature fluctuations, rainfall patterns, and distribution of~~
2173 ~~insect populations. In the next 10 to 20 years, Pacific Northwest forests are expected to~~
2174 ~~face increasing drought mortality, difficulty in getting seedlings established, and~~
2175 ~~severity of forest fires.~~

2176
2177 ~~To address these challenges, forest managers are embracing more broad-based~~
2178 ~~management methods and strategies that encompass ecosystems, landscapes and~~
2179 ~~watersheds, while continually incorporating new scientific information to improve these~~
2180 ~~approaches. Their efforts, together with the collective foresight and dedication of~~
2181 ~~landowners, interest groups, Indian tribes, residents, and agencies, are needed to~~
2182 ~~ensure that King County's forests continue to contribute to a sustainable way of life for~~
2183 ~~present and future generations.~~

2184
2185 ~~((The first step to maintain and enhance commercial forestry is to protect the forest land~~
2186 ~~base. The second step is to encourage an ecosystem approach to forest management~~
2187 ~~that provides for long-term ecosystem health and productivity and addresses~~
2188 ~~cumulative impacts on non-timber resources. The third step is to minimize land use~~
2189 ~~conflicts and offer incentives for the retention of commercial forestry and the forest land~~
2190 ~~base.))~~

2191 ~~1.))~~ **Protecting Forest Lands**

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2192 The purpose of the Forest Production District is to conserve large blocks of
2193 commercially valuable forestland for the long term. The designation and zoning ((is))

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2194 ~~are~~ designed to prevent intrusion of incompatible uses, manage adjacent land uses to
2195 minimize land use conflicts, and prevent or discourage conversion from forestry to other
2196 uses. ~~((A comparison of the area of forestland converted since 1987 inside the Forest
2197 Production District with the area converted outside the District indicates that
2198 designation and zoning of commercial forest lands help to discourage subdivision and
2199 conversion.))~~ Recent studies indicate that total forest cover within the Forest Production
2200 District has remained stable in recent decades, but has declined marginally in ~~other the~~
2201 Rural Areas, and declined significantly in the Urban Growth Area and cities. Taken as a
2202 whole, forest cover in ~~in~~ King County has declined slightly, with 98.9 percent of the area
2203 supporting forest cover in 1992 still forested in 2016.

2204
2205 Sixty percent of the land area in King County is within the designated Forest Production
2206 District. The Forest Production District comprises 1,300 square miles (825,000 acres) of
2207 forestland in east King County. Most of this land is held in large blocks of contiguous
2208 ownership. ~~((At this larger scale, it is easier to manage for multiple purposes such as
2209 habitat and long-term forest health.))~~ About 70((%)) percent of the Forest Production
2210 District is in public ownership, including parts of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National
2211 Forest, wilderness areas, state and county parks, Washington State Department of
2212 Natural Resources lands, and watersheds for the cities of Seattle and Tacoma. The
2213 Forest Production District includes approximately ~~((220,000))~~ 186,000 acres in private
2214 ownership, most of which is commercial forestland.

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2215
2216 ~~((Although it has declined from its height in the late 1980s, c))~~ Commercial timber
2217 harvest remains a significant economic activity in King County. At the same time, forest
2218 management strategies have become more diverse and may include objectives for
2219 forest health, biodiversity, and fish and wildlife habitat, instead of timber production
2220 alone. Likewise, economic activity related to recreation, traditional cultural practices,
2221 and aesthetics may be included in commercial forestry activities.

2222
2223 **~~((R-620)) R-718 The Forest Production District shall remain in large blocks of
2224 contiguous forest lands where the primary land use is commercial
2225 forestry. Other resource ((industry)) uses, such as mineral extraction
2226 and agriculture, should be ((permitted)) allowed within the Forest
2227 Production District when managed to be compatible with forestry.~~**

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2228
2229 **~~((R-621)) R-719 The Forest Production District is a long-term designation. Lands
2230 may be removed from the Forest Production District only through a
2231 subarea plan or area zoning and land use study, and only to recognize
2232 areas with historical retail commercial uses.~~**

2233
2234 ~~((Public land management affects the region's economy, recreation, fish and wildlife
2235 habitat, forest health, stream flows, water supply, flood control, and climate change
2236 mitigation capabilities. The ((c)) County should take advantage of opportunities to
2237 collaborate with other public land managers ((such as the U.S. Forest Service at Mt.
2238 Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.)) and other ((stakeholders.)) partners to manage
2239 forests for multiple public values.~~

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2240
2241 ~~((For example, in the last two decades, there have been significant changes in how
2242 forest lands in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest are managed. In King County,
2243 more than 350,000 acres are within the National Forest. Management emphasis has
2244 shifted from commodity timber production (in the 1960s, 70s and 80s) to management
2245 with an emphasis on ecological values and public use. The U.S. Forest Service has
2246 struggled to keep pace with the increasing demand for recreation infrastructure and to
2247 maintain access roads.))~~

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2249 While timber harvest levels have declined significantly from those in the 1980s, ~~the~~ **the** ~~supply of forest products from ((the national forest ~~remains~~)) public and private~~ **supply of forest products from ((the national forest ~~remains~~)) public and private**
2250 ~~forestland is remains~~ **forestland is remains** important to the regional viability of the forestry industry. ~~((Forest~~ **Forest**
2251 ~~fire suppression since the early 1900s resulted in abnormally high fuel levels on the~~ **fire suppression since the early 1900s resulted in abnormally high fuel levels on the**
2252 ~~forest floor, which can increase the severity of wildfires. More r))~~ **forest floor, which can increase the severity of wildfires. More r))**
2253 ~~Recent federal, state,~~ **Recent federal, state,**
2254 ~~and county policies have placed emphasis on projects ((to) that enhance forest~~ **and county policies have placed emphasis on projects ((to) that enhance forest**
2255 ~~ecosystems, ((restore and)) improve ((land health and)) water quality, ((address fuel~~ **ecosystems, ((restore and)) improve ((land health and)) water quality, ((address fuel**
2256 ~~levels, and improve the maintenance of existing facilities within national forests))~~ **levels, and improve the maintenance of existing facilities within national forests))** **recover**
2257 ~~endangered species, improve opportunities for recreation, and enhance climate~~ **endangered species, improve opportunities for recreation, and enhance climate**
2258 ~~resiliency, all of which may alter the types and volumes of timber product.~~ **resiliency, all of which may alter the types and volumes of timber product.**

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2259 ~~((Much of the 116,790 acres of forestland managed by the Washington State~~ **((Much of the 116,790 acres of forestland managed by the Washington State**
2260 ~~Department of Natural Resources in King County are trust lands that generate income~~ **Department of Natural Resources in King County are trust lands that generate income**
2261 ~~from the sale of timber and other resources for the beneficiaries, such as schools,~~ **from the sale of timber and other resources for the beneficiaries, such as schools,**
2262 ~~universities and counties. These lands also provide wildlife habitat and are heavily used~~ **universities and counties. These lands also provide wildlife habitat and are heavily used**
2263 ~~for recreation. In January 1997 the Washington State Department of Natural Resources~~ **for recreation. In January 1997 the Washington State Department of Natural Resources**
2264 ~~made a far-reaching commitment to protect native animal and fish species through a~~ **made a far-reaching commitment to protect native animal and fish species through a**
2265 ~~federally approved Habitat Conservation Plan that covers about 1.6 million acres of~~ **federally approved Habitat Conservation Plan that covers about 1.6 million acres of**
2266 ~~Washington State Department of Natural Resources-managed trust land forests-mostly~~ **Washington State Department of Natural Resources-managed trust land forests-mostly**
2267 ~~in Western Washington. In 2007, the Washington State Department of Natural~~ **in Western Washington. In 2007, the Washington State Department of Natural**
2268 ~~Resources initiated Forest Stewardship Council certification on state forest land located~~ **Resources initiated Forest Stewardship Council certification on state forest land located**
2269 ~~in the South Puget Sound Region, including part of Tiger Mountain near Issaquah and~~ **in the South Puget Sound Region, including part of Tiger Mountain near Issaquah and**
2270 ~~state-owned forestland near Enumclaw in King County.))~~ **state-owned forestland near Enumclaw in King County.))**

2271 **((R-622)) R-720 King County recognizes the many values provided by the public**
2272 **forestland in the county, and encourages continued responsible forest**
2273 **management on these lands. King County should collaborate with**
2274 **other public land managers in planning for the restoration,**
2275 **conservation, use, and management of forest resources on public lands**
2276 **for multiple public values such as sustainable supply of timber, carbon**
2277 **storage and sequestration, and other ecosystem benefits.**

2278 ~~((County policies are intended to maintain and facilitate commercial forestry in the~~ **((County policies are intended to maintain and facilitate commercial forestry in the**
2279 ~~Forest Production District. The policies in this section allow for very limited residential~~ **Forest Production District. The policies in this section allow for very limited residential**
2280 ~~uses in the designated Forest Production District, consistent with the objective of~~ **uses in the designated Forest Production District, consistent with the objective of**
2281 ~~continuing forestry as the primary land use. For example, residences may be~~ **continuing forestry as the primary land use. For example, residences may be**
2282 ~~appropriate to permit forest managers to live on their land. King County zoning and~~ **appropriate to permit forest managers to live on their land. King County zoning and**
2283 ~~subdivision regulations establish a large parcel size to promote efficient forest~~ **subdivision regulations establish a large parcel size to promote efficient forest**
2284 ~~operations and to reduce incompatible residential development. Although the zoning~~ **operations and to reduce incompatible residential development. Although the zoning**
2285 ~~((calls for)) requires an 80-acre minimum lot size, many smaller lots were created prior to~~ **((calls for)) requires an 80-acre minimum lot size, many smaller lots were created prior to**
2286 ~~application of the zoning. Proliferation of residences in the Forest Production District~~ **application of the zoning. Proliferation of residences in the Forest Production District**
2287 ~~makes commercial forestry less viable.))~~ **makes commercial forestry less viable.))**

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2288 **((R-623)) R-721 King County is committed to maintaining working forestland in the**
2289 **Forest Production District, and shall continue to ~~((work with~~ **work with**
2290 ~~landowners and other ((stakeholders)) collaborate with public and~~ **landowners and other ((stakeholders)) collaborate with public and**
2291 ~~private forest managers and other)) partners to promote ((forestry)) and~~ **private forest managers and other)) partners to promote ((forestry)) and**
2292 ~~encourage long-term forest productivity, reduce uses and activities that~~ **encourage long-term forest productivity, reduce uses and activities that**
2293 ~~conflict with resource uses, and recognize forestland values.~~ **conflict with resource uses, and recognize forestland values.****

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2294 **((R-624)) R-722 To reduce conflicts with resource uses and wildfire risks, a forest**
2295 **management plan shall be required as a condition of development for**
2296 **any residential uses in the Forest Production District. Accessory**
2297 **dwelling units shall not be allowed in the Forest Production District.**

2298 **((R-625)) R-723 Structures within the Forest Production District should be sited to**
2299 **maintain the productivity of the district. Site plan requirements should**

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limit impervious surface, provide for fire control, protect domestic water supply, and prevent conflicts with forest management.

~~((In 2004, King County purchased the development rights on the 90,000-acre Snoqualmie Forest. This purchase conserves the forest land base for the long term while supporting the continuation of commercial forest production. It is important that the county consider its responsibility to protect the long-term commercial significance of the Forest Production District in its efforts to conserve land within the District.~~

~~**R-626)) R-724 King County should conserve working forests and should encourage continued private forestry through the acquisition or transfer of development rights in the Forest Production District. Land acquisition proposals that would remove lands from forest management should be evaluated to ensure that the long-term commercial significance of the Forest Production District is not compromised.**~~

~~((Although there is considerable acreage in commercial forestry in King County, there are no major lumber mills still in operation in the county. There are a few small mills in the county, but they have limited capacity. As a result, small landowners have few options for marketing their logs, and usually have a long haul to the closest mill. The county should work with forest landowners and forestry business to better understand and address the barriers to local wood processing.~~

~~**R-627)) R-725 King County should promote and support production, harvest, utilization, and marketing of wood products grown in the county's Rural Area and forest areas. King County should ensure that regulations applying to the Rural Area and ((forest areas)) Forest Production District do not discourage the establishment of sawmills and other wood product businesses and services.**~~

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~~((King County can further protect commercial forestlands and prevent conflicts by working with other public agencies and service providers to consolidate lands and to locate infrastructure facilities to prevent or minimize intrusions. Such actions can also improve the owner's capacity to protect fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resources.~~

~~**R-628)) R-726 In consultation with Indian tribes and other affected agencies and landowners, King County should support land trades that result in consolidated forest ownership and work with forest managers to identify and develop other incentives for continued forestry.**~~

~~**((R-629)) R-727 King County opposes the establishment or expansion of special purpose taxing districts and local improvement districts in the Forest Production District, and shall not grant new or expanded franchises for utilities in the Forest Production District, unless demonstrated that they directly benefit forestry or are necessary for transmission of power or water.**~~

~~Forest lands have tremendous recreational and aesthetic value. ((For example, Forest Production District lands are included within the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway along the I-90 corridor. Opportunities for hiking and other forms of outdoor recreation exist within the working forests that are part of the Greenway.)) Access to ((R))resource ((L))lands must be carefully managed, however, to prevent conflict with natural resource goals. For example, open gate policies allowing public access may be incompatible with fish and wildlife protection goals and sometimes may interfere with forestry operations by risking such activities as garbage dumping, vandalism, and timber theft. ((In the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, a variety of federal partnerships and~~

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2364 volunteer programs help to better connect urban dwellers with the forest while
2365 providing ecological benefits.

2366
2367 **R-630)) R-728 Public and private forest owners are encouraged to provide for**
2368 **recreational, educational, and cultural uses, when compatible with**
2369 **forest protection.**

2371 ~~((Recreational and institutional d))~~Developments ~~((-))~~ such as conference centers, ski
2372 areas, and associated hotels ~~((-))~~ allow more people to enjoy the aesthetic benefits of
2373 forest lands. Such facilities are acceptable if ~~((located in areas of existing development,~~
2374 ~~such as Snoqualmie Pass, and if))~~ their operation and use are resource ~~=dependent and~~
2375 restricted adequately to minimize conflict with resource lands. Major ~~((recreational or~~
2376 ~~institutional))~~ development ~~((sites))~~ of this type can adversely affect the Forest
2377 Production District because ~~((they))~~ it reduces the forest land base and conflicts with
2378 other resource management goals.

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2379
2380 ~~((R-631)) R-729 ((No master planned resorts shall be permitted in the Forest~~
2381 ~~Production District.))~~ New or expansion of existing ~~((recreational or~~
2382 ~~institutional uses))~~, including destination resorts and similar uses, in the
2383 Forest Production District may be ~~((permitted))~~ allowed if compatible
2384 with long-term forestry, the interests of Indian tribes, and other
2385 resource management goals.

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2386 ~~((2.))~~ Promoting Forest Management

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2387 The Washington State Department of Natural Resources regulates forestry through the
2388 Forest Practices Act. If the forest practice is associated with a conversion from forestry
2389 to another use on the property, such as development, the ~~((e))~~County has jurisdiction,
2390 and the ~~((c))~~County's development regulations must be followed. ~~((On rural properties,~~
2391 ~~it is typical that a landowner will combine a long-term forest use on one part of the~~
2392 ~~property with a residence on another part of the property. It is in the interest of the~~
2393 ~~county to ensure that development regulations are followed for the permanent clearing~~
2394 ~~for development, but also to regulate the long-term forest parts of the property with~~
2395 ~~regulations appropriate for forest harvest:~~

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2396
2397 **R-632)) R-730 King County should continue to work with all affected parties and**
2398 **the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to improve the**
2399 **clarity of jurisdictional responsibilities for proposed timber harvests**
2400 **and associated enforcement of forest practice regulations ((in the Rural**
2401 **Area)), and to ensure that landowners comply with county regulations**
2402 **when they are converting portions of a site to a non-forest use.**
2403 ~~((Harvesting of forest lands for the purpose of converting to non-forest~~
2404 ~~uses shall meet all applicable county standards for clearing and critical~~
2405 ~~areas management, and the loss of carbon sequestration capacity~~
2406 ~~resulting from such forest conversions should be fully mitigated.~~
2407 ~~Landowners opting to conduct forest management activities under~~
2408 ~~state approved forest practices permits should be restricted from~~
2409 ~~developing those areas for non-resource purposes for six years from~~
2410 ~~the date of forest practice approval. Recognizing that some~~
2411 ~~landowners combine the development of a residence or an agricultural~~
2412 ~~activity on a portion of the property with long-term forestry on the rest,~~
2413 ~~the county should provide flexibility in its regulations to address the~~
2414 ~~residential development and agricultural activity differently from the~~
2415 ~~forest management.~~

2416
2417 **R-633)) R-731 King County should ensure that regulations applying to forest**
2418 **practices do not discourage forest management on properties in**
2419 **long-term forestry((- Forestry should be regulated consistent with best**
2420 **management practices in)) use, consistent with the Forest Practices Act.**

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~~The ((c))County should work to simplify its regulatory processes related to forest management.~~

~~**R-634** King County should promote public understanding of the benefits of commercial timber production and encourage the use of local wood.~~

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~~((King County has worked with state, federal, and private landowners on multiparty resource plans, such as the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Plan, the plan for Rattlesnake Ridge, and numerous watershed planning efforts. There will continue to be opportunities for interagency cross-ownership cooperation, which will result in improved resource management and conservation.))~~

~~**R-635** Working with public and private forest land managers, King County shall encourage long-term forest productivity and the protection of land and water resources by participating in collaborative, multi-ownership planning efforts.~~

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~~**R-636)) R-732** King County promotes forest management that achieves long-term forest health; protection of watersheds, critical areas and habitat to support fish and wildlife populations; protection of threatened and endangered species; management of stormwater runoff and associated pollutants; conservation and economic viability of working forests; wildfire risk reduction; recreation; carbon storage and sequestration ((and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions)); and adaptation to climate change.~~

~~((In 2005, King County worked with the Tolt Triangle community near Carnation, assisting with the formation of Tolt Triangle Fire Council and the development of their comprehensive community wildfire protection plan. The 500 rural residences on 5,800 acres covered by the plan became the first area in King County to earn the status of "Firewise Community" from the national Firewise® Program. Since 2005, additional communities in forested areas have adopted wildfire protection plans. The county provides training and technical assistance regarding fire planning and best management practices for implementing wildfire protection throughout forested areas of King County with a focus in the foothill areas prone to east winds.~~

~~**R-637** King County should encourage community fire planning so that residents are aware of the dangers of forest fires and take steps to make their properties less vulnerable. King County should support neighborhood-based efforts to manage forests to improve forest health and reduce the risk of wildfi~~

~~**R-638)) R-733** King County shall encourage the development of private/public partnerships that provide incentives for landowners to practice innovative, fish-friendly forestry and that can help ensure retention of the forest resource land base in perpetuity.~~

~~((An example of such a partnership is the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway Biosolids Forestry Program, which includes King County, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, the Greenway Trust, the University of Washington and Hancock Forest Management. One of the elements of this program involves the acquisition of forestlands that are vulnerable to residential and commercial development. Lands are acquired by a combination of county funds and federal Forest Legacy funds and then transferred to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources for management. By deed, these lands stay in forest resource use in perpetuity and are managed according to the state's Habitat Conservation Plan. Seventy-five percent of all revenues generated are returned to King County. The lands that have been acquired help to form the block of public ownership along I-90, providing wildlife corridors,~~

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2478 opportunities for trails and recreation, and the water quality protection provided by
2479 forest cover.

2480
2481 In addition to landscape-level planning and analysis, resource managers should identify
2482 specific areas in their forest ownership that are degraded or negatively impacting
2483 aquatic resources. Examples of such areas are logging roads or gravel mines no longer
2484 needed and scheduled to be abandoned or riparian zones that are not sufficiently
2485 vegetated. Organic soil amendments, when properly used, can greatly enhance
2486 vegetative growth and restore productivity to these sites, thus protecting fish and other
2487 aquatic resources. The use of recycled organic wastes generated in King County closes
2488 the recycling "loop" and helps sustain the productivity of resource lands.

2489 **R-639)) R-734 King County encourages the use of recycled, organic-based soil**
2490 **amendments, such as biosolids, and fertilizers in forest ecosystems,**
2491 **which can help reduce erosion and sedimentation into streams,**
2492 **increase water-holding capacity of soils, stimulate the growth of trees**
2493 **and other vegetation, capture carbon, and enhance fish and wildlife**
2494 **habitat. King County shall work with the general public, ((and)) private**
2495 **and public forestland owners, and scientists to encourage the safe,**
2496 **selective, and appropriate use of these materials for ecosystem**
2497 **enhancement and restoration.**

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2499
2500 ((One of the most successful efforts is the use of the county's biosolids to fertilize public
2501 and private forests. Annually, about 1,400 acres of forestland in east King County are
2502 fertilized with Loop® biosolids:

2503
2504 Maintaining land in long-term forest use offsets greenhouse gas emissions through
2505 sequestration of carbon in growing trees and in forest soils. In addition to providing
2506 plant nutrients, organic soil amendments such as Loop can significantly increase carbon
2507 storage in forests and help soils retain moisture. Efforts to conserve forests and
2508 encourage forest management for health and resilience are a major means of
2509 implementing King County's climate change policies. Even with these and other efforts
2510 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, forests in the Pacific Northwest face potential
2511 impacts from climate change. In the coming decades, mortality of trees and plants is
2512 projected to increase due to insects and pathogens, increased temperature, and lack of
2513 groundwater in the summer. Climate change also is projected to affect the composition
2514 and density of plant and animal species and the severity and frequency of forest fires.
2515 All of these potential impacts underscore the need for monitoring of climate-induced
2516 changes and active management of forest health.

2517
2518 ~~**R-640 King County should continue to collaborate with the University of**~~
2519 ~~**Washington, Washington State University including Extension, state**~~
2520 ~~**and federal agencies, and forest landowners to monitor and evaluate**~~
2521 ~~**impacts of climate change on forests in King County.))**~~

2523 3. Wildfire Risk Reduction

2524 King County's extensive forest lands provide a wide range of economic and ecological
2525 benefits. Under the right conditions, however, these same forests are also vulnerable to
2526 wildfire and post-wildfire debris flows and floods, creating potentially significant risks for
2527 communities in the wildland-urban interface.

2528
2529 Climate change is increasing the potential for wildfire in western Washington. Warmer
2530 seasonal temperatures and drier summers create conditions more favorable for wildfire
2531 for longer periods of time. Climate change may also lead to changes in insect and
2532 pathogens that can leave forests more vulnerable to drought and fire. The potential for
2533 large, fast-moving fires is greatest when these conditions coincide with strong east wind

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2534 ~~events. The potential for fast-moving debris flows and floods is high after a wildfire has~~
2535 ~~occurred, reducing soil infiltration, and increasing risks for more overland surface water~~
2536 ~~flow during a rainfall event. Population growth and development in areas within and in~~
2537 ~~proximity to forested areas (the wildland-urban interface) are also important factors~~
2538 ~~increasing the potential for wildfire in western Washington, as well as the human and~~
2539 ~~economic costs of wildfire.~~

2540
2541 ~~Planning for wildfire can help reduce wildfire risks to residents, communities, and~~
2542 ~~infrastructure. King County has three strategic priorities for wildfire risk reduction in~~
2543 ~~King County: (1) increasing forest resilience to wildfire; (2) reducing risks to~~
2544 ~~communities and infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface; and (3) strengthening~~
2545 ~~emergency response.~~

2546
2547 *Promoting Forest Resilience*

2548 ~~Forests with a diversity of tree species (conifer, deciduous, mixed-species) and~~
2549 ~~development stages (young, mid-age, mature/old-growth) are more resilient to~~
2550 ~~disturbances such as wildfire and have greater capacity to maintain and recover~~
2551 ~~ecological functions following disturbance. Forests with species and structural diversity~~
2552 ~~also provide important ecosystem and community benefits such as habitat for fish and~~
2553 ~~wildlife, improved air and water quality, carbon sequestration, recreation opportunities,~~
2554 ~~and cultural resources. Proactive steps that support forest diversity include retaining~~
2555 ~~larger trees that are more fire resistant, managing forests to promote a broad range of~~
2556 ~~native tree species, planting trees sourced from a wider range of seed zones, managing~~
2557 ~~density, and reducing invasive species.~~

2558
2559 ~~**((R-641)) R-735 King County ((should)) shall consider climate change impacts and**~~
2560 ~~**take steps to improve forest health ((and resilience to climate change**~~
2561 ~~**impacts through its technical assistance to forest land owners,**~~
2562 ~~**management of county-owned forest lands, and support of**~~
2563 ~~**neighborhood-based efforts to reduce risks from wildfires)) and**~~
2564 ~~**wildfire resilience on County-owned forest lands.**~~

2565
2566 *Reducing Risk in the Wildland-Urban Interface*

2567 ~~In 2021, the Washington Department of Natural Resources updated maps of the~~
2568 ~~wildland-urban interface areas in Washington State. The new maps significantly~~
2569 ~~expanded the boundaries of the wildland-urban interface and the number of~~
2570 ~~communities that should be planning for wildfire. This includes Vashon-Maury Island~~
2571 ~~and areas of east King County, such as in the Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain, Snoqualmie~~
2572 ~~Valley/Northeast King County, and Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River Community~~
2573 ~~Service Areas.~~

2574
2575 ~~Proactive steps that can benefit wildfire risk reduction in the wildland-urban interface~~
2576 ~~include outreach and technical assistance to forest landowners and residents on best~~
2577 ~~management practices for reducing wildfire risk; developing wildfire preparedness,~~
2578 ~~response, and recovery plans; controlling for invasive species that can act as an~~
2579 ~~accelerant for fire; evacuation planning; and building strong partnerships that support~~
2580 ~~effective planning and response. Vegetation management around homes and critical~~
2581 ~~infrastructure is also an important tool for reducing risk and should be pursued in ways~~
2582 ~~that avoid impacts to critical areas.~~

2583
2584 ~~**R-736 King County shall take steps to plan for and reduce wildfire risk in the**~~
2585 ~~**wildland-urban interface in unincorporated King County including**~~
2586 ~~**wildfire risk assessment and planning, amending codes to align with**~~
2587 ~~**best practices for wildfire risk reduction, and public education.**~~

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2589 **R-737** King County shall encourage wildfire preparedness, including wildfire
2590 risk assessment and planning, in cities and towns located in the
2591 wildland-urban interface in King County.

2593 ~~((R-637)) R-738~~ King County ((should)) shall ((encourage community ((fire planning))
2594 wildfire preparedness so that)) make residents ((are)) aware of the dangers
2595 of forest fires and encourage them to take steps to make their properties
2596 less vulnerable. ((King County should support neighborhood-based efforts
2597 to manage forests to improve forest health and reduce the risk of
2598 wildfire:))

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2600 **R-739** King County wildfire risk reduction activities shall prioritize the needs
2601 of residents whose ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from
2602 wildfire impacts may be limited by income, health, mobility, or other
2603 disparities.

2604 **R-740** King County should adopt regulations that do not require permits for
2605 vegetation management in areas outside of critical areas and their
2606 buffers if implementing approved best management practices for
2607 wildfire risk reduction or as included within an approved forest
2608 stewardship plan that includes wildfire best management practices.

Regional Collaboration on Wildfire Risk Reduction

2612 Wildfire risk reduction benefits from ongoing opportunities to leverage resources and
2613 partnerships that support action around shared priorities and promote learning
2614 between organizations and subject matter experts. Partners includes local planners,
2615 first responders, natural resource managers, emergency management officials, and
2616 researchers.

2617 Collaboration with small forest landowners and residents is also important. King County
2618 works in partnership with King Conservation District and Washington State University
2619 Extension Forestry to provide technical assistance to small forest landowners and
2620 residents related to wildfire mitigation. This includes providing education and technical
2621 training about forest management, working with forest landowners to develop and
2622 implement forest stewardship plans that account for climate change and wildfire risk,
2623 increasing access to cost-share programs that incentivize forest management, and
2624 hosting neighborhood-based workshops focused on identifying and acting on wildfire
2625 risks and community wildfire planning.

2627 ~~((R-640)) R-741~~ King County ((should continue to)) shall collaborate with key
2628 partners, such as **Indian tribes**, the University of Washington,
2629 Washington State University including Extension, state and federal
2630 agencies, cities, first responders, **Indian tribes**, and ((forest))
2631 landowners, ((to)) on activities that improve forest resilience and
2632 reduce wildfire risks, including the following:
2633 a. ((monitor)) **Monitoring** and ((evaluate)) **evaluating** impacts of
2634 climate change on forests and wildfire potential in King County;
2635 b. **Promoting species and structural diversity within and across forest**
2636 **stands in King County;**
2637 c. **Providing educational and technical assistance for small forest**
2638 **landowners;**
2639 d. **Leveraging partnerships to increase funding for landowner**
2640 **incentive cost-share programs;**
2641 e. **Expanding and enhancing opportunities for building public**
2642 **awareness and promoting shared learning about wildfire**
2643 **preparedness and risk reduction in King County;**
2644 f. **Reducing landslide and flooding risks resulting from wildfire**
2645 **damage and associated impacts; and**
2646

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- ~~**g. Supporting the recovery of natural systems and communities affected by wildfire; and**~~
- ~~**h. Working towards development of Encouraging research on and development of fire suppression methods that have little to no less negative impact on the environment.**~~

~~((King County's 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan calls for the county to manage and restore its forested parks and natural lands in ways that maximize biological carbon storage and sequestration, and increase resilience to changing climate conditions. To help guide forest management activities, in 2012 the Parks Division completed an initial assessment of the forest types on all of Parks' forested acreage. Additional assessment will continue to be conducted on newly acquired forested properties as well. Parks will develop and implement stewardship plans on all forested properties of 200 acres or more in size, which will result in healthier and forests that are more resilient to climate change. The Parks and Water and Land Resources Divisions will also continue to develop opportunities for volunteers to plant native trees and shrubs and remove invasive species from County-owned lands and have established an ambitious goal for the planting of new trees in the county.~~

2665 ~~D:))~~ C. Agriculture

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~~Land suitable for farming is an irreplaceable natural resource. Agricultural lands and farming provide many benefits to the residents of King County, including a connection to its cultural heritage, fresh local foods, and a diverse economy. In ((2012)) 2017, farmers in King County produced over (((\$120)) \$135 million in agricultural sales. Farmlands are an intrinsic component of the varied open space landscape of the region. Farmland provides scenic vistas and low-density separation between rural communities. Many farms in the county include an educational experience through U-Pick operations, harvest tours, and demonstrations of agricultural practices. Agricultural lands also provide environmental benefits, including the temporary storage and conveyance of floodwaters, habitat for birds and other wildlife, large areas without impervious surfaces, and opportunities for providing riparian vegetation along rivers and streams. Farming and growing food is also an essential source of fresh food for communities across the county that supports resilience, healthy eating, and cultural identity.~~

~~((The concern about the loss of farmland in King County in the 1970s resulted in adoption of an agricultural lands policy framework through Ordinance 3064 in 1977 that called for the County to designate certain areas within King County as agricultural lands and then to develop an agricultural land protection program based upon both land use regulations and compensation to protect existing agricultural lands and private property. This led to the successful Farmland Preservation Program bond issue in 1979, which has funded the purchase of farmland development rights.~~

~~In 1985, the county first designated its Agricultural Production Districts, which have remained stable since then at more than 41,000 acres. However, despite the land conservation accomplished through the Farmland Preservation Program and the designation of the Agricultural Production Districts, not all of this land is farmed. Based on surveys, approximately 27,000 acres of the Agricultural Production Districts are farmable, the rest being forested, farm building, water bodies or other non-farmable areas. About 25,000 areas are being actively farmed. In addition, there are 13,000 acres in active agriculture outside the Agricultural Production Districts on Rural Area and in urban areas.))~~

~~This section focuses on the ((c))County's efforts to maintain and enhance commercial agriculture for the value of local produce, dairy products, specialty horticultural and energy crops, keeping livestock, and for scenic and historic values. To meet the Growth~~

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2701 Management Act requirement to maintain and enhance agriculture, a variety of
2702 methods and programs continue to be necessary.

2703
2704 ~~((The policies call for King County to:~~

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- 2705 • ~~Protect productive farmland by designation and zoning;~~
- 2706 • ~~Limit development to appropriately-scaled uses that are necessary to support~~
2707 ~~commercial agriculture;~~
- 2708 • ~~Prevent or minimize land use conflicts between farming operations and~~
2709 ~~adjacent land uses;~~
- 2710 • ~~Encourage and allow necessary infrastructure and services (markets, water,~~
2711 ~~affordable housing, supply stores, technical services, tax incentives) that~~
2712 ~~support commercial agriculture and contribute to growing, storing, processing,~~
2713 ~~and distributing a local food supply and other horticultural and livestock~~
2714 ~~activities;~~
- 2715 • ~~Support the economic development of the local food economy and improve~~
2716 ~~access to healthy, affordable food;~~
- 2717 • ~~Continue to preserve farmland and develop additional mechanisms to maintain~~
2718 ~~the affordability of farmland, with a focus on supporting farmland access for~~
2719 ~~historically underserved populations, and~~
- 2720 • ~~Encourage farming practices that conserve soils and protect water quality,~~
2721 ~~fisheries, and wildlife.))~~

2722
2723 ~~((King County's Local Food Initiative includes targets and recommendations to expand~~
2724 ~~the local food economy to ensure job growth and economic viability for King County~~
2725 ~~food businesses and farms.))~~

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2726
2727 The Local Food Initiative~~((s production targets are to add 400 net new acres in food~~
2728 ~~production and 25 new food farmers per year over the next ten years)) includes~~
2729 ~~strategies and actions to increase land in food production and support the development~~
2730 ~~of new farmers. Success ((in meeting the targets)) will require protection of existing~~
2731 ~~farmland, keeping it farmed, addressing problems that impair farming, and enhancing~~
2732 ~~programs that provide technical assistance to farmers and expand markets for local farm~~
2733 ~~products. To ((meet this target)) support these goals, the County should also pursue~~
2734 ~~feasible opportunities to return formerly farmed land into production((, such as the~~
2735 ~~recent purchase of Tall Chief Golf Course in the Snoqualmie Valley which will be~~
2736 ~~returned to agricultural use)). In advancing this initiative, King County ((with))~~
2737 ~~encourages ((B))best ((M))management ((P))practices and sustainable farming activities~~
2738 ~~and ((with)) prioritizes farming operations that have minimal adverse impacts on the~~
2739 ~~environment.~~

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2740 ~~((1.)) Protecting Agricultural Lands~~

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2741 ~~((In 1979, voters approved a \$50 million ballot measure to protect farmland threatened~~
2742 ~~by development. The Farmland Preservation Program became the first voter-approved~~
2743 ~~measure in the nation to protect farmland in a metropolitan area. By purchasing the~~
2744 ~~development rights, t))The Farmland Preservation Program purchases development~~
2745 ~~rights to keep((s)) farmland open and available through covenants that restrict~~
2746 ~~development and limit the uses of the property to agriculture and open space. The~~
2747 ~~covenants remain with the land in perpetuity, so the land is protected regardless of~~
2748 ~~ownership. Under the Farmland Preservation Program, the ((e))County holds the~~
2749 ~~development rights in trust while the land remains in private ownership. By law, the~~
2750 ~~((e))County cannot sell or remove its interest in Farmland Preservation Program lands,~~
2751 ~~with the exception of conveying public road or utility easements.((~~
2752

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2753 In 1995, the county approved an additional \$3 million for the purchase of additional
2754 development rights under the Farmland Preservation Program, and continues to add to
2755 the program with a variety of grant funding and use of the Transfer of Development
2756 Rights Program.)) To date, the Farmland Preservation Program and Transfer of
2757 Development Rights Program ~~((has)) have~~ succeeded in preserving more than ~~((14,000))~~
2758 16,000 acres of farmland.

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2759 ~~((R-642)) R-742 King County shall continue to implement the objectives of the
2760 Farmland Preservation Program. Protection of property purchased
2761 under the Farmland Preservation Program shall be a high priority when
2762 balancing conflicting interests such as locating transportation, active
2763 recreation, utility facilities, or other uses that could have an adverse
2764 impact on farm operations. ((King County shall use the Transfer of
2765 Development Rights Program as another tool to preserve farmland.))~~
2766

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2767 ~~((Even farmland in the Farmland Preservation Program is challenged by pressures from
2768 adjacent development, the need to maintain drainage and irrigation systems;
2769 non-farmer ownership, and high real estate costs. To protect the farmland for the long
2770 term, investments in improving the farmability and managing the easements to ensure
2771 compliance are necessary.~~

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2772 ~~In 2016, King County launched the Land Conservation Initiative, which calls for working
2773 with regional partners a series of accelerated actions to protect 65,000 acres protect
2774 65,000 acres of the last, most important natural lands, including farmlands, and urban
2775 greenspaces by 2050.~~

2776 ~~R-642a)) R-743 King County should develop a long((-))-term strategy for financing
2777 protection of sufficient farmland to significantly expand and retain food
2778 production, including improving the farmability of protected farmland,
2779 and ensuring that the easements are well((-))managed for the
2780 long((-))term.~~

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2781 ~~((R-642b)) R-744 ((Farmers conducting work on property)) Properties on which
2782 King County owns a Farmland Preservation Program easement, or
2783 ((farmers leasing properties owned by King)) that the County leases for
2784 agricultural purposes, should be limited to predominantly agricultural
2785 activities and agricultural((-supportive activities)) support services.~~

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2786 Agriculture is most productive in agricultural communities where neighbors support
2787 agriculture, where parcels are large enough for commercial agriculture and where
2788 labor, supplies, and markets for farm products are available. King County's farm soils
2789 and most profitable farms are usually found in contiguous blocks with few
2790 nonagricultural uses. ~~((In 1985, King County established Agricultural Production
2791 Districts with large lot zoning and agriculture as the preferred use.))~~

2792 The Agricultural Production Districts, shown on the Agriculture and Forest Lands Map in
2793 this chapter, present the least number of land use conflicts for agriculture, contain
2794 agricultural support ~~((activities)) services~~, and provide the best environment for farming
2795 in King County. The five Agricultural Production Districts are Sammamish Valley,
2796 Snoqualmie Valley, Lower Green River Valley, Upper Green River Valley, and Enumclaw
2797 Plateau. Most of the farmlands preserved under the Farmland Preservation Program are
2798 found in these Agricultural Production Districts.

2799 ~~((R-643)) R-745 Agricultural Production Districts ((are)) shall be blocks of
2800 contiguous farmlands where agriculture is supported through the
2801 protection of agricultural soils and related support services and
2802 activities. King County should use ((R))roads and natural features~~
2803

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2810 ((are)) **should beas** appropriate boundaries for Agricultural Production
2811 Districts to reduce the possibility of conflicts with adjacent land uses.

2812
2813 ~~((R-644)) R-746~~ King County should continue to seek funding and purchase
2814 additional development rights to farmland in the Agricultural
2815 Production Districts.

2816
2817 ~~((Livestock, dairy, and large-scale commercial row-crop operations require large parcels
2818 of land to allow for production that is profitable and sustainable. Generally, at least 35
2819 acres is needed for full-time wholesale commercial production of such products.
2820 Specialty agricultural products, products that are direct-marketed, and part-time
2821 farming enterprises generally do not need as much acreage to be profitable.~~

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2822
2823 ~~R-645)) R-747~~ All parcels within the boundaries of an Agricultural Production
2824 District ~~((should)) shall~~ be zoned Agricultural, either A-10 or A-35. ~~In
2825 order for ((R-646 Lands within Agricultural Production Districts
2826 ((should)) shall remain in)) parcels to remain~~ large enough for
2827 commercial agriculture~~((, A)), a maximum~~ residential density of one
2828 home per 35 acres shall be applied where the predominant lot size of
2829 agricultural-zoned parcels in the surrounding area is 35 acres or larger,
2830 and a maximum residential density of one home per 10 acres shall be
2831 applied where the predominant lot size of agricultural-zoned parcels in
2832 the surrounding area is smaller than 35 acres.

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2833
2834 ~~((R-647)) R-748~~ Agriculture ~~((should be)) shall remain~~ the ~~((principal)) predominant~~
2835 land use in ~~((the)) any~~ Agricultural Production District~~((s))~~. Permanent
2836 new construction within districts shall be sited to prevent conflicts with
2837 commercial farming or other agricultural uses, and nonagricultural uses
2838 shall be limited. New development shall not disrupt agriculture
2839 operations and shall have a scale compatible with an active farming
2840 district.

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2841
2842 ~~((R-648)) R-749~~ On-site housing for farm employees shall be allowed where this
2843 can be accomplished without unnecessarily removing land from
2844 agricultural use or conflicting with other public interests. King County
2845 should address the regulatory constraints that make it difficult for
2846 farmers to offer housing for farm employees.

2847
2848 Fish, Farm, Flood

2849 The river valleys in King County are ~~((critical locations))~~ important natural resource areas
2850 for agriculture, salmon habitat, and natural floodplain processes. In compliance with ~~the
2851 ((g))Growth ((m))Management Act~~, portions of several of these valleys were designated
2852 as Agricultural Production Districts to protect ~~((the diminishing farmland))~~ land for
2853 long-term commercial ~~((agriculture))~~ agricultural uses, ~~((thereby preventing their
2854 conversion to other uses that are often incompatible with habitat protection or that
2855 would require expensive flood risk reduction projects))~~ including the highest quality
2856 soils for food production, and to limit conversion of the land uses to those that would be
2857 incompatible with viable, long-term, commercial agriculture. ~~Because m~~Many areas of
2858 farmland within Agricultural Production Districts are: located on a geologically active
2859 landscapes; below upland creeks and streams; on or adjacent to an alluvial fan; and/or
2860 within floodplains, floodways, or other low-lying areas. Because of this, the ability to
2861 manage drainage and infrastructure to support farming is an important aspect of
2862 retaining farmable land and supporting continued agricultural uses within the
2863 Agricultural Production Districts. Management in these areas requires consideration of
2864 not only current, but future impacts to agricultural use, geological processes, and
2865 stream function and values essential to fish passage and spawning.

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2867 ~~The same geography covered by Agricultural Production Districts also provides salmon~~
2868 ~~habitat restoration opportunities of importance to King County, Indian tribes, and other~~
2869 ~~regional partners. Some of both the highest-quality ((of)) and most-degraded salmon~~
2870 ~~habitat in King County is ((found within)) in and adjacent to rivers and streams flowing~~
2871 ~~through the Agricultural Production Districts. ((As a result of federal listing of Chinook~~
2872 ~~salmon as a threatened species, King County is obligated to take actions for protection~~
2873 ~~of Chinook habitat in the county's watersheds. Such actions include restoration of~~
2874 ~~habitat in portions of each of the county's rivers and, because many sections of the~~
2875 ~~county's river systems are in a highly altered state, those reaches within Agricultural~~
2876 ~~Production Districts offer some of the most promising opportunities for habitat~~
2877 ~~restoration critical to salmon recovery. Each of the Water Resources Inventory Area~~
2878 ~~Salmon Recovery Plans has recommended additional protection or restoration of critical~~
2879 ~~habitat within the Agricultural Production Districts. At the same time, King County is~~
2880 ~~committed to the preservation of productive agricultural soils and local agricultural~~
2881 ~~production and protection of public safety in flood-prone areas through the restoration~~
2882 ~~of floodplain processes.)) King County continues to work diligently to restore habitat~~
2883 ~~and advance recovery of depleted salmon stocks, and strives to protect and enhance~~
2884 ~~fish stocks, ecological functions and aquatic habitat in all county waterbodies and~~
2885 ~~floodplain areas, including in floodplains, rivers, streams, and wetlands in Agricultural~~
2886 ~~Production Districts. Furthermore, King County continues to work toward recovery of all~~
2887 ~~salmonid species given the nexus of salmonid populations and honoring and sustaining~~
2888 ~~the rights held by the State of Washington and Indian tribes as sovereign trustees for~~
2889 ~~fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources, and by the State of Washington.~~

2890
2891 ~~((The farmers in the county support fish protection and fish recovery through many~~
2892 ~~regulated and voluntary actions. King County recognizes that fish, flood management,~~
2893 ~~and farm interests must work together in a collaborative manner. It is essential that~~
2894 ~~farmers and other property owners in each watershed be directly included in planning~~
2895 ~~and in the review of integrated, watershed-wide strategies that support the needs of~~
2896 ~~agriculture, fish recovery, and flood risk reduction and floodplain management. Specific~~
2897 ~~habitat protection rules should not jeopardize the agricultural productivity within the~~
2898 ~~Agricultural Production Districts.)) Some of King County's Agricultural Production~~
2899 ~~Districts have vast areas of designated and mapped floodways and 100-year~~
2900 ~~floodplains. King County is committed to restoring floodplain processes and mitigating~~
2901 ~~flood risks to ensure human health and protect public safety, reducing the risk of~~
2902 ~~property damage, maintaining critical infrastructure supporting residents and~~
2903 ~~businesses, restoring salmon habitat, and to reducing public and private economic~~
2904 ~~impacts of flood events. As climate change results in more frequent and more~~
2905 ~~damaging floods, agriculture businesses and homes will need increased support for~~
2906 ~~home and agricultural building elevations. Maintaining land use rules that prevent~~
2907 ~~conversions of agricultural land to other uses other than habitat restoration or flood~~
2908 ~~protection will have a co-benefit of limiting new development that may be at increased~~
2909 ~~risk of damage from floods and alluvial fan hazards.~~

2910
2911 ~~King County supports ongoing viability of agriculture, restoration, and enhancement of~~
2912 ~~salmon habitat, and actions to reduce flood risks and enhance ecological functions of~~
2913 ~~floodplains, all of which combine to create a resilient landscape in the face of climate~~
2914 ~~change and pressures of population growth. However, because current or proposed~~
2915 ~~land uses supporting one goal may affect advancement of other goals, decision-making~~
2916 ~~about the size and location of habitat and floodplain restoration and agricultural~~
2917 ~~infrastructure projects can be challenging. The 2012 Comprehensive Plan update~~
2918 ~~added policy R-((650))753 that directed the County to ((convene a collaborative~~
2919 ~~watershed planning process)) develop an approach to improving and balancing the~~
2920 ~~interests of agricultural production, ecological function and habitat quality for salmon,~~
2921 ~~and flood risk reduction and floodplain restoration within each of the Agricultural~~
2922 ~~Production Districts. In response, ((F))the County ((choose to start the process in)) and~~
2923 ~~partners piloted a planning effort focused on the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural~~

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2924 Production District(~~(, where the County has undertaken a number of habitat restoration~~
2925 ~~projects, to develop an approach to improving and balancing the interests of~~
2926 ~~agricultural production, ecological function and habitat quality for salmon, and flood~~
2927 ~~risk reduction and floodplain restoration)) by convening the Snoqualmie Valley Fish,
2928 Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee with the goal of understanding context and
2929 improving balance in King County's work to advance multiple objectives. As a result of
2930 the ongoing efforts of the Snoqualmie farm, fish, flood process, the County has begun
2931 to operationalize recommendations, including recommendations for a revised
2932 administrative process for reviewing proposed County project and programmatic
2933 actions in locations where agriculture, fish habitat, and floodplains intersect.~~

2934
2935 ~~((In response to this, the Fish, Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee was formed in 2013,~~
2936 ~~and the group of stakeholders representing agriculture, salmon recovery and flood~~
2937 ~~management interests have been meeting regularly for the past three years. In 2016~~
2938 ~~the Advisory Committee developed a final report and a set of recommendations that~~
2939 ~~balances near term actions as well as program and policy recommendations for all three~~
2940 ~~resource interests. The Advisory Committee also recommended the formation of three~~
2941 ~~task forces to undertake more detailed analyses of specific policy areas. Together the~~
2942 ~~final recommendations and the work of the three task forces will form the foundation of~~
2943 ~~a watershed planning approach in the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production~~
2944 ~~District to sustain agriculture production, salmon recovery, and flood risk reduction.~~

2945
2946 The Fish, Farm and Flood advisory committee participants recognize the importance of
2947 salmon recovery efforts, a vibrant agricultural economy and protecting agricultural soils
2948 in the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District, and the importance of
2949 protecting the public in flood prone areas. To address inherent conflicts between these
2950 three overlapping interests, the Advisory Committee recommended a suite of near term
2951 actions to address critical needs for all three resource areas, and the creation of three
2952 task forces)) The revised administrative review process will occur in a watershed context
2953 by considering information from a variety of sources, including the following four task
2954 forces convened based on recommendations of the Snoqualmie fish, farm, flood effort:

2955 • Buffers Task Force((, with the goal of developing a science-based riparian buffer
2956 planting implementation strategy for the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production
2957 District that strikes a balance between increasing ecological function of waterways
2958 and maintaining the agricultural viability of the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural
2959 Production District)) and Buffers Implementation Task Force, created to evaluate
2960 use of King County funds to implement voluntary, science-based, variable-width
2961 riparian plantings.

2962 • Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District Strategic Plan Task Force((, with
2963 the goal of)), created to consider strategies to ((improving)) improve the long-term
2964 productivity of farmland, bring more acres into production, especially food
2965 production, and ((increasing)) increase opportunities for farmers to develop the
2966 necessary infrastructure to support or increase their farm businesses in the
2967 Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District. ((This task force will conduct an
2968 assessment of specific farmland resource property needs and assets in the
2969 Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District and create an implementation
2970 plan for project improvements to land (e.g., drainage) and water access. It will
2971 complement other related efforts, such as King County's Local Food Initiative which
2972 is an economic development and marketing plan for food and agriculture in the
2973 region.))

2974 • Regulatory Task Force((, with the goal of evaluating regulations and recommending
2975 process improvements or possibly statutory changes, as appropriate, pertaining to
2976 key regulatory issues identified by the Fish, Farm and Flood agricultural
2977 stakeholders. The goal of the task force is to identify changes that will reduce
2978 compliance costs and increase predictability without diminishing the overall level of

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2979 environmental protection or the level of flood protection that regulations are
2980 intended to assure. Initial areas of focus for the task force include:)), created to
2981 evaluate and recommend improvements to regulations to promote a viable
2982 agricultural economy and maintain and enhance habitat protection and healthy
2983 ecosystems.

2984 ○ ((Drainage regulations that make maintenance expensive or time-
2985 consuming or otherwise restrict the ability to improve drainage of farm
2986 fields.

2987 ○ Flood regulations related to constructing farm pads, buildings and other
2988 farm improvements.

2989 ○ Mitigation required when farmers maintain drainage ditches or build a farm
2990 pad or other structure in a wetland or a buffer of a wetland or stream.

2991
2992 Those recommendations are reflected in a new policy R-650a:))
2993

2994 While these task forces were developed with a specific focus on the Snoqualmie
2995 Agricultural Production District, the lessons learned have helped to inform principles
2996 that guide how the County strives toward achieving multiple benefits through projects
2997 and programmatic action implemented in other Agricultural Production Districts and all
2998 areas of unincorporated King County where agriculture, salmon habitat, and floodplains
2999 converge.

3000
3001 Using recommendations from the Snoqualmie Valley Fish, Farm, and Flood Advisory
3002 Committee, King County has revised the process for reviewing projects in a watershed
3003 context, which is described in revised policy R-650753. This process will apply to
3004 habitat and flood projects sponsored by the Water and Land Resources Division in all
3005 Agricultural Production Districts. Revised policy R-650-753 outlines the minimum
3006 required elements of an administrative review process for habitat and floodplain
3007 restoration capital projects and programs sponsored by the King County water and land
3008 resources division where fish, farm, and flood interests intersect.

3009
3010 Policies in this section also reflect the importance of facilitating infrastructure and
3011 drainage improvement projects on privately owned farmland to support continued
3012 long-term commercial agricultural uses within Agricultural Production Districts, and the
3013 review process may also be conducted for projects sponsored by entities other than the
3014 Water and Land Resources Division.

3015
3016 The Snoqualmie Valley Fish, Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee process and
3017 associated planning work has been instrumental in King County and partners learning
3018 how to balance needs of agriculture, salmon recovery, and floodplain management in a
3019 collaborative manner considering watershed context in ways that are directly applicable
3020 to other Agricultural Production Districts. As a result, the original goal - of
3021 implementing targeted planning efforts in all Agricultural Production Districts - is no
3022 longer necessary. However, King County will continue to support the Snoqualmie Valley
3023 Fish, Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee until the level of progress envisioned at the
3024 formation of the committee is substantially complete, and King County will consider
3025 supporting similar collaborative efforts in other geographies when residents and
3026 partners request a localized planning effort, where appropriate.

3027
3028 **((R-649)) R-750 King County, through implementation of projects and programs,**
3029 **shall ensure sufficient land within Agricultural Production Districts**
3030 **remains available to support long-term viability of commercial**
3031 **agriculture and that its programmatic and project actions support the**
3032 **maintenance or improvement of drainage and other agricultural**
3033 **support infrastructure. To the maximum extent feasible, King County**
3034 **should tailor measures to protect threatened or endangered species to**

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support continued operation of working farms within the Agricultural Production Districts and should strive for outcomes consistent with goals King County may establish for optimal area of productive agricultural lands within the Agricultural Production Districts.

- R-751** King County shall complete a collaborative process to:
 - a. Determine minimum acreage targets for agricultural lands and for floodplain and riparian habitat project area in the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District;
 - b. Develop evaluation criteria accounting for climate change; and
 - c. Develop a tracking system for the amount of agricultural land used for habitat restoration projects.

R-752 ~~((Agriculture ((must)) shall remain the predominant use in any Agricultural Production District and)) ((a))Aquatic habitat projects, ((or)) floodplain restoration projects((, ((as well as,)) and ((King County))) and mitigation reserves program projects shall not reduce the ability to farm in the Agricultural Production District. ((Therefore, until the county implements the watershed planning process described in R-650, and completes the work required by R-751, such projects are allowed only when supported by owners of the land where the proposed project is to be sited. Criteria to be considered:~~

- ~~a. For a project proposed to be sited on lands that are unsuitable for direct agricultural production purposes, such as portions of property that have not historically been farmed due to soil conditions or frequent flooding, and which cannot be returned to productivity by drainage maintenance, or~~
- ~~b. For a project proposed to be sited on lands suitable for direct agricultural production:

 - ~~(1) there are no unsuitable lands available that meet the technical or locational needs of the proposed project, and~~
 - ~~(2) the project is included in, or consistent with, an approved Water Resources Inventory Area Salmon Recovery Plan, Farm Management Plan, Flood Hazard Management Plan or other similar watershed scale plan; or the project would not reduce the baseline agricultural productivity within the Agricultural Production District.)) King County, through implementation of projects and programs, shall ensure sufficient land within Agricultural Production Districts remains available to support long long-term viability of commercial agriculture and that its programmatic and project actions support the maintenance or improvement of drainage and other agricultural support infrastructure. To the maximum extent practicable, King County should tailor measures to protect threatened or endangered species to support continued operation of working farms within the Agricultural Production Districts and should strive for outcomes consistent with goals King County may establish for optimal area of productive agricultural lands within the Agricultural Production Districts.~~~~

~~((R-650)) R-753 ((Aquatic habitat restoration projects, floodplain restoration projects and projects under King County's mitigation reserves program in an Agricultural Production District shall be evaluated through a collaborative watershed planning process with the goal of maintaining and improving agricultural viability, improving ecological function and habitat quality, and restoring floodplains through integrated, watershed-wide strategies. A watershed planning process shall be established for an agricultural production district because of the number of potential restoration projects and shall:~~

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- ~~a. ensure that agricultural viability in the Agricultural Production District is not reduced as the result of actions taken and that agriculture remains the predominant use in the agricultural production district;~~
- ~~b. evaluate and recommend actions at all scales across the affected watershed to maintain and improve agricultural viability, restore ecological functions and aquatic habitat and restore floodplains, including voluntary actions taken by landowners;~~
- ~~c. be a collaborative effort among affected land owners, interested stakeholders, and King County and shall be updated on a periodic basis; and~~
- ~~d. identify and recommend actions that King County should take or ensure are taken to maintain and improve agricultural viability in the Agricultural Production District and address any impacts to agriculture from aquatic habitat restoration projects, floodplain restoration projects and projects under King County's mitigation reserves program constructed in the Agricultural Production District.)~~

~~The King County shall administer a collaborative review process considering watershed context for County-sponsored projects sponsored by the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division, in the unincorporated area where a habitat or floodplain restoration projects that may result in reducing the amount of land available for farming, and for County-sponsored drainage improvement projects or other land-based agriculture infrastructure projects that may affect habitat or floodplain function, in Agricultural Production Districts. The review process shall be administered by the Water and Land Resources Division and strive for balance in outcomes that achieve co-equal goals of maintaining and improving suitability of land for agricultural productivity, increasing habitat quality, and restoring floodplains and ecological function. The review process should:~~

- ~~a. Occur early in the planning process for projects, and at regular intervals for ongoing programs;~~
- ~~b. Consider guidance from relevant plans relating to agriculture, salmon recovery, and floodplain management;~~
- ~~c. Consider efforts for advancing multiple resource interests;~~
- ~~d. Track on-the-ground changes in land cover relative to acreage targets for farmland and habitat restoration areas, focused on impacts to agricultural lands and fish populations;~~
- ~~e. Consider input and recommendations resulting from engagement and input from external partners and subject matter experts; and~~
- ~~f. Identify and address barriers to efficient implementation of the process.~~

~~The review process may also be offered for projects and programs sponsored by King County agencies aside from the Water and Land Resources Division and/or for projects and programs sponsored by external entities.~~

~~((R-650a)) R-754 ((The Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District is the first Agricultural Production District to undergo a watershed planning effort called for in R-650. King County shall implement the recommendations of the Snoqualmie Fish, Farm and Flood Advisory Committee. The recommendations of the task forces and other actions identified in the final Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations will form the basis for a watershed planning approach to balance fish, farm and flood interests across the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District and an agreement on protecting a defined number of acres of~~

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3154 agricultural land. The Advisory Committee, or a successor committee,
3155 will monitor progress of the task forces and will reconvene to evaluate
3156 the watershed planning approach to balancing interests prior to the
3157 next Comprehensive Plan update. The policy issues and
3158 recommendations outlined in the Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood
3159 Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations are largely specific
3160 to the Snoqualmie Valley and are not intended to be applied broadly in
3161 other Agricultural Production Districts. Future Fish, Farm, Flood efforts
3162 focused in other Agricultural Production Districts will need to go
3163 through their own processes to identify barriers to success for all
3164 stakeholders in these geographic areas. R-649 continues to apply to
3165 the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District until the
3166 watershed planning effort outlined in the Fish, Farm and Flood
3167 recommendations is complete. A policy reflecting the outcome of this
3168 effort shall be included in the next eight-year update.)) The County
3169 shall continue to support the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production
3170 District fish, farm, flood effort, ~~as appropriate,~~ through completion of
3171 the task force's work and establishment of measurable goals for
3172 agriculture, habitat restoration, and floodplain restoration for the
3173 Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District.
3174

R-755 The County shall continue to document and consider the lessons
3175 learned from the Snoqualmie Valley Agricultural Production District
3176 fish, farm, flood effort to guide and refine the collaborative planning
3177 and review processes in a watershed context for projects and programs
3178 in other geographies, with the co-equal goals of balancing farm, fish,
3179 and flood interests where farms, fish habitat, and floodplains overlap,
3180 as well as strategies for avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating losses of
3181 farmable land, floodplain functions, and habitat functions. The County
3182 should support planning efforts similar to the Snoqualmie Valley Fish,
3183 Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee in other geographies if and when
3184 the County and partners choose to pursue such efforts or if acute
3185 tensions among various interests arise in a particular Agricultural
3186 Production District or other area of the county.
3187

~~((R-651~~ Maintaining the viability of farmlands is a high priority for King County.
3188 Within the Agricultural Production Districts, measures to protect
3189 threatened or endangered species shall be tailored to ensure working
3190 farms can continue to operate.))
3191

~~((Two Agricultural Production Districts in or near urban areas, the Lower Green River
3192 Valley and Sammamish Valley, were designated in the 1985 Comprehensive Plan, and
3193 those designations have been retained. The development rights from many, but not all,
3194 of the parcels in these two districts have been purchased through the Farmland
3195 Preservation Program. The Lower Green River Agricultural Production District is
3196 completely surrounded by urban designated land and as such, functions as both prime
3197 agriculture land and urban separator.)) Each of the ((other)) Agricultural Production
3198 Districts and some Farmland Preservation Program lands outside of Agricultural
3199 Production Districts ((also)) share boundaries with cities. The challenges to agriculture
3200 from urban development include alterations to hydrology that result in flooded fields,
3201 increased traffic that interferes with farm vehicles on roads, increased lighting at night,
3202 complaints from urban neighbors about farm operations, and high land prices. The
3203 benefits of being located near urban areas include access to urban markets and
3204 consumers and increased recognition and appreciation of locally produced goods.
3205
3206
3207
3208~~

~~((R-652))~~ **R-756** King County commits to preserve Agricultural Production District
3209 parcels in or near the Urban Growth Area because of their high
3210 production capabilities, their proximity to markets, and their value as
3211 open space. King County should work with cities adjacent to or near
3212

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Agricultural Production Districts to minimize the operational and environmental impacts of urban development and public facilities and infrastructure on farming and farmland, and to promote activities, such as Farmers Markets and agriculture processing businesses, that benefit both the cities and the farms by improving access to locally grown agricultural products.

~~((R-653)) R-757 The Lower Green River Agricultural Production District is a regionally designated resource that ((is to)) shall remain in unincorporated King County except as allowed in Policies R-656-760, R-761, and R-656a762. The Lower Green River Agricultural Production District functions as an urban separator between the cities of Kent and Auburn. King County may contract with other jurisdictions to provide some local services to this area as appropriate.~~

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~~((Pastoral vistas make agricultural land a popular destination for recreation. However, creating parks with active recreational facilities in the Agricultural Production Districts is not appropriate because the land should be prioritized for agriculture. In addition, heavy recreational use in or near the Agricultural Production Districts could result in trespass and damage to crops, animals and farm equipment.~~

~~R-654)) R-758 Active recreation((al)) facilities should not be located within Agricultural Production Districts. When new parks, natural areas, or trails are planned for areas within or adjacent to Agricultural Production Districts, King County should work with farmers to minimize impacts to farmland and agricultural operations.~~

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~~((Public road and utility projects within and through Agricultural Production Districts must be designed to prevent disruption to agriculture. Therefore, road and utility district capital facilities and plans, including water, wastewater, recycled water, and drainage, need to ensure that services are consistent with preservation of long-term agriculture. (Chapter 9, Services, Facilities and Utilities, contains policies requiring special district plans to be consistent with land use plans.)~~

~~R-655)) R-759 Public services and utilities provided by King County and other entities within and adjacent to Agricultural Production Districts shall be designed to support agriculture and minimize significant adverse impacts on agriculture and to maintain total farmland acreage and the area's historic agricultural character:~~

- a. ~~((Whenever feasible, w))Water lines, sewer lines, and other public facilities should avoid crossing Agricultural Production Districts. Installation should be timed to minimize negative impacts on seasonal agricultural practices;~~
- b. ~~Road projects planned for the Agricultural Production Districts, including additional roads or the widening of roads, should be limited to those that are needed for safety or infrastructure preservation and that benefit agricultural uses. ((Where possible, a))Arterials should be routed around the Agricultural Production Districts. Roads that cross Agricultural Production Districts should be aligned, designed, signed, and maintained to minimize negative impacts on agriculture, and to support farm traffic; ((and))~~
- c. ~~In cases when King County concludes that regional public infrastructure projects cannot be located outside of, and must intrude into, Agricultural Production Districts, the County shall ensure that the infrastructure be built and located to minimize disruption of agricultural activity, and shall establish agreements with the relevant jurisdictions or agencies((-)); and~~

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d. If ~~((public services and utilities))~~ infrastructure projects reduce total acreage in the Agricultural Production District, mitigation shall follow the criteria established in policy R-~~((656a))~~761.

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~~((R-656))~~ R-760 King County may allow lands to be removed from the Agricultural Production Districts only when it can be demonstrated that:

- a.1. Removal of the land will not diminish the productivity of prime agricultural soils or the effectiveness of farming within the local Agricultural Production District boundaries; and
- ~~((b:))~~ 2. The land is determined to be no longer suitable for agricultural purposes; or
- ~~((c:))~~ b. The land is needed for public services or utilities as described in policy R-~~((655))~~759.

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~~((R-656a))~~ R-761 King County may only approve the removal of land from the Agricultural Production District if it is, concurrently with or in advance of removal of the land from the Agricultural Production District, mitigated through the replacement of agricultural land abutting the same Agricultural Production District that is, at a minimum, comparable in size, soil quality, and agricultural value. As alternative mitigation, the County may approve a combination of acquisition and restoration totaling three acres for every one acre removed as follows:

- a. A minimum of one acre ~~((must))~~ shall be added into another Agricultural Production District for every acre removed; and
- b. Up to two acres of unfarmed land in the same Agricultural Production District from which land is removed shall be restored for every acre removed.

~~Replacement land to comply with the requirements of this policy may be acquired added to the Agricultural Production District in advance of removal of land from the Agricultural Production District, rather than concurrently, if the criteria in R-656b are met.~~

~~R-762~~ Replacement land required under R-656a-761 may be acquired and added to the Agricultural Production District in advance of removal as follows:

- a. The mitigation is for a public agency or utility project consistent with R-655759;
- b. Property proposed to be added to the Agricultural Production District is approved by the Department of Natural Resources and Parks to ensure compliance with R-656a761;
- c. The subsequent map amendment to remove the Agricultural Production District land identifies the previously added land being used for mitigation; and
- d. The Department of Natural Resources and Parks tracks the acreage of advance additions of replacement land and subsequent removals to ensure that the requirements of R-656a-761 are met.

~~((2.))~~ Sustaining Agriculture and Farming

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~~((King County has made a significant investment in preserving farmland for agriculture and, as a result, has also preserved the open space benefits of these lands. The ((c))County must ensure that this land continues to be farmed into the future by helping farmers maintain and operate their farms and by promoting local agricultural products through infrastructure and activities that improve access to locally grown agricultural products.))~~

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Farmers, especially new and beginning, have limited resources to access land and financing to begin production. Furthermore, all King County farmers, regardless of size

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3327 and years of farming, have a great need for information on marketing and production
3328 strategies required to operate their farming businesses. The Local Food Initiative
3329 ~~((seeks to))~~ provides this information and assistance~~((Under the Local Food Initiative~~
3330 ~~regulatory and technical assistance will increase and be streamlined through a~~
3331 ~~coordinated))~~ by coordinating economic development efforts by different ~~((c))~~ County
3332 agencies and partner organizations that serve farmers. ~~((The team will provide~~
3333 ~~assistance with production, marketing, and business planning through a “one-stop~~
3334 ~~shop” available on-line with a possibility of physical co-location of services if necessary:))~~

3335
3336 ~~((R-657)) R-763 King County shall work with ((and provide support to)) Washington~~
3337 ~~State University Extension and other technical service providers for~~
3338 ~~((its)) their research and education programs that assist small-scale~~
3339 ~~commercial farmers.~~

3340
3341 ~~((R-658)) R-764 King County shall work with other jurisdictions and non((-))profits~~
3342 ~~to expand markets for farm products by supporting ((Puget Sound~~
3343 ~~Fresh and other)) programs that promote local food and connect buyers~~
3344 ~~with producers.~~

3345
3346 ~~((R-659)) R-765 King County should work with other jurisdictions, farm advocacy~~
3347 ~~groups, and others to support ((Farmlink;)) farmer training and other~~
3348 ~~programs that help new farmers get started, gain access to farmland,~~
3349 ~~and develop successful marketing methods.~~

3350
3351 ~~((King County recognizes the value of Farmers Markets for their role in~~
3352 ~~community building, their contribution to farmer success by providing a~~
3353 ~~direct marketing opportunity, and for making the bounty of King County farms available~~
3354 ~~to city residents.~~

3355
3356 ~~R-660)) R-766 King County should work with other jurisdictions to continue to~~
3357 ~~provide support to Farmers Markets.~~

3358
3359 ~~((R-661)) R-767 King County should develop and encourage the use of incentives~~
3360 ~~((to encourage)) for food production on prime farmland. These~~
3361 ~~incentives could include tax credits, expedited permit review, reduced~~
3362 ~~permit fees, permit exemptions for activities complying with best~~
3363 ~~management practices, or similar programs.~~

3364
3365 ~~R-768 The ((c))County should continue to work with community-based~~
3366 ~~organizations that can assist farmers who are Black, Indigenous, or~~
3367 ~~other People of Color, immigrants, ((and minority farmers)) refugees,~~
3368 ~~and other communities that have traditionally experienced ((access))~~
3369 ~~issues(;) in gaining access to farmland.~~

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3370
3371 ~~((R-661a)) R-769 To help make more farmland accessible to beginning,~~
3372 ~~((and)) low -income, historically underservedunderinvested, and~~
3373 ~~socially disadvantaged farmers, King County should expand its leasing~~
3374 ~~of agricultural land to farmers and community organizations where~~
3375 ~~appropriate and should encourage private farmland owners to lease~~
3376 ~~unused land to farmers.~~

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3377
3378 ~~((R-661b)) R-770 King County should expand representation of low income,~~
3379 ~~((and)) historically underservedunderinvested, and socially~~
3380 ~~disadvantaged farmers and community organizations within King~~
3381 ~~County agricultural processes, such as the Agriculture Commission,~~
3382 ~~advisory committees, task forces, and hiring.~~

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3383
3384 ~~((King County recognizes the importance of adding value to and direct sales of~~
3385 ~~agricultural products as a way to keep agriculture viable in an urban landscape. King~~

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3386 County's agriculture program works with farmers to encourage them to add value to
3387 their products by processing, packaging, and selling them directly to the consumer.
3388

3389 **R-662)) R-771 Agricultural processing, packing, and direct sales are considered**
3390 **agricultural activities and should be allowed at a size and scale**
3391 **appropriate to the zone in which they are operating. King County**
3392 **((shall)) should work with local and state health departments to**
3393 **develop regulations supporting these activities and with local**
3394 **non((-))profits and academic institutions to educate farmers about safe**
3395 **food processing practices and compliance.**
3396

3397 **((R-663)) R-772 King County supports the processing and packaging of farm**
3398 **products from crops and livestock, and ((will)) shall continue to work**
3399 **with farmers, ranchers, cities, neighboring counties, and other**
3400 **interested parties to address infrastructure and regulatory needs that**
3401 **promote sales to consumers, institutions, restaurants, and retail**
3402 **enterprises.**
3403

3404 **((R-664)) R-773 King County supports innovative technologies to process waste**
3405 **from dairy and other livestock ((waste)) to reduce nutrients and to**
3406 **create other products such as energy and compost in areas that have**
3407 **Agriculture and Rural Area land use designations.**
3408

3409 ~~((King County's Agricultural Production Districts have some of the best soil and
3410 conditions for growing food in the country. There is an increasing awareness among
3411 farmers about the potential for expanding local food production compatible with a
3412 variety of sustainability goals. Concerned about multiple threats to future food
3413 production, King County farmers are working with others to promote voluntary
3414 incentives that will increase the community of those involved in the local production of
3415 food.~~

3416 **R-665)) R-774 King County should develop incentives that support local food**
3417 **production and processing to increase food security; provide a healthy,**
3418 **affordable local food supply; and reduce energy use.**
3419

3420 Agricultural practices modify the natural environment ((in order)) to produce food or
3421 fiber or maintain livestock for human use. Ideally, practices that maintain the
3422 productivity of the lands also protect environmental quality ((and)), respect natural
3423 processes such as flooding and channel migration, and help mitigate the impacts of
3424 climate change. Farmers, technical advisors, floodplain managers, and environmental
3425 regulators must work together to understand the relationships between production
3426 practices, environmental protection, public safety, and profitability. ~~((These practices,~~
3427 ~~referred to as b))Best management practices((c)) are designed to prevent erosion,~~
3428 ~~maintain flood conveyance and flood storage, retain riparian vegetation, avoid stream~~
3429 ~~bank collapse, properly dispose of animal wastes, safely use and dispose of pesticides~~
3430 ~~((and)), prevent excessive stormwater runoff, capture and reuse methane gas, reduce~~
3431 ~~greenhouse gas emissions, and retain access to local food. ((Best management~~
3432 ~~practices planned and implemented through efforts such as farm management plans~~
3433 ~~can control runoff volumes and prevent pollutants from being discharged into local~~
3434 ~~waterways and groundwater. These practices, such as manure bins, paddock and~~
3435 ~~grazing area designs, and stream exclusion fencing, can reduce or eliminate pollutants~~
3436 ~~in stormwater runoff from agricultural activities.~~
3437

3438 Climate change has the potential to affect farming in King County, with increased
3439 severity of winter flooding, higher summer temperatures, reduced availability of surface
3440 and groundwater for irrigation, increased pest risk, and changes in the types of crops
3441 suited to this area. At the same time, soil best management practices, including use of
3442 cover crops and modified tilling methods, and amendment with compost, biosolids or
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3444 other organic matter can help to mitigate the impacts of climate change by retaining soil
3445 moisture, sequestering carbon, and reducing other greenhouse gas emissions.
3446 Consideration and investigation of alternative water supplies, such as recycled water,
3447 can also help to mitigate the impacts of climate change and help support local and
3448 sustainable agriculture. Development of anaerobic digesters for dairy manure and other
3449 agricultural waste products can capture methane gas and convert it to usable energy.
3450 Having locally-available produce can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from
3451 transport.

3452
3453 King County's policies in this chapter to conserve farmland and encourage food
3454 production take on a greater significance when considering that climate change may
3455 result in food shortages in other parts of the country and world. The Puget Sound region
3456 may become even more valuable for food production than it already is if producing
3457 food in other parts of the world becomes more difficult.

3458 **R-666)) R-775 King County shall provide incentives, educational programs, and**
3459 **other methods to encourage agricultural practices and technological**
3460 **improvements that maintain water quality, protect public health,**
3461 **protect fish and wildlife habitat, protect historic resources, maintain**
3462 **flood conveyance and storage, reduce greenhouse gas emissions,**
3463 **control noxious weeds, ((and)) prevent erosion of valuable agricultural**
3464 **soils, and increase soil water holding capacity while maintaining the**
3465 **functions needed for agricultural production.**
3466

3467 ((In order to)) To maintain and operate their farms, farmers need assistance in maintaining
3468 farm viability in the face of increasing urbanization, soil degradation, increased flooding
3469 and water scarcity caused by climate change, and the increased impacts of upslope
3470 development. The maintenance of drainage and irrigation systems is essential for
3471 commercial agriculture to succeed in the county.
3472

3473 ~~((R-667)) King County shall continue to support agriculture with an expedited~~
3474 ~~review process and reduced fees for structures necessary for farm~~
3475 ~~operations.~~
3476

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3477 **R-668)) R-776 King County shall work with federal, state, local, and private**
3478 **agencies to improve the availability and efficiency of water for**
3479 **agriculture through use of tools such as: expanding the availability of**
3480 **recycled water to farms((:)); offering incentives for irrigation**
3481 **efficiency((:)); and supporting mechanisms for water rights banking and**
3482 **trading that will give farmers greater certainty for water rights while**
3483 **protecting instream flows. King County ((will)) shall encourage the**
3484 **maintenance and preservation of agriculture water rights for**
3485 **agriculture purposes. Assessments of future surface and groundwater**
3486 **availability for agriculture should consider projected impacts of climate**
3487 **change.**
3488

3489 ~~((R-668a)) R-777 King County ((will)) shall continue to support drainage~~
3490 ~~improvements through its Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program~~
3491 ~~and actively seek new ways to make drainage projects less expensive~~
3492 ~~and easier to implement and to improve drainage systems across~~
3493 ~~property lines.~~
3494

3495 ~~((R-669)) R-778 King County should continue to collaborate with the Washington~~
3496 ~~State University Extension, the University of Washington, and King~~
3497 ~~Conservation District to:~~
3498 ~~a. ((d))Develop information on and analyze the ((likely)) current and~~
3499 ~~future impacts of climate change on agriculture in King County((:));~~
3500 ~~b. ((and to d))Develop mitigation, resiliency, and adaptation~~
3501 ~~strategies that are appropriate for King County's soils and farm~~
3502

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economy~~((- Research should address))~~, such as soil management, use of commercial compost, water storage, irrigation, alternative crops, integrated pest management, and nutrient management~~((- The information should be made available to))~~; and
c. Share the information and strategies with farmers through technical assistance programs and farm planning.

~~((R-669a)) R-779 Farmers leasing King County properties, or conducting work on ((property)) properties on which King County owns a Farmland Preservation Program easement should use ((A))agricultural ((B))best ((M))management ((P))practices, integrated pest management, and other sustainable farming methods.~~

~~((R-670)) R-780 King County should provide incentives for soil management practices that reduce greenhouse emissions through its ((A))agricultural ((B))best ((M))management ((P))practices ((C))cost-((S))sharing ((P))program.~~

~~An alluvial fan is a ((depositional landform along a watercourse)) is a fan-shaped deposit of sediment transported by flowing water, called alluvium, where there is an abrupt decrease in stream gradient ((and a resulting area of active sediment deposition)); ((Most a))Alluvial fans in King County ((form)) occur where steep tributary streams ((discharge)) transition at the base of hillsides onto ((nearly)) the level river floodplains on a valley floor. ((Since m))Much of the county's farmland is located in valley floors; ((some)) and agricultural landowners frequently have properties on ((or containing)) active alluvial fans ((that are significantly affected by t)); The episodic deposits of ((upslope)) sediment and debris that ((accumulate on their land)) typically occur on alluvial fans can fill stream channels and wetlands and may cover fertile farmland; ((These events result in obstructed stream channels, filled wetlands, covered farmland, and disruptions in operations. Water is redirected into unexpected places. Permits, regulations, and the lack of approved management practices make it difficult to remedy the situation to regain operations and farm viability.)) Sudden shifts in the location of streams on alluvial fans can also flood agricultural buildings and farm residences. Obtaining permits allowing active management to remove the accumulated sediments and reestablish stream channels can be difficult given the regulations that apply to aquatic areas and floodplains.~~

~~R-671 King County regulations should ((use pilot or demonstration projects and multi-agency collaboration to develop a new suite of practices that will)) provide options to manage alluvial fans for landowners whose existing operations, residences, or infrastructure are affected by alluvial fan deposits. These should provide timely and cost-effective relief from debris and the associated changes to the watercourse along with protection of ((intact)) functional fish habitat and restoration of degraded fish habitat within these areas.~~

~~((Agricultural lands have historically been located in floodplains. Agriculture coexists with flood storage and seasonal inundation; however, there is a growing concern that farmers cannot protect their investments from flooding. The federal, state and local flood hazard management standards are designed to ensure there is no adverse impact to upstream or downstream property owners from activities that are allowed within the floodplain. King County recognizes that most of the agriculture in the county is located in the floodplains because that is where the prime agricultural soils are located. In recent years, King County has provided extensive technical and financial support to farmers to build farm pads and raise homes and agricultural buildings in the Snoqualmie floodplain. This industry requires special consideration because it is tied to these agricultural soils, and can occur almost nowhere else in the county.~~

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3559 ~~R-672)) R-781~~ King County should work with federal, state, and local jurisdictions
3560 to reduce flood impacts to agricultural operations. The ((c))County
3561 ((will)) shall continue to investigate the needs of agriculture before,
3562 during, and after flood events, to determine if and how losses can be
3563 reduced, and ((will)) shall use this information in designing its
3564 floodplain policies and regulations.
3565

3566 The high cost of agricultural land continues to be a barrier for many farmers wishing to
3567 locate their farm businesses within King County. The steady rise in agricultural land
3568 values continues to hamper the ability of many potential and current farmers to enter or
3569 expand their operations.

3570
3571 ~~((R-673)) R-782~~ In addition to enhancing the Farmland Preservation Program, the
3572 ((c))County should develop more innovative solutions and incentives to
3573 keep agricultural land affordable and profitable for active farming.

3574 ~~((3.))~~ Agriculture and the Food System

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3575 King County has a year-round growing season, a strong farming tradition and local
3576 farming expertise, and proximity to major markets for local foods and food products.
3577 Many of the policies in the previous section are aimed at helping to overcome obstacles
3578 to successful farming in King County. With that direction and a focus on production of
3579 food, farmlands in King County could be even more instrumental in strengthening the
3580 food system for the benefit of all King County residents.

3581 Agricultural lands, farming practices and activities, and farmers are part of the local and
3582 regional food system. In addition to the growing of food, the food system includes
3583 processing, distribution, food availability, and disposal. As more people move to this
3584 region, King County recognizes the importance of planning for the regional food system
3585 to be more sustainable and resilient.

3586
3587
3588 ~~((In order t))~~ To do so, King County ((will)) focus~~es~~ on developing a local food system that
3589 can:

- 3590 • Expand opportunities for local farms and enhance the rural economy;
- 3591 • Promote healthy eating to improve public health;
- 3592 • Improve access to healthy, safe, and affordable food, to all county residents,
3593 especially those with low incomes ~~and/or that are historically underserved or~~
3594 ~~socially disadvantaged;~~
- 3595 • Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions; and
- 3596 • Divert food waste from landfills.

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3597
3598 ~~((Studies have shown that 35% of garbage is food.))~~ Efforts to prevent food waste divert
3599 edible food to hunger programs and recycle food waste into compost could reduce
3600 what goes to the landfill, reduce methane generated by landfills, provide food for
3601 hungry people, and provide soil amendments.

3602 Food and nutrition are major factors in public health. ~~((The USDA's 2010 Dietary~~
3603 ~~Guidelines for Americans call for significant increases in daily consumption of fruit,~~
3604 ~~vegetables, milk products and whole grains. In 2013, 13.4% of King County residents~~
3605 ~~lacked access to enough food for an active, healthy life and 18.7% of King County~~
3606 ~~children lived in food-insecure households (Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2015);~~
3607 ~~and 73% of King County middle and high school age youth do not consume~~
3608 ~~recommended levels of fruits and vegetables (Healthy Youth Survey 2012). Thirty-two~~
3609 ~~percent of adults in King County consume less than one serving of fruits per day and 17~~
3610 ~~percent less than one serving of vegetables daily, and there are significant differences~~
3611 ~~across education levels for both fruit and vegetable consumption and across race and~~
3612 ~~income groups for vegetable consumption (Communities Putting Prevention to Work,~~
3613

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3614 2010 and 2012).)) Efforts to increase the availability of ~~((these foods))~~ fruit, vegetables,
3615 milk products, and whole grains to King County residents should include encouraging
3616 an increase in food production on King County farms. Although it is not realistic for
3617 King County farms and farmers to provide the full complement of recommended foods
3618 in public health guidelines, there is the potential to increase food production for local
3619 and regional consumption, particularly ~~((in the first three categories))~~ for fruit,
3620 vegetables, and milk products.

3621
3622 King County's Local Food Initiative works to strengthen the region's local food economy
3623 and prioritizes expanding affordability and accessibility of healthy foods. As the County
3624 works to address climate change and begin shifting to a more regenerative economy,
3625 supporting a just food economy will be critical to making this transition equitable.

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3626
3627 **R-674)) R-783** King County should work with farmers and ranchers to better
3628 understand the constraints to increased food production in the county
3629 and develop programs that reduce barriers and create incentives to
3630 growing food crops and raising food-producing livestock.

3631
3632 **((R-675)) R-784** King County ~~((should))~~ shall prioritize its programs to help build
3633 and support a sustainable, reliable, equitable, and resilient local food
3634 system. King County ~~((should))~~ shall strive to ~~((make))~~ strengthen
3635 the local food system, ((accessible)) increase accessibly to ((all)) to the local
3636 food supply, and strive to make access to the local food system
3637 culturally appropriate by:

3638 a. Expanding leadership and ownership of food production
3639 opportunities to low-income, historically
3640 underservedunderinvested, and socially disadvantaged farmers;
3641 and

3642 b. Making locally grown, healthy, and culturally relevant foods
3643 available to and reflective of King County communities and low-
3644 income, historically underservedunderinvested, and socially
3645 disadvantaged farmers; and

3646 c. Supporting low-income, historically underinvested, and socially
3647 disadvantaged populations in efforts to improve equitable food
3648 access and food production goals, including alternative pathways
3649 for farmland access that meet their community's needs.

3650
3651 **((R-676)) R-785** King County should consider adopting procurement policies that
3652 would encourage purchases of locally grown fresh foods.

3653
3654 **((R-677)) R-786** King County should ~~((promote and support local food production~~
3655 ~~and local processing to))~~ strengthen a sustainable and climate-resilient
3656 the local food system and reduce the distance that food must travel
3657 from farm to table by promoting and supporting local food production
3658 and local processing.

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3659
3660 **((R-677a)) R-787** King County should continue food waste programs for
3661 single ~~((family;))~~ detached residences, and ((multifamily)) multiunit
3662 residences, businesses, and institutions, aimed at reducing generation,
3663 promoting donation, and encouraging curbside collection for anaerobic
3664 digestion and composting.

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3665
3666 **((R-677b)** King County should ~~prioritize the economic development of the food~~
3667 ~~and agriculture industries in order to build a more sustainable and~~
3668 ~~resilient local food system.~~

3669
3670 Government funded food programs are increasingly relying on electronic cards for
3671 clients to purchase food. For example, food stamps have been replaced with electronic
3672 benefits transfer cards. Grocery stores can easily adopt new electronic technology to

3673 accept such cards. It is more challenging for Farmers Markets to do so as the majority of
3674 them are open-air events in parking lots without access to electricity or telephone
3675 connections. To improve accessibility of Farmers Markets for low-income shoppers, a
3676 concerted effort needs to be made to develop the ability to easily accept electronic
3677 payment. This will help make fresh food more available to low-income shoppers as well
3678 as increase the customer base for farmers.

3679 ~~R-677c~~ ~~King County should support low-income, historically underserved, and~~
3680 ~~socially disadvantaged populations in efforts to improve equitable food~~
3681 ~~access and food production goals, including support for alternative~~
3682 ~~pathways for farmland access that meet their community's needs.~~

3683 ~~R-678)) R-788 King County should support and collaborate with ((other~~
3684 ~~organizations to further the development of)) food incentive program~~
3685 ~~providers, with food providers, producers, and distributors, and with~~
3686 ~~community-based organizations to further develop and expand~~
3687 ~~programs that increase ((the ability of shoppers to)) access to affordable~~
3688 ~~foods and, increase the use of food assistance benefits; ((and increase~~
3689 ~~the ability of farmers to accept electronic and other forms of payment))~~
3690 ~~at ((F))farmers ((M))markets and farm stands.~~
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3692 ~~((E:))D.~~ Mineral Resources

3693 King County contains many valuable mineral resources, including deposits of sand,
3694 rock, gravel, silica, clay, and metallic ores. Mineral extraction and processing ~~((these~~
3695 ~~deposits))~~ is an important part of King County's economy, currently providing hundreds
3696 of jobs and producing materials used locally, regionally, and nationally. ~~((Mineral~~
3697 ~~extraction also has historic significance, in that it provided the impetus for past~~
3698 ~~development in many parts of King County, including Black Diamond and the Newcastle~~
3699 ~~area.))~~

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3700 ~~((King County is required by the Growth Management Act to designate and conserve~~
3701 ~~mineral resource lands and plan appropriately to protect them. In doing so t))~~ The
3702 County must assure that land uses adjacent to mineral resource lands do not interfere
3703 with the continued use of mineral resource lands in their accustomed manner and in
3704 accordance with best management practices. ~~((The policies in this section explain the~~
3705 ~~steps taken to designate and conserve mineral resource lands and provide direction on~~
3706 ~~the comprehensive review needed before additional sites are designated for mineral~~
3707 ~~resource extraction.~~

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3708
3709 Four main steps are necessary to support and maintain local availability of mineral
3710 resources. First, mineral resource sites should be conserved through designation and
3711 zoning. Second, land use conflicts between mineral extraction, processing and related
3712 operations and adjacent land uses should be prevented or minimized through policies
3713 and assessment and mitigation of environmental impacts. Third, operational practices
3714 should protect environmental quality, fisheries and wildlife, in balance with the needs of
3715 the industry. Finally, mineral extraction areas need to be reclaimed in a timely and
3716 appropriate manner.))

3717
3718 The Mineral Resources Map identifies three different types of Mineral Resource Sites -
3719 ~~((D))~~ designated Mineral Resource Sites, Potential Surface Mineral Resources, and
3720 Nonconforming Mineral Resource Sites and Existing Mineral Resource Sites in the Forest
3721 Production District. The sites were identified in the 1994 King County Comprehensive
3722 Plan or in subsequent ~~((annual))~~ updates. Before the Mineral Resources Map is a table
3723 that contains information on each Mineral Resource Site parcel.

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3726 ~~((The Designated Mineral Resources Sites on the Mineral Resources Map satisfy King~~
3727 ~~County's responsibility to designate and conserve mineral resources consistent with~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

3728 requirements of the Growth Management Act. All Designated Mineral Resources Sites
3729 have Mineral zoning. Most of the Designated Mineral Resources Sites shown on the
3730 map contain sand and/or gravel; however, a few contain other mineral resources such
3731 as silica, rock, stone, shale, and clay. The criteria used in the 1994 King County
3732 Comprehensive Plan called for designation of properties that at the time were either
3733 zoned outright for mining or those operating under an approved Unclassified Use
3734 Permit.) In addition to the designated Mineral Resources Sites, the Forest Production
3735 District and Forest (F) zone preserves the opportunity for mineral extraction. Mineral
3736 extraction is a permitted or conditional use in the F zone. Because forestry does not
3737 preclude future mineral extraction, King County considers the Forest Production District
3738 ~~((ps))~~ part of its strategy to conserve mineral resources.

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3740 The Mineral Resources Map also shows Potential Surface Mineral Resource Sites. These
3741 are sites where King County may allow some future surface mining to occur or where
3742 the owner or operator indicates an interest in future mineral extraction. ~~((The Potential
3743 Surface Mineral Resources Sites shown on the map do not indicate the material.
3744 Because of the geology of King County, most valuable metallic mineral resources are
3745 located in the Forest Production District, and are therefore already protected from
3746 urban development.))~~ Identification of Potential Surface Mineral Resources Sites
3747 satisfies the Growth Management Act requirements to not knowingly preclude
3748 opportunities for future mineral extraction and to inform nearby property owners of the
3749 potential for future mineral extraction use of these areas ~~((in order))~~ to prevent or
3750 minimize conflicts.

3752 The Mineral Resources Map also shows Nonconforming Mineral Resources Sites. These
3753 are sites on which some mining operations predated King County zoning regulations
3754 without appropriate zoning or other land use approval. Mining for these sites has not
3755 been authorized through a land use designation or zoning classification. These sites are
3756 shown for informational purposes only. Mining can occur on an identified site only if
3757 mining has been approved as a nonconforming use by the Department of Local
3758 Services - Permitting Division, and mining activities have received all other necessary
3759 permit approvals. Because the sites have not undergone formal review to be
3760 designated on the Land Use Map or zoned for mining, the sites do not have long-term
3761 commercial significance. However, they can continue to serve mineral supply needs.

- 3762 ~~((R-679))~~ **R-789 King County shall identify existing and potential mineral extraction**
3763 **sites on the Mineral Resources Map ((in order)) to conserve mineral**
3764 **resources, promote compatibility with nearby land uses, protect**
3765 **environmental quality, maintain and enhance mineral resource**
3766 **industries, and serve to notify property owners of the potential for**
3767 **mineral extraction activities. The County shall identify((:**
3768 **a. Sites with existing Mineral zoning as Designated Mineral Resource**
3769 **Sites;**
3770 **b. Sites where the landowner or operator has indicated an interest in**
3771 **mineral extraction, sites that as of the date of adoption of the 1994**
3772 **Comprehensive Plan had potential Quarrying/Mining zoning, or**
3773 **sites that the County determines might support future mineral**
3774 **extraction as Potential Surface Mineral Resource Sites; and**
3775 **c. Sites where mining operations predate zoning regulations but**
3776 **without zoning or other land use approvals as Nonconforming**
3777 **Mineral Resource Site sites consistent with Washington State**
3778 **Department of Natural Resources mineral resource mapping and in**
3779 **accordance with the mineral resource lands evaluation and**
3780 **designation criteria established in Chapter 36.70A Revised Code of**
3781 **Washington and applicable sections in Washington Administrative**
3782 **Code.**
3783
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~~**((R-680)) R-790 King County shall designate as Mining on the ((Comprehensive Plan)) Land Use Map those sites that had Potential Mineral (M) zoning prior to the date of adoption of the 1994 Comprehensive Plan and those sites that had Mineral zoning as of the date of the adoption of the 2000 King County Comprehensive Plan update.**~~

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A Mining designation on the Land Use Map shall not create a presumption that Mineral zoning will be approved for sites with Potential Mineral zoning. Potential Mineral zoning shall not be applied to additional sites.

~~((Mineral extraction is an intense operation that may continue for many years. Mineral extraction operations can significantly change the land being mined and have impacts on the environment and on nearby properties. Beyond direct impacts to the mine site and nearby properties, mineral extraction and processing can contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. In 2014, the County and cities updated the Countywide Planning Policies to set a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050 at the county scale. The County's 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan includes the same overarching goal.))~~

~~((King County requires comprehensive review, including environmental analysis, prior to approving a Land Use Map and zoning change. Site-specific environmental review will also be required for a grading permit or any other permit that is necessary for a mineral extraction operation. Therefore, ((a)) comprehensive site-specific ((study)) analysis is required prior to any such approval.~~

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~~**R-681)) R-791 King County may designate additional sites on the ((Comprehensive Plan)) Land Use Map as Mining only following a site-specific rezone to Mineral zoning. Upon approval of a rezone to Mineral zoning, the ((Comprehensive Plan)) Land Use Map shall be amended to designate the site as Mining during the next Comprehensive Plan update. King County should approve applications for site-specific rezones to Mineral zoning and applications for permits that would authorize mineral extraction and processing only following site-specific environmental study((:)) and early and continuous public notice and comment opportunities, when:**~~

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- ~~a. The proposed site contains rock, sand, gravel, or other mineral resources;~~
- ~~b. The proposed site is large enough to confine or mitigate all operational impacts;~~
- ~~c. The proposal will allow operation with limited conflicts with adjacent land uses when mitigating measures are applied;~~
- ~~d. The proposal has been evaluated under the State Environmental Policy Act so that the County may approve, condition, or deny applications consistent with the County's substantive State Environmental Policy Act authority, and ((in-order)) to mitigate significant adverse environmental impacts((:)); and~~
- ~~e. Roads or rail facilities serving or proposed to serve the site can safely and adequately handle transport of products and are in close proximity to the site.~~

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~~((If King County denies an application for a site-specific Mineral rezone it should remove the Mining land use designation from the Land Use map and the associated Potential Surface Mineral site designation from the Mineral Resources Map. If the County denies a permit that would authorize mineral extraction and/or processing on a Designated Mineral Resources Site, the County should consider new information generated during the permit review process to determine whether the site is not properly designated as mineral resource land of long-term commercial significance, the designation for the site on the Mineral Resources Map should be changed from~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

3844 Designated Mineral Resources Site to Potential Surface Mineral Resource Site. In
3845 addition, the Mining land use designation and the Mineral zoning classification for the
3846 site should be amended to be compatible with the surrounding properties.

3847
3848 **R-682) R-792** King County should remove the Mining land use designation on the
3849 ~~((Comprehensive Plan))~~ Land Use Map and associated Potential Mineral
3850 zone or Mineral zoning for any sites that have been denied a rezone to
3851 Mineral.
3852

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3853
3854 If a grading or other permit necessary for the extraction of mineral
3855 resources is denied on a ~~((Designated-D))~~designated Mineral Resource
3856 Site, the County shall evaluate whether such mineral resource
3857 designation is appropriate. The re-evaluation process may occur as
3858 part of the annual update and information produced during the permit
3859 review process shall be used to evaluate the appropriateness of
3860 changing the existing designation. If the County determines that the
3861 site should not be designated as mineral resource land of long-term
3862 commercial significance as defined in the Growth Management Act, the
3863 County shall evaluate whether the site should remain on the Mineral
3864 Resource Map, and whether the land use designation and zoning
3865 classification should be changed, with consideration for compatibility
3866 with the surrounding properties.

3867 ~~((R-683)) R-793~~ King County may amend the Mineral Resources Map to identify
3868 additional Potential Surface Mineral Resource Sites as part of the
3869 ~~((eight))~~ 10-year or midpoint update.

3870
3871 ~~((R-684)) R-794~~ The preferred adjacent land uses to sites designated as Mining on
3872 the Land Use Map are mineral extraction, industrial, open space, or
3873 forestry uses. Sites for newly proposed Mineral zones shall not be
3874 adjacent to or within Agricultural Production Districts. Agricultural
3875 lands and operations should be protected from significant impacts
3876 associated with nearby mineral extraction operations.
3877

3878 ~~((R-685)) R-795~~ Mineral extraction activities are ~~((permitted))~~ allowed within the
3879 Forest Production District, consistent with policy R-~~((620))~~718.
3880 However, a conditional use permit shall be required for mineral
3881 extraction activities in the Forest zone located within one-quarter mile
3882 of established residences or for proposals seeking to use local access
3883 streets where abutting lots are developed for residential use.
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3885 ~~((R-686)) R-796~~ ~~((In-order-t))~~To comprehensively assess the environmental impacts
3886 associated with a zoning change, conditional use, or operating
3887 approval for a mineral extraction proposal, the range of environmental
3888 impacts, including short-term and long-term effects arising or existing
3889 over the lifetime of the proposal, shall be assessed at the earliest
3890 possible stage. This should include the potential for phasing of future
3891 proposals for structures and operations related to mineral extraction,
3892 such as asphalt and concrete batch plants.

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~~((R-687)) R-797~~ King County should prevent or minimize conflicts with mineral extraction when planning land uses adjacent to ~~((D))d~~esignated Mineral Resource Sites and Potential Surface Mineral Resource Sites. Subarea plans or area zoning and land use studies may indicate areas where Mining is an inappropriate land use designation. ~~((D))d~~esignated Mineral Resource Sites and Potential Surface Mineral Resource Sites and Nonconforming Mineral Resource Sites should be shown on the Mineral Resources Map ~~((and subarea study maps in order))~~ to notify nearby property owners and residents of existing and prospective mineral extraction activities.

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~~((R-688)) R-798~~ The periodic review process for mineral extraction and processing operations shall include sufficient public notice and comment opportunities. The purpose of the periodic review process is to provide opportunities for public review and comment on the mineral resource facility's fulfillment of state and County regulations and implementation of industry-standard best management practices, and for King County to modify, add or remove conditions to address new circumstances and/or unanticipated project-generated impacts. The periodic review process is not intended to re-examine the appropriateness of the mineral resource use, or to consider expansion of operations beyond the scope of existing permitted operations since that review would be accomplished through the County's permitting process. The periodic review is intended to be a part of King County's ongoing enforcement and inspections of mineral resource sites, and not to be a part of the County's permitting process.

~~((R-689)) R-799~~ Conditions and mitigations for significant adverse environmental impacts associated with mineral extraction or mining operations and their associated structures or facilities should be required, especially in the following areas:

- a. Air quality, including greenhouse gas emissions from minerals extracted for energy production;
- b. ~~((Environmentally sensitive and c))~~Critical areas, such as surface and groundwater quality and quantity, wetlands, fisheries and wildlife habitats, and aquatic habitats;
- c. Noise levels;
- d. Vibration;
- e. Light and glare;
- f. Vehicular access and safety;
- g. Land and shoreline uses;
- h. Traffic impacts;
- i. Visual impacts;
- j. Cultural and historic features and resources;
- k. Site security; and
- l. ~~((Climate change impacts from minerals extracted for energy production; and~~
- m.))Others unique to specific sites and proposals.

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~~((R-690)) R-800~~ Where mineral extraction or mining are subject to state or federal regulations, King County should work with the state and federal governments to ensure that proposals are reviewed with consideration of local land use and environmental requirements, regional impacts from transport, and assessment of climate change impacts from end((-) use of minerals and mined materials.

~~((R-691)) R-801~~ King County should work with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to ensure that mining areas are reclaimed in a timely and appropriate manner. Reclamation of mineral extraction or mining

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sites in the Forest Production District should return the land to forestry. Where mineral extraction is completed in phases, reclamation also should be completed in phases as the resource is depleted. When reclamation of mineral extraction sites located outside of the Forest Production District is completed, the site should be considered for redesignation to a land use designation and zoning classification compatible with the surrounding properties.

~~((R-692))~~ **R-802** King County shall encourage the removal of existing stockpiles of previously mined material ~~((in order))~~ to promote and achieve reclamation of land to its highest and best use.

~~((R-693))~~ **R-803** King County shall prohibit the establishment of new coal mines and the expansion of existing coal mines.

3968 **Table 3-1. Mineral Resources Property Information for the Mineral Resources Map**

DESIGNATED MINERAL RESOURCE SITES				
Map # Section	Section- Township- Range	Site Name and/or Owner/Operator	Material*	Total Site Acreage (approx.)
1	25-21-06	Cadman S & G/Flintston S&G	SG	75
2	11-20-07 21-20-07	Plum Creek Timber Company	SG	476
3	21-22-03	Ideal Cement Co/King County	SG	39
5	27-22-07	Kangley Pit/Meridian Aggregates Co. (398 acres) and Stoneway Concrete Gravel Pit/Gary Merlino Construction	SG	608
6	28-23-06	Cedar Grove Pit/Queen City Farms	SG	315
7	33-23-06	Lake Francis Pit/Plumb Creek Timber Co	SG	143
8	33-23-06	Cedar grove Pit /ANMARCO	SG	35
9	20-23-06	Cedar Mountain Pit/ Rivera & Green	SG	57
10	20-22-06	Black River Quarry	SG	374
12	08-28-07 17-26-07	Cherry Pit/Thompson	SG	13
13	19-24-08 20-24-08	Snoqualmie/Weyerhaeuser Co. and S. Parsons et. al.	SG	665
15	06-23-06	Squak Mountain Quarry/M. Palmer	RS	16
16	22-24-07	Raging River/Cadman	RS	((46)) 20
17	33-20-07	Highway 410 Quarry/J. Laramie	RS	34
18	28-26-11 27-26-11	Meridian Aggregates	R	38
20	01-21-06 36-22-06	Reserve Silica Corporation Plum Creek Timber Co. and Silica Sand Mine	S	
23	32-24-06	State of Washington	CL	
25	32-24-06	Interpace Harris Mine/ R.Thompson and Eltra. Corp.	SG	
26	35-22-06	Meridian Minerals Co.	SG	
27	29-23-06	Pinnacle Exploration	SG	
28	29-23-06 32-23-06	ANMARCO and G. Newell	SG	
29	29-23-06	Plum Creek Timber Co	SG	
30	27-24-06	Issaquah/King Co.	SG	
31	05-23-06	King County	SG	
32	33-23-06	Lake Francis Plum Creek Timber Co	SG	
96	30-21-07	Franklin Pit/Morris	SG	158

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POTENTIAL SURFACE MINERAL RESOURCE SITES			
Map # Section-	Section-Township-Range	Site Name and/or Owner/Operator	Total Site Acreage (approx.)
35	35-22-05	T. Scarsella	11
36	07-25-06	Cadman/King Co.	24
37	33-23-06	Merlino Property/ANMARCO	32
39	20-23-06	Rivera and Green	21
40	22-26-06	T. Alberg	40
41	31-26-07	T. Alberg	160
42	08-26-07 17-26-07	R. and A. Thompson	11
43	32-23-09	R. and A. Thompson	145
44	11-21-05	B & M Investments	174
45	25-22-02	Doane Family Ltd.	60
46	08-25-06	W. Nelson	86
47	18-21-07	Palmer Coking Coal	79
48	30-21-07	Palmer Coking Coal	275
50	36-21-06	Palmer Coking Coal	116
51	06-23-06	Palmers	39
52	12-23-05	R. and R. Schroeder and Pacific Company Constructors	30
53	02-20-06	State of Washington	36
54	03-91-33	Weyerhaeuser Co.	36
74		Weyerhaeuser Co	3655
75		Weyerhaeuser Co., United States, U.S. Corps of Engineers	4214
76		Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Co.	1765
77		Weyerhaeuser Co. and State of Washington	705
78		Weyerhaeuser Co., Riley, Everett, Hamerly	1926
79		E. Seliger, Weyerhaeuser Co,	1167
80		Weyerhaeuser Co.	113
81		Metro	599
82		Cadman Black Diamond/Weyerhaeuser Co.	434
83		Weyerhaeuser Co.	925
55	02-20-07 12-20-07	Weyerhaeuser Co., State of Washington, Metro	634
56	10-20-07	Weyerhaeuser Co.	80
57	15-26-07	State of Washington	320
58	16-21-05	State of Washington	38
59	17-23-07 18-23-07 19-23-07 20-23-07	State of Washington	640
60	26-21-06	M & K Company	18
61	27-24-06	State of Washington	40
62	30-20-08	Weyerhaeuser Co.	141
63	30-21-07	State of Washington and Palmer Coking Coal	60
64	30-21-08	State of Washington	168
65	34-24-06	State of Washington	32
66	35-24-06	State of Washington	20
67	36-20-06	State of Washington	79
68	36-20-06	State of Washington	40
69	36-21-06	State of Washington	152
70	36-21-07	State of Washington	640

~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

POTENTIAL SURFACE MINERAL RESOURCE SITES			
Map # Section-	Section-Township-Range	Site Name and/or Owner/Operator	Total Site Acreage (approx.)
71	36-23-06	State of Washington	115
72	04-21-07	Weyerhaeuser Co.	173
73	03-25-09	Weyerhaeuser Co.	3079
	04-25-09		
	05-25-09		
	10-25-09		
	33-25-09		
84	28-20-07	Weyerhaeuser Co.	669
	32-20-07		
	33-20-07		
85	04-19-07	Weyerhaeuser Co.	1572
	05-19-07		
	32-20-07		
86	34-25-07	L.A. Welcome	24
87	36-21-05	Sparling/King Co.	41
88	21-24-07	Raging River/King Co.	40
89	32-22-07	Lake Retreat/King Co	82
90	35-22-02	Sprowls/King Co.	40
91			
92	23-26-07	Swan Quarry/King Co.	76
93	31-23-07	Route 18 Fill Project/Plumb Creek Timber Co.	40

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LEGAL NONCONFORMING MINERAL RESOURCE SITES AND EXISTING MINERAL RESOURCE SITES IN THE FOREST PRODUCTION DISTRICT				
Map # Section	Section-Township-Range	Site Name and/or Owner/Operator	Material*	Total Site Acreage (approx.)
21	01-19-07	Hardie/Weyerhaeuser	S	625
94	29-20-07	Jensen Sand & Gravel/Jensen	SG	13
95	29-20-07	Corliss/Weyerhaeuser	SG	60
103	34-22-06	Summit/King County	SG	176
104	13-20-06	Enumclaw Quarry/Pierotti	RS	14
110	31-21-07	Hyde Pit/Palmer Coking Coal Co	SG	20
	19-23-09			
113	20-23-09	Cadman North Bend/Weyerhaeuser	SG	300
	29-23-09			
114	33-20-07	White River/Weyerhaeuser	RS	175

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*KEY FOR ALL SITES		
SG	((=))	Sand & Gravel
RS	((=))	Rock & Stone
R	((=))	Rock
ShCl	((=))	Shale & Clay
Cl	((=))	Clay
S	((=))	Silica

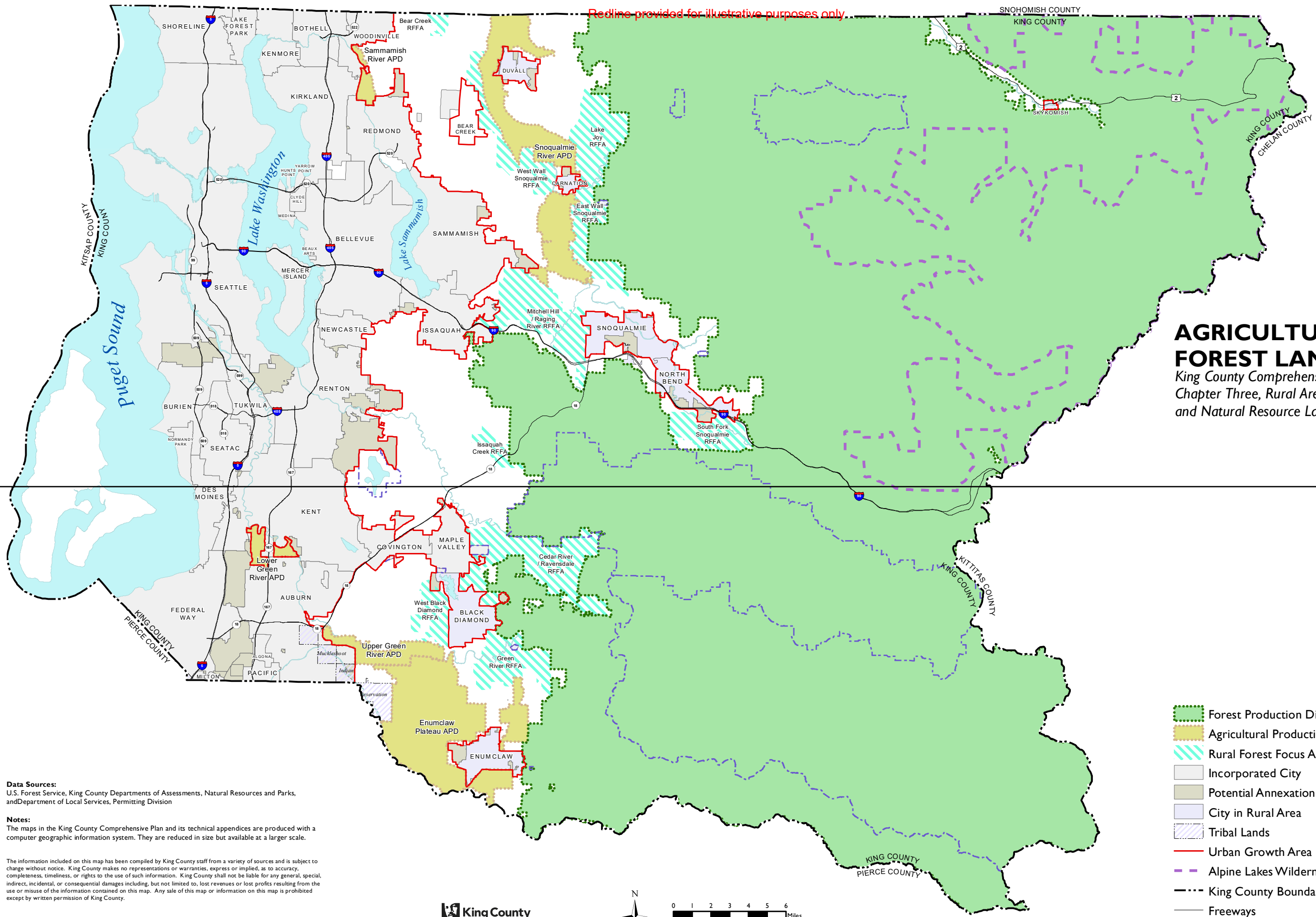
~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

NOTE:

- Each map number corresponds to one or more parcel number(s), and in some cases different owners and operators. The acreage listed represents the sum acreage of all the parcels of the site. ~~((Please refer to the technical appendix for the parcel-specific version of this table.))~~
- Designated Mineral Resource Sites: Sites with Mineral Zoning.
- Potential Surface Resource Mineral Sites: Sites identified by the landowner or operator prior to Nov.18, 1994 and sites as of Nov. 18, 1994 that had pending rezone applications for Quarrying/Mining (now Mineral) zoning or had potential Quarrying/Mining (now Mineral) zoning. Such sites may or may not be able to operate, and are subject to all federal, state and local regulations.
- Nonconforming Mineral Resource Sites and Existing Mineral Resource Sites in the Forest Production District: Sites on which mineral extraction operations pre-date King County zoning regulations, but without zoning or other land use approvals.

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AGRICULTURE AND FOREST LANDS 2020

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2020
Chapter Three, Rural Area
and Natural Resource Lands

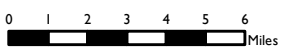
- Forest Production District
- Agricultural Production District
- Rural Forest Focus Areas
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- Tribal Lands
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- Alpine Lakes Wilderness
- King County Boundary
- Freeways
- Municipal Watershed

Data Sources:
U.S. Forest Service, King County Departments of Assessments, Natural Resources and Parks, and Department of Local Services, Permitting Division

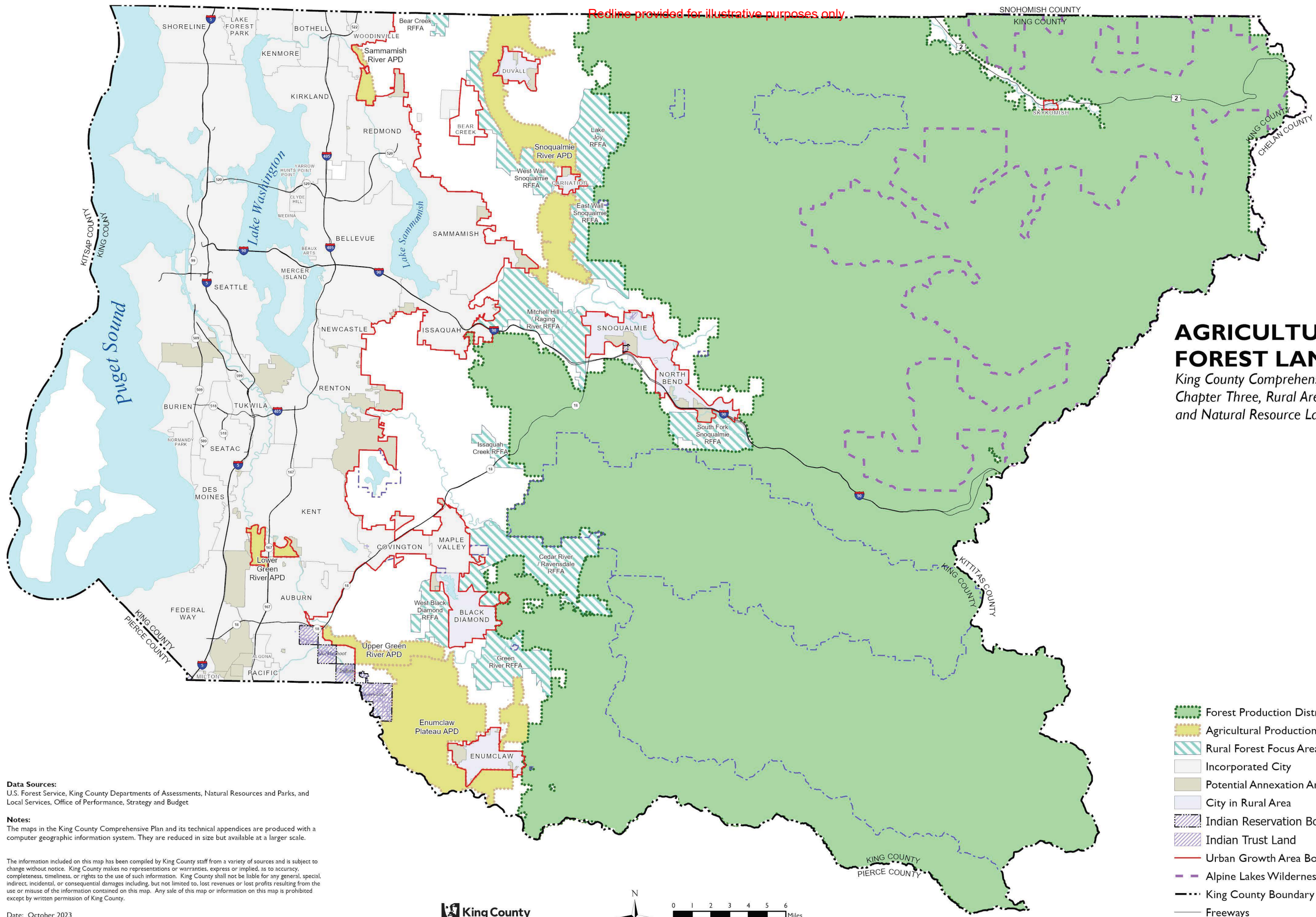
Notes:
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Date: July 2020



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AGRICULTURE AND FOREST LANDS 2024

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter Three, Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands

Data Sources:
U.S. Forest Service, King County Departments of Assessments, Natural Resources and Parks, and Local Services, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Notes:
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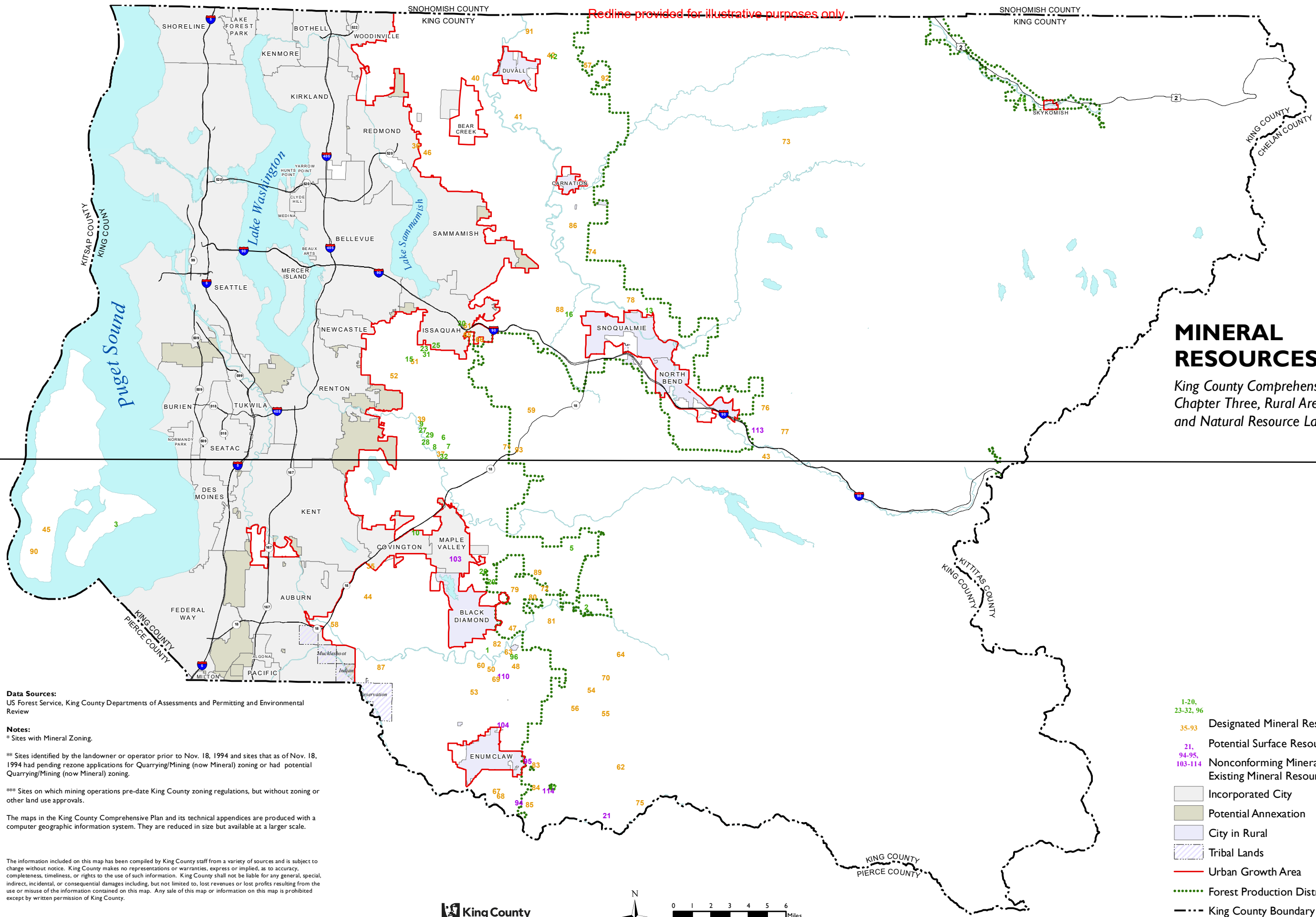
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- Forest Production District
- Agricultural Production District
- Rural Forest Focus Areas
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- Indian Reservation Boundary
- Indian Trust Land
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- Alpine Lakes Wilderness
- King County Boundary
- Freeways
- Municipal Watershed

Redline provided for illustrative purposes only

MINERAL RESOURCES 2020

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2020
Chapter Three, Rural Area
and Natural Resource Lands



Data Sources:
US Forest Service, King County Departments of Assessments and Permitting and Environmental Review

Notes:
* Sites with Mineral Zoning.

** Sites identified by the landowner or operator prior to Nov. 18, 1994 and sites that as of Nov. 18, 1994 had pending rezoning applications for Quarrying/Mining (now Mineral) zoning or had potential Quarrying/Mining (now Mineral) zoning.

*** Sites on which mining operations pre-date King County zoning regulations, but without zoning or other land use approvals.

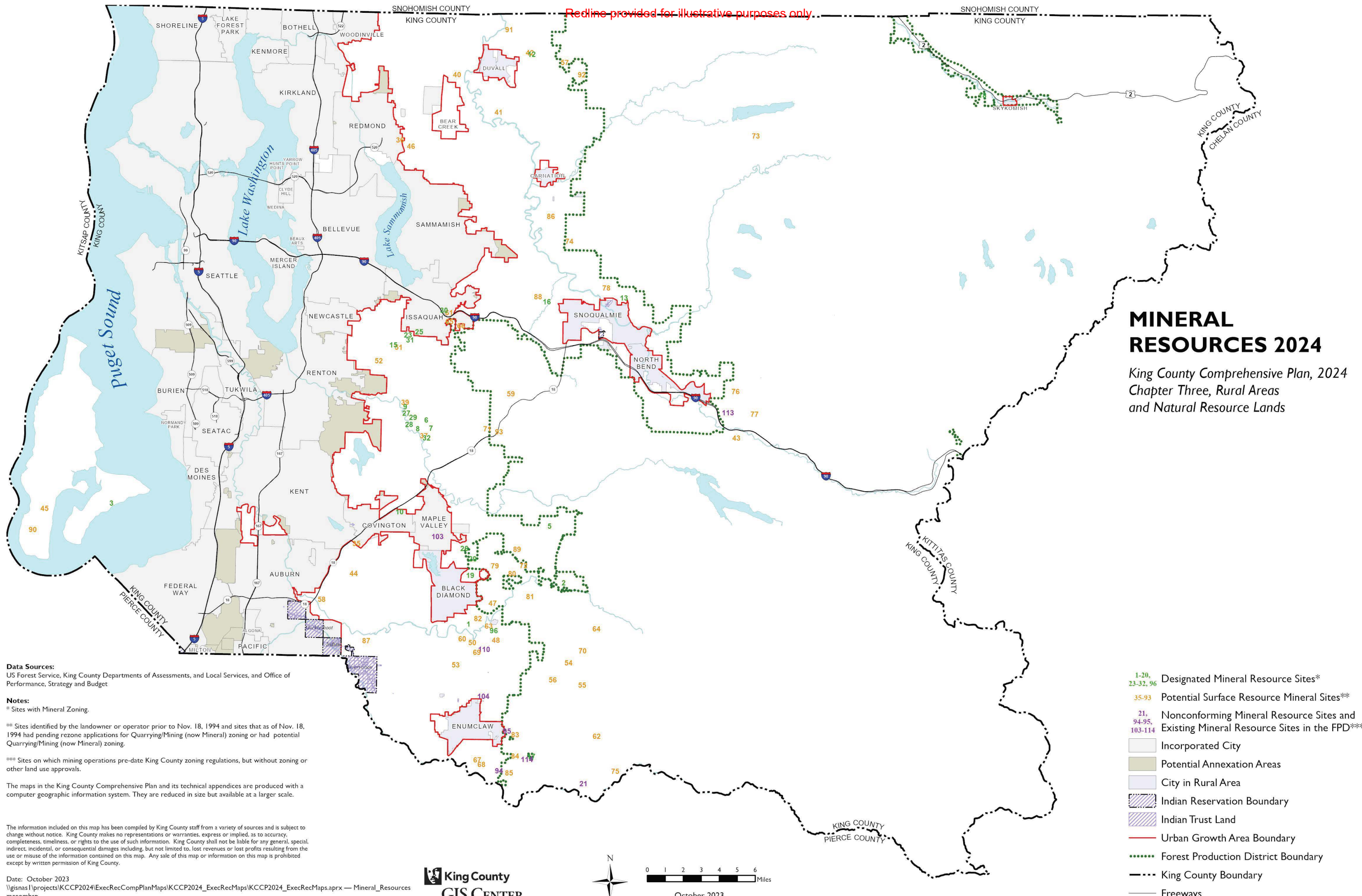
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- 1-20, 23-32, 96
35-93 Designated Mineral Resource Sites*
- 21, 94-95, 103-114 Potential Surface Resource Mineral Sites**
- Nonconforming Mineral Resource Sites and Existing Mineral Resource Sites in the FPD***
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation
- City in Rural
- Tribal Lands
- Urban Growth Area
- Forest Production District Boundary
- King County Boundary
- Freeways



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MINERAL RESOURCES 2024

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter Three, Rural Areas
and Natural Resource Lands

Data Sources:
US Forest Service, King County Departments of Assessments, and Local Services, and Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Notes:
* Sites with Mineral Zoning.

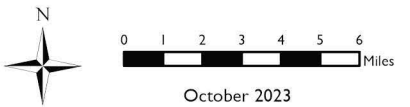
** Sites identified by the landowner or operator prior to Nov. 18, 1994 and sites that as of Nov. 18, 1994 had pending rezoning applications for Quarrying/Mining (now Mineral) zoning or had potential Quarrying/Mining (now Mineral) zoning.

*** Sites on which mining operations pre-date King County zoning regulations, but without zoning or other land use approvals.

The maps in the King County Comprehensive Plan and its technical appendices are produced with a computer geographic information system. They are reduced in size but available at a larger scale.

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Date: October 2023
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- 1-20, 23-32, 96 Designated Mineral Resource Sites*
- 35-93 Potential Surface Resource Mineral Sites**
- 21, 94-95, 103-114 Nonconforming Mineral Resource Sites and Existing Mineral Resource Sites in the FPD***
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- ▨ Indian Reservation Boundary
- ▨ Indian Trust Land
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- Forest Production District Boundary
- - - - King County Boundary
- Freeways



CHAPTER 4

**HOUSING &
HUMAN SERVICES**

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD

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5 CHAPTER 4

6 HOUSING AND HUMAN 7 SERVICES

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((Establishment of vibrant, thriving, healthy, and sustainable communities is a key goal of King County's Strategic Plan. Offering adequate choices and opportunities to fully address the spectrum of housing needs in all communities for all of King County's residents is an essential step toward meeting this goal. The County's Strategic Plan aligns with the Washington State Growth Management Act, VISION 2040's Multicounty Planning Policies, and the King County Countywide Planning Policies regarding establishing and implementing clear goals for affordable housing.

The Countywide Planning Policies provide a framework within which all jurisdictions are called upon to plan for a range of affordable housing choices within neighborhoods that promote health, well-being, diversity and access to opportunities for employment, recreation, social interaction and cohesion, active transportation (walking, biking and public transit) and education. The King County Comprehensive Plan strengthens this connection by promoting affordable housing for all county residents through support for adequate funding, zoning, and regional cooperation to create new and diverse housing choices in communities throughout the county)).)) [King County](#)

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

~~prioritizes racial and social equity in the establishment of vibrant, thriving, healthy, and sustainable communities throughout the county. To achieve this goal, the Comprehensive Plan emphasizes the importance of offering equitable housing choices by planning for clear goals to accommodate the full spectrum of housing needs in all communities. Housing stability creates a foundational structure for individuals and families. Stable housing is fundamental to every person's well-being, and improves health, economic, and educational outcomes for communities. The policies in this chapter support VISION, and the Countywide Planning Policies, and the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force's Five-Year Action Plan goals.~~

11 ~~((I.))~~ Housing

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12 ~~((A.))~~ King County's Regional Role in Promoting
13 Housing ~~((Choice and Opportunity))~~ Equity

14 ~~((Most housing is financed by and developed in the private sector. The ability of the private sector to develop affordable housing is affected by a wide range of market forces. However, local government actions such as land use policies, development regulations and infrastructure finance also have a significant impact on housing affordability. Public funding, incentive programs and mandatory programs are essential to addressing the housing needs of historically disadvantaged communities, including lower-income county residents, older adults, people of color, children and vulnerable adults (including victims and survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation), people with developmental disabilities, people with behavioral, physical, cognitive and/or functional disabilities, people who are experiencing homelessness, and growing segments of the population such as immigrant and refugee communities.))~~ The ability of the private and public sector to develop housing is affected by a wide range of market forces. However, local government actions, such as land use policies, funding, regional coordination, development regulations, funding, regional collaboration, ~~development regulations,~~ community engagement, and infrastructure financing significantly impact the capacity to increase housing supply for all incomes, including affordable housing. ~~Public funding, incentive programs, and mandatory programs are essential to increasing the development capacity in King County, which will increase the land available for new, higher-density housing that is affordable to a wider range of incomes than in the current housing market.~~

36 The policies in the housing section set a framework for individual and collective action and accountability to meet regional housing needs and local housing unit growth allocations. The policies seek to increase the supply and diversity of housing, expand housing choice, improve housing stability, reduce displacement, promote equity in housing outcomes, strengthen partnerships to meet housing goals, improve housing tools and processes, and foster a more sustainable and healthier built environment.

43 ~~((Summary data and analysis regarding housing needs in King County can be found in ((Technical)) Appendix B, Housing Needs Assessment ((of this Comprehensive Plan)).)~~
44 ~~Findings from the Housing Needs Assessment analysis demonstrate disparities by race, ethnicity, income, disability status, and age in homeownership. For example, in King County 61 percent of White households and 58 percent of Asian households own their homes.¹ Comparatively, only 28 percent of Black households and 35 percent of Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) own their homes.² In unincorporated King County, 88 percent of White households, compared to 43 percent of Black and 49 percent of Hispanic or Latin(a)(o)(x) households, own their own home.³~~

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53 Housing cost burden means more than 30 percent of a household's income goes toward housing costs. Severe cost burden means more that more than 50 percent of a household's income goes toward housing costs. Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color households are more likely to be cost burdened and severely cost burdened than White households.⁴ Senior renters with lower incomes and LGBTQIA+ households are

¹United States Census Bureau. (2020). 5-year American Community Survey 2016-2020.

²Ibid

³Ibid

⁴U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2021). Cost Burden, Comprehensive Housing

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

58 ~~disproportionately cost burdened.^{5,6} Renter-occupied households are more likely to be~~
59 ~~cost burdened than owner-occupied households.²~~

60 A. Housing Needs in King County

61 ~~((The policies in this ((chapter address)) section intend to reduce regional disparities in~~
62 ~~housing access by addressing affordable housing development, preservation and~~
63 ~~assistance programs administered by King County, ((King)) the County's regulatory role~~
64 ~~in helping to ensure that there is adequate safe and healthy housing to promote~~
65 ~~affordable housing in the unincorporated areas ((of the County)), and King County's~~
66 ~~regional role convening partners to meet the housing needs of all county residents at ((a~~
67 ~~variety of)) all income levels.))~~

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68
69 ~~((This chapter)) In alignment with the Countywide Planning Policies, this section calls for~~
70 ~~more residential growth by preserving existing housing stock incentivizing affordable~~
71 ~~housing development, increasing density through middle housing and inclusionary~~
72 ~~housing regulations, and developing new units on vacant parcels within established~~
73 ~~neighborhoods and in areas for new development near high (()) capacity and frequent~~
74 ~~transit.⁸ These locations can offer affordable housing that is close to jobs,~~
75 ~~transportation, and services. ((Housing development can also provide welcome~~
76 ~~improvements to communities suffering from a lack of investment. New development in~~
77 ~~established communities may result in the loss of existing low-cost housing; thus, this~~
78 ~~plan calls for King County and its partners to work together to help preserve and~~
79 ~~rehabilitate existing affordable housing. Low-cost housing is a community resource that~~
80 ~~should be preserved.)) The below policies prioritize the development of adequate~~
81 ~~infrastructure and anti-displacement strategies in communities who have historically~~
82 ~~experienced underinvestment.~~

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83
84 ~~The Countywide Planning Policies have identified the substantial need that exists for~~
85 ~~rental housing affordable to households with extremely low-, very low-, and~~
86 ~~low-incomes ((rental housing)) and for ((moderately priced)) affordable homes that can~~
87 ~~be purchased by income-qualified homebuyers. ((In the past decade, a significant~~
88 ~~number of homeowners have lost their homes due to foreclosure and have become~~
89 ~~renters again. In the short term, those households may need affordable rents, while in~~
90 ~~the longer term they may again seek to own a moderately-priced home.)) The Growth~~
91 ~~Management Act requires all jurisdictions to plan for and to accommodate the housing~~
92 ~~needs of residents at every income level. The King County Countywide Planning~~
93 ~~Policies establish allocations of housing need for each jurisdiction for all income levels,~~
94 ~~as well as emergency housing, emergency shelters, and permanent supportive housing.~~
95 ~~The tableTable 1-below- shows the housing need for urban unincorporated King~~
96 ~~County, reflected as new units in service, by income levels, including the projected~~
97 ~~housing needs for extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-income households,~~
98 ~~permanent supportive housing, and emergency housing.⁹ The total number of new~~

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~~Affordability Strategy 2014-2018:~~

~~⁵Prunhuber, Pratti and Vivian Kwok. (2021, February). Low-Income Older Adults Face Unaffordable Rents: Driving Housing Instability and Homelessness. Justice in Aging, National Low Income Housing Coalition.~~

~~⁶Goldsen, K. F. et. al. (2020, November). Washington State LGBTQ+ Equity and Health Report 2020.~~

~~⁷United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2021). Cost Burden and Severe Cost Burden by Income. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy 2014-2018.~~

~~⁸Per the Countywide Planning Policies: High-capacity transit are "transit modes that operate principally on exclusive rights-of-way which provides a substantially higher level of passenger capacity, speed, and service frequency than traditional public transportation systems operating principally in general purpose roadways, including light rail, streetcar, commuter rail, ferry terminals, and bus rapid transit stations."
Frequent transit is "transit service that is "show-up and go" that comes frequently enough that passengers do not require a schedule."~~

~~⁹Per Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.030: Emergency housing "means temporary indoor accommodations for individuals or families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

99 housing units needed in urban unincorporated King County by 2044 is 5,412.¹⁶
 100 Additionally, ~~another 1,034 new emergency housing beds are needed by 2044 to meet~~
 101 ~~temporary housing needs. With the changes adopted as part of the 2024~~
 102 ~~Comprehensive Plan, there is sufficient zoning capacity to accommodate all of these~~
 103 ~~housing needs and types.~~
 104

105 **Table 4-1: Projected Housing Needs by Income Level in Unincorporated King**
 106 **County¹⁷**

Income Level	% Median Income	Net New Units Needed, 2019-2044
Extremely low	0-30% Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	608
	0-30% Other (non-Permanent Supportive Housing PSH)	1,157
Very low	>30-50%	571
Low	>50-80%	292
Moderate	>80-100%	366
	>100-120%	415
Above Moderate	>120%	2,003
All Income Levels		5,412

Temporary Housing Needs	Net New Beds Needed, 2019-2044
Emergency Housing/Shelter	1,034

107
 108 Appendix B, Housing Needs Assessment, contains summary data and analysis
 109 regarding housing needs in King County. The findings demonstrate a substantial need
 110 for extremely low-, very low-, and low-income rental housing and low-to moderately
 111 priced homes for ownership. In addition, there is a significant need for more permanent
 112 supportive housing, shelters, and tiny homes.
 113

114 The findings also show that approximately 25,500 households in unincorporated King
 115 County are cost burdened. When a household spends more than 30 percent of its

that is intended to address the basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs of individuals or families. Emergency housing may or may not require occupants to enter into a lease or an occupancy agreement." Permanent supportive housing "is subsidized, leased housing with no limit on length of stay that prioritizes people who need comprehensive support services to retain tenancy and utilizes admissions practices designed to use lower barriers to entry than would be typical for other subsidized or unsubsidized rental housing, especially related to rental history, criminal history, and personal behaviors. Permanent supportive housing is paired with on-site or off-site voluntary services designed to support a person living with a complex and disabling behavioral health or physical health condition who was experiencing homelessness or was at imminent risk of homelessness prior to moving into housing to retain their housing and be a successful tenant in a housing arrangement, improve the resident's health status, and connect the resident of the housing with community-based health care, treatment, or employment services. Permanent supportive housing is subject to all of the rights and responsibilities defined in chapter 59.18 RCW"

¹⁶This growth is intended to be focused in the urban area to align with the Growth Management Act and VISION.

¹⁷Area Median Income bands used are the same as bands used by the Department of Commerce for projecting need, who based their analysis primarily on Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy data and thus largely use Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Area Median Family Income limits.

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116 ~~income on housing, they are considered cost burdened. Severe cost burden means~~
117 ~~more than 50 percent of a household's income goes toward housing costs. In~~
118 ~~unincorporated King County, Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color households~~
119 ~~are more likely to be cost -burdened and severely cost -burdened than White~~
120 ~~households. Senior renters with lower incomes and LGBTQIA+ households are~~
121 ~~disproportionately cost -burdened. Renter-occupied households are almost twice as~~
122 ~~likely to be cost -burdened than owner-occupied households. Black, Indigenous, and~~
123 ~~other People of Color and Latin(a)(o)(x) households, as well as many immigrant and~~
124 ~~refugee households, are disproportionately represented both among households~~
125 ~~earning less than 80 percent of area median income as well as among cost burdened~~
126 ~~households, in part due to the legacy of structural racism and discrimination in housing~~
127 ~~and land use policies and practices. Households earning at or below 30 percent are~~
128 ~~disproportionately impacted by housing cost burden than higher income households.~~

129
130 ~~Housing disparities by race, ethnicity, income, disability status, and age also exist in~~
131 ~~homeownership. For example, in unincorporated King County, 88 percent of White~~
132 ~~households, compared to 43 percent of Black and 49 percent of Hispanic or~~
133 ~~Latin(a)(o)(x) households, own their own home.~~

134
135 ~~The policies in the housing section seek to reduce disparities in housing by ensuring~~
136 ~~there is adequate capacity for housing; addressing affordable housing funding,~~
137 ~~preservation, and assistance programs administered by King County; utilizing the~~
138 ~~County's regulatory role to help ensure that there is adequate safe and healthy housing~~
139 ~~in the unincorporated areas; and strengthening housing partnerships and regional~~
140 ~~collaboration to meet the housing needs of all county residents at all income levels.~~

141
142 ~~((H-125)) H-101 King County shall ((assure)) ensure that there is sufficient ((land))~~
143 ~~zoned capacity in the unincorporated urban area((s-zoned)) to~~
144 ~~accommodate King County's ((share of affordable)) housing need~~
145 ~~allocations and provide a ((range)) variety of affordable, sustainable~~
146 ~~housing types, including higher((-)) density single((-family homes))~~
147 ~~detached residences, ((multifamily properties)) duplexes, triplexes,~~
148 ~~fourplexes, townhouses, apartmentsmiddle housing, ((manufactured~~
149 ~~((housing)) mobile home communities, ((cottage housing;)) accessory~~
150 ~~dwelling units, and mixed-use developments. ((King County should~~
151 ~~work with cities to increase opportunities for affordable housing~~
152 ~~development by assuring there is sufficient land capable of being~~
153 ~~developed for this range of housing types that are more likely to be~~
154 ~~affordable to low-, moderate- and middle-income households.))~~
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156 ~~H-102 King County shall ((work with jurisdictions, the private sector, state and~~
157 ~~federal governments, other public funders of housing, other public~~
158 ~~agencies such as the Housing Authorities, regional agencies such as the~~
159 ~~Puget Sound Regional Council, intermediary housing organizations,~~
160 ~~and the non((-))profit sector, to encourage)) support plan for a wide~~
161 ~~range of housing types and ((to)) reduce barriers to the preservation,~~
162 ~~improvement, and development ((and preservation)) of ((a wide range~~
163 ~~of)) affordable housing, at an appropriate size and scale, that:~~
164 ~~a. Provides housing choices ((for)) affordable to people of all income~~
165 ~~levels, particularly in areas with existing or planned high capacity~~
166 ~~and frequent ((public transportation access where it is safe and~~
167 ~~convenient to walk, bicycle, and take public transportation to work~~
168 ~~and other key destinations such as educational facilities, shopping~~
169 ~~and health care)) transit service;~~
170 ~~b. Provides housing choices and supportive services to households at~~
171 ~~or below 30 percent of area median income;~~
172 ~~c. Meets the needs of and advances equitable outcomes for ((a~~
173 ~~diverse population, especially families and individuals who have~~

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~~extremely low-, very(-) low-, low-, ((to)) and moderate((-)) incomes, older adults)) Black, Indigenous, and other ((p))People of ((c))Color ((- children and vulnerable adults (including victims and survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation), people with developmental disabilities, people with behavioral, physical, cognitive and/or functional disabilities, and people who are experiencing homelessness)); persons with special housing needs; senior veterans, military servicemembers, and their respective families; individuals and families experiencing homelessness; people with behavioral, physical, cognitive, and developmental disabilities; immigrants; refugees; LGBTQIA+ people persons; women; families with children; and survivors of domestic violence and other kinds of gender-based violence, human trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation; and women;~~
~~((c. Supports economic growth.))~~
d. Supports the goals of ((King County's Equity and Social Justice Initiative and Health)) housing and ((H))human ((S))services- ((Transformation Plan goals)) related plans, including the Crisis Care Centers Levy Implementation Plan, Best Starts for Kids Implementation Plan, Initial Health through Housing Implementation Plan 2022-2028 or successor plans, Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy Implementation Plan, and Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Behavioral Health Sales Tax Fund Plan, or successor plans ((for an equitable ((and rational)) distribution of ((low income and high quality)) affordable housing, including mixed income housing, and supportive services throughout the county; and
e. Allows for the opportunity to encourage permanent safe firearm storage locations in private and public residential buildings to make safe storage an easy choice, and, fosters safety from injury and violence, through exploring housing and community design standards that are shown to increase connectivity and reduce violence)).

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~~((1.)) Regional Convener))~~

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B. Housing Partnerships and Regional Collaboration

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Just as housing needs rarely recognize jurisdictional boundaries, housing issues will not likely be solved by King County alone. For these reasons, it is important that King County's housing policies support a regional approach and collaboration among agencies to meet housing goals. In addition, nonprofits or housing authorities often provide the most affordable housing, while private sector developers create most housing units. Without collaboration, King County, the cities in King County, and the region will likely fail to meet housing goals and needs. All the partners mentioned in this chapter are vital in helping King County achieve its housing goals.

King County has a role to play in ((promoting)) increasing interjurisdictional ((cooperation)) regional collaboration and public((f))-private partnerships to address the full range of ((critical)) housing needs in King County ((and the Puget Sound region)). In 2017, King County convened the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force ((in July 2017, ((The task force met for 18 months)) to understand the affordable housing challenges and to meet people most affected by the lack of affordable units in the county.)) The ((t))Task ((f))orce's ((work culminated in a)) December 2018 Final Report and Recommendations, which included a Five((-))Year Action Plan, ((and Final Report,

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229 which) ~~that was~~) were adopted as ~~((the policy of the))~~ County policy by ~~((m))~~ Motion
230 15372. The overarching goal of the Five-~~((+))~~Year Action Plan is to "strive to eliminate
231 cost burden for households earning 80 percent Area Median Income and below, with a
232 priority for serving households at or below 50 percent Area Median Income." ~~((The~~
233 ~~Action Plan contains seven goals to accomplish the overall goal:~~

- 234 1. ~~Create and support an ongoing structure for regional collaboration;~~
- 235 2. ~~Increase construction and preservation of affordable homes for households earning~~
236 ~~less than 50 percent area median income;~~
- 237 3. ~~Prioritize affordability accessible within a half-mile walkshed of existing and planned~~
238 ~~frequent transit service, with a particular priority for high-capacity transit stations;~~
- 239 4. ~~Preserve access to affordable homes for renters by supporting tenant protections to~~
240 ~~increase housing stability and reduce risk of homelessness;~~
- 241 5. ~~Protect existing communities of color and low-income communities from~~
242 ~~displacement in gentrifying communities;~~
- 243 6. ~~Promote greater housing growth and diversity to achieve a variety of housing types~~
244 ~~at a range of affordability and improve jobs/housing connections throughout King~~
245 ~~County; and~~
- 246 7. ~~Better engage local communities and other partners in addressing the urgent need~~
247 ~~for and benefits of affordable housing;~~

248
249 The King County Department of Community and Human Services is managing the
250 County's role in implementing the Five-Year Action Plan, in collaboration with other
251 internal parties such as the Metro Transit Department, the Facilities Management
252 Division, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, and the Department of Local
253 Services:))

254
255 ~~In 2019, ((F))~~ the King County Growth Management Planning Council created ~~((a new))~~
256 ~~the Affordable Housing Committee in 2019 ((to serve))~~ as a regional advisory body to
257 ~~((with the goal of recommending))~~ to recommend actions and ~~((assessing))~~ assess
258 progress towards ~~((implementation of))~~ the Five-~~((+))~~Year Action Plan. ~~The Affordable~~
259 ~~Housing Committee, comprised of representatives of King County, the City of Seattle,~~
260 ~~the Sound Cities Association, housing authorities, and others with expertise in~~
261 ~~affordable housing, including preventing displacement, also~~ functions as a point of
262 coordination and accountability for affordable housing efforts across King County. ~~((The~~
263 ~~Committee is comprised of representatives of King County, the City of Seattle, Sound~~
264 ~~Cities Association, housing authorities, and others with expertise in affordable housing,~~
265 ~~including preventing displacement.))~~ King County provides staff support, data, and
266 ~~policy analysis, and other resources for the Committee.~~

267
268 ~~The 2021 Countywide Planning Policy update assigned additional responsibilities to the~~
269 ~~Affordable Housing Committee, including reviewing all jurisdictions' draft periodic~~
270 ~~comprehensive plan updates for alignment with the King County Countywide Planning~~
271 ~~Policies Housing Chapter goals and policies prior to plan adoption; providing a hub to~~
272 ~~share best practices for increasing affordable housing supply; and monitor progress~~
273 ~~towards planning for and accommodating housing needs, and making~~
274 ~~recommendations to the Growth Management Planning Council on potential actions a~~
275 ~~jurisdiction could take to address shortfalls in meeting housing needs. King County will~~
276 ~~lead the data collection and reporting process with cities.~~

277
278 ~~The Countywide Planning Policies also require regional collaboration in meeting~~
279 ~~countywide housing growth targets and affordable housing needs and developing~~
280 ~~programs to provide affordable housing. The following policies require King County to~~
281 ~~collaborate with multiple partners, such as including cities, regional and subregional~~

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282 organizations such as the Puget Sound Regional Council and Growth Management
283 Planning Council, interlocal groups such as ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing)
284 and SKHHP (South King Housing and Homelessness Partners), nonprofit organizations,
285 private sector developers, community-based organizations, and community members.
286

287 The Committee ~~((is responsible for recommending amendments to))~~ aided in the
288 development of the 2021 Countywide Planning Policies, including recommending
289 amendments to regional goals, metrics, and land use policies. ~~((The Committee
290 functions as a point of coordination and accountability for affordable housing efforts
291 across King County.))~~ ~~A major focus for the Committee will be to: review all King County
292 jurisdiction comprehensive plans, implementation plans, and updates for consistency
293 with the housing chapter of the Countywide Planning Policies; provide a hub to share
294 best practices for increasing affordable housing supply; and monitor data on progress
295 towards planning for and accommodating housing needs; and make recommendations
296 on potential actions to address shortfalls. The 2021 Countywide Planning Policy update
297 assigned additional responsibilities to the Affordable Housing Committee, including
298 review of all King County jurisdictions' draft periodic comprehensive plan updates for
299 alignment with the King County Countywide Planning Policies Housing Chapter goals
300 and policies prior to plan adoption; provide a hub to share best practices for increasing
301 affordable housing supply; monitor progress towards planning for and accommodating
302 housing needs; and make recommendations to the Growth Management Planning
303 Council on potential actions a jurisdiction could take to address shortfalls in meeting
304 housing needs. King County will lead the data collection and reporting process with
305 cities.~~
306

~~((H-110))~~ **H-103** King County shall work with regional bodies, including the Puget
307 Sound Regional Council and the Growth Management Planning
308 Council, or their successors, and the private and non((-)profit sectors to
309 support development of an adequate supply of housing commensurate
310 with job growth within the county ~~((and its cities))~~. To attain this goal,
311 King County shall work with such regional partners to:
312 a. Support job and household growth targets, housing needs for
313 people of all incomes, and policies established in the Countywide
314 Planning Policies; and
315 b. ~~((Establish performance measures to gauge how jurisdictions are~~
316 ~~accommodating growth and housing needs;~~
317 c. ~~Participate in buildable lands inventories, market analyses and~~
318 ~~other studies to evaluate if sufficient land capacity is available for~~
319 ~~residential development; and~~
320 d.)) Work with cities to ensure additional actions are taken throughout
321 the county to accommodate and promote residential development
322 when job growth causes great demand for housing and severe
323 shortages in the availability of housing for new workers in the
324 county.
325
326
327

~~H-104~~ **H-104** King County shall collaborate with the Puget Sound Regional Council
328 and subregional organizations to advance equitable development and
329 the implementation and monitoring of countywide affordable housing
330 goals, policies, and programs.
331
332

~~H-105~~ **H-105** King County shall participate in regional efforts to:
333 a. Conduct a housing-focused review of and provide comments on a
334 jurisdiction's draft periodic comprehensive plan update for
335 alignment with the King County Countywide Planning Policies
336 Housing Chapter goals; and
337 b. Report and monitor progress towards meeting countywide and
338 jurisdictional housing growth targets and housing needs and
339

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- 340 eliminating disparities in access to housing and neighborhood
341 choice.
342
343 **H-106** ~~King County shall work provide through the Growth Management~~
344 ~~Planning Council, or its designee, to:~~
345 ~~a. Conduct a housing-focused review of and provide comments on all~~
346 ~~King County jurisdictions' draft periodic comprehensive plan updates~~
347 ~~for alignment with the King County Countywide Planning Policies~~
348 ~~Housing Chapter goals and policies prior to plan adoption;~~
349 ~~b. Monitor progress towards meeting countywide and jurisdictional~~
350 ~~housing growth targets, housing needs, and eliminating disparities in~~
351 ~~access to housing and neighborhood choice;~~
352 ~~c. Provide the necessary, ongoing information to jurisdictions on their~~
353 ~~progress toward planning for and accommodating their housing needs~~
354 ~~using public-facing tools; and~~
355 ~~d. Review monitoring and reporting data collected through annual~~
356 ~~reporting and other local data and analysis five years after adoption of~~
357 ~~a periodic update to a comprehensive plan, identify significant~~
358 ~~shortfalls in planning for and accommodating housing needs, provide~~
359 ~~findings that describe the nature of the shortfalls, and make~~
360 ~~recommendations that jurisdictions take action to address shortfalls~~
361 ~~consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies.~~
362
363 ~~((H-101) King County shall initiate and actively participate in regional solutions~~
364 ~~to address critical affordable housing needs in unincorporated King~~
365 ~~County and throughout the region.))~~
366
367 **H-107** ~~King County shall equitably engage ((J))jurisdictions)) cities,~~
368 ~~community members, community-based organizations, the private~~
369 ~~sector, people with lived experience of housing instability, and housing~~
370 ~~representatives ((should be invited)) to identify and implement~~
371 ~~solutions to further housing stability, accessibility access, and choice,~~
372 ~~and affordability goals established in the Countywide Planning~~
373 ~~Policies, such as adopting tenant protections, creating mandatory and~~
374 ~~incentive housing programs, and middle housing regulations.~~
375
376 **H-108** ~~King County shall engage historically underrepresented populations in~~
377 ~~the implementation and monitoring of countywide affordable housing~~
378 ~~goals, policies, and programs.~~
379
380 ~~((H-101a) King County should participate in regional efforts related to tenant~~
381 ~~protections throughout the region.))~~
382
383
384 ~~((H-103) Through subarea and regional planning with jurisdictions and partners~~
385 ~~in the Puget Sound region, mandatory and incentive programs and~~
386 ~~funding initiatives for affordable housing, King County shall serve as a~~
387 ~~regional convener and local administrator in the unincorporated areas~~
388 ~~to plan for housing to meet the needs of all economic segments of the~~
389 ~~population. With respect to affordable housing, King County shall~~
390 ~~address the countywide need for housing affordable to very-low, low~~
391 ~~and moderate-income households pursuant to the countywide targets~~
392 ~~established in the most recently adopted Countywide Planning~~
393 ~~Policies.))~~
394

395 ~~((D.))Regional Affordable Housing Funding,~~
396 ~~Resources, and Programs))~~

397 C. Funding for Affordable Housing

398 ((The King County Consortium is a partnership that represents unincorporated areas
399 and most cities outside of Seattle in obtaining, administering and distributing federal,
400 state and local funds to address housing, homelessness and community development
401 needs. The King County Consortium prepares a five-year strategic plan, the
402 Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan, that outlines the needs,
403 resources available and housing and community development goals to be achieved.
404 An Annual Action Plan details specific planned affordable housing and community
405 development project projects.
406

407 Over the past ten years, King County has faced considerable funding challenges for
408 developing affordable housing because of cutbacks in levels of state and federal
409 housing funds along with local budget issues that have impacted housing and
410 community/economic development funds.)) Housing provided by private development
411 accounts for most new units in the county. However, the private market alone cannot
412 provide affordable housing for all residents. As reported in the Housing Needs
413 Assessment (Appendix B), nearly one-third of households in King County (31.5 percent)
414 and unincorporated King County (28.5 percent) are cost burdened,¹² and Black,
415 Indigenous, and other People of Color households are disproportionately cost
416 burdened.^{13,14} More deeply affordable units are needed in King County to reduce
417 racially disparate housing outcomes and meet King County's housing goals, have
418 become increasingly expensive in the housing market. The King Countywide net new
419 housing need is 308,677 between 2019-2044, per the Countywide Planning Policies.
420 Urban unincorporated King County needs 5,412 net new permanent housing units by
421 2044. Section XII: Existing Strategies Gap Analysis in the Housing Needs Assessment
422 reviews the current funding sources for affordable housing, uses of those funds, and the
423 current cost estimate to develop an affordable housing unit. In 2023 dollars, the cost of
424 an affordable unit is estimated to be \$475,404 per unit. The Housing Funding Gap
425 Analysis section of the Housing Needs Assessment Affordable identifies a funding gap
426 of approximately \$450,936,000 to meet the housing needs of unincorporated King
427 County households with incomes at or below 80 percent area median income over the
428 planning period. This underscores the significant gap between the local, state, and
429 federal resources available for affordable housing and the number of households who
430 need this housing
431

432 As of 2023, the development and preservation of affordable housing has become
433 increasingly and prohibitively expensive. In 2023 dollars, the cost of an affordable unit
434 is estimated to be \$475,404 per unit. The Housing Funding Gap Analysis section of the
435 Housing Needs Assessment identifies a funding gap of approximately \$450 million to
436 meet the housing needs of unincorporated King County households at or below 80
437 percent of area median income through 2044. The Countywide Planning Policies call for
438 prioritizing housing affordable to households with less than or equal to 30 percent of
439 area median income. Addressing the needs of the lowest-income households will cause

¹²United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2021). Cost Burden, Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy 2014-2018.

¹³United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Cost Burden and Severe Cost Burden by Race/Ethnicity, Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy 2014-2018.

¹⁴Five year American Community Survey 2016-2020.

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~~a chain reaction, freeing up more moderately priced housing units that are more affordable for households at higher income thresholds.~~

~~Meeting the County's housing needs and goals will require significant incentives, subsidies, and funding, as the private market cannot produce enough affordable housing without public intervention. King County will continue to pursue new funding sources to fund affordable housing development and operations. The policies in this section call for identifying existing and developing new funding sources, as well as establishing funding priorities.~~

~~((King County has been pro-active in working with local and national partners to seek out and advocate for new funding sources on the local and state levels, and to ((re-establish or)) expand federal funding levels.~~

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~~Despite the ((decreases in some)) continuing decline in state and federal resources, King County and its partners have been successful in securing new housing resources((,)) and continue to be able to fund the development and preservation of affordable housing. ((As a result, residents of King County continue to have affordable housing choices and housing stability programs.)) Local housing funds have also leveraged significant private and non-profit investment as well as other public funding resources. King County will continue to pursue new funding sources to fund affordable housing development and operations. The following policies describe goals for developing additional funding sources and establishing funding priorities:~~

~~**H-152)) H-109 ((King County shall give priority in its affordable housing subsidy programs to projects that serve individuals and households at or below 80% of area median income, and/or that provide older adults, people with behavioral health, cognitive, physical or developmental disabilities, people who are experiencing homelessness and people who are at risk of homelessness and/or displacement.)) King County shall prioritize funding in its affordable housing programs and projects that:**~~

- ~~**a. Provide low-barrier housing designed to meet the needs of people experiencing homeless or at risk of homelessness;**~~
- ~~**b. Provide accessible housing to persons with behavioral health, cognitive, physical, or developmental disabilities ;**~~
- ~~**c. Provide permanent supportive housing for households at or below 30 percent of area median income;**~~
- ~~**d. Create homeownership opportunities for households with incomes at or below 80 percent of area median income to build generational wealth and promote housing stability;**~~
- ~~**e.d. Create rental housing for households with incomes at or below 30 percent of area median income and for households at or below 80 percent of area median income to meet a range of housing needs;**~~
- ~~**f.e. Are located near high-capacity or frequent transit to give-increase residents' access to job opportunities and services;**~~
- ~~**g.f. Are in areas with communities at risk of displacement and have a shortage of affordable housing;**~~
- ~~**h.g. Reflect an equitable regional distribution of funding; and/or**~~
- ~~**i.h. Are inclusive community-driven projects; developed and stewarded by and in collaboration with historically underserved communities facing displacement pressures and disparate health and economic outcomes;or**~~
- ~~**j. Reduce the time and cost of achieving the County's affordable housing goals, which may include leveraging additional public and private loans.**~~

~~**((H-148)) H-110 King County shall work with community members, cities, the private sector, and ((community representatives)) service providers to establish new, countywide funding sources for affordable housing**~~

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development, acquisition, rehabilitation, preservation, and ((related services)) operating costs~~ff~~,~~((such that cities and King County contribute on an equitable basis))~~ **focused on households at or below 30 percent of area median income.**

~~((H-149))~~ **H-111** King County shall work with other jurisdictions, housing developers, and service providers throughout the state to urge federal and state governments to expand both capital and operating funding for ~~((low-income))~~ housing **at or below 120 percent of area median income, including ((low-income housing for older adults, people who are experiencing homelessness, and people with behavioral health, cognitive, physical, and developmental disabilities)) for persons with special housing needs.**

~~((H-150))~~ King County should encourage and support efforts by non-profit housing developers, housing agencies, and service providers to develop long-term nongovernmental funding sources, such as planned giving, endowments, and related economic development ventures.

~~H-151~~ King County shall seek opportunities to fund programs and projects ~~((where county funds are matched by additional public and private loans and investments, and/or contributions in order to increase the amount of financing available for affordable housing))~~ **in a manner that reduces the time and cost of achieving affordable housing goals, which may include leveraging additional public and private loans or sole-funded projects.**

~~H-152a~~ King County shall prioritize funding for community and economic development projects that:

- ~~a.~~ **Benefit households at or below 80 percent area median income;**
- ~~b.~~ **Create equitable opportunities for economic prosperity, good health, safety, and connection to community;**
- ~~c.~~ **Reflect an equitable regional distribution of funding; and**
- ~~d.~~ **Meet the needs of historically underserved communities facing economic pressures and disparate health and economic outcomes.**

~~((H-153))~~ King County shall encourage the inclusion of smoke-free housing policies in projects funded through its affordable housing subsidy programs, in a manner that limits the creation of new barriers to housing.

~~H-154~~ King County shall work with partners and stakeholders to encourage improvement in healthy housing elements in existing affordable housing sustainability standards, with emphasis on healthy housing elements that reduce problems such as asthma, falls, gun-related injury and violence, and unintentional poisoning.

~~H-155~~ King County shall give particular consideration in its affordable housing and community development investments to projects that provide housing and community development solutions in the areas of the county with the most disparate outcomes in health, economic prosperity and housing conditions, and where residents may be at high risk of displacement. King County shall work to coordinate planning and community development investments to support such communities as they experience changes in their demographics, built environment, and real estate markets.

~~H-156~~ King County shall give particular consideration in its affordable housing subsidy programs to projects in areas where there is a severe shortage

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of affordable housing, and where there is access to job opportunities, a healthy community and active transportation:

~~H-157) H-112 King County ((should expand its)) shall prioritize the use of surplus ((c))County-owned property ((and air rights over county owned property)) for affordable housing for households at or below 80 percent area median income, especially in the urban growth area where it could aid a jurisdiction in meeting its housing targets, and for crisis care centers and community development((and its possible use for other public benefits, such as human services((, and)). King County should consider conveyance of properties to public or non((:))profit housing developers and agencies at below-market cost ((for the purpose of building or providing affordable housing. Surplus county property shall)) to be prioritized for housing development that will be consistent with King County adopted plans. This policy shall be carried out consistent with King County Charter Section 230.10.10 and other applicable laws, regulations, and contract restrictions, such as grant funding requirements)).~~

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~~((H-109)) H-113 King County should develop new partnerships with public and private lending institutions to find solutions that reduce ((housing financing)) homeownership costs for ((both builders and consumers)) residents.~~

~~H-114 King County should pursue creative methods within existing programs, funding sources, and state enabling legislation for property tax relief to provide direct assistance to builders and leverage funds for the construction of affordable housing.~~

~~((H-158)) H-115 King County should support the efforts of non((-))profit developers ((and)), housing agencies, and community-based organizations ((to increase the supply of housing for extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-income households((:)) through ((affordable housing planning, policy and advocacy activities ((and the provision of)) technical assistance)) as well as and funding for capacity-building and pre-development work.~~

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~~((H-159) King County should support programs and projects that provide apprenticeship and employment training in the building trades through affordable housing development. King County should explore ways to partner with non-profit housing developers in offering pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, and employment training opportunities.))~~

~~((H-160) ((When awarding subsidies for affordable housing developments to non-profit developers and housing agencies,)) King County ((may give additional weight to)) should encourage funding for affordable housing and community development projects that incorporate and implement healthy housing, sustainable housing, and ((sustainable development elements and)) universal design features.~~

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~~((H-164) For any subsidized housing project that preserves existing structures, King County shall ensure that usable structures are rehabilitated to an appropriate level of safety and habitability.~~

~~H-165 King County shall strive to adopt funding program policies that encourage the integration of publicly subsidized housing within mixed-income projects, and within all communities. Such funding policies shall support a fair distribution of publicly subsidized housing throughout the county and provide King County and local jurisdictions mutual support in meeting affordable housing needs. King County~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18627, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

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~~shall not apply mandatory dispersion requirements that limit where publicly subsidized housing may be located:~~

~~H-165a)) H-116 ((Through its funding programs;)) King County ~~((shall)) should~~ encourage developers and owners of publicly ~~((subsidized)) funded~~ housing units to ~~((undertake activities to establish and maintain positive relationships with neighbors)) be active community members and to market vacant units to the local area in addition to conducting general marketing outreach.~~~~

~~((H-166)) H-117 King County shall administer standards for publicly ~~((subsidized)) funded~~ housing that ~~((will)):~~~~

- ~~a. Increase~~s the ability of ~~((people)) persons~~ with physical disabilities to have physical access to housing and mobility within housing regardless of their residency status;
- ~~b. Allow~~s household members to age in place through the inclusion of universal design principles that make housing units more accessible and usable by all persons;
- ~~c. Support~~s the ability of ~~((older adults and people with behavioral health, physical, cognitive, and developmental disabilities)) persons with special housing needs~~ to find housing opportunities that allow them to live as independently as possible in the housing and community of their choice; and
- ~~d. Increase~~s the ability of people to have access to smoke-free housing, while not creating barriers to housing.

~~((H-167) King County should use opportunity mapping:~~

- ~~a. To support the siting of community facilities and assisted publicly subsidized affordable housing in locations where low- and moderate-income residents and persons with behavioral health, physical, cognitive and developmental disabilities have convenient access to transportation; employment opportunities; amenities, such as parks, trails, libraries and other public facilities; and services, such as grocery stores; and~~
- ~~b. To promote fair housing and diverse communities that are inclusive of residents with a range of abilities, ages, races, incomes and other diverse characteristics of the population of King County.))~~

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D. Housing Supply and Housing for those with the Greatest Needs

To meet the County's goal of an equitable future for all, more housing of different types and price levels is needed in locations with access to jobs, transit, and services. The policies in this section encourage more multiunit and mixed-income housing choices near transit, developing middle housing to provide greater housing choice and increased affordability, and reducing the costs to build housing.

~~((As the Countywide Planning Policies note,)) The Housing Needs Assessment found that residents in King County ~~((are facing)) face~~ an unmet need for housing that is affordable to households ~~((earning)) with incomes~~ less than 80 percent of area median income, ~~with the highest need for households with incomes less and than 50 percent and 30 percent of area median income.~~¹⁵ Recent data indicate that ~~((295,000)) 274,145~~ households in King County spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing.¹⁶~~

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¹⁵United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2021). Cost Burden and Severe Cost Burden by Income. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy 2014-2018. ~~((Briefing 2015-B0143, based on data from 2015-2019 Consolidated Housing and Community~~

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671 ~~While the number of cost-burdened households has declined slightly since the 2016~~
672 ~~Comprehensive Plan update, this does not indicate housing affordability has improved.~~
673 ~~Rising housing costs often lead cost-burdened households to move out of King County~~
674 ~~to find more affordable housing, which can cause the overall number of cost-burdened~~
675 ~~households to decline.~~ The lack of affordable housing is felt in every community in the
676 county. ~~((A regional problem requires a regional approach. As such,))~~ King County and
677 the jurisdictions within the county have a shared responsibility to increase the supply of
678 housing affordable to these households.

679
680 Based on the identified need for affordable housing for households who are spending
681 more than 30 percent of their income on housing, Countywide Planning Policy H-1 ~~((has~~
682 ~~established estimates of the))~~ ~~establishes~~ countywide ~~and jurisdictional housing needs~~
683 ~~for ((housing affordable to households with moderate, low and))~~ ~~extremely low-, very((-))~~
684 ~~low-, low-, and moderate-income((s)) households, as well as emergency housing,~~
685 ~~emergency shelters, and permanent supportive housing.~~ ~~((The Countywide Planning~~
686 ~~Policies require King County and the jurisdictions located within King County to~~
687 ~~((identify barriers to housing affordability and implement strategies to overcome them,))~~
688 ~~to plan for and accommodate each jurisdiction's housing need.~~ The Countywide
689 Planning Policies also require regional collaboration in meeting countywide housing
690 growth targets and ~~((affordable))~~ housing needs, as well as in developing ~~((resources~~
691 ~~and))~~ programs to provide ~~for affordable housing.))~~ ~~The following policies require King~~
692 ~~County to collaborate with multiple partners, such as those from local jurisdictions,~~
693 ~~nonprofit organizations, private sector developers, community-based organizations, and~~
694 ~~employers. Additionally, the production gap analysis in the Housing Need Assessment~~
695 ~~identified a shortfall of homeownership opportunities affordable to households with~~
696 ~~incomes at or below 120 percent of area median income. King County limits~~
697 ~~homeownership assistance to households with incomes at or below 80 percent of area~~
698 ~~median income; however, these policies acknowledge the need for homeownership~~
699 ~~assistance for homebuyers with incomes near the median range as well.~~

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700
701 ~~**H-118** King County should encourage a mix of housing types, sizes, tenure, and~~
702 ~~affordability levels to meet the needs of people who work in and desire to~~
703 ~~live in King County, especially near countywide and local centers.~~

704
705 ~~**H-119** King County should encourage the development of housing suitable for~~
706 ~~families with children, larger households, and multigenerational living that~~
707 ~~is affordable for households with a broad range of incomes.~~

708
709 ~~**((H-114)) H-120** King County should ~~((encourage development of ((residential~~
710 ~~communities that achieve lower prices and rents through))~~ ~~pursue~~
711 ~~strategies and regulations that increase affordable housing and~~
712 ~~sustainable housing. These developments should utilize smaller-scale~~
713 ~~units and ((clustered)) and higher density housing that shares common~~
714 ~~spaces, open spaces, and community facilities to increase the housing~~
715 ~~supply affordable to all incomes.~~~~

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717 ~~**((H-136)) H-121** King County should provide opportunities within unincorporated~~
718 ~~urban ((growth)) areas and in Rural Towns with sewer service for the~~
719 ~~development, rehabilitation, and preservation of rental residential~~
720 ~~buildings with ((that have)) shared facilities ~~((, such as single-room~~
721 ~~occupancy buildings, boarding homes, micro-units buildings and~~
722 ~~clustered micro-homes to provide opportunities for lower rent housing~~
723 ~~options and higher density ownership options including~~~~

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~~condominiums, co-operative mutual housing, cottage housing,)) and ((other forms of clustered)) higher density ownership housing.~~

~~H-122 King County should support the efforts of nonprofit developers, housing agencies, and community-based organizations to preserve or develop the supply of housing for households at or below 30 percent of area median income.~~

~~H-123 King County shall prioritize community-driven development of permanently affordable homeownership and rental projects led by community-based organizations and community land trusts to increase supply and improve housing stability.~~

~~H-124 King County should work with the state and other partners to remove barriers to providing farmworker housing and explore innovative approaches to meeting farmworker housing needs.~~

~~((H-111)) H-125 King County should work with local employers to promote the development of affordable ((employer-assisted)) workforce housing opportunities located ((within commuting distance of)) near ((the)) employment sites,))~~

~~H-126 King County should encourage the development and preservation of affordable family-sized and family-friendly housing to increase the supply of housing suitable and affordable for families with children, recognizing that family housing requires greater subsidies due to larger household size, the need for play areas for children, and separation of parking and access roads from play areas.~~

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1. Expand Housing Options and Increased Affordability Near Transit

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~~((B. Strengthen Housing Linkages with Transportation))~~

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~~In accordance with the Countywide Planning Policies, VISION ((2040)), and federal priorities, King County intends to)) The policies in this subsection strengthen the linkage of affordable housing to jobs and public transportation through transit-oriented development and the preservation and development of affordable housing near transit stations and along transit corridors ((even though few of these exist in unincorporated areas)). Strengthening linkages between housing and public transportation is beneficial to the community, economy, and environment. As housing density increases to meet the needs of the current and growing population, supportive infrastructure and services, such as public transit, needs to be utilized and co-adapted. The Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2021-2031 directs King County to strengthen this connection and support equitable transit-oriented communities. As the population of the Puget Sound region grows, King County is expected to remain the major employment center of the region. As job growth occurs, the workers for these jobs must be accommodated with adequate opportunities for housing with and access to public transportation options.~~

~~((The workforce of)) King County includes households ((earning)) with a wide variety of incomes, from individuals earning minimum wage at a less than full-time job to dual- or triple-income households earning well above the ((C)) county's median income. If a balance of job growth, improved public transportation, and affordable housing availability is not achieved, workers at the lower end of the income scale face particular pressures when forced to live longer distances away from their jobs. People outside the workforce also need access to transit and other services. This increases pressures on~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

778 ~~transportation systems, contributes to higher energy use and greenhouse gas~~
779 ~~emissions, and reduces the time workers have for family, self-care, recreation, volunteer~~
780 ~~work, or continuing education.~~

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782 ~~H-121)) H-127 King County shall support affordable and mixed-income housing~~
783 ~~development in transit-oriented locations that is compatible with~~
784 ~~surrounding uses by:~~

785 a. ~~Providing information and a process for accessing potential~~
786 ~~development sites in transit-oriented locations where King County~~
787 ~~has ownership or access to potential sites; and~~

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788 b. ~~Promoting land use patterns that ((cohesively)) connect~~
789 ~~((affordable and mixed-income)) housing with active transportation~~
790 ~~choices((; and~~

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791 c. ~~Developing public financing techniques that will provide an~~
792 ~~advantage for projects that will create and/or preserve affordable~~
793 ~~and mixed-income housing within transit-oriented communities~~
794 ~~and neighborhoods that promote health, well-being and~~
795 ~~opportunity, and or within a neighborhood plan for revitalization)).~~

797 ~~((H-122)) H-128 King County shall support ((transit-oriented)) development ((at))~~
798 ~~near high-capacity or frequent transit ((supportive)) that supports~~
799 ~~density and scale)) that preserves and expands affordable, sustainable,~~
800 ~~and mixed-income housing opportunities ((at locations near frequent~~
801 ~~and high-capacity transit service)); King County shall engage in this~~
802 ~~work through a variety of strategies, including)) by:~~

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803 a. ~~Enabling development of affordable housing on suitable Metro-~~
804 ~~owned property;~~

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805 b. ~~Using Metro's authority and influence as a transit provider; and~~
806 ~~((the engagement of))~~

807 c. ~~Engaging with funding partners, transit partners, jurisdictions,~~
808 ~~private for-profit and non((-)profit development entities, communities~~
809 ~~at risk of displacement, and other transit-oriented development~~
810 ~~partners.~~

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812 ~~((H-123) King County ((will)) shall evaluate and seek opportunities for equitable~~
813 ~~and sustainable transit-oriented development at major transit centers~~
814 ~~and hubs when investments are likely to produce increased ridership,~~
815 ~~community benefits and affordable housing opportunities.~~

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817 ~~H-124)) H-129 King County shall work with partners to ((reduce)) mitigate and~~
818 ~~prevent displacement of extremely low; ((very((-)) low; low; ((to)) and~~
819 ~~moderate-income)) households earning up to 120 percent of area~~
820 ~~median income, including from transit oriented-locations, ((to the~~
821 ~~extent possible;)) and shall strive to align affordable housing~~
822 ~~investments and transit investments ((in order)) to ((increase)) support~~
823 ~~the quality of life of historically ((disinvested)) underinvested~~
824 ~~communities ((as measured by the Determinants of Equity)).~~

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825 2. Housing Tools and Processes

826
827 With the projected population growth and increased number of family and senior
828 households with limited income, combined with the short supply of affordable housing
829 available today, new development must include affordable housing and a variety of
830 housing types to meet the housing need and reduce racial disparities in housing
831 outcomes.

832
833 Meeting King County's housing needs means adopting appropriate land use
834 regulations to require and incentivize the development, rehabilitation, and preservation

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835 of a variety of affordable housing, such as higher-density single detached homes,
836 duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhouses, apartments, manufactured housing,
837 cottage housing, accessory dwelling units, and mixed-use developments. In addition, a
838 clear and consistently applied set of land use tools and processes will increase King
839 County's housing supply. Shorter and more consistent permit processing can save
840 applicants time and money, which means housing projects can be completed sooner
841 and at less cost. Streamlined processes can also improve community involvement
842 because it is easier to understand a project's review process.

843
844 ((H-129)) H-130 King County shall continue to improve development standards,
845 **planning tools, and policies** to allow higher densities and flexibility of
846 housing types in all urban residential zones ((, in order)) to:
847 a. ~~increase housing supply, types, tenure, choice, access, and stability, as~~
848 ~~well as in a manner that also enriches the area's urban form and~~
849 ~~character ((best accommodate the environmental conditions on the site~~
850 ~~and the surrounding neighborhood when planning housing~~
851 ~~developments))((.~~

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852 ~~); and~~
853 ~~b. ((H-130)) King County shall explore zoning policies and provisions~~
854 ~~that increase housing density and)) increase affordable housing~~
855 ~~opportunities within unincorporated urban ((growth)) areas near transit~~
856 ~~and near commercial areas.~~

857
858
859
860 H-126)) H-131 King County shall provide opportunities for attached and detached
861 accessory dwelling units **and middle housing** in urban residential areas
862 ((and shall encourage all jurisdictions within King County to adopt
863 provisions to allow accessory dwelling units in their communities)) **and**
864 **Rural Towns** to increase housing supply affordable to all incomes.
865

866 ((H-133)) H-132 King County shall ((encourage)) **incentivize** the development of
867 new housing models that are healthy and affordable by providing
868 opportunities ((for new models)) within unincorporated urban
869 ((growth)) areas **and Rural Towns** and near commercial areas. King
870 County shall ((work to)) allow innovative housing projects to move
871 forward, including affordable housing demonstration projects,
872 **community-driven development projects**, affordable owner built
873 housing, land trusts and cooperative ownership structures for rental
874 and ownership housing, co-housing, and other innovative
875 developments.
876

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877 ((H-127)) H-133 King County shall adopt appropriate land use regulations to
878 require and ((encourage)) **incentivize** development, rehabilitation, and
879 preservation of **sustainable housing affordable to ((extremely low,**
880 ~~very ((+)) low, ((to)) low, and moderate income ((housing)) households~~
881 ~~earning up to 120 percent of area median income.~~

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882
883 ((H-128)) King County should pursue land use policies and regulations that result
884 in lower development costs without loss of adequate public review,
885 environmental quality or public safety and do not reduce design
886 quality, inhibit infrastructure financing strategies, or increase
887 maintenance costs for public facilities.
888

889 H-144)) H-134 King County ((will)) **shall** ensure that mandatory and ((for))
890 incentivized affordable housing units created through its land use
891 policies and regulations are high quality, safe, and integrated on-site
892 with market rate housing.
893

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~~((H-134)) H-135 King County shall seek to minimize the time necessary to process ((development)) permits for developments ((in unincorporated King County)) that will include affordable housing ((and address environmental goals and community and aesthetic concerns)). King County ((should continue to)) shall expedite plan and permitting reviews for affordable housing projects in coordination with mandatory, incentive, or subsidy programs, including tax abatements, exemptions, and credits.~~

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~~((H-135)) H-136 King County shall, to the maximum extent allowed by law, exempt payment of impact fees in unincorporated areas for developments that will include affordable rental or ownership housing.~~

~~((H-107)) H-137 King County ((should)) shall encourage regional land use and investment strategies to stimulate ((mixed use and)) mixed-income developments ((as a way)) to racially and economically integrate neighborhoods, ((and)) increase housing and transportation choices throughout King County, and improve housing stability for people of all incomes.~~

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~~H-138 King County shall support integrated multi-generational communities through increased housing options, incentives, and zoning flexibility.~~

~~H-139 King County shall encourage the development of single detached residences through the splitting of a single residential lot into two residential lots.~~

~~H-140 King County shall continue to seek opportunities to fund anti-displacement tools and programs.~~

E. Expanded Housing and Neighborhood Choice for All Residents

~~((3. Fair)) Equitable Housing Access and Undoing Racially Disparate Housing Policies~~

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An important element of this Comprehensive Plan is to address equal access to housing and freedom from discrimination in housing for all residents of King County. A number of the policies in this Plan address fair housing through support and encouragement of both the successful integration of housing for low to moderate-income households into all communities and, in particular, into healthy communities with access to jobs, transportation, good schools and economic opportunities, and the successful improvement of community conditions for those communities that are currently low on the opportunity scale:

Opportunity is a situation or condition that places individuals in a position to be more likely to excel or succeed. Opportunity mapping assesses the conditions present in neighborhoods across a region, by looking at indicators of opportunity in education, economy, transportation, housing, environment, and health, and ranks communities on a scale from low to high opportunity. High opportunity areas have the best conditions for the success of the residents living there. Opportunity mapping can also be useful in helping to identify transition areas where existing residents may be at risk for displacement. Analysis of opportunity mapping can provide valuable information about where more affordable housing needs to be located, and what needs to be remedied in areas that have very limited opportunities:

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

949 Local, state and federal fair housing laws, including the King County Fair Housing
950 Ordinance, have set the stage for policies in this Plan that favor community-based,
951 integrated housing and independent living, rather than institutional settings, for older
952 adults and persons with behavioral, cognitive, physical and developmental disabilities.
953 Service-enriched housing is also best integrated into community-based settings in
954 apartments or single-family homes rehabilitated to meet the needs of the residents.))

955
956 Equitable access to housing plays a critical role in promoting social justice and reducing
957 racial disparities in King County. ~~Through the Comprehensive Plan, King County~~
958 ~~supports policies that promote equitable access to housing for all and~~ ~~address and seek~~
959 ~~to undo/repair~~ ~~racially disparate housing outcomes.~~ This includes policies that address
960 housing discrimination, protect renters, promote homeownership, expand access to
961 affordable housing, and encourage equitable development ~~through code changes.~~
962 King County partners with community organizations and other partners to work towards
963 meeting the needs of ~~intersectional populations, including~~ Black, Indigenous, and other
964 People of Color communities; ~~seniors and those with special housing needs; veterans,~~
965 ~~military servicemembers, and their respective families; people, persons~~ experiencing
966 homelessness; ~~people with disabilities; immigrants; refugees; LGBTQIA+~~
967 ~~peoplepersons; families with children; and survivors of domestic violence, gender-~~
968 ~~based violence, human trafficking, and commercial exploitation; and women.~~

969
970 The Racially Disparate Impact Analysis ~~section of in~~ the Housing Needs Assessment
971 ~~documents and examines details~~ the local history of racially exclusive and discriminatory
972 land use and housing ~~practices that lead to racially disparate housing outcomes for~~
973 ~~residents~~ in unincorporated King County. Historically, private property owners, lending
974 institutions, and federal, state, and local governments implemented strategies to restrict
975 access to housing, land, and neighborhoods to people based on their race, nation of
976 origin, and sometimes religion. These strategies perpetuated racial segregation and
977 wealth inequities throughout the country and in King County. Some of these policies
978 and practices known to have been enforced or practiced in unincorporated King County
979 include Indigenous land dispossession, the Alien Land Law, Japanese internment and
980 incarceration, ~~racially~~ restrictive covenants, and discriminatory lending practices that led
981 to disproportionate access to homeownership ~~(redlining).~~ ~~While federal, state, and local~~
982 ~~governments outlawed many of these overtly racist housing practices in the twentieth~~
983 ~~century, their legacy lives on through low-density zoning and large minimum lot~~
984 ~~requirements, lack of affordable housing investment in urban unincorporated areas, and~~
985 ~~lack of tenant protections.~~ King County's zoning code did not incentivize allowable
986 types of high- and middle-density housing types, which limits housing supply and
987 housing choice and leads to unaffordable housing prices that disproportionately impact
988 low-income communities, of which Black, Indigenous, and People of Color are most
989 ~~overly represented in.~~ ~~While some explicitly discriminatory laws have been overturned,~~
990 ~~their legacy and effects have remained, preventing Black, Indigenous, and other People~~
991 ~~of Color communities from sharing the recent prosperity of King County and the Puget~~
992 ~~Sound region. The policies in this section seek to identify and remediate inequitable~~
993 ~~policies, processes, or regulations and remove barriers to equity and inclusion for these~~
994 ~~communities.~~

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996 In January 2023, per Motion 16062, King County released an Equitable Development
997 Initiative Implementation Plan Phase I. Phase II of the plan was transmitted to King
998 County Council in 2024, and contains recommendations from community members for
999 funding options, metrics for monitoring displacement risk, strategies for preventing
1000 displacement, responsibilities of a permanent Equitable Development Initiative
1001 Advisory Board, and more. Through the Comprehensive Plan, King County furthers the
1002 Equitable Development Initiative framework vision to create an inclusive and equitable
1003 King County with resilient, thriving, and welcoming communities.

1004 1. Equitable Housing Access

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD

1005 ((H-118)) H-141 King County shall actively promote and affirmatively further fair
1006 housing in unincorporated King County through its housing programs,
1007 and shall ~~((work with all of))~~ participate in efforts with its partners to
1008 further fair housing, ~~((in its regional role promoting housing~~
1009 ~~affordability((;))~~ and housing and neighborhood choice, and provide
1010 access to opportunity for ((all)) communities~~((, especially those))~~ that
1011 ~~experience disproportionate rates of housing discrimination and~~
1012 ~~communities))~~ that bear the burdens ~~((from lack of investment and~~
1013 ~~access to opportunity((; and shall work with residents and stakeholders~~
1014 ~~to help them understand the rights protected by federal, state, and~~
1015 ~~local fair housing laws and shall help to promote equitable housing~~
1016 ~~practices for protected classes through fair housing education and~~
1017 ~~enforcement))~~ of systemic underinvestment and lack of access and
1018 opportunity.
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1020 ((H-146)) H-142 King County shall prohibit restrictive covenants or other land use,
1021 permitting, or property conditions that limit the ability of persons from
1022 protected classes (as defined in the King County Fair Housing
1023 Ordinance in King County Code Chapter 12.20) to live in residences of
1024 their choice.
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1026 ((H-119)) H-143 King County shall flexibly apply its zoning, rules, zoning, policies,
1027 practices, and services in its funding, incentive, or mandatory
1028 affordable housing programs~~((, when necessary))~~ to afford persons
1029 with disabilities equal opportunity to use or enjoy a dwelling or to
1030 create new affordable housing opportunities for persons with
1031 disabilities.
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1033 ((H-120)) H-144 King County should work with housing industry representatives to
1034 identify and remove barriers (such as real estate marketing, finance, or
1035 insurance practices) that restrict housing choices and opportunities for
1036 ~~((; extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-income people older~~
1037 ~~adults, people who are experiencing homelessness and people with~~
1038 ~~behavioral, physical, cognitive and developmental disabilities))~~
1039 households at or below 50 percent of area median income and persons
1040 with special housing needs.
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1042 ((H-147)) H-145 King County shall permit group living situations, including those
1043 where residents receive ~~((such))~~ supportive services, such as counseling,
1044 foster care, or medical supervision, within a single~~((-family house))~~
1045 detached homeresidence, houseplex, or apartment.
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1047 ((H-108)) H-146 King County shall ~~((work with other jurisdictions to))~~ encourage the
1048 use of universal design in the development of affordable housing~~((, family-~~
1049 ~~sized housing))~~ and market-rate housing to create units that are accessible
1050 to seniors people aged 62 years and older.
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1053 2. Repairing Harm and Promoting Equitable Outcomes in
1054 Communities Most Impacted by Racially Exclusive Land Use
1055 and Housing Practices

1056 H-147 King County shall take intentional actions that repair harms to Black,
1057 Indigenous, and other People of Color households from past and
1058 current racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing
1059 practices that result in racially disparate outcomes, such as
1060 development patterns, disparate homeownership rates, affordable

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- ~~housing divestment in lower-income communities, and infrastructure availability, such as through:

 - ~~a. Creating more opportunities for development of middle housing;~~
 - ~~b. Investing in rental assistance and eviction prevention programs to keep tenants housed;~~
 - ~~c. Implementing launching a community preference program to prevent displacement;~~
 - ~~d. Investing in equitable development projects to support community-driven priorities;~~
 - ~~e. Preserving manufactured mobile home communities and affordable housing to prevent displacement; and~~
 - ~~f. Expanding affordable housing homeownership programs to increase wealth building opportunities for low- and moderate-income households; and~~
 - ~~g. Supporting programs that mitigate and prevent displacement of extremely low-, very low-, and moderate-income households at or below 120 percent of area median income; and~~
 - ~~h. Supporting efforts by Washington State to fund down payment and closing costs assistance.~~~~
- H-148** King County shall promote equitable outcomes in communities most impacted by racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing practices, such as in North Highline and Skyway-West Hill, by supporting equitable access to resources, in partnership with impacted communities, equitable access to resources, such as through surplus properties, affordable housing financing, and capacity building for community-based organizations.
- H-149** King County shall support actions that increase and preserve access to affordable rental and ownership housing in communities at risk of displacement and advance housing stability for historically underrepresented populations who experience systemic racism or discrimination that:
 - ~~a. Increase and preserve access to affordable rental and ownership housing in communities at risk of displacement; and~~
 - ~~b. Advance housing stability.~~
- ~~((H-105a)) H-150 King County shall work with the Puget Sound Regional Council and subregional collaborations, and shall engage ((marginalized)) historically and currently underrepresented populations ((in the)) to advance community-driven development (, implementation, and ((evaluation)) monitoring of county((-))wide affordable housing goals, policies, and programs).~~
- H-151** King County shall support development of new affordable housing units that promote culturally relevant and multi-generational housing options, such as developments with two-, three-, and four-bedroom units through strategies such as prioritized funding, technical assistance, and flexible development regulations.
- H-152** King County shall support equitable development projects and investments in areas most directly impacted by structural racism and discrimination, in communities at a higher risk of displacement, that have low access to economic and health opportunities, or that are home to significant populations of communities experiencing disparities in life outcomes, through:
 - ~~a. Advancing home ownership opportunities as a means to economic mobility and opportunity for residents;~~
 - ~~b. Preventing displacement;~~

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- ~~c. Building upon and protecting local cultural assets that anchor communities;~~
- ~~d. Supporting organizational capacity building;~~
- ~~e. Promoting transportation mobility and connectivity; and~~
- ~~f. Enabling equitable access for all communities.~~

~~**H-153** King County shall take actions to prevent and mitigate residential and cultural displacement for unincorporated communities at risk of displacement to address racial disparities in housing and help protect cultural communities for Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color by supporting cultural institutions and community hubs and using community preference implementing programs for affordable housing that help people with a connection to the local community remain in or return to their community of choice.~~

~~**H-154** King County should implement anti-displacement measures prior to or concurrent with development capacity increases or capital investment.~~

- ~~**H-155** King County shall support policies and programs that minimize risks of displacement, such as:~~
- ~~a. Community preference and right to return policies;~~
 - ~~b. Property tax exemption programs;~~
 - ~~c. Priority hire programs;~~
 - ~~d. Mandatory and voluntary inclusionary housing programs;~~
 - ~~e. Tenant relocation assistance policies;~~
 - ~~f. Down payment assistance programs;~~
 - ~~g. Affordable rental housing policies;~~
 - ~~h. Community land trusts;~~
 - ~~i. Manufactured housing community preservation policies; and~~
 - ~~j. Redevelopment assistance programs.~~

~~**H-156** King County shall raise awareness of existing Property Tax Exemption programs offered by the Assessor's Office for eligible homeowners.~~

~~F. Housing Stability~~

~~((E.)) Support the Housing Stability of Households in King County))~~

~~The rising cost of housing threatens people's ability to remain in their communities. The housing market has experienced great highs and lows that have benefitted some, creating and exacerbating hardship and inequalities for others. There are substantial disparities in housing access between White and Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color households, underscoring the ongoing effects of systemic racism in housing. Housing stability creates a foundational structure for individuals and families that, including contributesing to every person's well-being and improvements to health, economic, and educational outcomes for communities. VISION, the Countywide Planning Policies, and the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force's Five Year Action Plan prioritize housing stability strategies.~~

~~These policies in this section support housing stability through the preservation of existing affordable units, increasing access to homeownership, assisting those with special housing needs to remain in their homes, and supporting tenant protections and eviction prevention programs. King County raises local resources for housing stability~~

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1173 ~~programs from the Best Starts for Kids Levy, the Crisis Cares Centers Levy, and the~~
1174 ~~Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy.~~

1175 1. Preservation of Existing Units

1176 ~~((H-103a)) King County will work collaboratively with jurisdictions and partners to~~
1177 ~~identify and meet affordable housing needs, including eliminating~~
1178 ~~barriers to housing. This effort should take the form of a regional~~
1179 ~~affordable housing plan that summarizes existing efforts and identifies~~
1180 ~~the roles and strategies of the county, jurisdictions and partners to~~
1181 ~~meet affordable housing needs.~~

1184 ~~H-104)) H-157~~ King County shall work with ~~((the multiple))~~ partners ~~((outlined in~~
1185 ~~this section to promote)) to support the preservation ((and expansion))~~
1186 ~~of:~~
1187 ~~a. ((a)) Affordable rental housing opportunities for households earning~~
1188 ~~up to 80((%)) percent of ((the King County)) area median~~
1189 ~~income((-)); and~~
1190 ~~b. Affordable ownership housing opportunities for households~~
1191 ~~earning up to 120 percent of the King County area median income.~~

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1192 ~~H-158~~ King County should prioritize ~~((P))~~ preservation ~~((is a particularly acute~~
1193 ~~need)) should be prioritized in communities at risk of displacement or~~
1194 ~~areas that may experience redevelopment due to proximity to high((-):~~
1195 ~~capacity or frequent transit ((and/or an area experiencing changing~~
1196 ~~market conditions)).~~

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1198 ~~((H-105)) King County shall work with the multiple partners outlined in this~~
1199 ~~section to promote the preservation and expansion of affordable~~
1200 ~~ownership housing opportunities for households earning up to 120%~~
1201 ~~of the King County median income. Preservation is a particularly acute~~
1202 ~~need in areas that may experience redevelopment due to proximity to~~
1203 ~~high capacity transit and/or an area experiencing changing market~~
1204 ~~conditions.~~

1206 ~~H-161)) H-159~~ King County ~~((should develop and expand))~~ shall explore develop
1207 ~~and expand~~ incentives and subsidy programs to preserve affordable
1208 ~~housing threatened by market forces and expiring federal subsidies.~~
1209 ~~Relocation assistance and replacement housing should be funded((-;~~
1210 ~~where feasible,)) to help low-income households)) when displacement~~
1211 ~~is unavoidable.~~

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1213 ~~((H-162)) H-160~~ King County should assist owners of rental properties serving
1214 ~~((low and moderate income residents)) households between 50 to 120~~
1215 ~~percent of area median income to acquire affordable financing for~~
1216 ~~building health and safety improvements in exchange for long((-)) term~~
1217 ~~agreements to maintain affordable rents.~~

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1218 ~~((H-163)) H-161~~ King County should coordinate preservation of existing affordable
1219 ~~housing with city and ((e)) County historic preservation programs and~~
1220 ~~incentives((-)) and should promote preservation and restoration of~~
1221 ~~significant historic features in the rehabilitation of existing buildings~~
1222 ~~and sites for housing.~~

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1223 ~~((H-117)) H-162~~ King County shall support ~~((partnership efforts and the application~~
1224 ~~of innovations in manufactured home production that may allow~~
1225 ~~mobile home parks to adapt and improve the quality of housing stock~~
1226 ~~and to increase the density of housing stock in order to preserve~~
1227 ~~housing affordability while accommodating the region's growth~~

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~~needs)) the preservation, and improve the quality and livability, of manufactured mobile home communities to prevent displacement in unincorporated King County and improve the quality of these units.~~

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2. Increase Access to Homeownership

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~~((H-173)) H-163 King County shall provide financial assistance for ((ownership)) housing rehabilitation to qualifying extremely low-, very low-, and ((low-income)) home((-)owners at or below 80 percent of area median income, including owners of ((mobile((-)manufactured)) homes residing in ((parks)) mobile home communities or on their own land through individual or cooperative ownership. ((King County should also consider support for community-based repair programs, such as tool banks or painting programs:))~~

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~~((H-174)) H-164 King County should work with local lenders and non((-)profit organizations providing home((-)ownership assistance to expand assistance for eligible income-qualified homebuyers, including homebuyer education and counseling, mortgage default and foreclosure counseling, culturally relevant low cost financing and assistance with down payments and closing costs, and alternative ownership housing models such as land trusts((-)) and co-housing((-; etc)).~~

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~~H-165 King County should advocate for revisions to state law that facilitate and support tools, such as condominium reforms, for advancing more homeownership opportunities.~~

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3. Tenant Protections, Eviction Prevention, and Homelessness

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~~((H-169) King County shall play a leadership role in implementing the All Home Strategic Plan to make homelessness rare, brief and one-time.~~

~~H-166) H-166 King County ((should)) shall support ((flexible)) and implement programs and ((emerging strategies)) policies that increase housing stability and ((that)) help to prevent and reduce homelessness, such as permanent supportive housing, emergency rental assistance, short-term rental assistance, diversion assistance, eviction prevention, and mortgage default and foreclosure counseling((-; and improvements to emergency services referral networks)), including coordinating with service providers contracting with King County to develop an efficient, coordinated intake system for families and individuals experiencing homelessness)).~~

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~~H-167 King County should support federal and state legislation that prohibits rental property owners from:~~

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a. contracting with companies that coordinate rental housing prices and housing supply information; and

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b. coordinating price, supply, and other rental housing information with other rental property owners.

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~~((2. Support Housing Models and Policies that Promote Healthy Communities, Housing Affordability and an End to Homelessness))~~ Promoting Healthy Communities

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~~((H-106) King County, in partnership with other jurisdictions, shall evaluate achievement of countywide and local goals for housing for all economic sectors of the population by analyzing housing indicators, adopted land use regulations, actions that encourage development, and the effect of market factors on housing development. The results of this evaluation shall be used to develop new or revised policies, programs, regulations, and incentives to better meet the Countywide Planning Policies' housing goals. These may include adopting appropriate land use regulations and other actions that encourage development, rehabilitation and preservation of low and moderate-income housing.~~

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~~H-112))~~ H-168 King County should encourage development of permanent supportive and other affordable housing through redevelopment of nonresidential buildings~~((, such as schools and commercial buildings;))~~ in locations suitable for housing to create housing stability for households with incomes at or below 80 percent of area median income low-income residents and in ways that preserve significant historic features where appropriate.

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~~((H-171) King County should support innovative and flexible tools and programs that assist low-income renters to maintain housing stability or to gain access to permanent affordable housing and private market housing, such as revolving loan funds that cover utility and damage deposits, and rental assistance programs.~~

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~~H-172))~~ H-169 King County shall support:
a. Rental assistance, eviction prevention, and other programs that provide ~~((landlord-tenant counseling, sessions and workshops, mediation in landlord-tenant disputes;))~~ tenants with the resources and information to successfully navigate landlord-tenant disputes; and
b. ((1)) Legislation that ~~((protects the rights of tenants and landlords, such as uniform protections for tenants and landlords and fair rental contracts))~~ increases tenants' access to safe, affordable, healthy, and stable housing.

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H-170 King County shall pursue code changes that provide housing stability for tenants, including rent stabilization, and protect investment for the rental property owner.

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~~((H-170))~~ H-171 King County shall work with jurisdictions and housing providers locally and across the state to urge state and federal governments to expand funding for direct assistance services, such as ~~((flexible))~~ rental

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~~assistance and eviction prevention resources, diversion assistance, and emergency housing services. ((In addition ((to rental assistance)), King County should ((support)) encourage programs that help prevent homelessness and ((that)) improve prevention and emergency services referral networks ((, including an efficient coordinated intake system for families and individuals experiencing homelessness)).~~

~~H-115) H-172 King County should work with the King County Regional Homelessness Authority and other housing partners and ((jurisdictions)) cities to oppose and repeal policies, regulations, and actions that result in the criminalization of homelessness and homeless encampments.~~

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~~H-173 King County should collaborate with the City of Seattle, the King County Regional Homelessness Authority, other cities, and housing partners in efforts to prevent and end homelessness and focus those efforts on providing permanent housing with supportive services, expanding safe temporary shelter, and securing necessary resources to implement these efforts.~~

G. Health Equity

~~Sustainable housing is also important to support equity goals, especially for frontline communities. Sustainable housing includes, but is not limited to, housing that uses sustainable building materials and construction practices to increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support transit-oriented development, as well as housing that is located or built in ways that reduce climate change impacts on residents and structures.~~

~~Healthy housing protects all residents from exposure to harmful substances and environments, provides opportunities for safe and convenient daily physical activity, reduces the risk of injury, and ensures access to healthy food and social connectivity. Housing characteristics, including location, surrounding conditions, size, indoor air quality, ambient pollution exposure, and amenity availability, significantly affect household residents' physical and mental health. Household conditions in the built environment, where people spend the most time, have a pronounced effect on health outcomes, especially for children and youth experiencing their sensitive years of physical, emotional, and mental development. An unaffordable housing market, historical racially restrictive covenants, and other patterns of systemic disinvestment have resulted in significant disparities in housing-related health outcomes. In King County, asthma, mental health challenges, and elevated blood lead levels are more prevalent in households of greater social vulnerability.~~

~~Chemicals representing the "worst in class" substances prevalent in the building industry that pose serious risks to human health and the environment are identified as red list chemicals. Red list chemicals serve many different functions in many building products. However, the use of these chemicals can cause harm to health and the environment. Hazards include cancer, reproductive toxicity, acute or chronic organ toxicity, endocrine disruption, ozone depletion, and others. Although prevalent, red list chemicals are not necessary in most instances. Safer chemical alternatives, product designs, and building designs are possible.~~

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~~((H-139)) H-174 King County should ((provide opportunities for incorporation of)) incorporate the principles of healthy housing and communities ((and housing ((, sustainability, and greenhouse gas emissions mitigation)) and sustainable housing into programs, plans, and policy initiatives on ((housing,)) affordable housing, and community development in unincorporated areas.~~

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~~H-175 King County should promote the incorporation of non-toxic and red list-free materials in the construction of affordable housing through use of the Evergreen Sustainable Development Standard, to improve the social determinants of health for residents.~~

~~((H-143)) H-176 King County should support the development, preservation, and rehabilitation of affordable, healthy, and sustainable housing that: protects residents from exposure to harmful substances and environments, ((including)) such as lead ((poisoning((-)); reduces the risk of injury((-)); is well-maintained((-); and)) is adaptable to all ages and abilities; and advances climate equity. King County should work on a regional level with jurisdictions to explore tools to ensure healthy housing is provided throughout the region to improve housing stability of residents.~~

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~~((H-204)) H-177 King County shall strive to apply principles that lead to thriving healthy communities in all neighborhoods of the ((region)) county. ((King County ((will)) shall support public health investments that help all residents to live in thriving communities where they have the opportunity to make healthy choices.)) King County shall support:~~

- ~~a. Access to safe and convenient opportunities to be physically active, including access to walking, bicycling, recreation, and transit infrastructure;~~
- ~~b. Access to healthy, affordable foods and the elimination of food deserts;~~
- ~~c. Protection from exposure to harmful environmental agents, such as lead((-)) and infectious disease;~~
- ~~d. Access to transportation infrastructure designed to prevent pedestrian, bicyclist, and motor vehicle-related injuries;~~
- ~~e. ((Residential-n))Neighborhoods free from violence and fear of violence;~~
- ~~f. Protection from involuntary exposure to second((-)hand tobacco smoke and under-age access to tobacco products;~~
- ~~g. Protection from disproportionate retail and promotion of products known to cause poor health outcomes, such as tobacco and cannabis, in areas where residents have higher social vulnerability and risk factors;~~
- ~~h. Community amenities and design that maximizes opportunities for social connectivity and stress reduction; and~~
- ~~((h-) i. A range of health services, including timely emergency response and culturally-((specific))relevant preventive medical, behavioral, and dental care within their community.~~

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1. Asthma Prevention

Approximately six percent of children and nearly nine percent of adults in King County have been diagnosed with asthma. The demographic group in which this chronic disease is most common is American Indians/Alaska Natives, with a prevalence of over

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1439 26 percent.¹⁷ ~~The precise cause of asthma is unknown, yet there are many~~
1440 ~~environmental factors known to trigger asthma attacks including dust mites, pests such~~
1441 ~~as rats and cockroaches, mold, pollen, air pollution, chemical exposures, and smoke.~~
1442 ~~Housing is perhaps the most critical social determinant in asthma health disparities.~~
1443 ~~Water intrusion, which can stem from plumbing leaks, roof leaks, and unventilated or~~
1444 ~~damp basements, may lead to mold development and attract pests. Cracks, and holes~~
1445 ~~in the walls, and water leaks are associated with cockroach allergen. Research has~~
1446 ~~shown that household repairs to address these conditions reduce asthma symptoms~~
1447 ~~and hospitalizations and improve quality of life.~~ ¹⁸ ~~One study found that these repairs~~
1448 ~~are as effective as one year of inhaled corticosteroid in reducing asthma symptoms~~
1449 ~~among children with asthma.~~¹⁹ ~~((Kercsmar et al., 2006))~~

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1451 **((H-116)) H-178 King County shall support and encourage smoke free policies in**
1452 **~~((multi-family)) multiunit housing and affordable housing, where~~**
1453 **appropriate.**

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1455 **H-179 Public Health - Seattle & King County should reduce the prevalence and**
1456 **harm of asthma by conducting population studies, providing technical**
1457 **support to policy advocates, and training and deploying a Community**
1458 **Health Worker program.**

1460
1461 2. Safe Firearm Storage

1462
1463 Crime and perceived safety ~~((varies)) vary~~ by geographic area in King County and is an
1464 equity and racial and social justice concern. Safe communities promote resiliency and
1465 can act as a protective factor preventing violence and other crime. In particular,
1466 ~~((G))~~ gun violence, including suicide, is ~~((in particular))~~ a public health and public safety
1467 issue. ~~Unsafe ((by stored firearms)) firearm storage ((are a risk factor for suicide or other~~
1468 ~~violence in the home. In addition, unsafe storage contributes to gun theft, which))~~ can
1469 result in the gun finding its way into the hands of someone planning to use it for suicide,
1470 homicide, or assault. ~~((Over half of King County residents who own firearms~~
1471 ~~(approximately 123,000 people, based on 2014 data) report that they store at least one~~
1472 ~~firearm unlocked. King County's Child Death Review regularly documents cases where~~
1473 ~~unsafe firearm storage resulted directly or indirectly in a child's death.))~~ For the most
1474 recent three years for which King County data are available (2016, 2018, and 2020), 27
1475 percent of firearm owners with children and 44 percent of firearm owners without
1476 children kept their firearms stored unlocked.²⁰ Evidence has shown that safely storing
1477 firearms - unloaded and locked - is a protective factor in preventing youth suicide. Safe
1478 storage can also limit theft~~((:))~~ and the expansion of the illegal gun market. Education of
1479 firearm owners about safe firearm storage is a key public health strategy, as is making
1480 safe firearm storage an easy choice. ~~(((Emerging evidence also shows that community~~
1481 ~~and housing design can decrease violence in communities, including firearm violence.))~~

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1483 **((H-209)) H-180 King County should work to address the public health and public**
1484 **safety crisis of gun violence by collecting epidemiological and other**

¹⁷ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2019

¹⁸ Bryant-Stephens TC, Strane D, Robinson EK, Bhambhani S, Kenyon CC. Housing and asthma disparities. *J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2021 Nov;148(5):1121-1129. doi: 10.1016/j.jaci.2021.09.023. Epub 2021 Sep 29; PMID: 34599980; PMCID: PMC9809049.

¹⁹ Kercsmar CM, Dearborn DG, Schluchter M, Xue L, Kirchner HL, Sobolewski J, Greenberg SJ, Vesper SJ, Allan T. Reduction in asthma morbidity in children as a result of home remediation aimed at moisture sources. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2006 Oct;114(10):1574-80. doi: 10.1289/ehp.8742. PMID: 17035145; PMCID: PMC1626393.

²⁰ Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2016, 2018, 2020. Prepared by Public Health - Seattle & King County Assessment, Policy Development, and Evaluation Unit 8/2023

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~~data((-)); engaging with cities, local neighborhoods, and other ((stakeholders;)) partners; and making information available that promotes safe firearm storage and fosters community safety.~~

H-181 ~~King County shall work with jurisdictions, the private sector, state and federal governments, other funders of public housing, other public agencies, and the nonprofit sector to support public and private housing that allows for the opportunity to encourage permanent safe firearm storage locations that make safe storage an easy choice and foster safety from injury and violence, through exploring housing and community designs that are shown to increase connectivity and reduce violence.~~

~~3. ((Reducing)) Eliminating Lead Exposure~~

~~Although exposures to lead have generally decreased ((as a result of)) due to regulatory interventions, lead poisoning remains a significant, but preventable, environmental ((health)) justice problem. ((Or)) The most vulnerable populations are children under ((6)) six years of age. ((The largest source of lead exposure nationwide and in King County is lead-based paint)) Lead-based paint is the largest source of lead exposure nationwide and in King County. The greatest lead-based paint risk is in housing built before 1978. The ((2010-2014)) 2017-2021 American Community Survey ((5-Year)) Public Use Microdata Sample indicates that among King County children under age six, 46 percent live in homes built before 1978. ((Estimates shows 54%)) Forty-eight percent of all King County housing was built prior to 1978. ((indicating that over 471,000 households, single family, and multi-units could pose a lead hazard;)) The preferred method for eliminating exposure from lead-based paint would be to remove it from all housing; however, it is impracticable to require this of all property owners. King County assists developers, ((building and)) home((-))owners, and tenants to become aware of the lead-based paint risks, its impacts ((to)) on health, and the tools and requirements needed to reduce exposures, including the use of lead-safe work practices.~~

~~King County has regulatory or programmatic reach to address many housing-related health challenges. Most new affordable housing is developed in accordance with under Washington State Evergreen Sustainable Development Standards, and substantial renovation of existing housing may require upgrades to the current building code. Currently, indoor air quality is being improved in the limited number of homes that receive equipment and/or technical assistance from Public Health - Seattle & King County and partner programs.~~

~~The policies in this subsection are intended to work upstream of programmatic responses to help avoid and mitigate exposures and harms. Progress toward health equity in housing will benefit from these policies that address prevalent, enduring, and/or uniquely harmful exposure considerations. They point to harm-reduction countermeasures in housing development characteristics, in the operations and maintenance stages, and housing demolition practices.~~

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~~((H-210)) H-182 King County ((should)) shall seek to develop strategies to ((decrease)) shall implement strategies to eliminate exposure to lead where children, youth, and families live, learn, and play, including:~~
~~a. Advocating for countywide efforts to screen all children (at 12 months and 24 months) for exposure to lead poisoning and monitoring of this data;~~
~~b. Working to ensure all renovation, repair, and painting work that disturbs painted surfaces in pre-1978 dwellings be performed in compliance with the requirements of the Washington Department of Commerce to reduce exposure to lead-contaminated dusts; and~~
~~c. Working to ensure strategies are used that minimize or eliminate the spread of lead dust during the demolition of pre-1978 residential and commercial buildings, including community education and notification.~~

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~~((H-211) King County shall advocate for regional efforts to screen all children (at 12 months and 24 months) for exposure to lead poisoning.~~

~~H-212 King County should work to ensure all renovation, repair and painting work that disturbs painted surfaces in pre-1978 dwellings be performed in compliance with the requirements of the Washington Department of Commerce to reduce exposure to lead-contaminated dusts.~~

~~H-213 King County should work to ensure strategies are used that minimize or eliminate the spread of lead dust during the demolition of pre-1978 residential and commercial buildings, including community education and notification.~~

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~~C.)) Housing and Land Use Regulation~~

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~~In King County today, a substantial need exists for extremely low-, very low-, and low-income rental housing and for low-to moderately (())-priced homes ((that can be purchased by first-time homebuyers. In the past decade, a significant number of homeowners have lost their homes due to foreclosure and have become renters again. In the short term, those households may need affordable rents, while in the longer term they may again seek to own a moderately-priced home)). In addition, there is a significant need for more permanent supportive housing, shelters, and tiny homes.²¹ The Housing Needs Assessment finds that unincorporated King County's zoning codes have encouraged single detached housing in low-density zones in urban areas. This has limited housing diversity and housing supply, which has reduced housing access for extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. Significant racial disparities exist in poverty status among unincorporated King County households. For example, in unincorporated King County, 39 percent American Indian/Alaska Native and 15 percent Black populations are below the poverty line, whereas only five percent of Asian and four percent of White populations are below the poverty line.²² This racial disparity in poverty status substantially impacts racial disparities in homeownership and housing stability in unincorporated King County.~~

~~((While King County has seen a growth in the percentage of smaller (one- and two-person) households, there are also some large households that need affordable housing with three or more bedrooms. Existing units will provide some of the~~

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²¹King County recognizes "tiny homes" as an affordable and efficient method of providing housing. The King County Code defines and regulates these as "microshelters."

²²Five-year American Community Survey 2016-2020.

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1583 affordable housing needed for low-income households in the future. However, w~~it~~
1584 the projected growth in ~~((the number of low- to moderate-income households))~~
1585 ~~population, the~~ prospect of increasing numbers of family and senior households with
1586 limited income, and the short supply of ~~((lower-)) low~~ cost housing available today, new
1587 construction must include affordable housing ~~and a variety of housing types to meet the~~
1588 ~~housing need and reduce racial disparities in housing outcomes.~~ ((Efforts to provide
1589 sufficient land and infrastructure and reduced development costs will help make new
1590 units affordable. In addition, a combination of incentive programs and funding will help
1591 keep rents affordable and expand opportunities for first-time homebuyers.))

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1592
1593 ~~((Meeting these objectives ((will)) entails providing sufficient land for a variety of~~
1594 ~~affordable housing, such as higher-density single((family)) detached homes,~~
1595 ~~((multifamily properties)) duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhouses, apartments,~~
1596 ~~((manufactured housing)) mobile homes, cottage housing, accessory dwelling units, and~~
1597 ~~mixed-use developments.))~~

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1599 ~~**H-132** King County should encourage the formation of common development~~
1600 ~~codes and standards, as well as common mandatory and incentive~~
1601 ~~programs for affordable housing, with cities, sewer and water districts,~~
1602 ~~and other permitting agencies to increase predictability and reduce~~
1603 ~~development costs.~~

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1604
1605 ~~**H-134** King County shall provide ~~((D))~~ density bonuses and other ~~((incentives~~
1606 ~~for the)) regulatory measures that incentivize or require creation of~~
1607 ~~development of affordable housing ((by for-profit and non-profit~~
1608 ~~developers shall be available within)) in unincorporated urban areas(,~~
1609 ~~with a focus on commercial areas to both single-family and multifamily~~
1610 ~~developments to promote development of affordable rental and/or~~
1611 ~~ownership housing)) including both rental and ownership~~
1612 ~~opportunities. ((Bonuses shall be periodically reviewed and updated))~~
1613 ~~The County shall review and update these measures as needed((,;)) to~~
1614 ~~((assure)) ensure they are effective in creating affordable housing~~
1615 ~~units(, especially in coordination with any mandatory inclusionary~~
1616 ~~affordable housing requirements that may be adopted);~~~~

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1619 ~~**H-138** Housing developments in the urban unincorporated areas, consisting of not~~
1620 ~~less than 100 acres, shall provide a mix of housing types and densities, including~~
1621 ~~housing that is affordable to low-, moderate-, and middle-income households. This mix~~
1622 ~~should include housing opportunities for older adults, persons who are experiencing~~
1623 ~~homelessness and persons with behavioral, cognitive, physical, and/or developmental~~
1624 ~~disabilities.))~~

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1626
1627 ~~**H-140** King County shall allow five-story wood frame construction to increase~~
1628 ~~the availability of multifamily housing while lowering development~~
1629 ~~costs and maintaining fire safety.))~~

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1630
1631 ~~**H-141** King County shall explore the expansion of land use and financial~~
1632 ~~incentives to preserve and improve existing housing, including housing~~
1633 ~~in a building designated or eligible to be designated as a historic~~
1634 ~~landmark, in redeveloping areas through the use of programs such as~~
1635 ~~transfer of development rights, tax credits and tax exemptions for new~~
1636 ~~and preserved affordable housing, as well as tax abatements and~~
1637 ~~((restoration)) loans ((for housing designated as a historic landmark)).~~

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1638
1639 ~~**H-143** King County development standards should promote lower-cost infill~~
1640 ~~development, such as accessory dwelling units, in a manner that allows~~

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~~existing housing to be retained through measures such as an innovative or flexible building envelope, access and infrastructure standards.))~~

~~H-145 King County shall:~~

~~a. ((c))Continue to require the use of Evergreen Sustainable Development Standards, or an equivalent successor standard, in King County-funded housing projects; and~~

~~b. ((will w))Work with partners and ((stakeholders)) other interested parties to encourage the improvement of sustainable housing and in healthy housing elements in affordable housing statewide green building standards ((of));including Evergreen Sustainable Development Standards((, with emphasis on healthy housing elements that reduce asthma));))~~

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~~((II.)) ((Regional)) Health and Human Services~~

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King County has a regional role in health and human services, working with many partners, such as the federal, state, and other local governments, service providers, non(=)profit organizations, foundations, faith communities, businesses, schools, and the criminal ((justice)) legal system, to help those most in need. King County's investments in human services are guided by ((Health and Human Services Transformation and the joint transformation initiatives²³ of the Department of Community and Human Services and Public Health Seattle & King County, as well as policy and planning documents such as the Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan 2015-2019²⁴ and the All Home Strategic Plan 2015-2019²⁵, the King County Youth Action Plan, Framework Policies for Human Services,)) policies in this section and the: Best Starts for Kids Levy; Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Behavioral Health Sales Tax Fund; Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy; Crisis Cares Centers Levy; Initial Health through Housing Implementation Plan 2022-2028, or successor plans; Strategic Climate Action Plan; and the King County Board of Health Planning for Healthy Communities Guidelines and Recommendations,((and ultimately, the King County Strategic Plan.

The Framework Policies are contained in Chapter 2.51 of the King County Code. The purpose of the Framework Policies for Human Services is to communicate King County government's role in Human Services, the goals the county seeks to achieve and the principles that will underlie its investments. The Framework Policies are reviewed and revised as needed:

Health and Human Services Transformation, the Framework Policies and the Strategic Plan)) King County places a strong emphasis on ((prevention,)) stabilizing people and diverting them from jails, emergency rooms, and crisis services by providing residents with appropriate treatment and services ((for those with the high needs, as well as providing)). The County also provides upstream prevention ((and intervention)) services ((and opportunities that increase the stability and resiliency)) for the health of

²³ The initiatives of Health and Human Services Transformation include Familiar Faces, Communities of Opportunity, Accountable Communities of Health and its subcommittees, Best Starts for Kids Levy.

²⁴ The Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan is a HUD required document that guides the investment of a significant portion of DCHS' funds for affordable housing and community/economic development, and a smaller portion of DCHS' funds to address homelessness.

²⁵ The Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) is located in the Director's Office of DCHS, and is the regional planning entity and continuum of care for addressing homelessness in King County.))

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1685 children(;) and youth ((, and communities, and)) to reduce the need for acute care and
1686 crisis interventions later in life.

1687
1688 ~~((King County has grappled with unsustainable costs in criminal justice and emergency
1689 medical services and is taking steps to reduce cost growth in this primary area of service
1690 responsibility. A major component of these efforts has been)) King County's
1691 overreliance on the criminal legal system and emergency medical responses to health
1692 and human service needs has proven fiscally unsustainable, ineffective at creating
1693 lasting change, and frequently harmful to Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color
1694 residents. Acknowledging these unacceptable costs, King County and other partners
1695 have expanded alternative approaches to prevent unnecessary engagement with law
1696 enforcement and the criminal legal system, including jail diversion programs and
1697 increased coordination with health and human services programs((, in order to prevent
1698 unnecessary engagement with law enforcement and the criminal justice system. These
1699 efforts have begun to show results, and the Health and Human Services Transformation
1700 and Strategic Plan continue this emphasis)).~~

1701
1702 The King County Regional Homelessness Authority was created to coordinate funding,
1703 contracting, service delivery, and performance measurement for the regional
1704 homelessness crisis response system. After King County and the City of Seattle signed
1705 the Interlocal Agreement for the establishment of to establish the Regional
1706 Homelessness Authority in 2020, and with support from the Sound Cities Association,
1707 the transition of homelessness crisis response to the Regional Homelessness Authority
1708 began.²⁶ The County continues to separately fund and manage investments in capital
1709 housing development and other permanent housing purposes.

1711 A. Health and Human Service Provision

1712
1713 ~~((H-203)) H-201 ((King County will apply principles that promote effectiveness,
1714 accountability and equity and social justice.)) King County ((embraces))
1715 shall apply the following principles)) shall to promote effectiveness,
1716 accountability, equity, and racial and social justice in its health and
1717 human service actions and investments by:~~

- 1718 a. ~~((King County ((will)) shall provide)) Providing information to the~~
1719 community on its health, human services, and behavioral health
1720 system planning and evaluation activities, funding processes and
1721 criteria, and on the results of its investments in a transparent,
1722 accountable, and culturally- and audience-appropriate manner;
- 1723 b. ~~((King County ((will)) shall uphold)) Upholding federal, state, and~~
1724 local laws against discrimination;
- 1725 c. ~~((promote culturally ((competent,)) Promoting culturally relevant~~
1726 and equitable ((and relevant)) service delivery;
- 1727 d. ~~((and will)) King County shall work)) Working to end disparities in~~
1728 social, health, and economic status among communities and people
1729 of different racial and ethnic backgrounds;
- 1730 ~~((c)) ed. ((King County ((will)) shall work)) Working with local~~
1731 service providers to provide behavioral health services to ((low
1732 income)) individuals in need, including ((high quality)) equitable
1733 prevention, crisis diversion, mental health, substance ((abuse)) use
1734 disorder, and co-occurring disorder treatment services to youth,
1735 young adults, and ((older adults)) people aged 62 years and older.
1736 The ((c))County ((will)) shall assume primary responsibility for
1737 coordinating the provision of countywide behavioral health
1738 services (including crisis services, mental health treatment,

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²⁶Ordinance 19039

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substance use disorder treatment, co-occurring disorder treatment, and housing support services), working in partnership with the state, cities, managed care organizations, and local service providers;

((d-)) ~~fe.~~ ~~((King County ((will)) shall ((encourage))~~ Supporting service approaches that promote recovery and ~~((resiliency))~~ resilience and support individuals and families to achieve their full potential to live meaningful and productive lives in the community;

((e-)) ~~gf.~~ ~~((King County ((will)) shall foster))~~ Fostering integration of systems of care through increased information sharing and collaborative efforts across agencies and programs for the purpose of improved service delivery, coordination, and shared outcomes; and

((f-)) ~~hg.~~ ~~((Together with its partners,))~~ Working with its partners to ~~shall, together with its partners,~~ assess and respond to changing human service and behavioral health needs and use data, research, innovation, analysis, and evidence-based practices to drive its investments.

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H-202 King County shall retain responsibility for implementation of mandated, through law or policy, countywide specialty systems for: behavioral health, including crisis services, mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, co-occurring disorder treatment, and housing support services; mental health and substance use disorder treatment; physical, emotional, and cognitive health; public health; veterans, military servicemembers, and their respective families; older adults aged 62 years and older; children, families, people and youth; vulnerable adults; and people with developmental disabilities.

~~((H-201))~~ **H-203** In coordination with local jurisdictions, funding partners, and community partners, King County ~~((will seek to build and))~~ shall develop and sustain coordinated regional health and human services and behavioral health systems to provide services, support(s), safety, and opportunity to those most in need. In carrying out its role in such systems, King County ~~((government will))~~ shall:

- a. Work with other jurisdictions and organizations to ~~((define))~~ implement a regional health and human services and behavioral health system(s) and strengthen financing, access, and overall effectiveness of services;
- b. Collaborate with other funders to ~~((assure))~~ ensure coordination in how funds are used, and continue to explore improvements to system design, contracting, and data collection and analysis; and
- c. ~~((Retain responsibility for the development and implementation of mandated, through law or adopted County policy, countywide specialty systems for behavioral health (including mental health and substance use disorder treatment), physical, emotional and cognitive health, public health, (drug and alcohol abuse and dependency, veterans, older adults, children and youth, vulnerable adults, and people with developmental disabilities;~~
- d. ~~Define its regional role in other human service and prevention-oriented systems, including systems that address homelessness, older adults' needs, domestic violence, sexual assault, crisis diversion and re-entry, early intervention and prevention and youth and family services;~~
- e. ~~Assess and measure the health and needs of King County's residents on an ongoing basis and modify strategies to respond to changing needs, outcomes, and new research; and~~
- f.) Review the effectiveness and appropriateness of this policy framework periodically and revise if needed.

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~~H-204 King County shall partner with regional bodies, such as the King County Regional Homelessness Authority, that lead other human service and prevention-oriented systems, including those that address: homelessness, older adults' needsthe needs of people aged 62 years and older, domestic violence, gender-based violence, sexual assault, crisis diversion and re-entry, early intervention and prevention, youth and family services, and climate-related emergencies such as severe weather response for people experiencing homelessness.~~

~~((H-202)) E-205 King County(~~'s priorities for~~) shall prioritize human service (~~investments will be~~) programs and services that help people in need become more stable and (~~resilient~~) healthy, and that prevent or reduce the need for costly emergency medical services, crisis services, and involvement with the criminal (~~justice~~) legal system. King County (~~will~~) shall focus resources and efforts on effective intervention and prevention that improve individual and community quality of life and enhance equity and racial and social justice. King County (~~will~~) shall preserve the resources necessary to collaborate as a (~~true~~) partner in regional human service systems. These focus areas include the following priority investment areas, which are consistent with other regional plans and initiatives:~~

- ~~a. Job readiness, support for job development in business innovation districts;~~
- ~~b. Affordable housing;~~
- ~~c. Community and economic development activities;~~
- ~~d. Strategies to (~~make homelessness rare, brief and one-time~~) create a homelessness response system that centers people with lived experience to focus on responding to needs and eliminating inequities; to end homelessness for all; (~~and~~)~~
- ~~e. Behavioral health services (including crisis services, mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, co-occurring disorder treatment, and housing support services); and~~
- ~~f. Strategies and programs to build the life, academic, and employment skills for young people to reach their full potential as they transition from childhood to adulthood.~~

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B. Locating and Designing Health and Human Services Facilities

People-Centered Design

It is critical to consider the role of the built environment in healing and how health and care services are provided.²⁷

Trauma is a nearly universal experience of people with mental health and substance use disorders, those who have experienced violence (SAMHSA, 2014), those living in poverty (Collins et al., 2010), and those who have experienced homelessness (Hopper et al., 2010) – the very people likely to be served by shelters, supportive housing, and affordable housing ... Because of its prevalence and the significance of related physical

²⁷United States Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach; United States Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Trauma and Justice Strategic Initiative; July 2014

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1849 ~~and mental health outcomes, trauma is a critical consideration for design of all housing~~
1850 ~~types—and for shelters and supportive housing in particular.~~²⁸

1851 ~~The built environment informs and is shaped by models of care and good design~~
1852 ~~practice. It has the potential to transform the quality of life that people experience when~~
1853 ~~they are in care.~~²⁹ Thoughtful people- and patient-centered design has the potential to
1854 build on ~~the individual's and/ or communities' community resiliency,~~³⁰ mitigate prior
1855 trauma, prevent further harm, and promote healing, especially when developed in
1856 consultation with those ~~experiencing the space who use the facility.~~

1858
1859 Consideration of the physical environment, ~~both inside and outside of facilities,~~ can
1860 support trauma-informed care by health service providers.³¹ Such design incorporates
1861 elements that support physical, psychological, and emotional safety, ~~which can include:~~
1862 ~~such as access to nature, clear wayfinding, wider hallways, open and well-lit stairways,~~
1863 ~~clear sightlines, noise mitigation, flexible lighting, calming paint colors, exterior fences,~~
1864 ~~reflecting and honoring culture, and warm and welcoming open spaces and communal~~
1865 ~~areas.~~

1866
1867 ~~The design elements of facilities are only one component of how a facility can contribute~~
1868 ~~to an individual's health and well-being. Where a facility is located and its accessibility~~
1869 ~~to the clientele it is intended to serve is another important aspect of systems planning.~~

1870
1871 ~~The following policies address the design and location considerations for health and~~
1872 ~~care facilities, including childcare facilities:~~

1873
1874 **~~((H-205)) H-206 King County ((will)) shall support and implement health-related~~**
1875 **~~policies and programs that address the social determinants of health~~**
1876 **~~and the built environment by partnering with health((-))care services,~~**
1877 **~~community-based organizations, foundations, other regional agencies,~~**
1878 **~~boards, commissions, and elected officials to improve public health.~~**

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1879
1880 **~~((H-206)) H-207 King County ((will)) shall ((encourage)) support significant increases~~**
1881 **~~in the role and influence of residents living in communities that have~~**
1882 **~~disproportionately lower health outcomes by intentionally engaging~~**
1883 **~~((people)) those who are affected by health and human services policy~~**
1884 **~~development, planning, and service delivery in authentic and~~**
1885 **~~meaningful ways((-, especially residents living in communities that have~~**
1886 **~~disproportionately lower health outcomes)).~~**

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²⁸ [Designing for Healing Dignity & Joy – Promoting Physical Health, Mental Health, and Well-Being Through Trauma-Informed Design; Shopworks Architecture Group 14 Engineering, University of Denver Center for Housing and Homelessness Research; 2020; pages 6-7](#)

²⁹ [Phillippa Carnemolla, Deborah Debono, Fleur Hourihan, Suyin Hor, Hamish Robertson, Jo Travaglia, The influence of the built environment in enacting a household model of residential aged care for people living with a mental health condition: A qualitative post-occupancy evaluation; Health & Place Volume 71 \(2021\); Article 102624, pp. 1-15](#)

³⁰ [Resiliency is being defined under the concept of resilience has been used in developmental psychology and psychiatry to describe individuals' capacities to achieve well-being and thrive despite significant adversity;](#)

[Kirmayer, Laurence J., et al. "Community resilience: Models, metaphors and measures." International Journal of Indigenous Health Vol. 5 No. 1 \(2009\): 62-117.](#)

³¹ [United States Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach; United States Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Trauma and Justice Strategic Initiative; July 2014](#)

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1888 ~~((H-207)) King County recognizes that poverty, lack of affordable housing and~~
1889 ~~lack of access to economic opportunity for all residents are critical~~
1890 ~~public health issues. King County will take steps to address these issues~~
1891 ~~through ongoing county plans, programs and funding.))~~

1892
1893 H-208 King County ((will)) shall, to the extent possible, ((locate)) promote the
1894 location of health and human services facilities ((where)) in areas that
1895 balance the County's shared interests in service delivery that is ((most
1896 cost)) more accessible, effective, and efficient. The equity and racial
1897 and social justice opportunities and impacts of possible locations ((will))
1898 shall be taken into account. Locations should be easily accessible to
1899 anticipated clientele via various transportation methods including
1900 public transit((;)) and make the best use of existing facilities ((and
1901 opportunities to co-locate services and be ((compatible with adjoining
1902 uses)) consistent with the land use element of the Comprehensive Plan.

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1903
1904 ~~((H-208a)) H-209 ((When a health and human services facility is being~~
1905 ~~relocated;)) King County ((consideration)) should consider and work to~~
1906 ~~minimize, the impacts on current clients when a health and human~~
1907 ~~services facility is being relocated, ((such as)) which may include~~
1908 ~~impacts related to accessibility, transportation options, and services~~
1909 ~~available at the relocated facility.~~

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1910
1911 H-210 People-centered design elements that include* principles of patient-
1912 centered, recovery-oriented, and trauma-informed care should be
1913 considered and incorporated in County-owned or funded regional
1914 health and human services facilities, behavioral health facilities,
1915 emergency housing, transitional and permanent supportive housing,
1916 and affordable housing.

1917
1918 H-211 King County shall support and incentivize the provision of childcare at
1919 convenient locations, such as near transit and employment centers, to
1920 improve access and opportunity for families with children.

1921
1922 H-212 King County shall support and incentivize culturally relevant child care
1923 programming for new and existing licensed early learning and child
1924 care facilities to increase affordability for families across all income
1925 levels, especially those located in child care access deserts and/or
1926 which serve families who experience additional barriers to accessing
1927 child care.



CHAPTER 5

ENVIRONMENT

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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5 CHAPTER 5

6 ENVIRONMENT

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~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

12 The environment in King County includes a rich and valuable array of natural resources
13 ranging from marine and freshwater environments ~~((r))~~ to ~~the~~ highly urbanized area ~~((s))~~,
14 lower-density rural area ~~((s))~~, highly productive farm and forest land, ~~and~~ to nearly
15 pristine landscapes in the foothills of the Cascades. The policies in this chapter protect
16 that environment, ensure its effective management, ~~and~~ support its restoration where
17 needed ~~((, and support the Strategic Plan's goal of a healthy environment))~~. King County
18 residents depend on sound policies not only to protect public health and safety, but
19 also to preserve quality of life for future generations. King County is committed to
20 pursuing partnerships, cost effective strategies, and best management practices to
21 ~~address climate change and~~ optimize the long ~~((r))~~ term protection and restoration of the
22 environment within available resources. These ~~((policies))~~ policies guide King County's
23 environmental development regulations as well as incentives, education, and
24 stewardship programs in unincorporated King County.
25

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26 ~~((One of the central tenets of the Growth Management Act, the Countywide Planning
27 Policies, and King County's Comprehensive Plan is that new growth be focused within
28 designated urban areas with the aim of protecting ((resource lands (r)) forestry,
29 agriculture, and mining ((r)) lands and reducing development pressure on the Rural Area
30 and Natural Resource Lands. ((At the same time, t)) The Growth Management Act also
31 requires that each city and county in Washington State identify, designate, and protect
32 critical areas found in their local environment. Critical areas, as defined by the Growth
33 Management Act, include wetlands, areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers
34 used for potable water, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded
35 areas, and geologic hazard areas. Achieving development goals must be integrated
36 with protecting critical area functions and values. ((Individual s)) Solutions can be
37 tailored by following the guidance of comprehensive plan policies that recognize both
38 critical area protection and the need to reduce urban sprawl.))
39~~

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40 All parts of the county – from densely developed urban areas, to farm and forest land, to
41 the Rural Area – have a role to play and a common interest in environmental protection.
42 Responsibility for environmental protection cannot fall on one geographic area or
43 ~~((category of people))~~ community alone. ~~((Fools for environmental protection, for all
44 residents whether in the Urban Area, Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands, include
45 buying locally grown produce at a Farmers Market, taking care to avoid polluted
46 discharges to stormwater drainage systems, riding the bus, investing in natural resource
47 programs like those offered by the King Conservation District, complying with
48 stormwater standards, controlling invasive plants, protecting forest cover, and ensuring
49 development minimizes flood risk.))~~

51 For ~~the~~ urban ~~((residents))~~ area, environmental protection occurs through ~~((different))~~
52 various means, including investing in wastewater treatment and stormwater
53 improvements, protecting greenbelts and other remnants of native habitats, adding
54 new public open space – especially in historically ~~underinvested~~ served communities,
55 and ~~((living))~~ concentrating development in densely developed areas. For ~~the~~ ~~((r))~~ Rural
56 ~~((residents))~~ Area and Natural Resource Lands, it means protecting aquifers used for
57 drinking water, using development practices that ~~((slowly))~~ infiltrate stormwater, ~~and
58 ((using best management practices to protect))~~ protecting water quality and habitat for
59 fish and wildlife. On farm ~~((r))~~ lands, forest ~~((r))~~ lands, and lands in the Rural Area,
60 stewardship and technical assistance provide ~~((s))~~ opportunities for supporting
61 long-term resource use while protecting the environment.
62

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63 Climate change is already having severe and wide-ranging impacts on public health,
64 safety, and welfare; the economy; and the environment. Climate change in the Pacific
65 Northwest is projected to continue to bring more severe weather events including
66 extreme heat events, wildfires, storms, and droughts, decreased water supply for
67 people and fish, and changes in habitat and species distribution. King County is a

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68 ~~leader in taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance climate equity, and~~
69 ~~to prepare for the impacts of climate change.~~

70
71 ~~((One of the most significant environmental issues facing King County during the past~~
72 ~~decade was)) Salmon recovery continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing the~~
73 ~~Puget Sound Region, despite significant investment in habitat protection and~~
74 ~~restoration by cities, counties, Indian tribes, state agencies, conservation districts, and~~
75 ~~nonprofits over more than twenty years since the listing of Chinook salmon and bull~~
76 ~~trout as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. ((Since 2000, the region has~~
77 ~~seen)) There has been unprecedented cooperation between Indian tribes, local~~
78 ~~governments, residents, Indian ((tribes,)) conservation districts, non((=))profit groups,~~
79 ~~and federal and state fisheries managers to develop watershed-based Water Resource~~
80 ~~Inventory Area plans for salmon conservation. These plans form the basis for the federal~~
81 ~~recovery plan for Chinook salmon. Watershed partners are continuing to work together~~
82 ~~to implement and monitor these plans through Water Resource Inventory Area Forums.~~
83 ~~Southern Resident oOrca, which are dependent on Chinook salmon as a food source,~~
84 ~~were listed as endangered in 2005.~~

85
86 ~~((King County has taken significant steps to increase protections for Chinook and other~~
87 ~~salmon species and improve habitat through changes in daily operations (such as~~
88 ~~maintenance of county roads and parks), increased open space protection, tax~~
89 ~~incentives, updated development regulations, and construction of habitat restoration~~
90 ~~projects. The lessons learned and relationships developed through cooperative~~
91 ~~planning in response to the Chinook salmon and bull trout listings should help to inform~~
92 ~~King County's response to new listings, and bolster efforts to prevent future species~~
93 ~~listings.))~~

94
95 Individual species protections under the Endangered Species Act continue to play an
96 important role. At the same time, both nationally and internationally, many
97 governments are initiating multi-species approaches aimed at conserving biodiversity.
98 Biodiversity refers not only to plants and animals but also to their habitats and the
99 interactions among species and habitats.

100
101 Protection of biodiversity in all its forms and across all landscapes is critical to continued
102 prosperity and quality of life in King County. In fisheries, forestry, and agriculture, the
103 value of biodiversity to sustaining long-term productivity has been demonstrated in
104 region after region. ~~((With the impending effects of climate change, maintaining~~
105 ~~biodiversity will be critical to the resilience of resource-based activities and to many~~
106 ~~social and ecological systems. The continued increase in King County's population and~~
107 ~~the projected effects of climate change make conservation a difficult but urgent task.))~~
108 The protection and restoration of biodiversity and of a full range of supporting habitats
109 is important to King County. King County ~~((with)) incorporates these considerations in its~~
110 ~~operations and practices, ranging from its utility functions (such as wastewater, solid~~
111 ~~waste, and stormwater management) to its regulatory and general government~~
112 ~~practices.~~

113
114 ~~((State and federal agencies are undertaking biodiversity initiatives. The Washington~~
115 ~~Biodiversity Council was created by the Governor in 2004, in part, with the aim of~~
116 ~~refocusing state conservation efforts from the species level to the ecosystem level. In~~
117 ~~2009, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife released Landscape Planning for~~
118 ~~Washington's Wildlife: Managing for Biodiversity in Developing Areas. The goal of this~~
119 ~~document is to provide information to planners and others that can be used to minimize~~
120 ~~the impacts of development on fish and wildlife and to conserve biodiversity.~~

121
122 The U.S. Forest Service also integrates biodiversity principles into its land management
123 practices. Internationally, Local Governments for Sustainability's Local Action for

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124 Biodiversity Project convenes local governments from around the world, including King
125 County, to establish strategies for the conservation of urban biodiversity.

126
127 Climate change has the potential for severe and wide-ranging impacts on public health,
128 safety, and welfare; the economy; and the environment. Climate change in the Pacific
129 Northwest is projected to bring more severe weather events including heat events,
130 winter storms and summer droughts, decreased water supplies for people and fish, and
131 changes in habitat and species distribution. King County is a leader in taking steps to
132 reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to climate change.

133
134 New approaches for stormwater management known as Low Impact Development, are
135 providing additional options for stormwater management, especially in site
136 development. Low Impact Development Best Management Practices can mimic the
137 natural functions of soil and forest cover in slowing and filtering stormwater runoff by
138 infiltrating or dispersing stormwater onsite, or by capturing and reusing it. Used
139 exclusively, or in conjunction with a comprehensive stormwater management program
140 of structural controls and other best management practices, Low Impact Development
141 Best Management Practices can reduce environmental impacts from stormwater runoff.
142 Low Impact Development techniques also work in tandem with other strategies such as
143 retaining forest cover, preserving native plants and preserving native soil.

144
145 These techniques help to meet other objectives such as retention of canopy cover,
146 protection of riparian habitat and preservation of native soils that help protect
147 biodiversity, improve air quality, and protect the ecological functions of the landscape
148 and surface waters. These approaches help create a more sustainable environment and
149 create a better quality of life for King County residents.)

150
151 Untreated stormwater runoff remains the largest source of pollution to Puget Sound.
152 Stormwater management requirements and practices continue to evolve, with greater
153 emphasis on low impact development and green stormwater infrastructure that can
154 mimic the natural functions of soil and forest cover in slowing and filtering stormwater
155 runoff by infiltrating or dispersing stormwater on-site, or by capturing and reusing it.
156 Modifying stormwater facilities, or building new ones in previously developed areas, is
157 very expensive. The County continues to develop, apply, and update evidence-based
158 tools to identify and prioritize actions to achieve the best outcomes for reducing
159 pollution to Puget Sound.

160
161 The County also partners with cities, Indian tribes, other counties, and nonprofits to
162 identify where projects like “stormwater parks” can provide the greatest environmental
163 benefit while increasing access to open space in historically underserved areas.
164 Stormwater parks offer promise for reducing pollutants at a basin-wide scale while
165 providing access to new green space. These multi-benefit facilities can be designed to
166 remove pollutants like nutrients, heavy metals, and many organic pollutants, including
167 polychlorinated biphenyls including persistent bio-accumulative toxics, sometime
168 referred to as, “forever chemicals.” Such stormwater parks, if located strategically, could
169 treat billions of gallons of stormwater a year, significantly reducing stormwater pollution
170 reaching receiving water bodies, which would in turn improve outcomes for fish
171 consumption and orca health. In making decisions about where to site stormwater
172 parks, King County focuses on communities experiencing the greatest water pollution
173 and having the least access to open space.

174
175 ~~((Environmental initiatives during the past decade have underscored the need for~~
176 ~~monitoring changes in the environment and the effectiveness of the County's efforts to~~
177 ~~protect it.)) Monitoring and performance measurement help local governments to
178 target limited resources on existing and emerging environmental problems, determine
179 whether actions are having their intended effect, promote accountability, and adapt
180 approaches to environmental management. ((The Department of Natural Resources and~~

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181 Parks assesses environmental conditions with a variety of monitoring programs. The
182 results are presented in the environmental indicator section of KingStat and are used to
183 develop appropriate county responses and provide an opportunity to collaborate and
184 partner with other organizations in making improvements.))

186 ~~((This chapter reflects the overarching goal of the Countywide Planning Policies to
187 protect, restore and enhance the quality of the natural environment in King County for
188 future generations. ((This chapter has been updated to integrate county strategies for
189 protection of land, air, and water, to emphasize implementation of salmon recovery
190 plans, to reflect increased emphasis on climate change and biodiversity, and to support
191 monitoring and adaptive management.)) Policies in this chapter promote
192 implementation of strategies and goals from multiple recent plans and initiatives,
193 including the Strategic Climate Action Plan, the Land Conservation Initiative, the 30-year
194 Forest Plan, increasing focus on restoring fish passage, and the Clean Water Healthy
195 Habitat Strategic Plan. These policies guide King County's environmental regulations
196 and incentives, education, and stewardship programs in unincorporated King County.))~~

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199 ~~((I. ((Natural Environment and Regulatory
200 Context)) General Policy Guidance~~

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201 ~~((A.A.)) Integrated Approach~~

202 ~~((Environmental protection efforts need to be integrated across species, habitats,
203 ecosystems, and landscapes. Efforts to reduce flooding or protect water quality and
204 habitat cannot work successfully in isolation from management of land use across the
205 larger contributing landscape. Efforts to protect one particular species or resource type
206 could be detrimental to another if such efforts are not considered in an ecosystem
207 context. Protection and restoration of natural ecosystem processes provide the best
208 opportunity to conserve native species.~~

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210 ~~Likewise, t))The tools King County uses to protect the environment -- incentives,
211 regulations, changes in ((e))County operations, planning, capital projects, land
212 acquisition, education, stewardship, and monitoring. ~~((also)) need to be integrated. For
213 example, the regulatory buffers placed around wetlands need to consider changing
214 conditions in the watershed around the wetland, including natural hydrological
215 processes. These conditions are influenced by land use, stormwater runoff
216 management, clearing and grading requirements, and protection of forest cover and
217 open space. Incentives, education, and technical assistance programs also must work
218 hand-in-hand so that land((-))owners can access a seamless set of programs that work
219 together to accomplish environmental protection and restoration.~~~~

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221 As part of the ((2004)) 10-year Comprehensive Plan update process, King County
222 ((updated)) updates its critical areas, stormwater runoff management, and clearing and
223 grading regulations consistent with Growth Management Act requirements to ((include))
224 use best available science, ~~a nd ensure address no net loss of the functions and values of
225 critical areas and demonstrate "special consideration" given to conservation and
226 protection of anadromous fish species. These regulations are functionally interrelated,
227 with the standards for protection of wetlands, aquatic areas, and wildlife areas also
228 working in tandem with ((landscape-level)) standards for stormwater management,
229 water quality, and clearing and grading, as well as programs for land conservation.~~

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231 ~~((Habitat conditions vary throughout unincorporated King County, with higher quality
232 habitat generally found in less developed areas of the county. However, both urban~~

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233 and rural habitats play a critical role for various species and during different life stages.
234 The environmental protections the ~~((c))~~County uses should consider development
235 patterns, habitat conditions, and the roles played by different geographic and ecologic
236 areas. A geographic and watershed-based approach to planning, stewardship, and
237 environmental protection acknowledges that different areas of King County may have
238 different environmental and resource values and face different levels of development
239 pressure. Therefore, methods of protecting critical areas that respect those distinctions
240 must continue to evolve to balance the protection of the environment with the need to
241 reduce urban sprawl and preserve the County's quality of life.

242
243 ~~((In 2004, the county strengthened))~~ The County offers a variety of incentives ~~((available to))~~
244 ~~for land((-)owners ((through its Public Benefit Rating System, a)) to promote~~
245 ~~environmental stewardship and restoration and enhancement of ecosystems. These~~
246 ~~include tax incentive programs through which landowners can receive reduced~~
247 ~~property taxes in exchange for commitments to protect open space and natural~~
248 ~~resources((- However, incentives are not just limited to tax incentives, but can include)),~~
249 ~~market-based programs for permanent land protection and regulatory flexibility ((e.g.,~~
250 ~~alternatives to fixed-width buffers)) such as the Transfer of Development Rights program~~
251 ~~and fee-in-lieu compensatory mitigation program), ((streamlined permit processing,~~
252 ~~reduced permit fees;)) and free or low-cost technical assistance. ~~((Additionally, the King~~
253 ~~County Strategic Plan, released in 2010 and updated in 2015 through Motion 14317,~~
254 ~~has a healthy environment goal to preserve open space and rural character while~~
255 ~~addressing climate change:))~~~~

256
257 King County ~~((with))~~ uses existing and updated subarea and functional plans and Water
258 Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans to ~~((provide guidance to))~~ guide
259 programs, regulations, and incentives to protect and restore environmental quality.
260 ~~Two key plans developed by the~~The Department of Natural Resources and Parks~~County~~
261 ~~establish goals and strategies to ensure protection and enhancement of the~~
262 ~~environment to create ecological integrity and ensure benefits of a healthy environment~~
263 ~~accrue to all King County residents; has initiated the~~
264 ~~Land Conservation Initiative, which~~ calls for a series of accelerated actions to close
265 gaps in equitable access to open space and to protect King County's last, most
266 important natural lands and urban green spaces before increasing land prices and
267 development pressure foreclose opportunities for conservation. The ~~Land Conservation~~
268 ~~Initiative is a regional collaboration between King County, cities, businesses, farmers,~~
269 ~~environmental partners, and other key partners~~ outlines a strategy to save money and to
270 achieve conservation results more quickly and cost-effectively.
271 ~~Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan: Recommends 30-year (through 2050);~~
272 ~~outcome-based goals, measures and strategies for six interrelated goal areas: healthy~~
273 ~~forests and more greenspaces; cleaner, controlled stormwater runoff; reduced toxics~~
274 ~~and fecal pathogens; functional river floodplains; better habitat for fish; and resilient~~
275 ~~marine shorelines.~~

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~~((E-105))~~ E-101 Environmental quality and important ecological functions shall be protected and hazards to health and property shall be minimized through development reviews and implementation of land use ~~((plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, the Strategic Climate Action Plan, stormwater management plans and programs, flood-hazard management plans, environmental monitoring programs, and park ((master)) management plans, as well as focused ongoing efforts such as the fish passage restoration program, Land Conservation Initiative, 30-Year Forest Plan, and Clean Water Healthy Habitat Strategic Plan. Implementation of ((T)) these plans and programs ((shall)) should also encourage stewardship and restoration of critical areas as defined in the Growth Management Act, ((and include)) such as including an adaptive management approach)) and environmental plans and programs.~~

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~~((E-101))~~ E-102 In addition to its regulatory authority, King County should use incentives to protect and restore the natural environment ~~((whenever practicable)). Incentives ((shall)) should be monitored and periodically reviewed to determine their effectiveness ((in terms of)) at protecting and restoring natural resources.~~

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~~((E-102))~~ E-103 King County should take a regional role in promoting and supporting environmental stewardship through direct education, coordinating of educational efforts, and establishing partnerships with other entities that share similar environmental concerns and stewardship opportunities.

~~((E-102a))~~ E-104 King County ~~((will)) shall consider environmental justice and climate ((justice)) equity impacts and disparities in its planning, projects, and services to assess and mitigate unintended impacts on frontline communities and to ensure solutions that enhance conditions for people and the environment.~~

~~((E-112a))~~ E-105 The protection of lands where development would pose hazards to health and safety, property, important ecological functions, or environmental quality shall be achieved through acquisition, enhancement, incentive programs, and appropriate regulations. The following critical areas and their buffers are particularly susceptible and shall be protected in King County:

- a. ~~((Floodways of 100-year floodplains;~~
- b. ~~Slopes with a grade of 40((%)) percent or more or landslide hazards that cannot be mitigated;~~
- c. ~~Wetlands and their protective buffers;~~
- d. ~~Aquatic areas, including streams, lakes, marine shorelines and their protective buffers;~~
- e. ~~Channel migration hazard areas;~~
- f. ~~Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas;~~
- g. ~~Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas; and~~
- h. ~~Volcanic hazard areas)) Critical aquifer recharge areas;~~
- b. ~~Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas;~~
- c. ~~Frequently flooded areas, regulated as flood hazard areas;~~
- d. ~~Geologically hazardous areas; and~~
- e. ~~Wetlands.~~

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~~((E-417))~~ E-106 King County should take precautionary action informed by best available science where there is a significant risk of damage to the environment. Precautionary action should be coupled with monitoring and adaptive management.

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337 King County coordinates many programs internally as well as with other agencies and
338 governments. The cooperative development and implementation of watershed-based
339 salmon recovery plans over the last decade has brought together local governments,
340 federal and state agencies, residents, and interest groups. Continued collaboration at
341 the watershed level is critical for successful implementation of these habitat-focused
342 plans. Indian ((F))tribes with treaty-reserved fishing rights and the Washington
343 Department of Fish and Wildlife co-manage harvest and hatchery actions. Working
344 closely with these co-managers is essential to ensure that watershed-based salmon
345 recovery strategies effectively integrate habitat, harvest, and hatchery actions.

346
347 King County works closely with federal and state agencies, cities, and other counties to
348 try to integrate and streamline compliance with federal mandates, including the Clean
349 Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered Species Act. In doing so, multiple benefits
350 can be achieved. For example, in some cases mandated monitoring for Clean Water
351 Act compliance can provide useful information to support salmon conservation efforts.

352
353 King County also participates in ((F))the Puget Sound Partnership ((was created by the
354 Washington State Legislature and Governor in July 2007 to achieve the recovery of the
355 Puget Sound ecosystem by the year 2020. The Partnership's goal is)), which works
356 to coordinate and significantly strengthen the federal, state, local, and private efforts
357 undertaken to date to protect and restore the health of Puget Sound and its watersheds.
358 ((Additional discussion of King County's participation in the Puget Sound Partnership is
359 found later in this chapter:

360
361 King County also works closely with federal and state agencies, cities, and other
362 counties to try to integrate and streamline compliance with federal mandates, including
363 the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered Species Act. In doing so, multiple
364 benefits can be achieved. For example, in some cases mandated monitoring for Clean
365 Water Act compliance can provide useful information to support salmon conservation
366 efforts.))

367
368
369 **~~((E-104)) E-107 Development of environmental regulations, restoration, and~~**
370 **~~mitigation projects, and incentive and stewardship programs should be~~**
371 **~~coordinated with Indian tribes, local jurisdictions, federal and state~~**
372 **~~agencies, Indian ((tribes,)) special interest groups, and residents when~~**
373 **~~conserving and restoring the natural environment consistent with~~**
374 **~~Urban Growth Area, Rural Area, and ((designated)) Natural Resource~~**
375 **~~Land s goals.~~**
376

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377 **~~((E-422)) E-108 King County's land use and park planning ((,)) and regulatory ((,))~~**
378 **~~and operational functions related to environmental protection, public~~**
379 **~~safety, and equity should be closely coordinated across departments~~**
380 **~~and with other applicable agencies and organizations to achieve an~~**
381 **~~ecosystem-based approach.~~**
382

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383 **E-109 King County should promote the efficient provision of utilities and**
384 **public services by exempting minor activities from ((its)) critical areas**
385 **regulations((,)) if the agency ((has an approved)) develops a best**
386 **management practice s plan ((approved by King County, and the plan**
387 **ensures that proposed projects that may affect habitat of listed species**
388 **be carried out in a manner that protects the resource or mitigates**
389 **adverse impacts)) that:**
390 **a. Is based on best available science;**
391 **b. Accounts for no net loss of ecological functions; and**
392 **c. Ensures projects that may affect habitats of endangered,**
393 **threatened, sensitive, or candidate species, or species of local**

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importance, are carried out in a manner that protects the resource and mitigates adverse impacts.

The State Environmental Policy Act requires King County to consider the environmental impacts of proposed actions ~~((that may have a significant adverse environmental impact))~~. Over the years, King County has adopted development regulations that address many of the impacts that are likely to occur as a result of development. In many cases, King County's regulations adequately address environmental impacts and development proposals do not require additional mitigation under the State Environmental Policy Act. However, there may be certain development proposals or unusual circumstances not contemplated by the development regulations that require further mitigation under the State Environmental Policy Act. This principle is articulated in King County Code Chapter 20.44. The presence of a species listed by the federal government as endangered or threatened ~~((by the federal government))~~ is an example of such an unusual circumstance.

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~~((E-107)) Regulations to prevent unmitigated significant adverse environmental impacts should be based on the importance and sensitivity of the resource:~~

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~~E-108))~~ **E-110 King County may exercise its substantive authority under the State Environmental Policy Act to condition or deny proposed actions ((in order)) to mitigate associated individual or cumulative impacts such as significant habitat modification or degradation that ((may actually kill, injure, or harm listed threatened or endangered species by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including)) impairs breeding, feeding, spawning, rearing, migrating, ((or)) sheltering, or other essential behavior patterns for endangered, threatened, sensitive, or candidate species, or species and habitats of local importance.**

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~~((B.))~~ Policy and Regulatory Context

~~((3.))~~ Growth Management Act and Critical Areas Protection

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~~((The Growth Management Act requires that each city and county in Washington State identify, designate, and protect critical areas found in their local environment. Critical areas, as defined in the Growth Management Act, include wetlands, areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, frequently flooded areas and geologically hazardous areas.)) This chapter establishes policies for designating and protecting critical areas in King County. King County Code Title 21A provides the regulatory framework for these policies.~~

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~~((The Growth Management Act also requires local governments to include the best available science in developing policies and development regulations to protect the functions and values of critical areas, and to give special consideration to the conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous (fish that spawn in freshwater and spend part of their lifecycle in salt water) fisheries.))~~

~~((4.))~~ Shoreline Management Act

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The Shoreline Management Act requires each city and county with Shorelines of the State to adopt a Shoreline Master Program that complies with state guidelines but that is tailored to the specific needs of the community. The Shoreline Management Act applies to all marine waters, streams with a mean annual flow of 20 cubic feet or more per second, and lakes that are 20 acres or more in size. The Shoreline Management Act also applies to upland areas called "shorelands" within 200 feet of these waters, as well as

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446 associated wetlands and floodplains. The program's goals are set by state law and
447 include protecting natural resources, increasing public access to shorelines, and
448 encouraging businesses such as marinas along the waterfront.

449
450 Under the Shoreline Management Act, the Shoreline Master Program includes both a
451 Shoreline Master Plan and implementing shoreline land use and development
452 regulations. The Growth Management Act requires that a local government's
453 Comprehensive Plan, Shoreline Master Plan, and development regulations, including
454 both shoreline regulations and critical area regulations, must be consistent with each
455 other. The Shoreline Master Program is included in ~~((its entirety in)) Chapter 6,~~
456 ~~Shorelines, and portions of King County Code Titles 20 and 21A.)~~

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~~((I.))~~ Climate Change

457 Climate change is one of the paramount environmental and economic challenges for
458 this generation. Human caused sources of greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon
459 dioxide and methane, are causing unprecedented and severe changes in global and
460 local climate systems. This is the consensus view of the world's leading scientists,
461 including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the U.S. National
462 Academy of Sciences.

463
464 King County faces significant environmental and economic challenges stemming from
465 climate change, including stressed and rapidly changing ecosystems, costly impacts on
466 public and private property, and increasing public health risks related to wildfire smoke,
467 extreme heat waves, and changes in infectious diseases. The impacts of a changing
468 climate will be experienced differently by King County residents, influenced by factors
469 such as income, age, health, and location. These changes can act as a threat multiplier
470 that creates complex challenges, particularly for frontline communities affected by
471 historical and current inequities who have limited resources to adapt.

472
473 Effective and equitable climate action requires a significant commitment on the part of
474 King County to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare for climate change impacts,
475 and build sustainable and resilient frontline communities.

476
477 King County's ((2015)) Strategic Climate Action Plan, ((which was adopted)) updated
478 every five years and approved by the King County Council ~~((through Motion 14449)),~~ is
479 King County's comprehensive legislative and policy plan for equitable climate action. ~~((It~~
480 ~~provides the blueprint for county decision-makers, employees, and the general public~~
481 ~~to learn about the County's climate change commitments:))~~ The Strategic Climate
482 Action Plan outlines King County's priorities and commitments for climate action,
483 integrating climate change and climate equity into all areas of County operations and in
484 the County's work with cities, partners, communities, and residents. A subset of the
485 policies and commitments from the Strategic Climate Action Plan are also reflected in
486 this section of the Comprehensive Plan. ~~((To learn more about the Strategic Climate~~
487 ~~Action Plan: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/climate>.~~

488
489 Impacts from climate change have the potential to dramatically impact ecosystems,
490 agriculture, economy, biodiversity, and public health and safety in myriad and
491 interrelated ways. Impacts of a changing climate will be experienced differently by King
492 County residents, influenced by factors such as income, age, health, and location.
493 However, by working collaboratively to develop and implement strategies to prevent,
494 respond to, and prepare for climate change, King County has many opportunities to
495 address broader inequities. Sustaining quality of life and the environment requires a
496 significant commitment on the part of King County to both reducing greenhouse gas
497 emissions, the primary driver of human caused climate change, and preparing for
498 climate change impacts in an ever-changing and increasingly dynamic landscape:))

500

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501 **E-201** ~~The 2020 County's Strategic Climate Action Plan, or successor plans,~~
502 ~~should guide the planning, development, and implementation of~~
503 ~~greenhouse gas reduction goals and actions, equitable and community-~~
504 ~~driven climate solutions, and policies and actions that reduce climate~~
505 ~~change vulnerabilities and increase climate resilience.~~
506

507 ~~((Climate Change Science and Impacts~~

508 Human caused sources of greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide and
509 methane, are causing unprecedented and severe changes in global and local climate
510 systems. This is the consensus view of the world's leading scientists, including the
511 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the US National Academy of Sciences.

512
513 In King County, decreasing mountain snowpack, increasing flooding, and rising sea
514 levels are evidence that the climate system is changing. While many factors affect the
515 climate system and natural environment, scientists have attributed many changes in
516 significant part to recent increases in atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations. The
517 County faces significant environmental and economic challenges stemming from
518 climate change, including stressed and rapidly changing ecosystems, costly impacts on
519 public and private property, and new public health risks resulting from worsening air
520 and water quality (e.g., toxic algal blooms), additional heat related impacts, and
521 increased exposure to infectious disease.))
522

523 ~~King County Greenhouse Gas Emissions~~

524 Climate change over the last century has been caused primarily ~~((from))~~ by increasing
525 greenhouse gas emissions such as methane, carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide. ~~Human~~
526 ~~activities, such as the use of fossil fuels and land conversion, are the main cause of these~~
527 ~~emissions.~~ King County is committed to ~~((reduce the))~~ reducing greenhouse gas
528 emissions of its operations and ~~((support))~~ to supporting broader efforts to reduce
529 countywide emissions.
530

531 ~~((Government Operations~~

532 ~~King County government operations create greenhouse gas emissions.))~~ Major
533 ~~((government))~~ sources of greenhouse gas emissions from King County government
534 operations are associated with combustion of diesel and gasoline for transit buses and
535 fleet vehicles, methane from landfills, electricity usage, and fossil fuel usage in buildings
536 and for wastewater treatment, and emissions from the production, use, and disposal of
537 government-purchased goods and services.
538

539 ~~((King County is making progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from county~~
540 ~~operations, with emissions from energy-related non-transit sources decreasing 14%~~
541 ~~between 2007 and 2014. During this time emissions directly associated with vehicles~~
542 ~~and transit service increased by six percent, primarily due to increased use of biodiesel~~
543 ~~and increased transit service.~~
544

545 ~~Countywide~~

546 ~~Within King County's geography))~~ At the countywide community scale, the largest
547 contributors to greenhouse gas emissions are ~~((primarily caused by))~~ fossil fuel use
548 ~~((gasoline and diesel) for transportation and to a lesser but significant extent to heat~~
549 ~~buildings (natural gas and heating oil))~~ for building energy and transportation, followed
550 to a lesser extent by land use, refrigerants, waste, and wastewater. In King County,
551 overall greenhouse gas emissions increased by 11 percent from 2007 to 2019; however,
552 per capita emissions declined by seven percent during the same time period. The most
553 substantial drivers for an increase in emissions were population growth, higher

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554 ~~greenhouse gas emissions from:~~ electricity, and increased aviation emissions. The
555 largest contributors to decreasing emissions have been increased efficiency of
556 passenger vehicles (decreased emissions per mile) and more efficient electricity use by
557 households and commercial entities. Additional significant emissions are associated
558 with consumption in King County, but these sources do not necessarily occur within its
559 geographic borders. These emissions are created through the production, transport,
560 sale, use, and disposal of ((imported)) purchased goods and services ((such as food and
561 electronics)).
562

563 ~~((Preparing for Climate Change Impacts~~

564 Even if all human sources of greenhouse gas emissions ceased today, global and
565 regional temperatures would continue to increase for several decades. Therefore, King
566 County must be proactive in preparing for local climate change impacts. For King
567 County, this includes preparing for more frequent and severe flooding and droughts;
568 developing recycled water sources, working with farm and forest owners to address
569 climate change impacts, planning for effects of climate change on human health, taking
570 steps to improve the resiliency of the natural and built environments, and ensuring that
571 the County can continue to provide services such as transit, wastewater treatment, and
572 flood protection.))
573

574 ~~**E-201** King County should participate in and support appropriate local,
575 regional and national efforts and organizations focused on reducing
576 greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for climate change impacts.))~~
577

578 ~~((Status of King County Climate Change Efforts))~~

579 King County ((has a long record of)) is committed to innovation, leadership, and
580 investment in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, prioritizing climate equity, and
581 preparing for the impacts of climate change. Consideration of climate change impacts
582 and opportunities to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions are deeply
583 embedded throughout the work plans and capital investments of ((c))County
584 departments and lines of business. ((Since 2010, the investments in energy efficiency
585 and changes in operations have reduced building energy use and costs by over \$3
586 million annually.

587
588 King County Metro has pioneered the use of hybrid bus technology is on track to have
589 an all hybrid or electric bus fleet by 2018. As of 2015, the county is now producing
590 renewable energy equivalent to 57% of its government operational energy needs.
591 However, to make significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and ensure that
592 the built and natural environment are resilient in the face of a changing climate, even
593 bolder action and stronger collaboration with cities, businesses, and county residents is
594 required.))
595

596 The following ((sections of this section highlight and)) subsections include climate-
597 related policies, which are consistent with key ((2015)) Strategic Climate Action Plan
598 ((policies and commitments)) goals, strategies, and priority actions.
599

600 ~~**E-202** King County shall assess and publicly report on:
601 a. Its normalized and total energy usage and total greenhouse gas
602 emissions associated with county operations;
603 b. Countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident,
604 business, and other local government activities; and
605 c. Countywide greenhouse gas inventories that quantify all direct
606 local sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions
607 associated with local consumption.~~
608

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609 ~~E-203 King County shall collaborate to set transparent standards to account~~
610 ~~for the net energy and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of~~
611 ~~government actions such as constructing transportation infrastructure~~
612 ~~and providing services such as recycling and transit and shall assess and~~
613 ~~publically report these impacts as practicable.~~
614

615 ~~E-204 King County shall collaborate with experts in the field of climate~~
616 ~~change, including scientists at the University of Washington's Climate~~
617 ~~Impacts Group, to monitor, assess and publicly share information about~~
618 ~~the impacts of climate change in King County.))~~

619 ~~((B:))~~ A. Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

620 King County is ~~((leading by example in))~~ reducing operational sources of greenhouse
621 gas emissions through efforts such as:

- 622 • ~~(((Green building and sustainable development practices that reduce emissions of~~
623 ~~capital facilities projects;~~
- 624 ~~• Purchasing and maintenance practices that reduce emissions associated with the~~
625 ~~production, use and disposal of goods and services;~~
- 626 ~~• Modifying operations of county buildings and facilities that reduce emissions and~~
627 ~~resource demand;~~
- 628 ~~• Purchasing and efficiently using alternative vehicles such as electric powered~~
629 ~~vanpools ~~((and hybrid)), cars, and buses;~~~~
- 630 ~~• Improving energy efficiency and producing renewable energy sources at King~~
631 ~~County's wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal facilities; and~~
- 632 ~~• Protecting forested areas, encouraging and supporting active stewardship, and~~
633 ~~undertaking tree planting and restoration projects that enhance biological carbon~~
634 ~~sequestration))~~
- 635 • Increasing the efficiency of County vehicle fleets and minimizing their greenhouse
636 gas emissions:
- 637 • Reducing energy use in County facilities, making investments to reduce building
638 fossil fuel use, and producing more renewable energy;
- 639 • Building, maintaining, and operating County facilities consistent with the highest
640 green building and sustainable building practices;
- 641 • Minimizing operational resource use, maximizing reuse and recycling, and choosing
642 products and services with low environmental and ~~carbon-greenhouse gas~~ impacts;
643 and
- 644 • Managing and restoring County-owned parks, natural lands, and farmlands to
645 maximize biological carbon storage and increase climate resilience.

646
647 King County is also supporting emissions reductions at the broader countywide scale
648 through ~~((sustainable land use policies, transportation infrastructure, and through the~~
649 ~~provision of important services such as recycling and transit, including actions and~~
650 ~~policies))~~ efforts such as:

- 651 ~~((~~
- 652 ~~• Land use designations and zoning that influence the pattern and density of~~
653 ~~development and the level of reliance on single occupancy vehicles;~~
- 654 ~~• Use of voluntary tools such as Transfer of Development Rights to reduce~~
655 ~~development density on Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands;~~
- 656 ~~• Building codes and facilities standards that can influence the types of building~~
657 ~~materials and future energy demands;~~
- 658 ~~• Promoting the use of transit and non-motorized travel modes to decrease vehicle~~
659 ~~miles traveled; and~~
- 660 ~~• Protecting Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands from further development~~

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- 661 through acquisition of fee title or conservation easements to redirect future growth
- 662 to urban areas to reduce emissions related to transportation and new
- 663 development))
- 664 • ~~Reducing passenger car trips and vehicle emissions by sustaining and increasing~~
- 665 ~~transit services, focusing development into urban areas and centers, supporting~~
- 666 ~~equitable pricing of vehicle usage, and supporting clean fuels and electric vehicles;~~
- 667 • ~~Reducing energy and fossil fuel use in the built environment and increasing the use~~
- 668 ~~of clean energy supplies and technologies by partnering ~~to~~ develop efficiency~~
- 669 ~~programs and supporting converting oil, natural gas, and propane-heated homes~~
- 670 ~~to clean sources;~~
- 671 • ~~Reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions associated with new~~
- 672 ~~construction, additions, retrofits, and remodels in all buildings in King County by~~
- 673 ~~working with partners to advance state green building code amendments, updating~~
- 674 ~~building codes in unincorporated King County, and improving commercial energy~~
- 675 ~~code;~~
- 676 • ~~Achieving a circular economy, whereby waste is minimized through prevention,~~
- 677 ~~reuse, recycling, and materials staying in use longer, by spurring and supporting~~
- 678 ~~new recycled markets, implementing a regional organics plan, prioritizing food~~
- 679 ~~waste reduction strategies, and making recycling improvements at County-owned~~
- 680 ~~transfer stations; and~~
- 681 • ~~Protecting high-value forests and farmlands, expanding the total area of forest~~
- 682 ~~cover and actively farmed lands, and restoring health, vitality, and resilience of~~
- 683 ~~forest and farmlands by implementing the Land Conservation Initiative; and Rural~~
- 684 ~~Forest Carbon Program, and ensuring that strategies to reduce emissions and~~
- 685 ~~increase carbon sequestration are included in farm and forest stewardship plans.~~

686 King County is committed to actions and solutions that reduce emissions and prevent

687 and repair harms to frontline communities. To learn more about how the County is

688 committed to advancing climate equity, see additional details in the "Advancing Climate

689 Equity" subsection of this section. Many actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions

690 result in additional benefits, such as saving energy and fuel costs, improving health, and

691 minimizing other types of air and water pollution. For example, walkable, transit-

692 oriented communities have been shown to have significantly below average ~~(per~~

693 ~~capita)~~ greenhouse gas emissions while at the same time saving residents money,

694 supporting healthier lifestyles, and creating stronger communities.

695

696

697 In some cases, ~~((€))~~County actions are direct sources of greenhouse gas emissions~~((r))~~

698 but, when considered at a broader scale, have a net emissions reduction benefit. For

699 example, ~~((providing public transportation results in significant direct greenhouse gas~~

700 ~~emissions, primarily from combusting diesel. At the same time;))~~ the greenhouse gas

701 ~~emissions avoided by providing public transit service ((offsets these direct operational~~

702 ~~emissions by more than three times by decreasing)) - from decreased driving, providing~~

703 ~~traffic congestion relief, and supporting walkable, efficient land use - are three times~~

704 ~~greater than direct emissions from operating public transit service itself.~~ As this

705 example shows, there are sometimes complex considerations that need to be taken into

706 account in making decisions about greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies.

707

708 ~~((Policies related to King County efforts to reduce operational and countywide~~

709 ~~greenhouse gas emissions are presented below. Policies related to reducing~~

710 ~~greenhouse gas emissions from, and adaptation strategies for, agriculture and forestry~~

711 ~~can be found in Chapter 3((:)), Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. Policies related~~

712 ~~to reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from transit and fleet vehicles can be found~~

713 ~~in Chapter 8((:)), Transportation. Policies related to water supply, use of recycled water,~~

714 ~~and energy can be found in Chapter 9((:)), Services, Facilities, and Utilities. Policies~~

715 ~~related to green building and sustainable development can be found in Chapter 9((:)),~~

716 ~~Services, Facilities, and Utilities (as related to government operations), and Chapter~~

717 ~~10((:)), Economic Development (as related to private development);))~~

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718 1. Government Operations

719 ((E-205)) E-202 King County shall reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ((all
720 facets of)) its operations and actions, including but not limited to, those
721 associated with construction and management of ((c)) County-owned
722 facilities, infrastructure development, transportation, and
723 environmental protection programs, to achieve the emissions
724 reductions targets set in ((E-206)) E-2032 and to work towards the
725 carbon neutral goal in F-((215b))415.

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727 ((E-206)) E-203 King County shall reduce total greenhouse gas emissions from
728 government operations, compared to a 2007 baseline, by at least
729 ((25%)) 50 percent by ((2020)) 2025 and ((50%)) 80 percent by 2030.

731 ((E-206a)) E-204 King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks,
732 including the Wastewater Treatment Division, Solid Waste Division,
733 Parks and Recreation Division, and Water and Land Resources Division,
734 ((shall)) should achieve, at a minimum, net carbon neutrality ((for its
735 operations by 2017)) on an annual basis.

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737 ((E-206b)) E-205 King County's Wastewater Treatment Division and Solid Waste
738 Division ((shall)) should each independently achieve carbon-neutral
739 operations by 2025.

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741 ((E-207)) E-206 King County shall ((develop and)) continue to implement an
742 operational "social cost of carbon." The social cost of carbon should be
743 used in life-cycle assessments and decision making related to County
744 operations, including for purchase of vehicles, buses, and fuels, for
745 facility construction and resource efficiency projects, and for related
746 technology investments. ((King County should also ((pursue)) consider,
747 using the social cost of carbon to inform broader County planning and
748 decision making.))

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750 ((E-208)) King County shall maximize the creation of resources from waste
751 products from county operations such as gases produced by
752 wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal in a manner that
753 reduces greenhouse gas emissions and produces renewable energy.))

755 ((E-209)) E-207 King County ((will)) shall continue to evaluate its own maintenance
756 and operations practices, including procurement, for opportunities to
757 reduce its own emissions or emissions produced in the manufacturing
758 of products.

759 2. Countywide

760 ((in 2014,)) King County and the 39 King County cities ((came together to develop)) have
761 shared, countywide greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. ((In July 2014, targets
762 were unanimously)) These targets are adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies ((by
763 the King County Growth Management Planning Council)). The formal adoption of a
764 shared, community-scale greenhouse gas emissions target by local governments ((is
765 relatively unusual in the U.S. United States, and)) provides a strong foundation and
766 guidepost for community-scale efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The shared
767 targets are near- and long-term, ambitious and achievable, and consistent with what
768 climate science says needs to be done ((in order)) to avoid the worst impacts of climate
769 change. ((The adopted targets are significantly more ambitious than Washington State's
770 greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements (Revised Code of Washington
771 47.01.440).))

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773 ~~((E-210))~~ **E-208** King County shall ~~((collaborate)),~~ independently and in
774 collaboration with ((its)) cities(,;) and other partners, ((to reduce
775 countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007
776 baseline, by 25% by 2020, 50% by 2030, and 80% by 2050)) adopt and
777 implement policies and programs to achieve a target of reducing
778 countywide sources of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a 2007
779 baseline, by 50 percent by 2030, 75 percent by 2040, and 95 percent
780 including net-zero emissions through carbon sequestration and other
781 strategies, by 2050, with net-zero emissions through carbon
782 sequestration and other strategies by that year. King County shall
783 evaluate and update these targets over time in consideration of the
784 latest international climate science and statewide targets aiming to
785 limit the most severe impacts of climate change and keep global
786 warming under 1.5 degrees Celsius.

787
788 ~~((E-212~~ **King County will work with its cities and other partners to establish a**
789 **greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for**
790 **use by all King County jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively**
791 **measure progress toward countywide targets.))**

792
793 Renewable energy technology, such as solar power, has the potential for replacing a
794 significant share of King County's energy portfolio. Renewable energy technologies
795 that have the benefit of zero or very low levels of greenhouse gas emissions should be
796 encouraged. ~~Renewable energy production can consider other potential benefits and~~
797 ~~uses of available resources, such as avoiding waste-to-renewable-energy efforts that~~
798 ~~disincentivize waste reduction or more beneficial societal uses~~~~Renewable energy~~
799 ~~production should consider other potential benefits and uses of renewable available~~
800 ~~resources; for example, King County should prioritize the use of potentially wasted~~
801 ~~edible food to reduce hunger over its use for renewable energy.~~ The renewable energy
802 technology industry is evolving, and no single technology is guaranteed to fit all the
803 county's alternative energy needs. King County should provide flexibility in its policies
804 and regulations to adapt to the changing circumstances.

805
806 ~~((E-213))~~ **E-209** King County should ensure that its land use policies, development
807 **and building regulations, technical assistance programs, and incentive**
808 **programs support and encourage the use of viable renewable energy,**
809 **energy efficiency, and fossil fuel reduction and transition technologies**
810 **that ((have)) produce zero or minimal greenhouse gas emissions, while**
811 **considering equity and racial and social justice siting impacts.**

812
813 **E-210** King County shall develop and implement building and energy codes
814 **that reduce energy use and phase out fossil fuel use in the built**
815 **environment within King County's jurisdiction.**

816
817 **E-211** King County shall support:
818 **a. Stronger Washington State building and energy codes and policies**
819 **that reduce energy use, reduce the embodied carbon of materials,**
820 **phase out fossil fuel use, and support deployment of electric**
821 **vehicles and clean energy; and**
822 **b. Increased state resources for local code development and**
823 **implementation.**

824
825 **E-212** King County should work with other local building officials and staff, as
826 **well as community partners and the building industry, to effectively**
827 **implement building and energy and building codes that reduce energy**
828 **use and the embodied carbon of materials and phase out fossil-fuel**
829 **use.**

830
831 ~~((F-215a))~~ **E-213** King County should plan to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

832 ~~emissions associated with new residential and commercial buildings~~
833 ~~built in King County ((2030)) 2031.~~

834
835 **E-214** ~~King County shall develop and implement countywide community-~~
836 ~~scale built environment programs and policies that:~~
837 ~~a. Reduce energy use, increase the use of renewable energy, and~~
838 ~~phase out the use of fossil fuels, such as: energy loan, residential~~
839 ~~efficiency retrofits; and fossil fuel reduction and transition~~
840 ~~incentives and programs; and~~
841 ~~b. Prioritize access and affordability of solutions for frontline~~
842 ~~communities, especially for low-income households at or below 80~~
843 ~~percent of area median income, senior, and renter households, and~~
844 ~~households headed by people aged 62 years and older.~~

845
846 ~~((E-214)) E-215 King County, through its Comprehensive Plan policies and~~
847 ~~development regulations, should promote healthy community designs~~
848 ~~that enable ((walking, bicycling,)) active transportation and public~~
849 ~~transit use, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and regional~~
850 ~~air pollution.~~

851
852 ~~((New Development~~

853 ~~Nearly every new development results in new sources of greenhouse house gas~~
854 ~~emissions. These include emissions from construction and land development,~~
855 ~~emissions created from producing and transporting building materials, energy used in~~
856 ~~operating buildings and structures, and transportation associated with the~~
857 ~~development. Although the emissions associated with construction occur today, the~~
858 ~~emissions associated with energy and transportation will occur over the life of the~~
859 ~~development, which may extend for 50 years or more. This means that decisions made~~
860 ~~today about development will have an effect on climate change far into the future.))~~

861
862 ~~E-215 King County shall evaluate proposed actions subject to the State~~
863 ~~Environmental Policy Act for their greenhouse gas emissions. King~~
864 ~~County may exercise its substantive authority under the State~~
865 ~~Environmental Policy Act to condition or deny proposed actions in~~
866 ~~order to mitigate associated individual or cumulative impacts to global~~
867 ~~warming. In exercising its authority under this policy, King County~~
868 ~~should consider project types that are presumed to be not significant in~~
869 ~~generating greenhouse gas emissions and do not require review for~~
870 ~~their greenhouse gas emissions. (Any standards related to~~
871 ~~consideration of greenhouse gas emissions through the State~~
872 ~~Environmental Policy Act process shall be subject to Council review and~~
873 ~~adoption by ordinance.))~~

874 **3. Assessment**

875 King County has completed periodic inventories and assessments of greenhouse gas
876 emissions associated with government operations, as well as emissions associated with
877 all resident and business activity in the county, since 2000. These assessments have
878 provided valuable data to inform actions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as
879 well as to monitor progress toward meeting emissions reduction targets.

880
881 ~~((E-202)) E-215 King County shall ((assess and publicly report on:~~
882 ~~a. Its normalized and total energy usage and total greenhouse gas~~
883 ~~emissions associated with county operations;~~
884 ~~b. Countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident,~~
885 ~~business, and other local government activities; and~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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- ~~c. Countywide greenhouse gas inventories that quantify all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions as well as emissions associated with local consumption);~~
- ~~a. Assess and publicly report on countywide greenhouse gas emissions associated with resident, business, and local government buildings, vehicles, and solid waste at least every two years;~~
- ~~b. Update its comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory that quantifies all direct local sources of greenhouse gas emissions and emissions associated with local consumption at least every five years; and~~
- ~~c. Develop city-specific emissions inventories and data, in partnership with cities.~~

~~((E-203)) E-216 King County ((shall ((collaborate to set transparent standards to account for the net energy and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of government actions such as constructing transportation infrastructure and providing services such as recycling and transit and shall)) should assess and ((publically)) publicly report on ((these impacts as practicable)) the net and total energy and net greenhouse gas impacts of the County providing operations and services at least every five years, such as recycling and public transit, and constructing infrastructure, using best practice accounting standards.~~

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B. Advancing Climate Equity

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~~King County recognizes that climate change can have disproportionate impacts on frontline communities due to existing and historical racial, social, environmental, and economic inequities. These inequities create barriers to frontline community participation in decision-making processes. Climate equity ensures the just distribution of climate protection efforts and alleviates the unequal burdens created by climate change through an equitable division of accountability, benefits, and opportunities. Addressing climate change and social inequities simultaneously requires bold action to prioritize equity, to develop co-benefit solutions (solutions for that benefit people and stabilize for climate stabilization impacts) in partnership with frontline communities, and to address climate change as a threat multiplier to other social issues, including systemic racism.~~

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~~As King County transitions away from an extractive fossil fuel-based economy toward a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable one, it is critical that the County's solutions benefit frontline communities and avoid leaving people behind. This approach requires addressing the root causes of climate vulnerability, which often overlap and compound impacts. By intentionally investing in and partnering with frontline communities, the County can center and integrate community-driven climate solutions. The County is addressing climate equity by working with frontline communities to:~~

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- ~~• Plan for and invest in long-term partnerships that build capacity in frontline communities; Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color populations; and among youth;~~
- ~~• Build the knowledge base of community leaders and community-based organizations regarding climate change impacts on frontline communities;~~
- ~~• Invest in and supporting green jobs pathways that advance sustainability and living-wage career opportunities for frontline communities;~~
- ~~• Partner with and invest in frontline communities' ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergency events and climate-related health impacts;~~
- ~~• Invest in strengthening local, culturally relevant food systems and food security for populations at risk of food insecurity;~~

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- 939 • ~~Support, align, and elevate actions and strategies advancing affordable and~~
940 ~~climate-resilient housing in frontline communities, including anti-displacement~~
941 ~~strategies;~~
- 942 • ~~Support and invest in reducing energy burden, and increasing access to and~~
943 ~~resources for transitioning to sustainable and energy efficient systems; and~~
- 944 • ~~Prioritize community-driven mobility development and climate-resilient transit~~
945 ~~infrastructure.~~

946
947 ~~Climate equity is anchored within the Environment chapter. As an intersectional issue, it~~
948 ~~is also reflected across other parts of the Comprehensive Plan, including: the Guiding~~
949 ~~Principles in Chapter 1, Regional Growth Management Planning; Chapter 3, Rural Areas~~
950 ~~and Natural Resource Lands; Chapter 4, Housing and Human Services; Chapter 7, Parks,~~
951 ~~Open Space, and Cultural Resources; Chapter 8, Transportation; and Chapter 10,~~
952 ~~Economic Development.~~

953
954 ~~**E-217 King County shall prioritize and support ongoing partnerships with**~~
955 ~~**frontline communities in co-development and implementation of**~~
956 ~~**County climate planning, policies, and programs.**~~

957
958 ~~**E-218 King County shall invest in and enable culturally contextualized and**~~
959 ~~**linguistically contextualized appropriate climate change education that**~~
960 ~~**builds frontline communities' capacity to engage on climate change**~~
961 ~~**impacts and solutions.**~~

962 ~~**E-219 King County shall invest in climate solutions that result in equitable**~~
963 ~~**outcomes that benefit frontline communities by:**~~

- 964 ~~a. Centering and funding access and pathways to living wage green~~
965 ~~jobs and careers for frontline communities, including youth and~~
966 ~~Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color populations;~~
- 967 ~~b. Providing frontline communities with resources and support to~~
968 ~~respond to extreme weather events and public health emergencies~~
969 ~~through culturally relevant strategies and avenues;~~
- 970 ~~c. Supporting a just food economy that increases affordability and~~
971 ~~access to healthy foods;~~
- 972 ~~d. Addressing housing insecurities intensified by climate change~~
973 ~~through programs and resources expanding frontline community~~
974 ~~access to climate-resilient housing and anti-displacement~~
975 ~~strategies; and~~
- 976 ~~e. Prioritizing an affordable transition to renewable energy~~
977 ~~infrastructure and utility assistance; and~~
- 978 ~~f. Expanding public transportation mobility access and climate-~~
979 ~~resilient infrastructure for frontline communities in greatest need of~~
980 ~~public transit.~~

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983 ~~**E-220 King County shall prioritize an affordable transition from fossil fuels to**~~
984 ~~**renewable energy for frontline communities, and should expand the**~~
985 ~~**availability to those communities of utility assistance and measures for**~~
986 ~~**energy efficiency, renewable energy, and fossil fuel reduction and**~~
987 ~~**transition.**~~

988 ~~((C.))~~ Preparing for Climate Change Impacts

989 Climate change impacts are here and now(~~(, in the last century, sea level in Seattle has~~
990 ~~risen by eight inches and average annual temperatures in the Pacific Northwest have~~
991 ~~increased 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit)). ~~Average annual air temperature is increasing,~~
992 ~~heavy rain events are getting heavier, the region is experiencing a long-term decline in~~
993 ~~snow and ice in the Cascades and Olympic mountains, sea level is rising, and ocean~~~~

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994 chemistry is changing in ways that are harmful to local marine species like shellfish and
995 salmon. These changes can have significant consequences. More than 30 deaths in
996 King County were attributable to a record-setting June 2021 heat wave that saw
997 temperatures reach 108 degrees Fahrenheit or higher in the County. While greenhouse
998 gas emissions must be reduced to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, impacts
999 are projected through the end of the century or longer, even if global and local
1000 greenhouse gas emissions are drastically cut. To ensure that County residents are
1001 prepared for and able to effectively adapt to climate change impacts, ((T))the County is
1002 integrating climate change preparedness into:

- 1003 • Operations and maintenance of infrastructure, programs, and natural
- 1004 resources;
- 1005 • Provision of public services;
- 1006 • Policies and regulation; and
- 1007 • Partnerships with other local governments, community groups and businesses.
- 1008

1009 1. Overarching Climate Change Preparedness Goals

1010 ~~((E-215a)) King County will collaborate with local cities, residents, and other~~
1011 ~~partners to prepare for the effects of climate change on the~~
1012 ~~environment, human health, public safety, and the economy.))~~

- 1013
- 1014 **E-221 King County shall take actions that equitably reduce climate change**
1015 **vulnerabilities and increase the resilience of King County residents,**
1016 **communities, natural systems, and the built environment by:**
- 1017 **a. Integrating and accounting for climate impacts in policies, plans,**
1018 **practices, and procedures, and implementing climate-resilient**
1019 **decisions;**
 - 1020 **b. Investing in and using data and other technical information to inform**
1021 **climate preparedness work at King County;**
 - 1022 **c. Prioritizing health and equity in climate preparedness actions and**
1023 **activities;**
 - 1024 **d. Strengthening collaborations and partnerships to address countywide**
1025 **climate impacts and increase regional resilience; and**
 - 1026 **e. Investing in public outreach, engagement, and technical assistance**
1027 **related to climate preparedness.**

1028 2. Integrating Climate Preparedness

1029 ~~Effectively preparing for climate change requires accounting for climate impacts in the~~
1030 ~~policies, plans, and practices that influence day-to-day decision-making at King County;~~
1031 ~~it also requires understanding where mMore transformative changes may be needed to~~
1032 ~~achieve climate-resilient outcomes. Finally, it requires eEvaluating the effectiveness of~~
1033 ~~actions over time and implementing evidence-based decisions that reduce climate~~
1034 ~~impacts and increase resilience is necessary. Preparing for climate change must~~
1035 ~~become part of what the County does rather than an activity considered separate from~~
1036 ~~other decision-making and implementation activities.~~

1037

1038 ~~((E215b)) E-222 King County ((will)) shall plan and prepare for the likely impacts of~~
1039 ~~climate change on County-owned facilities, infrastructure, and natural~~
1040 ~~resources, and shall develop and, as feasible, implement strategies to~~
1041 ~~incorporate climate change response into the design and operations of~~
1042 ~~its facilities, infrastructure, and natural resources.~~

1043

1044 ~~((E-215bb)) E-223 King County ((should)) shall develop and implement~~
1045 ~~regulations that help mitigate and build ((resiliency)) resilience to the~~
1046 ~~anticipated impacts of climate change, based on best available~~
1047 ~~information. Such impacts could include sea level rise((s)); changes in~~

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rainfall patterns and flood volumes and frequencies~~((:));~~ changes in average and extreme temperatures and weather~~((:));~~ impacts to slope stability, including increasing and more intense landslides and alluvial fan hazards; and impacts to forests, including increased wildfires, droughts ~~((and pest infiltrations)),~~ disease, and insect attacks. Methods could include mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, establishing sea level rise regulations, managing existing and limiting new development in floodplains, and/or strengthening forests' ability to withstand impacts.

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~~((E-215bbb))~~ King County shall assess the best available sea level rise projections two years prior to each eight-year update, and shall incorporate the projections into the Comprehensive Plan where appropriate.))

~~((E-219))~~ E-224 King County shall integrate estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change impacts into capital project planning, siting, design, and construction and ~~((also))~~ implement infrastructure operation and maintenance programs that consider full life-cycle costs and climate change impacts in asset management.

~~((E-216))~~ E-225 King County shall integrate observed and projected climate change impacts, including severe weather, extreme heat, extreme cold, flooding, drought, wildfire, and landslides, into emergency management planning and programs.

~~((E223))~~ E-226 King County shall consider projected impacts of climate change on habitat for salmon and other wildlife when developing long-range conservation plans and prioritizing habitat protection and restoration actions.

~~((E-224))~~ E-227 To foster resilience to climate change in ecosystems and species, King County should prioritize efforts such as: the restoration of floodplains to improve the resilience of major rivers to changing flow regimes and temperatures; the protection and restoration of riparian vegetation and mature and old-growth forests to reduce warming in cold water systems, of wetlands to reduce drought and flooding, and of connections between different habitats to maintain current seasonal migration; and facilitate migration opportunities for species whose ranges shift in latitude and altitude.

3. Building Technical Capacity

King County is committed to using best available science and technical information to inform its climate preparedness work. This includes drawing on existing climate change research and technical studies conducted by other agencies and organizations, as well as directly funding and/or conducting new studies and technical assessments. This also includes building internal staff capacity and expertise to apply current data and science to preparedness activities.

~~((E-204))~~ E-228 King County shall collaborate with ~~((experts in the field of climate change,))~~ the scientific community, including scientists at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group~~((:))~~ or successor groups, and with state and federal agencies and other jurisdictions, when needed, to monitor, assess, and publicly share information about the impacts of climate change in King County, including development of detailed, science-based estimates of the magnitude and timing of impacts on air temperatures and heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, forest health and wildfire, public health, flooding, landslides and debris

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~~flows, channel migration, sea level rise, biodiversity (including fish and wildlife), and ocean acidification.~~

~~(((E-215c)) E-229 King County should collaborate with the scientific community, state and federal agencies, and other jurisdictions to develop detailed, science-based estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change, including impacts on air temperatures and heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, forest health and wildfire, public health, river flooding, sea level rise, biodiversity (including fish and wildlife), and ocean acidification ((in King County));))~~

~~((E-215bbb)) E-229 King County shall assess the best available sea level rise projections ((two-years)) prior to each ((eight)) 10-year update(;-) and shall ((incorporate the projections into)) update relevant risk assessments and policies in the Comprehensive Plan, where appropriate.~~

~~((E-220)) E-230 King County shall periodically review and evaluate climate change impacts on natural resources that its resource programs are designed to protect, such as open space, forests, fisheries, productive farmland, and water ((quality and treatment)) resources, ((in order)) to assess and improve the efficacy of existing strategies and commitments.~~

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4. Prioritizing Health and Equity

~~Grounding King County's climate preparedness work in climate and health equity, with a focus on vulnerable populations, will help ensure that County efforts help address disproportionate impacts.~~

~~((E-218)) E-231 King County shall ((apply its Equity Impact Review process)) use equity impact reviews to help prioritize investments in making infrastructure, natural resources, and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change.~~

~~((E-225)) E-232 Through land use and transportation actions, King County should work to reduce ((air quality and)) climate change ((related)) health inequities ((and)) related to the exposure of vulnerable populations to poor air quality and extreme weather events.~~

~~((E-226)) E-233 King County shall develop and incorporate into outreach efforts public health messages related to the health implications of climate change, particularly in urban communities, and the benefits of actions(;- such as using alternative transportation options that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and improve public health)) that can reduce climate impacts on health.~~

5. ((Public Services)) Outreach, Engagement, and Education

~~Successfully preparing for and adapting to climate change requires building a shared understanding of how climate change is affecting King County, how the County is actively working to reduce climate impacts and build resilience, and what individuals and communities can do to reduce climate risks. This includes outreach and engagement work to King County staff, residents, and businesses.~~

~~E-234 King County should shall implement and support equitable outreach, engagement, and technical assistance related to reducing climate risks. This should include, but not be limited to, providing information on climate change impacts in King County, local efforts to address climate~~

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1159 **change, and actions that individuals and communities can take to**
1160 **reduce climate risks.**

1161
1162 ~~E-216 — King County shall integrate observed and projected climate change~~
1163 ~~impacts, including severe weather, flooding, drought, fire, and~~
1164 ~~landslides, into emergency management planning and programs:~~

1165
1166 ~~((E-217 — King County will work with its cities and other partners to formulate~~
1167 ~~and implement climate change adaptation strategies that address the~~
1168 ~~impacts of climate change to public health and safety, the economy,~~
1169 ~~public and private infrastructure, water resources, and habitat.~~

1170
1171 ~~E-218 — King County shall apply its Equity Impact Review process to help~~
1172 ~~prioritize investments in making infrastructure, natural resources,~~
1173 ~~and communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change:~~

1174 *County Infrastructure and Operations*

1175 ~~E-219 — King County shall integrate estimates of the magnitude and timing~~
1176 ~~of climate change impacts into capital project planning, siting,~~
1177 ~~design, and construction and also implement infrastructure~~
1178 ~~operation and maintenance programs that consider full life-cycle~~
1179 ~~costs and climate change impacts in asset management.~~

1180 *Natural Environment*

1181 ~~E-220 — King County shall periodically review and evaluate climate change~~
1182 ~~impacts on natural resources that its resource programs are designed to~~
1183 ~~protect, such as open space, forests, fisheries, productive farmland, and~~
1184 ~~water quality and treatment, in order to assess and improve the efficacy~~
1185 ~~of existing strategies and commitments.~~

1186
1187 ~~E-222 — King County should collaborate with climate scientists in order to~~
1188 ~~increase knowledge of current and projected climate change impacts to~~
1189 ~~biodiversity:~~

1190
1191 ~~E-223 — King County shall consider projected impacts of climate change on~~
1192 ~~habitat for salmon and other wildlife when developing long-range~~
1193 ~~conservation plans and prioritizing habitat protection and restoration~~
1194 ~~actions:~~

1195
1196 ~~E-224 — To foster resilience to climate change in ecosystems and species,~~
1197 ~~King County should prioritize efforts such as: the restoration of~~
1198 ~~floodplains to improve the resilience of major rivers to changing~~
1199 ~~flow regimes and temperatures; the protection and restoration of~~
1200 ~~riparian vegetation to reduce warming in cold water systems, of~~
1201 ~~wetlands to reduce drought and flooding, and of connections~~
1202 ~~between different habitats to maintain current seasonal migration;~~
1203 ~~and facilitate migration opportunities for species whose ranges~~
1204 ~~shift in latitude and altitude.~~

1205 *Public Health*

1206 Vulnerable populations are often defined as groups whose unique needs may not be
1207 fully integrated into planning for disaster response. These populations include, but are
1208 not limited to, those who are physically or mentally disabled, blind, deaf,
1209 hard-of-hearing, cognitively impaired, or mobility challenged. Also included in this
1210 group are those who are non-English (or not fluent) speakers, geographically or
1211 culturally isolated, medically or chemically dependent, homeless, frail elderly and
1212 children. Public Health - Seattle & King County has established a Vulnerable Population

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1213 Action Team (The Community Resilience + Equity Program) to address the needs of this
1214 population.))

1215
1216 ~~E-225 Through land use and transportation actions, King County should
1217 work to reduce air quality and climate change related health
1218 inequities and the exposure of vulnerable populations to poor air
1219 quality and extreme weather events.~~

1220
1221 ~~E-226 King County shall develop and incorporate into outreach efforts
1222 public health messages related to the health implications of climate
1223 change, particularly in urban communities, and the benefits of
1224 actions, such as using alternative transportation options that
1225 simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air
1226 quality, and improve public health.))~~

1227 ~~((D.)) Collaboration with Others~~

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1228 King County recognizes that ((the)) climate change ((challenge)) is worldwide in its
1229 scope, ((and that)) with far-reaching consequences to the environment and to
1230 ((humankind's)) quality of life ((may result if this issue is not addressed effectively)).
1231 ((King)) While the County's actions are important ((contributors to addressing this issue,
1232 however, its)) contributions, the global nature ((will)) of climate change requires
1233 cooperation across local, regional, state, and international boundaries. King County can
1234 play important roles in collaborating with others ((on solutions, especially)) through
1235 community outreach, education, advocacy, monitoring, and information sharing with
1236 other ((local)) governments and universities.

1237
1238 ~~((E-201)) E-235 King County ((should)) shall participate in and support appropriate
1239 local, regional, and national efforts and organizations focused on
1240 reducing greenhouse gas emissions, advancing climate equity, and
1241 preparing for climate change impacts.~~

1242
1243 ~~((E-227)) E-236 King County shall support((s)) a comprehensive federal, regional,
1244 and state science-based limits and a market-based price on carbon
1245 pollution and other greenhouse gas emissions. A portion of revenue
1246 from these policies should support local greenhouse gas emissions
1247 reduction efforts, such as funding for transit service, energy efficiency
1248 and fossil fuel reduction projects, and forest protection and restoration
1249 initiatives; efforts that advance climate equity and frontline community
1250 investments; and climate preparedness and resilience efforts.~~

1251
1252 ~~E-237 King County shall ((also)) support((s)) renewable energy standards for
1253 electricity production and vehicle efficiency performance standards.~~

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1254
1255 ~~((E-228)) E-238 King County ((should)) shall advocate for federal, regional, and
1256 state initiatives and grant and loan programs that support local
1257 investments in projects and programs, such as community solar, fossil
1258 fuel reduction, ((and)) energy efficiency retrofits to reduce greenhouse
1259 gas emissions, climate equity, and ((prepare)) preparedness strategies
1260 for climate change impacts.~~

1261
1262 ~~((E-215a)) E-239 King County ((will)) shall collaborate with ((local)) cities,
1263 residents, and other partners to prepare for and adapt to the effects of
1264 climate change on the environment, natural resources, human health,
1265 public safety, infrastructure, and the economy.~~

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1266
1267 ~~((E-215c) King County should collaborate with the scientific community, state
1268 and federal agencies, and other jurisdictions to develop detailed;~~

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~~science-based estimates of the magnitude and timing of climate change impacts on air temperatures and heat waves, rainfall patterns and severe weather, river flooding, sea level rise, fish and wildlife, and ocean acidification in King County.))~~

~~((E-215d)) E-240 King County ((should)) shall share information on climate change impacts and collaborate on approaches to improving ((resiliency of)) infrastructure resilience, disaster preparedness, and public engagement with ((local)) cities and other partners to ((make the best use of limited resources and)) more efficiently and effectively engage King County residents.~~

~~((E-229)) E-241 King County shall work with ((the business community)) relevant industry sector partners to support efforts that reduce energy and fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions, ((and to promote King County and the Puget Sound region as a center for green manufacturing)) as well as to promoteing locally recognized high growth sectors identified in the Green Jobs Strategy, such as green manufacturing, construction, transportation, and professional services in King County and the Puget Sound. The ((c))County shall also work with community groups, consumers, and the retail sector to promote the consumption ((of green-manufactured products)) and adoption of products and services supporting reduced energy use and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.~~

~~((IV)) Land and Water Resources III.
Animals, Plants, and Habitat~~

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~~((A)) Conserving King County's Biodiversity~~

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It is King County's goal to conserve fish and wildlife resources in the county and to maintain countywide biodiversity. This goal may be achieved through implementation of several broad policy directions that form an integrated vision for the future. Each of the pieces is necessary for the whole to be successful. The policy objectives are to: (1) initiate multi-species, biodiversity management approaches, (2) integrate biodiversity conservation goals and climate change planning into new and existing developments and habitat restoration programs, (3) identify and protect fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, (4) connect the fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and other important conservation areas and protected lands through a habitat network system, (5) include working farmland and forestland within the larger conservation landscape, and (6) provide education and incentive opportunities to engage residents. ~~((Incentives can include, but are not limited to, tax incentives, regulatory flexibility (e.g., alternatives to fixed-width buffers), streamlined permit processing, reduced permit fees, and free or low-cost technical assistance.))~~ Conservation of biodiversity is necessary if benefits including important ecosystem services such as clean water, natural flood control, agricultural and timber production, climate ~~((regulation)) change adaptation~~, and pollination currently enjoyed and relied upon by residents of the county are to be available for future generations.

~~((1. Biodiversity))~~

Because of its size, topography, and geology, the diversity of landscapes and habitats in King County is dramatic. From the Cascade Mountains to Puget Sound, alpine areas to lowland bogs, King County possesses an astonishing array of habitats and species.

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1320 Approximately 220 species of breeding and non-breeding birds are usually seen on an
1321 annual basis in King County. Based on an analysis by the State of Washington, 69
1322 species of mammals, 12 species of amphibians, and 8 species of reptiles are thought to
1323 be breeding in the county. About 50 species of native fish (and 20 species of
1324 introduced fish) are found in the freshwater streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes of King
1325 County. In the county's marine environment, over 200 species of fish, some 500 species
1326 of invertebrate animals, and eight species of marine mammals can be found. A total of
1327 1,249 (383 introduced) species of vascular plants have been identified in the county.
1328 The diversity of geography combined with King County's history of land use has shaped
1329 the biodiversity of the past and present and will continue affecting it into the future.
1330

1331 King County defines biodiversity as the variety of living organisms considered at all
1332 levels, from genetic diversity through species, to higher taxonomic levels, including the
1333 variety of habitats, ecosystems, and landscapes in which the species are found. ~~((The
1334 Washington Biodiversity Conservation Strategy provides another working definition:))~~
1335 Biodiversity is the full range of life in all its forms, including the habitats in which ~~((they))~~
1336 species live, the ways species interact with each other and their environment, and the
1337 natural processes (such as flooding) that support those interactions.
1338

1339 The biggest threats to biodiversity in King County visible today are climate change and
1340 habitat loss and fragmentation from development~~((, invasive plant and animal species,~~
1341 ~~and climate change)).~~
1342

1343 ~~((E-401))~~ **E-301 King County shall strive to conserve the native diversity of species**
1344 **and habitats in the county.**
1345

1346 ~~((E-402))~~ **E-302 In the Urban Growth Area, King County shall strive to maintain a**
1347 **quality environment that includes fish and wildlife habitats that support**
1348 **the greatest diversity of native species consistent with Growth**
1349 **Management Act-mandated population density objectives.**
1350

1351 ~~E-303~~ ~~((In areas o))~~ **Outside the Urban Growth Area, the ((c))County should**
1352 **strive to maintain, protect, and recover ecological processes, native**
1353 **landscapes, ecosystems, and habitats that can support viable**
1354 **populations of native species. This should be accomplished through**
1355 **coordinated conservation planning and collaborative implementation.**
1356

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1357 ~~((E-403))~~ **E-304 King County should develop a biodiversity conservation**
1358 **framework and conservation strategy to achieve the goals of**
1359 **maintaining and recovering native biodiversity. ((This framework**
1360 **should be coordinated with the Washington Biodiversity Conservation**
1361 **Strategy where applicable.)) King County should collaborate with other**
1362 **governments and private and nonprofit organizations on the creation**
1363 **and implementation of this strategy.**
1364

1365 ~~((E-404~~ ~~King County should collaborate with other governments and private~~
1366 ~~and non-profit organizations to establish a bioinventory, an assessment~~
1367 ~~and monitoring program, and a database of species currently using~~
1368 ~~King County to provide baseline and continuing information on wildlife~~
1369 ~~population trends in the county:))~~

1370 ~~((2.))~~ **Climate Change and Biodiversity**

1371 The effects of climate change on native biodiversity in the Pacific Northwest are likely to
1372 be serious, but as yet are largely unpredictable. In King County, some effects already
1373 are apparent as average temperatures over the last decade have increased slowly but
1374 steadily, especially in winter. For many native species, ~~c))~~Climate change ~~((will present))~~
1375 brings added stresses ~~((to))~~ for many native species and ecosystems ~~((and populations)),~~

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1376 including changes in distribution and availability of food, cover, and breeding habitat.
1377 Changes in temperature can alter productivity and growth rates or cause direct
1378 mortality, particularly for salmon, and trigger invasions of non~~((,))~~native species. The
1379 range and seasonal presence of some species will shift, and ~~((it is likely that))~~ the timing
1380 of when some species are in certain habitats won't match ~~((with))~~ the availability of their
1381 food sources. Some species will go extinct locally, and new species will move into the
1382 area. Finally, changing lake and ocean temperatures may have devastating impacts on
1383 the base of food web.

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1384
1385 The effects of climate change are ~~((only))~~ beginning to ~~(())~~ being observed and
1386 understood in the county and ~~((are presumed to))~~ will increase over time. In the face of
1387 climate change, biodiversity conservation may be of critical importance for buffering the
1388 effects of rising temperatures on regional ecosystems, damping the rates of ecological
1389 change, and reducing the potential for sudden, extreme changes in the environment.

1390
1391 **~~((E-405)) E-305 King County should evaluate a range of projected future climate~~**
1392 **~~scenarios based on best available science to help ensure that~~**
1393 **~~biodiversity conservation efforts are able to meet their objectives in a~~**
1394 **~~changing climate.~~**

1395 ~~((c.)) *Ecosystem Resilience and Natural Processes*~~

1396 Ecosystems and habitats suitable for particular species communities are the result of
1397 various geologic, hydrologic, climatic, and biologic processes. Where habitat-forming
1398 processes are intact, ecosystems and their inhabitants are more likely to persist in the
1399 face of environmental variation and disturbances made worse by climate change,
1400 including disease, invasive species, wildfire, flooding, and drought.

1401
1402 ~~((Further, reducing vulnerability of systems to large-scale disturbances including~~
1403 ~~disease, invasive species, catastrophic fire, flooding, and drought is best accomplished~~
1404 ~~by supporting resilience, which is the ability of a system to return to its former state after~~
1405 ~~a disturbance. When an ecosystem is resilient, that system with its species communities~~
1406 ~~is better able to bounce back following disturbance or change with ecological functions~~
1407 ~~and processes still intact. In addition, current efforts such as the Washington State~~
1408 ~~Department of Ecology's Watershed Characterization analysis can be used to inform~~
1409 ~~decisions and direct resources for regarding land protection and restoration efforts with~~
1410 ~~maximum ecological benefit.~~

1411
1412 **~~E-413)) E-306 King County's efforts to restore and maintain biodiversity should~~**
1413 **~~place priority on protecting and restoring ecological processes that~~**
1414 **~~create and sustain habitats and species diversity and support climate~~**
1415 **~~change resilience.~~**

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1417 ~~((E-414))~~ **When acquiring land for habitat protection, efforts should be made to**
1418 **protect and restore areas of each habitat type most likely to be**
1419 **resistant to and enhance resilience to climate change.**

1420 ~~E-411))~~ **E-307 King County should ((conduct an analysis to identify areas critical for**
1421 **functional habitat connectivity. This assessment should be coordinated with**
1422 **state and federal mapping efforts as appropriate)) map habitat connectivity**
1423 **corridors and biodiversity areas to protect wildlife populations in a changing**
1424 **climate. Areas identified by this analysis ((as being critical for functional**
1425 **habitat connectivity)) should be prioritized by King County, and in**
1426 **collaboration with Indian tribes, the state, cities, and other landowners, for**
1427 **land conservation and restoration actions and programs.**

1428
1429 ~~((3.))~~ **Biodiversity Conservation Approaches**

1430 ~~((This section provides guidance for biodiversity management of the county's natural~~
1431 ~~resources. The following concepts and principles are based on current approaches to~~
1432 ~~conservation biology, restoration ecology, and climate science ((combined with input~~
1433 ~~from the new Washington State Climate Change Response Strategy)):~~

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1434 ~~((a.))~~ **Landscape Context**

1435 Natural resource protection occurs within an ecological context. Environmental
1436 management should consider not only the immediate site but also the spatial and
1437 temporal context that surrounds it. In terms of spatial context, different activities will
1438 require consideration of different scales—from small sub-basins of a few square miles to
1439 watersheds and ecosystems that contain many hundreds or thousands of square miles.
1440 For example, watershed boundaries are useful ways to define ecological planning units
1441 for resource protection of aquatic systems whereas large-scale vegetation communities
1442 may be more useful for terrestrial systems.

1443
1444 In terms of temporal contexts, habitat conditions and populations can fluctuate over
1445 long time periods. It may take decades to see the results of habitat restoration projects
1446 and other environmental management actions on populations, and in the interim
1447 climate change and possibly major events such as flooding will also impact the
1448 trajectory of restoration actions.

1449
1450 There is no single scale appropriate for all planning and management of conservation
1451 activities. Management within the context of a landscape helps to ensure the actions in
1452 one area will not be undone or rendered unsustainable by conditions in the
1453 surrounding watershed or ecoregion. Conservation efforts designed to protect only
1454 one species could have an unintended, detrimental effect on others. Ecological
1455 communities consist of multiple species often that interact in the same geographical
1456 area.

1457
1458 ~~((E-406))~~ **E-308 King County's conservation efforts should be integrated across**
1459 **multiple landscape scales, species, and ecological communities.**

1460
1461 ~~((E-407))~~ **E-309 Distribution, spatial structure, and diversity of native wildlife and**
1462 **plant populations should be taken into account when planning**
1463 **restoration activities, acquiring land, and designing, planning, and**
1464 **managing parks.**

1465
1466 ~~((E-408))~~ **E-310 King County should carry out conservation planning efforts in close**
1467 **collaboration with ((other)) Indian tribes, local governments, Indian**
1468 **((tribes,)) state and federal governments, land((-))owners, community**
1469 **groups, and other conservation planning ((stakeholders)) partners.**

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1471 ("Ecoregions" are land areas that contain a geographically unique set of species,
1472 communities, and environmental conditions. Washington is a highly diverse state, with
1473 portions of nine ecoregions located within its boundaries. Three ecoregions cover parts
1474 of King County: the Puget Lowland Ecoregion in the western half of the county, the
1475 North Cascades Ecoregion in the northeastern and east central portion, and the
1476 Cascades Ecoregion in the southeastern portion of the county.
1477

1478 Ecoregions are the largest units of biodiversity in King County, and this scale is
1479 appropriate for broader natural resources planning and management. More localized
1480 habitats and species can be identified within these ecoregions, and can inform actions
1481 at the watershed and even property-specific level. Funding for landscape evaluations
1482 ~~((of this nature))~~ is extremely limited and will typically require grant funds. The County
1483 should take advantage of opportunities that may arise to collaborate with other
1484 ecoregional planning efforts.
1485

1486 **E-409** ~~King County should develop a countywide landscape characterization~~
1487 ~~system based on ecoregions as a key tool for assessing, protecting, and~~
1488 ~~recovering biodiversity.))~~
1489

1490 "Structural diversity" is ~~((an accepted scientific term whose))~~ the range of different
1491 physical landscapes within a habitat. What this means ((meaning)) varies depending on
1492 the ecosystem. For example, ~~((in))~~ in a forest, structural diversity means the combination
1493 of tree species, tree height classes, and legacy components (snags, logs); the more of
1494 each of these there are, the greater the forest structural diversity. Structural diversity of
1495 a river or stream means the degree of sinuosity (meaning curviness of the river and
1496 more is better) combined with both native riparian habitat and natural in-stream
1497 structure, which includes downed wood, various-sized substrate, and a combination of
1498 pools, riffles, and glides. "Landscape diversity" means the size, shape, and connectivity
1499 of different ecosystems across a large area; a mosaic of heterogeneous land cover types
1500 and vegetation types; assemblages of different ecosystems.
1501

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1502 ~~((E-415))~~ **E-311 King County should conserve areas where conditions support**
1503 **dynamic ecological processes that sustain important ecosystem and**
1504 **habitat functions and values, and promote structural and landscape**
1505 **diversity.**

1506 ~~((e.))~~ Rare Ecosystems, Habitats, and Species))

1507 Rare or sensitive ecosystems, habitats and species are at a greater risk of extinction than
1508 those that are widespread and abundant and therefore should be a high priority for
1509 conservation. ~~((An important secondary benefit of protecting habitat for rare,~~
1510 ~~e))~~ Endemic species are those that are ((t))native to a particular geographic area and
1511 found nowhere else. If the habitat where endemic species live is damaged or lost, the
1512 species would cease to exist. ((, or k))Keystone species are those ((a species)) that ((is))
1513 has have a disproportionately large effect on its-their natural environment relative to
1514 their abundance and are central to the survival of a multitude of other species((t
1515 species is that habitat for many other species is protected as well. For example, the
1516 most effective way to protect and enhance native salmonid populations is through
1517 protection of those river and stream channels, riparian corridors, lakes, wetlands,
1518 groundwater, headwaters, and watersheds that provide or impact spawning and rearing
1519 habitat, food resources, and fish passage. Protecting these resources also enhances
1520 protection of habitat for other species.)) Keystone species may have habitat-regulating
1521 functions, such as is the case with sea stars, or they may have habitat-forming
1522 functions, such as is the case with North American beavers.
1523

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~~((E-418)) E-312 King County should assess different land types, habitats, and resources for:~~

- ~~a. ((the)) Their relative scarcity and sensitivity;~~
- ~~b. ((of different land types, habitats, and resources, the)) their role ((of these land types, habitats, and resources)) in supporting endangered, threatened, sensitive, or candidate species, or species of local importance; and~~
- ~~c. ((and the level of threat to these land types, habitats, and resources in terms of habitat modifications that would likely)) the degree to which habitat alterations would reduce these populations ((of sensitive species)).~~

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~~((E-419)) E-313 King County should give special consideration to protection of rare, endemic, and keystone species when identifying and prioritizing land areas for protection through acquisition, conservation easements, and incentive programs.~~

~~((E-420)) E-314 King County should incorporate climate change projections into new species protection plans and shall revise older species protection plans when feasible or when conducting ((eight)) 10-year updates to incorporate projected impacts from climate change.~~

~~((Rare ecosystems, habitats, and species are also addressed in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas section below.))~~

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B. Habitat

~~((4)) 1. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas~~

Fish and wildlife habitat conservation, according to the state’s definition, means land management for maintaining populations of species in suitable habitats within their natural geographic distribution so that the habitat available is sufficient to support viable populations over the long term and isolated subpopulations are not created. This definition does not mean that all individuals of all species at all times must be maintained, but it does mean not degrading or reducing populations or habitats so that they are no longer viable over the long term. Additionally, it should be recognized that geographic distributions will shift with climate change.

~~((King County’s fish and wildlife policies and regulations have been informed by current state fish and wildlife guidance, recommendations, and requirements. The Growth Management Act directs local jurisdictions to designate and protect critical areas, including Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas are designated with the intent to ensure the conservation of individual species recognized as declining or imperiled as well as protect and connect specific areas of habitat deemed important. This approach of protecting individual species and their habitat comprises one of the five major objectives described above for protecting the county’s biodiversity. Because biodiversity encompasses a variety of levels, from genes to ecosystems, and occurs at multiple spatial scales, a wider approach beyond single-species management is necessary to conserve biodiversity in King County. Additionally, most fish and wildlife species are not confined to small portions of the landscape; rather, they move about for feeding, breeding, rearing young, and interacting with other members of their species to insure)) ensure adequate genetic exchange and population viability.))~~

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Federal laws have been enacted over the past century to protect a wide range of species. In addition to the Endangered Species Act, other federal laws include the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Individuals of

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1578 Endangered Species Act -listed species, marine mammals, and migratory birds in King
1579 County are protected under the provisions of these laws.

1580
1581 ~~((In order to))~~ To build a robust approach to biodiversity conservation, especially in view
1582 of a changing climate, individual species and habitat protections must be integrated
1583 with a landscape-scale approach to fostering and protecting resilient and diverse
1584 ecosystems. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas occur on both publicly and
1585 privately owned lands. Designating these areas is an important part of land use
1586 planning for appropriate development densities, ~~the~~ ~~((the))~~ Urban ~~((the))~~ Growth ~~((the))~~ Area
1587 ~~((boundaries))~~ boundary, open space corridors, incentive-based land conservation and
1588 stewardship programs, and acquisition planning. The policies in this section are
1589 intended to fulfill federal and state requirements for protection of specific species and
1590 habitats while implementing landscape-based approaches to conserve native
1591 biodiversity in the long term. Protection measures designed to help maintain
1592 populations of certain species may necessarily include protecting the habitat where
1593 those species have a primary association with the protected area such as spawning or
1594 breeding, and also for rearing young, resting, roosting, feeding, foraging, and
1595 migrating.

1596 ~~((f.))~~ ~~Integrated Land and Water Management and Planning~~

1597 ~~((In the past, aquatic and terrestrial habitats and species have often been managed))~~
1598 ~~independently of each other.))~~ Effective conservation and resource management of
1599 aquatic and terrestrial systems requires coordinated planning among departments with
1600 authority over development regulations and guidelines, wastewater treatment,
1601 stormwater management, flood hazard management, groundwater protection,
1602 transportation planning and road building, water quality, natural resource management,
1603 agriculture, and fish and wildlife conservation. Effective conservation planning must
1604 include the interests of private landowners as well.

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1606 Coordinated planning and management can improve understanding of cumulative
1607 effects on terrestrial and aquatic systems, and can allow for a systems-based approach
1608 to avoiding or mitigating for adverse effects and improving habitat functions and value
1609 over time.

1611 ~~((E-421))~~ E-315 Terrestrial and aquatic habitats should be conserved and enhanced
1612 to protect and improve conditions for fish and wildlife.

1614 ~~((E-432))~~ E-316 King County shall designate and protect the following areas as Fish
1615 and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas:

- 1616 a. Areas with which federal or state-listed endangered, threatened,
1617 candidate, or sensitive species have a primary association;
- 1618 b. Habitats of Local Importance and ~~((H))~~ habitats for Species of Local
1619 Importance, including Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas;
- 1620 c. Wildlife habitat networks designated by the ~~((c))~~ County;
- 1621 d. Aquatic Areas
- 1622 e. Commercial and recreational shellfish areas;
- 1623 ~~((e))~~ f. Kelp and eelgrass beds;
- 1624 ~~((f))~~ g. Herring, smelt, and sand lance spawning areas;
- 1625 ~~((g))~~ h. Riparian ~~((corridors))~~ areas; and
- 1626 ~~((h))~~ i. State aquatic reserves.

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1628 ~~((E-433))~~ King County should map Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas.
1629 King County shall protect Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas
1630 through measures such as regulations, incentives, capital projects, or
1631 purchase ~~((, as appropriate))~~.

1633 ~~((The Washington Administrative Code guidelines suggest considering waters of the))
1634 state, wetlands, salmonid habitat (which includes marine nearshore areas), and riparian~~

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1635 ecosystems when designating fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas. All of these
1636 areas and their associated buffers are highly valuable wildlife habitat, and they serve
1637 many other functions as well. Protections for these areas are addressed more broadly in
1638 other provisions of this chapter.

1639 ~~g.))~~ **2. Habitat and Development**

1640 A key element in local wildlife conservation is the integration of wildlife and habitats into
1641 developments of all types. Wildlife protection does not have to be at odds with many
1642 types of development. Urban ~~((multifamily))~~ **multiunit** projects, industrial developments,
1643 new school facilities and rural open space projects all provide opportunities to enhance
1644 wildlife ~~((amenities))~~ **habitat quality and connectivity**. Residential developers and
1645 businesses have been able to use wildlife in marketing strategies to attract more
1646 potential homeowners, renters, and ~~((quality))~~ employees.

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1647 Techniques such as minimizing clearing during site preparation, using native plant
1648 species in required buffers, landscaping, using bridges ~~((and wildlife-specific crossings))~~
1649 rather than culverts to cross streams, **wildlife-specific crossings**, and innovative site
1650 design can be used to promote wildlife presence and connectivity and minimize
1651 ~~((problems))~~ **conflicts** with ~~((nuisance))~~ wildlife. Other plan elements, such as open
1652 space, road system design, and housing density ~~((r))~~ also have related impacts on the
1653 remaining wildlife values that must be considered.

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1654 Benefits to wildlife are enhanced ~~((if))~~ **when native vegetation is retained or when**
1655 screening and landscaping is composed of native vegetation. ~~((Retention of natural~~
1656 ~~vegetation can provide wildlife and aesthetic benefits often at a lower cost than~~
1657 ~~non-native or constructed options:~~

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1658 ~~Standard buffers for streams and wetlands will not always adequately protect wildlife~~
1659 ~~resources that utilize those sensitive areas. Areas with critical wildlife resources may~~
1660 ~~need larger buffers to protect the resource:~~

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1661 ~~**E-425)) E-317 King County may increase the size of riparian areas, buffers, and**~~
1662 ~~**critical area setbacks ((T)) to protect ((or improve)) adjacent**~~
1663 ~~**wetland((s)), ((and)) aquatic area, and riparian habitat((s)), native**~~
1664 ~~**vegetated areas that connect wetlands complexes, and species of local**~~
1665 ~~**importance and their habitats. ((stream and wetland buffer**~~
1666 ~~**requirements may be increased to protect King County species of Local**~~
1667 ~~**importance and their habitats, as appropriate.)) Whenever possible,**~~
1668 ~~**density transfers, clustering, ((and)) buffer averaging, and other**~~
1669 ~~**mechanisms should be allowed.**~~

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1670 ~~**((E-475) To improve adjacent wetlands and aquatic habitat, areas of native**~~
1671 ~~**vegetation that connect wetland complexes should be protected.**~~
1672 ~~**Whenever effective, incentive programs such as buffer averaging,**~~
1673 ~~**density credit transfers, or appropriate non-regulatory mechanisms**~~
1674 ~~**shall be used for this purpose.**~~

1675 ~~d.))~~ *Decisions in the Face of Uncertainty*

1676 ~~((Both))~~ **Historical, current, and ((historical))** projected information on habitat conditions,
1677 including climate, and species distribution can inform ecologists and decision-makers
1678 about environmental management decisions. However, decision-makers do not always
1679 have access to complete information.

1680 ~~**((E-416)) E-318 King County should use a mixture of information on historical,**~~
1681 ~~**current, and projected future conditions to provide context for**~~
1682 ~~**managing public hazards and protecting and restoring habitat.**~~

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~~((E-423)) E-319 ((New-d)) Development, erosion control projects, and critical area mitigation and restoration of stream banks, lakes, shorelines, and wetlands—should((, where possible;)) incorporate native plant communities ((into the site plan)), both through the preservation of existing ((native)) plants and addition of new native plants. ~~introductions—The introduction of non-native and invasive plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate species should be avoided in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine environs.~~~~

~~((E-424)) E-320 King County shall steward public lands well and shall integrate fish and wildlife habitat considerations into capital improvement projects whenever feasible. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas should be protected and, where possible, enhanced as part of capital improvement projects.~~

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~~3.((b:)) Habitat connectivity~~

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Protecting and enhancing habitat connectivity is a critical action for maintaining ecosystem integrity and resilience, particularly in the face of climate change. However, funding for such evaluations is extremely limited. Protection of isolated blocks of habitat is critical but not enough to adequately protect wildlife in King County. Critical wildlife habitats and refuges also need to be connected across the landscape through a system of habitat corridors, or networks.

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~~relocated from "Wildlife Habitat Network" subsection below, with edits~~

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The King County Wildlife Habitat Network was designed to help reduce the effects of fragmentation by linking diverse habitats through the developed and developing landscape. The network is intended to facilitate animal dispersal by connecting isolated critical areas, segments, open space, and wooded areas on adjacent properties. The corridors tend to follow riparian ~~areas~~ and streams ~~((corridors))~~ across the lowlands and the upland plateau to the east and southeast of Lake Washington into the foothills. The Wildlife Habitat Network is mapped on the "Wildlife Network and Public Ownership Map."

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How wide the corridors within the network should be is related to requirements of target wildlife species, length of network segment and other important characteristics within the network. Wider corridors will be required for larger species if the distance between refuges is great or if multiple uses, such as public access and trails, are desired. Because it may not be possible to protect wide corridors in the Urban Growth Area, it may not be possible to accommodate larger wildlife species in all areas. Networks will address some of the problems of habitat fragmentation for smaller species within the Urban Growth Area.

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Open spaces set aside during subdivision of land should be located to make connections with larger off-site systems. This approach will also benefit other open space goals.

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~~((E-410)) E-321 Habitat networks for threatened, endangered and Species of Local Importance ~~((, as listed in this chapter,))~~ shall be designated and mapped. ~~Fish and wildlife habitat areas and ((H)) habitat networks for other priority species ((in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands)) should be identified, designated, and mapped using ecoregion ((information about the county and its)) and resource((s and)) data. Mapping should be coordinated with state and federal ecosystem mapping efforts as appropriate.~~~~

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~~((As mentioned above, protecting and enhancing habitat connectivity is critical for maintaining ecosystem integrity and resilience. Functional habitat connectivity is the degree to which a given species can easily move between habitat areas. Because~~

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1748 individual species respond to the landscape, functional connectivity depends on both
1749 the features in the landscape and how particular species respond to that landscape.
1750 Focal species are used to identify important linkages between habitat areas that will be
1751 suitable for a variety of species.

1752
1753 **E-412)) E-322 King County should work with Indian tribes, adjacent jurisdictions,**
1754 **state and federal governments, ~~Indian ((tribes,))~~ and landowners to**
1755 **identify and protect habitat networks at jurisdictional and property**
1756 **boundaries during development of land use and environmental plans((,**
1757 **Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, fish passage**
1758 **plans, and site development reviews to identify and protect habitat**
1759 **networks at jurisdictional and property boundaries)).**

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1760 ~~((5:))~~ **4. Conservation Incentives and Education**

1761 King County offers landowner technical assistance for protection of fish and wildlife
1762 habitat through programs including Forest Stewardship, Noxious Weed Control, ((the
1763 ~~GoNative web site,)) and assistance for native plant restoration and landscaping. Other
1764 organizations, including King Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation
1765 Service, Washington State University Extension, and Washington Department of Fish
1766 and Wildlife's Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary Program offer support to landowners to
1767 enhance fish and wildlife habitat. Landowners can also receive property tax reductions
1768 through the King County Public Benefit Rating System in exchange for protecting and
1769 improving habitat.~~

1770
1771 **~~((E-443)) E-323 King County should promote voluntary wildlife habitat~~**
1772 **~~enhancement projects by private individuals and businesses through~~**
1773 **~~educational, active stewardship, and incentive programs.~~**

1774
1775 **~~((E-444)) E-324 King County should partner with community associations, realtors,~~**
1776 **~~community groups, and other agencies to conduct targeted outreach to~~**
1777 **~~potential and new property owners about fish and wildlife habitat~~**
1778 **~~education and forestry education and incentive programs, particularly~~**
1779 **~~in the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands in the county.~~**

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1780
1781 **~~((E-469)) E-325 ((A tiered system for protection of aquatic resources should be~~**
1782 **~~developed based on an assessment of basin conditions using~~**
1783 **~~Regionally Significant Resource Area and Locally Significant Resource~~**
1784 **~~Area designations, Water Resource Inventory Area Plans, habitat~~**
1785 **~~assessments completed for acquisitions plans, the Water Quality~~**
1786 **~~Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Loads, ongoing monitoring~~**
1787 **~~programs, and best available science:)) Through a coordinated~~**
1788 **~~approach of incentives and acquisitions, King County should prioritize,~~**
1789 **~~enhance, and protect a variety of ecosystems, including urban open~~**
1790 **~~space uplands, riparian areas, floodplains, and aquatic systems with the~~**
1791 **~~highest conservation value and those supporting equitable access to~~**
1792 **~~quality open space.~~**

1793 ~~((c.))~~ **Wildlife Habitat Network**

1794 The King County Wildlife Habitat Network was designed to help reduce the effects of
1795 fragmentation by linking diverse habitats through the developed and developing
1796 landscape. The network is intended to facilitate animal dispersal by connecting isolated
1797 critical areas, segments, open space, and wooded areas on adjacent properties. The
1798 corridors tend to follow riparian and stream corridors across the lowlands and the
1799 upland plateau to the east and southeast of Lake Washington into the foothills. The
1800 Wildlife Habitat Network is mapped on the "Wildlife Network and Public Ownership
1801 Map."
1802

1803 C. Animals and Plants

1804 ~~((a:))~~ 1. Federal and State Listed Endangered, Threatened, Sensitive
1805 Species

1806 ~~((1.))~~ Endangered Species Act

1807 ~~((In March 1998, The National Marine Fisheries Service proposed to list the Puget Sound
1808 Chinook salmon as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. This Chinook
1809 population was officially listed in March 1999. The listing of Chinook as threatened
1810 triggered a requirement for consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service on
1811 any activity requiring a federal permit, relying on federal funds, or being sponsored by a
1812 federal agency.~~

1813
1814 ~~Since that listing, several other aquatic species present in King County have been listed
1815 as threatened, including two additional salmonids: bull trout in November 1999, and
1816 steelhead in May 2007. Coho salmon are considered a Species of Concern. Puget
1817 Sound's southern resident Orca, which rely almost solely on Chinook salmon as a food
1818 source, were also listed under the Endangered Species Act as endangered in
1819 November 2005.) Over the last twenty years, several species connected to King
1820 County's streams and rivers have become listed under the Endangered Species Act.
1821 Threatened species include Chinook salmon, bull trout, and steelhead, and Southern
1822 Resident killer whales orca are listed as endangered. The listing of Chinook salmon and
1823 Southern Resident killer whales orca are related to one another, as Southern Resident
1824 killer whales orca rely heavily on Chinook as a primary food source. The listings trigger
1825 requirements for consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service on any activity
1826 requiring a federal permit, relying on federal funds, or being sponsored by a federal
1827 agency.~~

1828
1829 ~~The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have also
1830 issued rules describing regulations deemed necessary to conserve Puget Sound
1831 Chinook and steelhead, as well as other threatened West Coast salmonids. ((These
1832 rules, commonly referred to as "4(d) rules," legally establish the protective measures
1833 that are necessary to provide for conservation of a listed species. These rules also make
1834 it a violation of the Endangered Species Act for any person, government, or other entity
1835 to "take" a threatened species. Prohibited "take" under the Endangered Species Act
1836 includes harm through significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually
1837 kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including
1838 breeding, feeding, spawning, rearing, migrating or sheltering.~~

1839
1840 ~~The 4(d) rule for Chinook and steelhead also establishes conditions or limits under
1841 which certain categories of activities that may result in "take" may be conducted. King
1842 County takes actions under the conditions established for two categories of activity:
1843 routine road maintenance and habitat restoration projects funded by the State Salmon
1844 Recovery Funding Board.))~~

1845
1846 ~~Final Endangered Species Act Recovery Plans have been developed for Puget Sound
1847 Chinook (2007) ~~((and)),~~ bull trout ~~((2004))~~ 2015, and Puget Sound steelhead (2019). A
1848 final Recovery Plan for ~~((Orca whales))~~ orca was published in 2008. These plans
1849 describe recovery goals for the species, specific measures to address the factors that
1850 are limiting the health of the species, and timeframes and cost estimates for recovery
1851 measures. Conservation actions identified in Water Resource Inventory Area salmon
1852 recovery plans for King County watersheds are now being implemented subject to
1853 available funding and are anticipated to contribute significantly to the achievement of
1854 recovery goals for these species and their eventual removal from the Endangered
1855 Species list.~~

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Many of the ((c))County's ((functional)) plans, programs, and development regulations assist in the ((e))County's effort to conserve and recover Endangered Species Act listed species. These include the code provisions governing zoning, critical areas, clearing and grading, landscaping, and the shoreline master program. County ((plans)) documents guiding operations and regulations include the Surface Water Design Manual, the ((f))Flood ((h))Hazard ((m))Management ((p))Plan, and ((r))Regional ((w))Wastewater ((s))Services ((p))Plan. Finally, the ((e))County's reliance on best management practices for vegetation management((,)); use of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides((,)); and((,)); pest management((, as well as for)); and management of agricultural and forest lands also play a crucial role in protecting Endangered Species Act listed species.

~~((E-499m)) E-326 King County ((will)) shall monitor and evaluate programs and regulations to determine their effectiveness in contributing to Endangered Species Act listed species conservation and recovery, and ((will)) shall update and enhance programs and plans as necessary. King County should amend regulations, plans, and best management practices to enhance their effectiveness in protecting and restoring ((salmonid)) habitat, using a variety of resources, including best available science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative Code ((365-195-905 through 365-195-925)).~~

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The importance of designating seasonal ranges and habitat elements where federal and state listed endangered, threatened, and sensitive species have a primary association is that these areas, if altered, may reduce the likelihood that the species will survive over the long term. The state recommends that King County and other local jurisdictions identify and classify these areas.

~~((E-434)) E-327 Habitats for species that have been identified as endangered, threatened, or sensitive by the state or federal government shall not be degraded or reduced in size and ((should)) shall be ((conserved)) preserved and protected.~~

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~~((E-499p)) King County shall, in cooperation with the cities, ensure ((a)) no net loss of housing capacity that preserves the ability to accommodate adopted growth targets, while pursuing compliance with Endangered Species Act requirements. To achieve this goal, densities shall be increased on buildable lands, consistent with H-110.~~

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~~((b-)) 2. Species and Habitats of Local Importance~~

Federal and state listings of species as endangered or threatened often encompass relatively large geographic areas. More localized declines of species within King County may not be captured by state and federal listings. For example, local monitoring data indicate the extinction of the ((Early)) Lake Sammamish Kokanee Early run, ((likely)) possible extinction or significant decline of the ((Middle)) Lake ((Sammamish)) Washington Kokanee ((salmon)) Middle run, and a significant decline in the ((Late)) Lake Sammamish Kokanee ((salmon)) Late run((s)). ((In 2000, a petition to list just the Early run was filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but by 2003 the run went extinct without any federal action to prevent that result. In 2007, a second petition was filed to list all remaining Lake Sammamish kokanee. This petition led to an official review of the population's status by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

On September 30, 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded that kokanee and sockeye throughout the Pacific Northwest should be considered together in their listing determination and therefore declined to list this unique kokanee population. However,))

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1912 King County ~~and its partners~~ believe ~~((s))~~ the ~~c~~ Conservation of local native kokanee
1913 salmon and its watershed habitat ~~((to be))~~ is important to the quality of life and natural
1914 heritage of the region's residents. ~~((Towards that end t))~~ The County maintains strong
1915 collaborative relationships with the watershed cities, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
1916 Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Parks, ~~the Muckleshoot~~
1917 ~~Tribe~~, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Trout Unlimited, ~~Long Live the Kings~~, and additional
1918 governmental and non-governmental organizations, schools, watershed residents, and
1919 other key contributors. Together these partners work to improve kokanee salmon
1920 habitat, including Lake Sammamish, tributary streams, and contributing watershed
1921 areas; conduct research~~((;))~~; educate local residents and businesses~~((;))~~; and support an
1922 artificial propagation program at the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery and the Long Live the
1923 Kings hatcheries to increase the viability of the kokanee population.

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1924
1925 King County defines Species of Local Importance as those species that are of local
1926 concern primarily because of their population status or their sensitivity to habitat
1927 manipulation. The ~~((e))~~ County takes into consideration native species named as priority
1928 species by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; anadromous salmonids;
1929 aquatic species whose populations are particularly vulnerable to changes in water
1930 quality and quantity; species whose habitat or mobility is limited (local populations of
1931 species that are immobile or have very limited habitat); and species that can be directly
1932 impacted by King County (for example, where road projects or other infrastructure
1933 development can impact habitat; where the ~~((e))~~ County may acquire, protect, or restore
1934 certain habitat types). King County Species of Local Importance are identified so that
1935 they and their habitats may be considered during land use planning and protected
1936 during project implementation and development. Habitats for Species of Local
1937 Importance are designated as a type of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area and
1938 are covered by policies and regulations designed to protect those areas. However,
1939 individual animals or plants may also be at risk of injury from development or during
1940 construction or other changes to the landscape and may require additional measures to
1941 protect them from injury. For example, freshwater mussels may be protected from an
1942 instream project by relocating individual animals so they are not injured or killed during
1943 construction. Or, a rare individual plant may require the protection of an area of land
1944 because the plant cannot be relocated.

~~((E-435))~~ E-328 King County designates the following to be Species of Local Importance:

- 1946
1947 a. Salmonids and other anadromous or freshwater fish - Kokanee
1948 salmon, Sockeye/red salmon, Chum salmon, Coho/silver salmon,
1949 Pink salmon, Chinook salmon, Coastal resident/searun cutthroat
1950 trout, Rainbow trout, steelhead trout, bull trout, Pygmy whitefish,
1951 Dolly Varden, Western river lamprey, ~~((and))~~ Pacific lamprey, and
1952 Olympic mudminnow;
1953
1954 b. Native Freshwater Mussels - Western pearlshell mussel, Oregon
1955 ~~((and western))~~ floater, and western ridge mussel;
1956 c. Shellfish - Dungeness crab, Pandalid shrimp, ~~((Geoduck))~~ Butter
1957 clam, Littleneck clam, and ~~((Pacific))~~ Olympia oyster;
1958 d. Marine Fish - White sturgeon~~((;))~~; Pacific herring~~((;))~~; Longfin
1959 smelt~~((;))~~; Surfsmelt~~((;))~~; Lingcod, Pacific cod; Pacific sand
1960 lance~~((;))~~; Yelloweye, Brown, Copper, Bocaccio, Canary, and
1961 Quillback Rockfish; English sole~~((;))~~; and Southern ~~((R))~~ rock sole;
1962 e. Birds - Marbled Murrelet; Western grebe, Caspian Tern, Pigeon
1963 Guillemot, Pelagic Cormorant, American bittern, Great blue heron,
1964 Common Loon, Western High Arctic Brant, Harlequin duck,
1965 Bufflehead, Wood duck, Hooded merganser, Barrow's goldeneye,
1966 Common goldeneye, Cinnamon teal, Tundra swan, Trumpeter
1967 swan, Surf scoter, White-winged scoter, Black scoter, Bald Eagle,
1968 Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Northern Goshawk, Osprey,
1969 Spotted owl, Western screech-owl, Sooty grouse, Pacific coast

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~~((B))band-tailed pigeon, Belted kingfisher, ((Hairy woodpecker,)) Olive-sided flycatcher, Western meadowlark, Cassin's finch, Oregon Vesper Sparrow, Red-eyed Vireo, Purple Martin, Vaux's Swift, ((and)) Purple finch, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-backed Woodpecker, American three-toed woodpecker, Hairy woodpecker, Pileated woodpecker, and the following bird concentrations:~~

~~i. Waterfowl Concentrations (Anatidae excluding Canada Geese in urban areas); and~~

~~ii. Western Washington nonbreeding concentrations of plovers (Charadriidae), sandpipers;~~

~~f. Mammals - American marten, ((mink, Columbian black-tailed deer,)) Wolverine, Fisher, Gray wolf, Cascade red fox, Douglas squirrel, Northern flying squirrel, Townsend's chipmunk, Hoary marmot, Roosevelt ((E))lk ((in their historic range)), mountain goat, Pika, Townsend's big-eared bat, roosting concentrations of Big-brown bat, Pallid bats, and Myotis bats, Killer whale (Orca), Gray whale, Dall's and Harbor porpoise, Harbor seal, Stellar sea lions, and concentrations of California sea lions;~~

~~g. Amphibians - Red-legged frog, Larch Mountain salamander, Oregon spotted frog, and Western toad;~~

~~h. Reptiles - Western fence lizard and Northwestern pond turtle;~~

~~i. Rare Plants - ((bristly sedge; Canadian St. John's-wort; clubmoss cassiope; Oregon goldenaster; toothed wood fern; Vancouver ground-cone; and white-top aster)) Tall bugbane, Triangular-lobed moonwort, Western moonwort, Stalked moonwort, Harvest brodiaea, Alaska harebell, Few-flowered sedge, Long-styled sedge, Clubmoss mountain-heather, Golden paintbrush, Weak thistle, Spleenwort-leaved goldthread, Tree clubmoss, Spotted Joe-pye weed, Kamchatka fritillary, Swamp gentian, Oregon goldenweed, Large St. Johns'-wort, Pacific peavine, Water lobelia, Northern bog clubmoss, One-cone clubmoss, White meconella, Branched montia, Old field blue toadflax, Brewer's cliffbrake, Whitebark pine, Choriso's bog-orchid, Columbia white-topped aster, and Flat-leaved bladderwort; and~~

~~j. ((High-quality ecological communities - Douglas-fir - Pacific Madrone / Salal; Douglas-fir - Western Hemlock / Swordfern; Forested Sphagnum Bog PTN, Low Elevation Freshwater Wetland PTN, North Pacific Herbaceous Bald and Bluff, Red Alder Forest; Western Hemlock - (Western Redcedar) / Bog Labrador-tea / Sphagnum Spp.; Western Hemlock - (Western Redcedar) / Devil's-club / Swordfern; Western Hemlock - (Western Redcedar) / Sphagnum Spp.; Western Hemlock / Swordfern - Foamflower; Western Redcedar - Western Hemlock / Skunkcabbage; and Willow Spp. Shrubland [Provisional].)) Other invertebrates - Blue gray tailedropper, Hatch's click beetle, Beller's ground beetle, Pacific clubtail, Western bumblebee, Johnson's hairstreak, and Valley silverspot.~~

((E-436)) E-329 King County shall protect Species of Local Importance through measures such as regulations, incentives, capital projects, or purchase, as appropriate.

Caves, cliffs, and talus (a sloping mass of rocky fragments at the base of a cliff) occupy a very small percent of the total land area, yet they are disproportionately important as wildlife habitats. The same is true for sphagnum-dominated peat bogs, Oregon white oak woodlands, herbaceous balds, Westside prairie, old(+) growth forest, and snag-rich areas, which have all declined as a result of development. Each of these habitats concentrates and supports a unique plant and animal community. Plant associations adjacent to caves, cliff, and talus are important because they help stabilize light and

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2030 wind patterns, and as with snag-rich areas, they provide perches for raptors. Caves,
2031 cliffs, talus, Oregon white oak woodlands, herbaceous balds, Westside prairie, and
2032 sphagnum-dominated peat bogs are fragile environments that can be easily destroyed,
2033 but cannot be easily restored.

2034 ~~((E-437))~~ **E-330 King County shall designate the following to be Habitats of Local**

2035 **Importance:**

- 2036 **a. Caves;**
- 2037 **b. Cliffs;**
- 2038 **c. ~~((Talus))~~ **Herbaceous balds;****
- 2039 **d. Old-growth forest;**
- 2040 **e. ~~((Sphagnum-dominated peat bogs; and))~~ **Oregon white oak****
- 2041 **woodlands;**
- 2042 **f. Snag-rich areas;**
- 2043 **g. Sphagnum-dominated peat bogs;**
- 2044 **h. Talus; and**
- 2045 **i. Westside prairie.**

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2047
2048 The federal and state governments also designate "candidate" species. In the context of
2049 the Endangered Species Act, candidate means any species being considered for listing
2050 as an endangered or a threatened species but not yet the subject of a proposed rule.
2051 Lists of federal candidate species are updated annually. Review of these lists and the
2052 supporting assessments can provide valuable information about threats to species
2053 found within King County and can help the ~~((c))~~ County to be proactive in preparing for
2054 potential future listings.

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2055
2056 ~~((E-438))~~ **E-331 King County should review federal and state candidate listings for**
2057 **information about candidate species that are under consideration for**
2058 **listing as an endangered or threatened species and found in King**
2059 **County. King County shall protect habitat for candidate species, as**
2060 **listed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife or a federal**
2061 **agency. Information regarding candidate species should be used to**
2062 **inform King County's long-term wildlife conservation and planning**
2063 **efforts.**

2064
2065 ~~((E-439))~~ **E-332 King County shall review fish and wildlife surveys and assessments**
2066 **with local application to King County and consider additional habitat**
2067 **protections where warranted. Habitat protection should be**
2068 **accomplished through incentives, cooperative planning, education,**
2069 **habitat acquisition, habitat restoration, or other appropriate actions**
2070 **based on best available science.**

2071
2072 ~~((E-440))~~ **E-333 King County should regularly review the Washington Department**
2073 **of Fish and Wildlife's list of Priority Species and other scientific**
2074 **information on species of local importance, and evaluate whether any**
2075 **species should be added to or deleted from the lists in policies**
2076 **E-~~((435))~~328 and E-~~((437))~~330. Any additions or deletions ((should))**
2077 **may be made through the annual update.**

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2079 ~~((E-441))~~ **E-334 Development proposals shall be assessed for the presence of King**
2080 **County Species of Local Importance. A comprehensive assessment**
2081 **should follow a standard procedure or guidelines and shall occur one**
2082 **time during the development review process.**

2083 3. Salmon

2084
2085 Salmon are particularly important because of their significance to local and regional
2086 character, Indian tribes, salt and freshwater ecosystems, and recreational and
2087 commercial fisheries. A growing number of salmon stocks within King County and other
2088 areas of Puget Sound are in a serious state of decline. Three salmonid species present
2089 within King County have been listed under the Endangered Species Act, several others
2090 have significant potential for listing, and the salmon-dependent ~~((Orca whale))~~ orca has
2091 been listed as endangered.

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2092
2093 The protection and restoration of river and stream channels, riparian ~~((corridors))~~ areas,
2094 lakes, wetlands, headwaters and watersheds, and marine nearshore habitats that
2095 provide or impact spawning and rearing habitat, food resources, and fish passage is
2096 essential to the conservation of native fish populations. Intermittent streams also can be
2097 critical to native fish populations.

2098
2099 Hatcheries and other artificial propagation facilities that are properly managed to
2100 protect the abundance, productivity, genetic diversity, and spatial distribution of native
2101 salmon may contribute in the near term to both maintaining sustainable salmon stocks
2102 and harvest opportunities while habitat protection and restoration measures for salmon
2103 are implemented.

2104
2105 ~~((E-442))~~ **E-335 King County should conserve and restore salmonid habitats by**
2106 **ensuring that land use and facility plans (transportation, water, sewer,**
2107 **electricity, gas) include riparian and stream habitat conservation**
2108 **measures developed by the ((c))County, ~~((cities,))~~ Indian tribes, cities,**
2109 **service providers, and state and federal agencies. Project review of**
2110 **development proposals within basins that contain hatcheries and other**
2111 **artificial propagation facilities that are managed to protect the**
2112 **abundance, productivity, genetic diversity, and spatial distribution of**
2113 **native salmon and provide harvest opportunities should consider**
2114 **significant adverse impacts to those facilities.**
2115

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2116 ~~((E. Watershed-Based Salmon Recovery))~~

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2117 The protection and recovery of salmonid species that are listed under the Endangered
2118 Species Act and encompassed by Indian tribal treaty rights are and will continue to be a
2119 significant priority for King County. The listing of a species under the Endangered
2120 Species Act and decline of Indian tribal treaty right protected species are cause for
2121 great concern, because wild Pacific salmon have great environmental, cultural,
2122 economic, nutritional, recreational, and symbolic importance to local communities, in
2123 particular Indian tribal communities, in the entire Puget Sound region.

2124
2125 It is King County's goal to ensure the recovery and maintenance of salmon populations
2126 to sustainable and harvestable levels, and to accrue the ecological, cultural, economic,
2127 and local food supply benefits that will be provided by healthy salmon stocks. King
2128 County ~~((with))~~ pursues salmon conservation strategies that sustain the region's vibrant
2129 economy. Successful restoration and maintenance of healthy salmon populations ~~((with))~~
2130 requires time, money, and effort, and collaboration with Indian tribal, federal, state,

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2131 ~~((tribal))~~ and local governments, as well as businesses, environmental groups, and
2132 residents.

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2133
2134 ~~((The increasing number and diversity of Endangered Species Act federally protected
2135 species in King County and around the Puget Sound calls for the development and
2136 implementation of species conservation actions that are embedded within a strategy
2137 that addresses natural resource management issues at the ecosystem scale. Although
2138 species are listed one at a time, managing them toward recovery and robust health that
2139 way increases the likelihood that conservation efforts will be incomplete, redundant,
2140 and more expensive.~~

2141
2142 ~~((More detailed policies related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving
2143 air quality can be found in Section II of this chapter, Chapter 8: Transportation, and
2144 Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities.))~~

2145
2146 In accordance with new statutory requirements, ~~((as described in Chapter 9, Services,
2147 Facilities, and Utilities.))~~ the Department of Ecology has established a Watershed
2148 Restoration and Enhancement Committee in all five Watershed Resource Inventory
2149 Areas located either entirely or partially within King County. King County is
2150 participating in the Ecology process of developing a flow restoration strategy for each of
2151 the Watershed Resource Inventory Areas to mitigate the consumptive use of new
2152 permit-exempt wells drilled in the next 20 years. ~~((The flow restoration strategies are
2153 anticipated to be recommended by 2021.))~~ As of 2024, Ecology has adopted
2154 streamflow restoration plans for Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (the Green/Duwamish
2155 Watershed), and Water Resource Inventory Area 10 (the White/Puyallup Watershed).
2156 The streamflow restoration committees for Water Resource Inventory Area 7 (the
2157 Snohomish/Snoqualmie/Skykomish Watershed), Water Resource Inventory Area 8
2158 (Cedar/Sammamish Watershed), and Water Resource Inventory Area 15 (Kitsap) ~~did not
2159 did not reach agreement by all members to complete their planning process. Ecology
2160 has completed these plans and forwarded them to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board
2161 for technical review after which they may amend and adopt the plans. Ecology will
2162 initiate rulemaking within six months of plan adoption.~~

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2163
2164 ~~((As a means to address salmonid listings and to sustain this precious resource for
2165 generations to come,))~~ Local governments in the Puget Sound region, in cooperation
2166 with ~~((state and))~~ Indian tribal governments, the state, and other ~~((major stakeholders))~~
2167 partners, have developed long-term salmon habitat conservation strategies at the
2168 Watershed Resource Inventory Area level. The boundaries of Water Resource Inventory
2169 Areas are defined under state regulations, and generally adhere to the watershed
2170 boundaries of major river or lake systems.

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2171
2172 King County participated as an affected jurisdiction in the development Water Resource
2173 Inventory Area plans for Water Resource Inventory Area 8 (Cedar/Sammamish
2174 Watershed), Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (the Green/Duwamish Watershed), Water
2175 Resource Inventory Area 7 (the Snohomish/Snoqualmie/Skykomish Watershed), about
2176 half of which is in King County, and Water Resource Inventory Area 10 (the
2177 White/Puyallup Watershed), a small percentage of which is in King County.
2178 Additionally, King County has acted as a service provider at the direction of
2179 multi-jurisdictional forums for the development and implementation of the salmon
2180 recovery plans for Water Resource Inventory Areas 8 and 9, and for the King County
2181 portion of Water Resource Inventory Area 7.

2182
2183 **~~((E-499j)) E-336 King County shall continue to participate in the Water Resource
2184 Inventory Area salmon recovery plan implementation efforts and in
2185 other regional efforts to recover salmon and the ecosystems they
2186 depend on, such as the Puget Sound Partnership. King County's~~**

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participation in planning and implementation efforts shall be guided by the following principles:

- a. Focus on federally listed salmonid species and declining stocks protected under Indian tribal treaty rights first, then take an ecosystem approach to habitat management and seek to address management needs for other species over time;
- b. Concurrently work on early actions ~~((;))~~ and long-term projects and programs that will lead to improvements to, and information on, habitat conditions in King County that can enable the recovery of endangered or threatened salmonids, while maintaining the economic vitality and strength of the region;
- c. Address both King County's growth management needs and habitat conservation needs;
- d. Use best available science as defined in Chapter 365-195 Washington Administrative Code ~~((365-195-905 through 365-195-925))~~;
- e. Improve water quality, water quantity, and channel characteristics; and
- f. ~~((Coordinate with key decision-makers and ((stakeholders)) partners; and~~
- g. ~~((Develop, implement, and evaluate actions within a watershed-based program of data collection and analysis that documents the level of effectiveness of specific actions and provides information for adaptation of salmon conservation and recovery strategies.~~

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~~((The Water Resource Inventory Area plans recommend an array of actions including the restoration, acquisition and preservation of landscapes, municipal programmatic activities, and public outreach and education. The plans suggest that programmatic activities for salmon habitat conservation can generally be accomplished with the following three tools: regulation, incentives, and education. Consequently, in addition to capital projects, local governments, including King County, will need to incorporate salmon recovery objectives and strategies into their normal operations, making best use of a wide range of their authorities and programs.~~

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~~((E-103))~~ E-337 King County should coordinate with Indian tribes, local jurisdictions, universities, federal and state agencies, Indian ~~((tribes,))~~ special interest groups, special districts, businesses, and residents to implement, monitor, and update Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans for all areas of King County.

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~~((E-499k))~~ E-338 King County should use the recommendations of approved Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans and other watershed planning efforts to inform ~~((the))~~ establishment of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, updates to development regulations, establishment of incentive programs, and ~~((as well as))~~ operations and capital planning for its floodplain management, fish passage, surface water management, transportation, wastewater treatment, parks, and open space programs.

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~~((E-499l))~~ E-339 King County should seek to support Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plan goals of maintaining intact natural landscapes through:

- a. ~~((Retaining low density land use designations such as Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Area designations;~~
- b. ~~((Promoting Current Use Taxation and other incentives;~~
- ~~((c.))~~ b. Promoting stewardship programs including development and implementation of Forest Plans ~~((;))~~ and Farm Plans ~~((; and Rural Stewardship Plans)); and~~
- ~~((d. Promoting the use of ((L)) low ((I)) impact ((D)) development methods; and~~

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~~e.) c.~~ Acquiring property or conservation easements in areas of high ecological importance with unique or otherwise significant habitat values.

~~((E-499n))~~ Through the Watershed Resource Inventory Area planning process, geographic areas vital to the conservation and recovery of listed salmon species are identified. King County ~~((will))~~ shall evaluate this information to determine appropriate short and long-term strategies, including, but not limited to: designation of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, development regulations (special district overlays, zoning, etc.), acquisitions, facility maintenance programs, and capital improvement projects.

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~~E-499o))~~ E-340 King County may use its authority under the Growth Management Act, including its authority to designate and protect critical areas, such as fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, to preserve and protect key habitat for listed salmonid species by developing and implementing development regulations and nonregulatory programs.

Local governments primarily have authority and influence over land use actions affecting habitat. However, protecting and restoring habitat is just one piece of the salmon recovery puzzle. Management of fish harvest, hatchery, hydropower, and water storage actions is also critical, and actions need to be coordinated with entities having authority in these areas.

~~((E-499q))~~ E-341 King County should continue to take actions that ensure its habitat restoration and protection actions are implemented as part of a watershed-based salmon conservation strategy that integrates habitat actions with actions taken by harvest and hatchery managers. Harvest and hatchery managers specifically include Indian tribes ~~with treaty-reserved fishing rights~~, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Appropriate venues for this coordination include watershed plan implementation groups and other local or regional salmon management entities that rely on actions by habitat, harvest, and hatchery managers to achieve specific goals and objectives.

~~((To ensure the long-term success of salmon recovery actions, King County will need to develop and implement a program that provides for monitoring the effectiveness of recovery actions and the status and trends of priority fish populations and habitat conditions. Both types of monitoring provide valuable information to redirect and adapt salmonid recovery strategies and actions over time. ((Please s)) See the Monitoring and Adaptive Management Section at the end of this chapter for policies related to this topic.))~~

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In planning for climate change, it will be increasingly important to provide for habitat connectivity not only across jurisdictional boundaries, but also across a range of environmental gradients. ~~((As the "Washington State Integrated Climate Change Response Strategy" explains:))~~ Habitat connectivity is ~~((expected))~~ anticipated to allow species and ecosystems to ~~((better withstand))~~ adapt to a changing climate ~~((change))~~ by allowing ~~((them))~~ species to follow changes in climate across the landscape and maintain critical ecological processes such as dispersal and gene flow. ~~((In general, it is much costlier and more difficult to restore connectivity than to maintain existing connectivity, yet ongoing development rapidly removes this opportunity. Planning for habitat connectivity in the near term will be far more economical the sooner it is implemented:))~~

King County's Fish Passage Restoration Program is an example of prioritizing investments in habitat restoration with a focus on restoring habitat connectivity. The

~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

2306 program has surveyed more than 3,000 potential blockages to salmon migration up
2307 streams and prioritized 50 barrier locations where restoration of fish passage would
2308 open half of historically connected habitat blocked by County-owned barriers. The
2309 County-owned barriers occur mixed with fish passage barriers owned by other
2310 municipalities and landowners. Coordination with other barrier owners to address
2311 nearby barriers will maximize the habitat benefits of restoring fish passage in county
2312 waterways.

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2316 ~~((Additional medium- and long-term strategies identified in the "Washington State
2317 Integrated Climate Change Response Strategy" that are appropriate for the County to
2318 consider when planning for connectivity include:~~

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- 2319 • Identifying and designating areas most suitable for core habitat and connectivity in view of a changing climate;
- 2320 • Protecting and restoring areas most suitable for current core habitat, likely future core habitat, and connections between them;
- 2321 • Protecting and re-establishing connectivity of rivers and their floodplains;
- 2322 • Adjusting the size and boundaries of conservation areas (parks and natural areas) to accommodate anticipated shifts in habitat and species' ranges;
- 2323 • Adjusting land use designations in important connectivity areas (for example, allowable density);
- 2324 • Facilitating inland migration of marine shoreline habitats.

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2330 Connectivity is addressed further below, as the Wildlife Habitat Network is a designated
2331 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area.))

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E-342 King County ~~should~~ shall work with non-governmental organizations and regulatory agencies to accelerate removal of barriers to fish passage and shall outd;

- 2332 a. **Seek opportunities to accelerate permitting and project implementation;**
- 2333 b. **Explore all mechanisms available to remove barriers and restore salmon access to the most and highest quality habitat as quickly as possible; and**
- 2334 c. **Aggressively seek funding for projects to remove barriers.**

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2343 ~~((E-465))~~ **E-343 King County should use the information from local and regional water ((supply planning processes)) comprehensive plans to enhance the county's water resource protection and planning efforts, including implementation of Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans.**

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2349 ~~((E-466))~~ **E-344 ((As watershed plans are developed and implemented, zoning, regulations, and incentive programs ((may)) should be developed, applied, and monitored so that critical habitat in King County watersheds is capable of supporting sustainable and fishable salmonid populations.)) Watershed-based plans should define how the natural functions and values of watersheds critical to salmonids are protected so that the quantity and quality of water and sediment entering the streams, lakes, wetlands and rivers can support salmonid spawning, rearing, resting, and migration.**

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~~((E-467 Responsibility for the costs of watershed planning and project implementation, including water quality, groundwater protection, and fisheries habitat protection, should be shared between King County and other jurisdictions within a watershed.))~~

King County contains a number of wetlands, floodplains, lakes, and river and stream reaches that are important to the viability of fish and wildlife populations and are therefore considered biological, social and economic resources. Some ~~((resource))~~ areas ~~((including Regionally Significant Resource Areas and Locally Significant Resource Areas, were previously))~~ have been identified ~~((through ((basin plans)) watershed planning efforts and other resource inventory efforts. Additional))~~ as high-priority habitat areas ~~((have been identified))~~ through Water Resource Inventory Area ~~((salmon recovery plans, ((“Waterways 2000,” Cedar River Legacy Program, acquisition plans)), the Land Conservation Initiative, and through the Critical Areas Ordinance basin conditions map ((s)) used to establish protective buffers along wetlands and streams under the ((Critical Areas Ordinance)) King County Code. Protection and restoration of connections between rivers and their floodplains is increasingly recognized as a priority element of salmon recovery and climate resiliency efforts. The Clean Water Healthy Habitat strategic plan includes a 30-year goal for restoring connected floodplains with native vegetation. Additionally, cCriteria for the County’s primary local land conservation funding sources, Conservation Futures Tax, and King County Parks Levy, have been updated to help focus investment in areas of the county that have historically been underserved with access to quality green space.~~

These areas contribute to the resource base of the entire Puget Sound region by virtue of exceptional species and habitat diversity and abundance when compared to basins of similar size and structure elsewhere in the region. These areas may also support rare, endangered, or sensitive species, including Endangered Species Act-listed salmonids. They also provide wetland, lake, and stream habitat that is important for wildlife and salmonid diversity and abundance within the basin.

The Puget Sound region has responded commendably to the listing of Puget Sound Chinook. In King County, more than 40 jurisdictions have joined together to cooperatively lead salmon recovery in the ~~((the))~~ county’s watersheds. In the ~~((10))~~ 17 years since the plans were adopted (2006 ~~__~~ ~~((2015))~~ 2022), King County has implemented ~~((65))~~ 80 priority salmon restoration capital projects within its jurisdiction ~~((and has initiated work on an additional 33))~~ in addition to dozens of small habitat projects, such riparian restoration on private lands. King County has identified nearly 100 additional capital projects for future implementation. ~~((the))~~ Since 2011, ~~((NMF5))~~ the National Marine Fisheries Service has conducted ~~((8))~~ several five-year assessments of progress to implement the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. The assessments have repeatedly concluded that good habitat projects are being implemented across Puget Sound, but that the pace of salmon recovery implementation is too slow, primarily due to insufficient funding. This is true in King County as well, though, in recent years King the County has developed significant additional sources of local revenue to advance restoration. ~~((The salmon recovery plans for the Snoqualmie portion of WRIA 7, WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 hit their ten year mark in 2015.))~~ King County has renewed interlocal agreements with its ~~((43))~~ 44 jurisdictional partners to continue to fund salmon recovery coordination in those watersheds ~~((for the next decade))~~ through at least 2025, with the expectation of renewal for another 10 years beyond that date.

Key conclusions and recommendations from the five-year assessments ~~((completed in 2011))~~ include:

- Habitat continues to decline, and the region needs to increase its scrutiny of the sources of habitat decline and the tools used to protect habitat sites and ecosystem process.
- Habitat protection needs improvement, and salmon recovery lead entities and

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2416 regional groups should advocate for stronger regulatory programs to protect
2417 habitat.
2418 • While extensive habitat work has taken place across King County and in the broader
2419 Puget Sound, funding has fallen well short of the need as identified in the work
2420 plans that have been developed in each watershed. Moreover, most sources only
2421 fund on-the-ground projects rather than the staffing that is needed to plan and
2422 coordinate overall recovery efforts.

2423 ((
2424 ~~Adaptive Management Plans are not completed: A process should be established
2425 to recognize changes that are being made to Recovery Plan strategies as
2426 implementation proceeds.~~)
2427

2428 Although Water Resource Inventory Area plans are Chinook salmon-focused, they are
2429 expected to also provide the basis for recovery planning for other listed aquatic species,
2430 including ((Orcas)) orca, steelhead and bull trout.
2431

2432 ~~((5-)) Puget Sound Partnership))~~

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2433 The Puget Sound Partnership ((was created by the Washington State Legislature and
2434 Governor in July 2007 to achieve the recovery of the Puget Sound ecosystem by the
2435 year 2020. Its goal is)) works to consolidate and significantly strengthen the federal,
2436 state, local, and private efforts undertaken to date to protect and restore the health of
2437 Puget Sound and its watersheds(~~The Puget Sound Partnership also~~), and serves as an
2438 umbrella group for salmon recovery efforts in Puget Sound, including implementation
2439 of salmon recovery plans prepared for Chinook salmon. King County, through its land
2440 use decisions, management of stormwater and wastewater discharges, development of
2441 recycled water supplies, cooperative habitat protection and restoration projects, work in
2442 flood risk reduction, salmon recovery, support for agricultural and natural land
2443 protection, actions to address climate change, and ongoing environmental monitoring,
2444 is actively involved in the conservation and recovery of Puget Sound. ((King County has
2445 the opportunity, and responsibility, to make significant contributions to protecting and
2446 restoring Puget Sound. ((The Puget Sound Partnership's 2018-2020 Action Agenda for
2447 Puget Sound was revised in 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2018, focusing on three Strategic
2448 Initiatives: protecting and restoring habitat, preventing pollution from stormwater, and
2449 recovering shellfish beds.

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2451 **E-113)) E-345 King County should actively participate in updating and
2452 implementing the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda, through
2453 the following Local Integrating Organizations: Puyallup-White River;
2454 South Central Action Area Caucus Group ((and));
2455 Snohomish-
2456 Stillaguamish;
2457 and West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery
2458 ((Local Integrating Organizations, consistent with King County goals)).**

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2458 **((E-114)) E-346 King County should collaborate with other watershed forum
2459 partners to ensure that recommendations of watershed-based salmon
2460 recovery plans, goals for regional stormwater controls, and goals for
2461 human and community health for King County are integrated with the
2462 Puget Sound Partnership recommendations.**

2464 **E-347 King County should encourage integration of King County goals for
2465 regional stormwater controls and human and community health into
2466 Puget Sound Partnership recommendations.**

2467
2468 ((The Puget Sound Partnership maintains a Strategic Science Plan and Biennial Science
2469 Work Plan which provide an overall framework for development and coordination of
2470 specific science activities necessary to support Puget Sound ecosystem protection and

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2471 restoration under the Partnership's Action Agenda. The Puget Sound Partnership also
2472 organizes the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program, a collaborative effort to
2473 improve communication and data sharing among the many monitoring programs
2474 operating in Puget Sound, with the goal of assessing progress towards recovery of the
2475 health of the Sound. King County actively participates in the Ecosystem Monitoring
2476 Program.

2477
2478 **E-115)) E-348 King County should identify opportunities for coordinating its**
2479 **existing monitoring programs with monitoring and assessment work**
2480 **conducted through the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program,**
2481 **the Puget Sound Partnership's Strategic Science Plan, and the Puget**
2482 **Sound Partnership's Biennial Science Work Plan.**

2483
2484 ~~((E-706 King County should work with other Water Resource Inventory Area~~
2485 ~~salmon recovery plan partners to establish a program (framework and~~
2486 ~~methodology) for monitoring project specific and cumulative~~
2487 ~~effectiveness of King County salmonid recovery actions. This program~~
2488 ~~should include data collection and analysis and should provide~~
2489 ~~information to guide an adaptive management approach to salmonid~~
2490 ~~recovery.~~

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2492 **E-707 King County shall continue to coordinate with other governments,**
2493 **agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations and others to**
2494 **develop and implement regional and watershed-based Monitoring and**
2495 **Adaptive Management programs focused on achieving salmon**
2496 **recovery goals. The programs shall continue to include monitoring of**
2497 **salmon populations and habitat status and trends over time in order for**
2498 **the ((c))County and its partners in salmon recovery to be able to access**
2499 **the overall trajectory of salmon recovery efforts.))**

2500 **E-708 King County should implement a framework for effectiveness monitoring**
2501 **of critical areas regulations, and use monitoring data to inform the future**
2502 **review and updates of its critical areas policies and regulations.**

2503 ~~((h-)) Non-Native)) 4. Invasive Species and Noxious Weeds~~

2504 Non((=))native species are often invasive because they did not evolve as part of the
2505 ecosystem and therefore do not have natural controls or competition. These species
2506 may be terrestrial, freshwater, or marine. Invasive species can create costly
2507 maintenance problems for both public and private landowners. ~~((Noxious and invasive~~
2508 ~~weeds)) Invasive plant and animal species pose threats to the environmental health of all~~
2509 ~~landscapes in King County, including natural, agricultural, wildlife, wetland, stream, and~~
2510 ~~recreational areas. ((Weeds spread in a variety of ways, including the transport of seeds~~
2511 ~~or plant parts by vehicles boats, shoes, clothing, and animals (including pets, livestock,~~
2512 ~~wildlife, birds, and insects); in soil, gravel and other landscaping and building materials,~~
2513 ~~down watercourses and in floods, by wind, and occasionally through deliberate~~
2514 ~~introduction by people.)) They alter ecosystems through disrupting food chains,~~
2515 ~~out-competing native species, and reducing habitat for native wildlife. Invasive species,~~
2516 ~~including weeds, are widely recognized as having a significant negative impact on~~
2517 ~~wildlife biodiversity. Invasive plants can also increase the risk of forest fire by acting as~~
2518 ~~an accelerant for fire (when extremely flammable) and/or by acting as ladder fuels that~~
2519 ~~carry a fire from ground level to the crown of trees.~~

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2521 ~~((King County offers technical assistance with identification and removal of non-native~~
2522 ~~plants ((through programs, including Forest Stewardship and Naturescaping)). The~~
2523 ~~((c))County also partners with volunteer groups to remove invasive plants from open~~
2524 ~~space and natural areas. Some non-native species are classified as "noxious" weeds.~~
2525 ~~The King County Noxious Weed Control Program provides many services to county~~
2526 ~~residents, including: educational materials and workshops, current information on~~
2527 ~~control and eradication of noxious weeds, support to volunteer and land((=))owner~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

2528 groups, and annual road-side surveys. In addition, the Noxious Weed Control Program
2529 implements the State Weed Law ~~((Revised Code of Washington c))Chapter 17.10
2530 Revised Code of Washington)) in the county, which requires all landowners to eradicate
2531 Class A noxious weeds and control designated Class B and ~~((c))County selected Class C
2532 noxious weeds on their properties.))~~~~

2533 ~~((6.)) Noxious Weeds~~

2534 ~~((Left uncontrolled, n))Noxious weeds can significantly impact public and private land
2535 use in the County. Left uncontrolled, noxious weeds will ultimately undermine many of
2536 the County's environmental goals and initiatives, including: the Local Food Initiative,
2537 salmon habitat restoration projects, and the Land Conservation Initiative. The State
2538 Noxious Weed Control Law (Chapter 17.10 Revised Code of Washington ((17.10))
2539 establishes all property owners' responsibility for preventing and controlling the spread
2540 of noxious weeds. Because plants grow without regard to property lines or political
2541 jurisdictions, everyone's cooperation is needed ~~((city gardeners, government land
2542 agencies, foresters, and farmers all have a role to play)).~~ The key to successful noxious
2543 weed control is effective engagement and participation of landowners and communities
2544 in the stewardship of their lands. ~~((The law spells out these responsibilities and creates
2545 the government infrastructure needed to educate residents and implement regulatory
2546 processes:))~~~~

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2547
2548 The State Weed Law applies to both private and public lands (except for Indian tribal
2549 and federal ~~((and Indian tribal))~~ lands). King County manages approximately ~~((4,420))
2550 4,400~~ parcels of public land totaling over 36,000 acres. King County also owns or
2551 manages approximately 1,500 linear miles of roads and right-of-way. These lands are
2552 managed by multiple ~~((c))County agencies, including the King County Departments of
2553 Natural Resources, ~~((Transportation)) Local Services, and Executive Services. Since
2554 weed infestations can spread from property to property, on both public and private
2555 lands, it is critical that the ~~((c))County have a coordinated strategy for controlling noxious
2556 and invasive weeds on ~~((c))County-owned and managed lands.~~~~~~~~

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2557
2558 The King Conservation District and the County offer guidance and assistance on use of
2559 native plants. These plants are more resistant to pests and able to withstand the wet
2560 winters and dry summers. They can be used for nature-scaping (low-water requirement
2561 landscapes), wildlife enhancement, erosion control, and beautification. The County also
2562 establishes a list of "climate-smart plants," which are native plant species currently,
2563 historically, or prehistorically found within the surrounding ecoregion that are predicted
2564 to maintain their abundance under climate change.

2565 ~~((E-426)) **Introductions of non-native, invasive plant, vertebrate, and**
2566 **invertebrate species should be avoided in terrestrial, freshwater, and**
2567 **marine environs.**~~

2568
2569 **E-427)) E-349 King County should promote and restore native plant communities**
2570 **where sustainable, feasible, and appropriate to the site and**
2571 **surrounding ecological context and should incorporate climate change**
2572 **considerations into planting design, including:**

- 2573 a. **Encouraging mManagement and control of nonnative invasive**
2574 **plants, including aquatic plants;**
- 2575 b. **Using environmentally sound safe methods of vegetation control to**
2576 **control noxious weeds;**
- 2577 c. **Use of locally- or climate- adapted species for natural area**
2578 **landscaping, restoration, rehabilitation, and erosion control on**
2579 **County-owned lands; and**
- 2580 d. **RoutineAdequate maintenance of plantings in habitat restoration**
2581 **projects to prevent invasion of weedsinvasive species and ensure**
2582 **survival of native plantings.**

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~~((E-428))~~ On county-owned lands, King County should use locally adapted native species for natural area landscaping, restoration, rehabilitation, and erosion control. Habitat restoration projects should include provisions for adequate maintenance of plantings to prevent invasion of weeds and ensure survival of native plantings.

~~E-429))~~ E-350 King County should provide incentives for ~~((private))~~ landowners who are seeking to remove invasive plants and noxious weeds ~~((and replace them with native plants))~~, such as providing technical assistance or access to ~~((appropriate))~~ native or climate-smart plants.

~~((E-430))~~ E-351 King County shall ~~((implement its strategy to))~~ minimize impacts of noxious weeds to the environment, recreation, public health, and the economy on all lands in the County. This includes preventing, monitoring and controlling infestations of state-listed noxious weeds and other non~~((r))~~native invasive weeds of concern on ~~((c))~~County-owned~~((r))~~ and managed lands.

~~((E-430a))~~ E-352 King County shall be a good steward of public lands and protect water quality by reducing the use of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides through integrated pest and vegetation management practices. Through training and other programs, King County should actively encourage the use of environmentally safe methods of vegetation control. Herbicide use on King County-owned and leased properties shall be restricted to low-toxicity products applied by trained and licensed staff or contractors, and used only as necessary. ~~((King County shall be a good steward of public lands and protect water quality, by reducing the use of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides through the use of integrated pest and vegetation management practices.))~~

~~((E-115a))~~ E-353 King County shall ~~((exercise its authority under Revised Code of Washington 17.10 to))~~:
~~((1))~~ a. ~~((establish a))~~ Work with the King ~~((c))~~County ~~((n))~~Noxious ~~((w))~~Weed ~~((c))~~Control ~~((b))~~Board to provide public oversight and direction of the County's Noxious Weed Control Program;
~~((2))~~ b. ~~((i))~~Implement a program of activities that minimizes the impacts of noxious weeds to the environment, economy, recreation, and public health within the ~~((C))~~county; and
c. Adopt rule~~regulations~~ to ensure control of noxious weeds and weeds of concern as identified by the Noxious Weed Control Board; and
d. Ensure close coordination between the King County Noxious Weed Control Board and King Conservation District in the control of noxious weeds.

~~((Additional text and policies related to monitoring and adaptive management can be found at the end of this chapter:~~

~~((i. Adaptive Management~~

Adaptive management refers to modifying management actions based on ongoing monitoring and data analysis. To sustain native biodiversity and improve the county's efforts at conservation, it must always be advancing the understanding of the systems under its care and change its efforts accordingly:

~~E-431))~~ E-354 Management activities should ~~((, when feasible and practicable,))~~ be ~~((designed))~~ implemented in a manner that can test ~~((them))~~ results against management objectives and be adjusted as appropriate.

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2643 ((Additional text and policies related to monitoring and adaptive management can be
2644 found at the end of this chapter.))

IV. Water

~~((D.))~~ Aquatic Resources)

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2647 King County's aquatic resources include rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, groundwater,
2648 and the marine waters of Puget Sound. These resources provide many beneficial
2649 functions, including fish and wildlife habitat; food supplies; flood risk reduction; water
2650 supply for agricultural, commercial, domestic, and industrial use; energy production;
2651 transportation; recreational opportunities; and scenic beauty.

2652
2653 ~~((In order to))~~ To preserve and enhance aquatic resources in King County, they must be
2654 managed as an integrated system together with terrestrial resources, and not as distinct
2655 and separate elements. The hydrologic cycle (the occurrence, distribution, and
2656 circulation of water in the environment) is the common link among aquatic resources
2657 and describes their interdependence.

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2658
2659 Use and modification of water resources and the surrounding terrestrial environment
2660 affects how the hydrologic cycle functions and can cause unintended detrimental
2661 impacts such as flooding, low stream and river flows, reduced groundwater availability,
2662 erosion, degradation of water quality, loss of fish and wildlife habitat, and loss of
2663 archeological and traditional cultural resources that depend upon but do not damage
2664 natural resources. ~~((In order to))~~ To minimize adverse impacts on the water resources of
2665 King County and ensure the continued ability to receive the beneficial uses they
2666 provide, the ~~((c))~~ County will need to promote responsible land and water resource
2667 planning and use. These beneficial uses include fish and wildlife habitat, flood risk
2668 reduction, water quality control, sediment transport, energy production, transportation;
2669 recreational opportunities, scenic beauty, and water supply for agricultural, municipal,
2670 and industrial purpose.

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~~((1.))~~ A. Watersheds

2671
2672 A watershed is an area that drains to a common outlet or identifiable water body such as
2673 Puget Sound, a river, stream, lake, or wetland. There are six major watersheds in King
2674 County (Cedar/Lake Washington, Green/Duwamish, Puget Sound, South Fork
2675 Skykomish, Snoqualmie, and White) that, in turn, contain numerous smaller catchments
2676 and water bodies. Surface and ground waters are managed most effectively by
2677 understanding and considering potential problems and solutions for an entire
2678 watershed. Because watersheds frequently extend into several jurisdictions, effective
2679 restoration and preservation planning and implementation must be coordinated.

2680
2681 ~~((E-464))~~ **E-401 King County shall protect and should enhance surface waters,
2682 including streams, lakes, wetlands, and the marine waters and nearshore
2683 areas of Puget Sound, on a watershed basis by analyzing water quantity
2684 and quality problems and their impacts to beneficial uses, including fish
2685 and wildlife habitat, flood risk reduction, and erosion control. Conditions
2686 of and impacts to the downstream receiving marine beaches and waters
2687 of Puget Sound shall be included in watershed management efforts.**

2688
2689 ~~((Over the past several years King County has been working cooperatively with many of
2690 the water utilities, local governments, state agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested
2691 parties in the region to gather data and information to support a regional water supply
2692 planning process. (For more information and specific policies related to regional water
2693 supply planning, please see Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities). This~~

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2694 cooperative work includes assessments of current and future water demands and
2695 supplies, potential climate change impacts on water, opportunities for use of recycled
2696 water, and potential improvements to stream flows. These cooperative efforts will
2697 provide valuable information to inform not only water supply planning but also salmon
2698 recovery planning and projects.
2699

2700 ~~E-468))~~ E-402 King County's ~~((Shoreline Master Program,))~~ watershed management
2701 plans, Water Resource Inventory Area salmon recovery plans, flood hazard
2702 management plans, master drainage plans, open space acquisition plans,
2703 and critical areas regulations should apply a tiered system of protection
2704 that affords a higher standard of protection for more significant resources.
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2707 ~~((E-463))~~ E-403 King County shall integrate watershed plans with marine and
2708 freshwater surface water, flood hazard management, stormwater,
2709 groundwater, drinking water, wastewater, and recycled water
2710 planning, as well as federal and state Clean Water Act compliance and
2711 monitoring and assessment programs, to provide efficient water
2712 resource management.

2713 ~~((2-))~~ B. Wetlands

2714 Wetlands are valuable natural resources in King County. They include deep ponds,
2715 shallow marshes and swamps, wet meadows, and bogs. Wetlands comprise forested
2716 and scrub-shrub communities, emergent vegetation, and other lands supporting a
2717 prevalence of plants adapted to saturated soils and varying flooding regimes.
2718 Wetlands, with their highly diverse forms and diffuse distribution, can be particularly
2719 challenging to categorize and manage.
2720

2721 The federal and state governments also have roles in identifying and regulating certain
2722 types of wetlands and development activity. ~~((In order to))~~ To streamline and synchronize
2723 regulatory standards for wetlands, the ~~((c))~~ County relies on guidance from the
2724 Washington State Department of Ecology, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District,
2725 and Environmental Protection Agency for wetland identification, delineation,
2726 categorization, and, where appropriate, mitigation.
2727

2728 ~~((E-470))~~ King County shall use current manuals and guidance from state and
2729 federal governmental agencies and departments to identify, delineate,
2730 and categorize wetlands and to establish mitigation requirements for
2731 wetlands.
2732

2733 E-471 King County will apply the current scientifically accepted methodology
2734 for wetland mitigation based on technical criteria and field indicators.
2735 Where appropriate, King County should rely on publications and
2736 recommendations from state and federal agencies to ensure King
2737 County approved mitigation will be accepted by state and federal
2738 agencies with jurisdiction.
2739

2740 Some wetlands are large and their physical boundaries as well as their functions and
2741 values extend beyond individual jurisdictional boundaries.
2742

2743 ~~E-472))~~ E-404 King County shall ~~((communicate and coordinate with other
2744 jurisdictions and tribes to))~~ encourage the establishment of uniform
2745 countywide wetlands policies that provide protection of both
2746 regionally and locally highly-rated wetlands.))
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2748 Wetlands are productive biological systems, providing habitat for fish and wildlife.
2749 Wetlands also store flood waters and control runoff, thereby reducing flooding,

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2750 downstream erosion, and other damage. Further, wetlands protect water quality by
2751 trapping sediments and absorbing pollutants. They allow rain and snowmelt to infiltrate
2752 into aquifers, recharging them and potentially making that water available for human
2753 use. They discharge groundwater, making it available to plants and animals. Wetlands
2754 store peak flows and discharge to streams in dry periods, thus enabling fish and riparian
2755 animal populations to survive. They may serve as outdoor classrooms for scientific
2756 study. Some are used for hiking, hunting, and fishing. These wetland functions and
2757 values need consideration from a watershed perspective. Measures to protect wetland
2758 functions and values need to be taken at both the site-specific and watershed scale. In
2759 the ((τ))Urban ((ϗ))Growth ((σ))Area, land use authority is often shared by multiple
2760 jurisdictions at the scale of a drainage basin. Similarly, efforts to protect and restore
2761 wetlands may be sponsored by multiple parties, including local governments.

2762
2763 Buffers are necessary but often insufficient to adequately protect wetland values and
2764 functions especially when wetlands are small and the adjacent watershed large.
2765 Consequently, the location of development in addition to its size is important in
2766 determining its impact on wetland functions and values.

2767
2768 The functions and values of a wetland will change as the surrounding land is altered by
2769 development and other human activities, and as local conditions are influenced by
2770 climate change. Silviculture, agriculture, and development-related changes in forest
2771 cover and impervious surface affect stormwater runoff patterns, flooding, water quality,
2772 and wetland hydrology.

2773
2774 **~~((E-473)) E-405 King County((s overall goal for the protection of wetlands is)) shall~~**
2775 **~~protect wetlands to achieve no net loss of wetland functions and values~~**
2776 **~~within each drainage basin. Acquisition, enhancement, regulations,~~**
2777 **~~and incentive programs shall be used ((independently or in~~**
2778 **~~combination with one another)) to protect and enhance wetland((s))~~**
2779 **~~functions and values. Watershed management plans, including Water~~**
2780 **~~Resource Inventory Area plans, should be used to coordinate and~~**
2781 **~~inform priorities for acquisition, enhancement, regulations, and~~**
2782 **~~incentive programs within unincorporated King County to achieve the~~**
2783 **~~goal of no net loss of wetland functions and values within each~~**
2784 **~~drainage basin.~~**

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2786 **~~((E-474 Development adjacent to wetlands shall be sited such that wetland~~**
2787 **~~functions and values are protected, an adequate buffer around the~~**
2788 **~~wetlands is provided, and significant adverse impacts to wetlands are~~**
2789 **~~prevented.))~~**

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2790
2791 The diversity of plants and animals found in wetlands generally far exceeds that found in
2792 terrestrial habitats in the Pacific Northwest. Habitat loss and fragmentation are
2793 considered the greatest threats to this native biodiversity. Wetlands in the Urban
2794 Growth Area will experience the largest reduction in the distribution and number of
2795 native animals and plants due to habitat loss and fragmentation. It is anticipated that
2796 climate change will exacerbate the adverse effects of habitat loss and fragmentation by
2797 further reducing existing wetland habitat and altering wetland hydroperiods thereby
2798 increasing the inter-habitat distances and potentially restricting the dispersal and
2799 movement of plants and wildlife between favorable wetlands and habitats.

2800
2801 Protecting wetland biodiversity depends upon supporting the natural processes
2802 (including hydrology, nutrient cycling, and natural disturbances) that shape wetland
2803 habitat, protecting wetlands functions and values from the impacts of adjacent land
2804 uses, maintaining biological linkages, and preventing fragmentation of wetland habitats.
2805 Small wetlands strategically located between other wetlands may provide important
2806 biological links or "stepping stones" between other, higher quality wetlands. Wetlands
2807 adjacent to habitat networks also are especially critical to wildlife because they allow

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2808 individual animals to escape danger and populations to inter~~((di))~~perse and breed.
2809 Wetlands adjacent to habitat networks should receive special consideration in planning
2810 land use.

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2811
2812 Many wildlife species require access to both wetlands and adjacent terrestrial lands to
2813 support them at different stages of their lives. For example, many amphibians breed in
2814 the water and need access to terrestrial habitat for feeding and for shelter during the
2815 winter. Fixed-width buffers alone are unlikely to adequately address these needs or
2816 entirely protect wetlands from surrounding human activity. Adjacent and accessible
2817 terrestrial habitat may be too small or fragmented to provide core feeding,
2818 overwintering, and other habitat needs.

2819
2820 **~~((E-476))~~ E-406 King County should identify upland areas of native vegetation that**
2821 **connect wetlands to upland habitats and that connect upland habitats**
2822 **to each other. The ~~((c))~~County should seek protection of these areas**
2823 **through acquisition, stewardship plans, and incentive programs such as**
2824 **the Public Benefit Rating System and the Transfer of Development**
2825 **Rights Program.**

2826
2827 **~~((E-477))~~ E-407 The unique hydrologic cycles, soil and water chemistries, and**
2828 **vegetation communities of bogs and fens shall be protected through**
2829 **the use of incentives, acquisition, best management practices, and**
2830 **implementation of the King County Surface Water Design Manual to**
2831 **control and/or treat stormwater within the wetland watershed.**

2832
2833 **~~((E-478))~~ E-408 Public access to wetlands for traditional cultural, scientific, and**
2834 **recreational~~((, and traditional cultural use is desirable, providing that))~~**
2835 **use should be encouraged, if:**

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- 2836 **a. ~~((p))~~Public access trails are carefully sited~~((,))~~;**
- 2837 **b. ~~((sensitive habitats and species are protected,))~~ Protection is**
2838 **provided for critical areas; and**
- 2839 **c. ~~((h))~~Hydrologic continuity is maintained.**

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2841 **~~((E-479))~~ E-409 Regulatory approaches for protecting wetland functions and**
2842 **values, including the application of wetland buffers and the siting of**
2843 **off-site compensatory mitigation, should consider intensity of**
2844 **surrounding land uses and basin conditions. King County shall**
2845 **continue to review and evaluate wetland research and implement**
2846 **changes in its wetland protection programs based on such information.**

2847
2848 **~~((E-480))~~ E-410 Enhancement or restoration of degraded wetlands may be allowed**
2849 **to ~~((maintain or))~~ improve wetland functions and values, provided that**
2850 **all wetland functions are evaluated in a wetland management plan, and**
2851 **adequate monitoring, code enforcement, and evaluation is provided**
2852 **and assured by responsible parties. The enhancement or**
2853 **~~((R))~~restoration ~~((or enhancement))~~ must result in a net improvement to**
2854 **the functions and values of the wetland system. Within available**
2855 **resources, King County should provide technical assistance to small**
2856 **property owners as an incentive to encourage the enhancement or**
2857 **restoration ~~((or enhancement))~~ of degraded wetlands.**

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2859 **~~((E-481))~~ E-411 Provided all wetland functions are evaluated, impact avoidance**
2860 **and minimization sequencing is followed, affected significant functions**
2861 **are appropriately mitigated, and mitigation sites are adequately**
2862 **monitored, alterations to wetlands may be allowed to:**

- 2863 **a. Accomplish a public agency or utility development;**
- 2864 **b. Provide necessary crossings for utilities, stormwater tightlines and**
2865 **roads; or**
- 2866 **c. Allow constitutionally mandated "reasonable use" of the property.**

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When adverse impacts cannot be avoided, compensatory mitigation may be allowed. This means wetland enhancement, restoration, or creation to replace project-induced losses of wetland functions and values. The ((e))County recognizes that, especially in the Urban Growth Area, allowing alteration of low-function wetlands in exchange for compensatory mitigation that contributes to wetlands of higher functions and values within a connected wetland system may achieve greater resource protection than simply preserving the low functioning wetland.

~~((E-482))~~ **E-412 A small Category IV wetland that is less than 2,500 square feet and that is not part of a wetland complex may be altered to move functions to another wetland as part of an approved mitigation plan that is consistent with E-~~((483))~~413 and E-~~((484))~~414.**

~~((E-483))~~ **E-413 Wetland impacts should be avoided if possible, and minimized in all cases. Where impacts cannot be avoided, they should be mitigated on site if the proposed mitigation is ((feasible)) practical, ecologically appropriate, and likely to continue providing equivalent or better biological functions in perpetuity. Where on-site mitigation is not possible or appropriate, King County may approve off-site mitigation.**

~~((E-484))~~ **E-414 Mitigation projects should contribute to an existing wetland system or restore an area that was historically a wetland. Mitigation should only create new wetlands after site monitoring indicates that hydrologic conditions exist to support a new wetland. Mitigation sites should be strategically located to reduce habitat fragmentation or to restore and enhance area-specific functions within a watershed.**

~~((E-485))~~ **E-415 Land used for wetland mitigation should be preserved in perpetuity. Monitoring and maintenance in conformance with King County standards should be provided or paid for by the project proponent until the success of the site is established. Long-term stewardship should occur at mitigation sites to ensure sites continue to provide desired functions and values.**

Mitigation banks and in-lieu fee programs are forms of watershed-based compensatory mitigation, with the goal of providing greater resource protection and benefit to the public. Both approaches can allow for the consolidation of multiple, small mitigation projects into a large-scale wetland or wetland complex, resulting in economies of scale in planning, implementation, and maintenance. Depending on their location and functions, mitigation banks and projects constructed using in-lieu fee programs can result in wetlands of greater hydrologic, chemical, and biological value because of their size and ecological context and the commitment to long((r))term management. These mitigation approaches also provide applicants with a range of options for meeting their off-site mitigation obligations.

Mitigation banking allows compensatory mitigation to occur prior to the loss of existing wetlands and their functions and values, thereby reducing "temporal" losses. Mitigation banking allows a project proponent to mitigate for their impacts by contributing fees to a bank sponsor for the creation or restoration of the bank site. In-lieu fee programs, such as King County's Mitigation Reserves Program, allow an applicant to meet its off-site wetland mitigation requirements through payment of a fee to King County or another authorized agent with the capacity to design and construct, maintain, and monitor a successful mitigation project. Both types of programs enable fees to be pooled so that larger projects can be constructed to offset impacts elsewhere in a watershed.

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2924 Moreover, King County's Mitigation Reserves Program enables such projects to be
2925 constructed on lands with degraded wetlands or aquatic areas or lands with the
2926 potential to reestablish wetlands or aquatic areas that could be restored or enhanced to
2927 benefit overall watershed functions. These Mitigation Reserve lands are managed for
2928 long term ecological protection, so that the landscape and stream basin context
2929 support a successful enhancement project. Such projects should be planned in a
2930 watershed context and may achieve multiple ecological objectives, including meeting
2931 salmon conservation and other habitat protection objectives as well as wetland
2932 enhancement needs.

~~((E-486))~~ **E-416 King County, in partnership with other governmental entities and interested parties, should encourage the development and use of wetland mitigation banks through which functioning wetlands or aquatic areas are enhanced, restored, or created prior to the impacting of existing wetlands or aquatic areas. ((The ((c)) County shall encourage establishment of such banks by established government entities as well as by private, entrepreneurial enterprises.))**

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2942 ~~((In 2008, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency jointly issued new federal rules (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 230 and 33 Code of Federal Regulations Part 332) regarding compensatory mitigation for losses to functions and values of aquatic resources associated with unavoidable permitted impacts. These rules require implementation of mitigation in a watershed context and consideration of functional losses to resources from permitted impacts and functional gains at mitigation sites.))~~

2950 King County ~~((revised its compensatory mitigation program in 2011 to comply with these new federal rules and is well positioned to become))~~ is a regional service provider for compensatory in-lieu fee mitigation - both to permittees in unincorporated King County and within cities ~~((when appropriate agreements are in place))~~. The ~~((revised))~~ County's compensatory mitigation program ~~((, authorized by state and federal agencies in 2012,))~~ offers private and public project proponents the opportunity to pay a fee to King County in lieu of completing their own mitigation. These fees in turn will be used to implement mitigation projects, equitably applied among larger and smaller scale developments, that address watershed needs as determined through analysis of best available science.

~~((In approving mitigation proposals, King County should consider the ecological context of the impacted wetland, as well as the wetland impact acreage, functions, and values. Mitigation sites should be located in areas in which the project will enhance ecological conditions of the watershed and should first replace or augment the functions and values that are most important to the optimum functioning of the wetland being created, restored, or enhanced. These functions and values may differ from those lost as a result of the impacting development project. Wetland mitigation proposals should result in no net loss, and if possible, in an increase in overall wetland functions and values within the watershed in which the impacted site is located.))~~

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~~E-487))~~ **E-417 King County should continue to implement and encourage use of its Mitigation Reserves Program to provide a fee-based option for permit applicants to mitigate for unavoidable impacts of permitted development on wetland and aquatic area functions and values. The fee structure shall be based on the full costs of land acquisition, site selection, design, construction, and long((r)) term maintenance and monitoring. Mitigation projects implemented through the Mitigation Reserves Program should occur within a watershed context.**

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~~((E-488))~~ **E-418 King County should be a regional service provider of compensatory mitigation through the Mitigation Reserves Program by working with local cities, other counties, and state agencies to establish partnerships for implementation of inter-~~((c))~~ jurisdictional in-lieu fee mitigation.**

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E-419 When implementing in-lieu fee mitigation projects, King County should consider the ecological context of the impacted wetland, and the impacted wetland's acreage, functions, and values. In-lieu fee mitigation should result in no net loss, and if possible, in an increase in overall wetland functions and values within the watershed in which the impacted site is located.

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~~((A large portion of western Washington farming occurs in lands that were once wetlands. Region-wide, agricultural lands have been targeted as mitigation sites because the relative cost of land is low and the likelihood of success in returning wetland functions is high. King County's Agricultural Production Districts that are located in floodplains and the poorly drained Osceola soils of the Enumclaw Plateau are no exception. Unless carefully sited and engineered, wetland mitigation projects can inadvertently raise water tables on adjacent agricultural properties. King County has joined other counties in discouraging the use of productive farmland for wetland mitigation, while working with farmers on wetland enhancement and restoration at a scale appropriate to sustaining their farms.))~~

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Through the King County Mitigation Reserves Program, ~~((restoration))~~ mitigation sites are selected ~~((and pre-purchased in advance of))~~ to offset development-related impacts. Selected sites, with wetland or aquatic area preservation, enhancement, restoration, or creation potential, will be ~~((purchased))~~ protected in perpetuity as open space and actively managed as mitigation sites ~~((and will be protected in perpetuity as open space))~~. Mitigation projects implemented through the Mitigation Reserves Program will preserve, enhance, restore, and/or create ecological functions at the site to compensate for wetland, stream, river, and/or buffer functions and values lost during unavoidable impacts associated with permitted construction of projects at other locations. Sites and projects through the Mitigation Reserves Program will occur where the projects will have sustainable long-term benefits to aquatic resources in the watershed, ensuring projects at protected sites occur in places with importance to ecological integrity of the watershed. King County's Mitigation Reserves Program ~~((has received approval from))~~ is approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ~~((the))~~ Environmental Protection Agency, ~~((and the))~~ Washington Department of Ecology, and various local, state, and federal ~~other~~ agencies to ~~((serve as an in-lieu fee program to mitigate))~~ provide mitigation for the impacts to wetlands and other aquatic resources ~~((subject to local, state, and federal regulations)).~~

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A large portion of western Washington farming occurs in lands that were once wetlands. Region-wide, agricultural lands have been targeted as mitigation sites because the relative cost of land is low and the likelihood of success in returning wetland functions is high. King County's Agricultural Production Districts that are located in floodplains and the poorly drained Osceola soils of the Enumclaw Plateau are no exception. Unless carefully sited and engineered, wetland mitigation projects can inadvertently raise water tables on adjacent agricultural properties. King County has joined other counties in discouraging the use of productive farmland for wetland mitigation, while working with farmers on wetland enhancement and restoration at a scale appropriate to sustaining their farms.

~~((E-489))~~ **E-420 Wetland mitigation projects should avoid impacts to and prevent loss of farmable land within Agricultural Production Districts. Creation of wetland mitigation banks ~~((are))~~ shall not be allowed in the**

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Agricultural Production Districts when the purpose is to compensate for wetland impacts from development outside the Agricultural Production Districts.

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~~((5:))~~ C. Rivers, Streams, and Floodplains

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There are approximately ~~((3,100))~~ 6,400 miles of rivers ~~((and))~~, streams, and creeks in King County and more than ~~((52,000))~~ 59,000 acres of floodplains along rivers, streams, and marine shorelines. The river and stream channels, the surrounding riparian (streamside) areas and upland areas, their floodplains all contribute to the functioning and integrity of rivers and streams. Many rivers and streams provide habitat that is essential for various life stages of many species of wildlife and fish, including salmonids.

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Rivers, streams, and floodplains are dynamic systems. When flood waters overtop banks, floodplains temporarily store that water. Depending on the depth and flow, floods can dramatically alter river and stream courses, creating new channels, eroding banks, and depositing sediment and gravel. Flooding and erosion can also dislodge trees. These changes slow flood flows and help to support dynamic and complex habitat for fish and wildlife. At the same time, they can create public safety issues for people living along and recreating in rivers.

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In addition, public access to rivers and streams is both a requirement of the Shoreline Management Act and a goal for King County to support the regional economy and provide recreational opportunities for the community. People enjoy rivers and streams for the scenic and recreation values, including boating, floating, swimming, fish and wildlife viewing, and fishing. Management of these systems needs to consider not only habitat protection, but also public health and safety and opportunities for education and stewardship.

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~~((E-498a))~~ **E-421** The existing flood storage and conveyance functions and ecological values of floodplains, wetlands, and riparian ~~((corridors))~~ areas shall be protected, and should~~((, where possible,))~~ be restored and enhanced ~~((or restored))~~ through integrated actions that provide multiple benefits, such as preservation of open space and adjacent low-density development.

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~~((E-499))~~ **E-422** ~~((Rivers and streams are inherently dangerous.))~~ King County should coordinate across ~~((c))~~ County departments and with other agencies and organizations to promote public awareness of the dynamics and dangers of river and stream systems and the need for personal responsibility when living near or recreating in or on rivers and streams.

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~~((E-499a))~~ **E-423** When King County places large wood in rivers and streams for habitat restoration or enhancement, it should do so in a manner that minimizes danger to the public.

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Specific policies addressing management of large wood are found in the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan. In urban areas, rivers and streams in some cases also serve as stormwater drainage systems. During the winter months, stormwater runoff during storms can bring pollutants to these water bodies. During the summer months, lawn irrigation and other water uses can also carry pollutants to rivers and streams.

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~~((E-499b)) E-424 River and stream channels, stream outlets, headwater areas, riparian ~~((corridors))~~ areas, and areas where dynamic ecological processes are present should be preserved, protected, and enhanced for their hydraulic, hydrologic, ecologic, and aesthetic functions, including their functions in providing large wood to salmonid-bearing streams. ~~((Management of))~~ Actions taken along river and stream channels should ~~((consider other beneficial uses of these water bodies, including recreation))~~ provide multiple benefits, including resiliency to climate change, and ensure flood risk reduction actions should benefit all communities, especially frontline communities, consistent with equity and racial and social justice goals and the policies of the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan or successor plans.~~

~~((E-499c)) E-425 To protect or improve adjacent wetlands and aquatic habitat, the designation of buffers for aquatic areas, including rivers and streams, should take into account watershed-scale actions to mitigate the impacts of upland development on flooding, erosion, and habitat.~~

~~((E-499d)) E-426 King County shall continue to monitor and assess river and stream flows, water and sediment quality, physical habitats, and biotic resources in rivers and streams. Assessment shall identify trends and describe impacts on human health and safety, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat.~~

~~((E-499e)) E-427 To maintain and restore stream health, sources of uncontrolled stormwater flows contributing to peak flows in small streams should be managed using on-site structural or non-structural flow control techniques.~~

Most streams in King County originate in either mountainous terrain or on rolling glacial uplands. These streams often descend through steep, narrow ravines before reaching the floodplain. At the point where these streams leave their ravines and flow onto the floodplain, the channel gradient (slope) and confinement decrease quickly, dramatically reducing the streams' ability to carry sediment. These are areas of natural sediment deposition and channel migration. The combination of sediment deposition and repeated channel migration creates fan-shaped depositional features known as alluvial "fans."

During periods of heavy rainfall, streams often carry large sediment loads from upstream that deposit on downstream alluvial fans. Landslides, beaver dam failures and other natural disturbances can create episodes of particularly high rates of sediment production and delivery. In many stream systems, instances of heavy sediment deposition may occur episodically with years or decades of apparent stability in the intervening periods. In many instances, sediment production and tributary or stream flow rates are exacerbated by upland land use conditions and associated stormwater effects.

Alluvial fans share many of the ecological attributes and land use risks associated with channel migration hazard areas and landslide hazards, though they are unique in many respects. In a natural environment, alluvial fans often provide some of the best available spawning habitat in a tributary stream, while also providing a source of gravel for areas downstream. In some heavily altered streams, the alluvial fan may represent the only remaining areas that are suitable for spawning. Alluvial fans can also form the highest ground available in the floodplain, and have historically been used for construction of buildings (including farm buildings), roads, and other structures. Unfortunately, they are inherently unstable environments in which to build. During high flows coupled with sediment deposition, a stream may jump its bank in the area of the alluvial fan, in some cases damaging private property, disrupting agricultural activities, destroying culverts

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3146 and road crossings, stranding fish, and creating risks to public safety. Protecting
3147 buildings, roads, bridges, and crops on and ~~((along)) adjacent to~~ alluvial fans often
3148 requires extensive ~~((,)) and costly~~ ongoing maintenance activities. Maintenance activities
3149 can have adverse effects on habitat, and in some circumstances may not be permissible
3150 under state regulations ~~nor feasible as a management strategy.~~

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3152 ~~((The Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands chapter calls for alluvial fan pilot projects
3153 to test best management practices and innovative solutions for reducing hazards to
3154 agricultural landowners and protecting and restoring habitat.~~

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3156 **E-499f) E-428 King County should improve the management of alluvial fans ~~((by
3157 developing and clarifying definitions of alluvial fans,)) through
3158 mapping the locations of existing alluvial fans and areas at risk of
3159 alluvial fan hazards, and through developing appropriate management
3160 strategies such as development standards and mitigation requirements.
3161 Strategies should:~~**
3162 **a. Address potential conflicts between adjacent landowners and
3163 natural alluvial fan hazards and processes;**
3164 **b. Take climate change into account;**
3165 **c. ~~((p))Protect intact habitat ((and));~~**
3166 **d. ~~((r))Restore degraded habitat((,)); and~~**
3167 **e. ~~((r))Reduce threats to public safety((, and accommodate)) in the
3168 context of existing land uses. ~~((Best Available Science and
3169 ((F)))findings from Alluvial Fan Management Pilot Projects Reports
3170 should inform management strategies for alluvial fans, including
3171 potential regulatory changes.))~~~~**
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3173 ~~((An alluvial fan is a ((depositional landform along a watercourse)) is a fan-shaped
3174 deposit of sediment transported by flowing water, called alluvium, where there is an
3175 abrupt decrease in stream gradient ((and a resulting area of active sediment
3176 deposition)). ~~((Most a)) Alluvial fans in King County ((form)) occur where steep tributary
3177 streams ((discharge)) transition at the base of hillsides onto ((nearly)) the level river
3178 floodplains on a valley floor. ~~((Since m)) Much of the county's farmland is located ((in))
3179 on valley floors, ((some)) and agricultural landowners frequently have properties on ((or
3180 containing)) active alluvial fans ((that are significantly affected by t)). The episodic
3181 deposits of ((upslope)) sediment and debris that ((accumulate on their land)) typically
3182 naturally occur on alluvial fans can fill-reduce the capacity of stream channels and
3183 wetlands, and debris flows may cover fertile farmland, disrupting agricultural
3184 operations. ~~((These events result in obstructed stream channels, filled wetlands,
3185 covered farmland, and disruptions in operations. Water is redirected into unexpected
3186 places. Permits, regulations, and the lack of approved management practices make it
3187 difficult to remedy the situation to regain operations and farm viability.)) Sudden shifts
3188 in the location of streams on alluvial fans can also flood agricultural buildings and farm
3189 residences. Obtaining permits allowing active management to remove the accumulated
3190 sediments and reestablish stream channels can be difficult given the regulations that
3191 apply to critical areas such as alluvial fan hazards, aquatic areas, and floodplains.~~~~~~~~

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3193 ((R-671)) E-429 King County **regulations** should ((use pilot or demonstration
3194 projects and multi-agency collaboration to develop a new suite of
3195 practices that will)) provide **regulatory options to manage alluvial fans**
3196 ((for landowners whose existing)) to **protect existing residences and**
3197 **agricultural operations, that residences, or infrastructure are**
3198 ((affected)) **threatened by alluvial fan ((deposits)) hazards. These**
3199 **options should provide ((timely and cost-effective)) emergency relief**
3200 **from debris and ((the associated)) stream flow changes ((to the**
3201 **watercourse along with protection of ((intact)) and consider long-term**
3202 **multi-benefit solutions that protect and restore functional fish habitat**
3203 **((and restoration of degraded fish habitat within these areas)).**
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3205 ((F-))D. Flood Hazard Management

3206 Floodplains are lands adjacent to lakes, rivers, and streams that are subject to periodic
3207 flooding. Floodplains naturally store flood water, contribute to groundwater recharge,
3208 protect water quality, and are valuable for recreation, agriculture, and fish and wildlife
3209 habitat. Floodplains also provide a deposition zone for sediments mobilized by rivers
3210 and streams. Wetlands are often an integral part of floodplains.

3211 There are two primary types of flood hazards: inundation and channel migration.
3212 Inundation is defined as floodwater and debris flowing through an area that is not
3213 normally under water. Such events can cause minor to severe damage, depending on
3214 the velocity and depth of flows, the duration of the flood event, the quantity of logs and
3215 other debris carried by flows, and the amount and type of development and personal
3216 property in the floodwater's path. Floodplains are designated based on the predicted
3217 frequency of flooding for a particular area. For example, a 100-year floodplain is a land
3218 area that has a one percent probability of experiencing flooding in any given year.
3219 Inundation hazards can come from major rivers, smaller tributary streams, local
3220 stormwater runoff, high lake levels, high groundwater levels, coastal storm surge, and
3221 tidal action.

3222 Channel migration results from ~~((erosion wears))~~ the wearing away of a riverbank by
3223 flowing water. Ongoing erosion of one riverbank coupled with sediment deposition
3224 along the opposite bank results in the lateral movement or migration of a channel
3225 across its floodplain. When this shift is abrupt it is called channel avulsion. Channel
3226 migration can lead to flood and erosion damage to structures, farms, and critical
3227 infrastructure. At the same time, it is a natural process that forms complex fish habitat
3228 by creating braided channels and causing trees to fall into rivers. Bank- stabilization
3229 actions to limit channel migration have negative impacts on channel processes and
3230 reduce salmonid habitat quality and quantity. Channel migration hazard areas are
3231 designated based on geomorphic analyses and review of historical channel migration
3232 patterns and rates, consistent with the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan and
3233 the Shoreline Management Act.

3234 Development can reduce the floodplain's ability to store and convey floodwaters,
3235 thereby increasing the velocity and depth of floodwaters in other areas. In addition,
3236 floodplain development puts humans in harm's way and often occurs at the expense of
3237 important fish and wildlife habitat. King County has adopted the Flood Hazard
3238 Management Plan as a functional element of the King County Comprehensive Plan to
3239 detail regional policies, programs, and projects to reduce the risk to people and
3240 property from river flooding and channel migration in King County and to provide
3241 guidance for decisions related to land use and floodplain management activities.

3242 ((E-499qq)) E-430 King County shall implement a comprehensive local floodplain
3243 management program that, consistent with the King County Flood
3244 Hazard Management Plan or successor plans: protects lives(,);
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minimizes damage and disruption to infrastructure and critical facilities((:)); preserves and restores natural floodplain functions((:)); uses integrated approaches to provide multiple benefits; is resilient to climate change; supports floodplain management actions that benefit frontline communities; and ensures that new development does not put people in harm's way or cause adverse flooding impacts elsewhere((; consistent with the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan)).

((E-499qqq)) E-431 King County shall continue to exceed the federal minimum standards stipulated by the National Flood Insurance Program for unincorporated areas to better protect public safety, reduce the risk of flood and channel migration hazards to existing public and private property, and prevent new at-risk development.

((E-499r)) E-432 King County's floodplain land use and floodplain management activities shall be carried out in accordance with policies, programs, and projects detailed in the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, or successor plans.

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~~((7-)) Beavers and Beaver Activity~~

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Beaver ponds, created when beavers dam watercourses, provide a protective pool for a beaver lodge and environmental benefits. They help retain stormwater runoff, trap sediment and pollutants, maintain stream flow during summer, reduce downstream flooding and erosion, raise groundwater levels, and help create diverse plant and animal habitat. Beaver ponds also provide significant environmental benefits and functions for salmon rearing habitat, floodplain connectivity, wood inputs, increased complexity of aquatic systems, and biodiversity.

Beaver dams may also cause upstream flooding of roads, utilities, and both public and private property, and create the potential for downstream risk to public safety and infrastructure should dam failure occur. If a dam is harmed or removed, the beavers will typically repair the damage quickly, because their survival depends on having the entrance to their lodge underwater.

~~((For over 150 years beavers and humans were able to coexist in King County, because beaver populations were kept in balance through trapping and human development was confined to areas without large beaver populations. However, as the urban and suburban areas of King County extended out into areas with an abundance of beaver habitat and beaver populations increased, beavers have begun to come into greater conflict with humans.~~

~~These growing conflicts were exacerbated in 2000 with the passage of Initiative Measure 713 (I-713), a law that prohibited the use of body-gripping traps with the exception of a Conibear trap in water, a padded leg-hold trap, or a non-strangling type foot snare, all of which require a special permit (see Revised Code of Washington 77.15.194). The results of these changes were that fewer beavers are being trapped and more beavers are repopulating historic habitat.~~

~~Fifteen years since I-713 went into effect, beavers continue to repopulate the water bodies of King County. Non-lethal/engineered solutions (beaver deceivers and pond levelers) help control water levels of beaver ponds and are part of the solution for co-existing with beavers. But these solutions are not always sufficient and will likely become less and less feasible in terms of maintenance capacity as beaver populations continue to expand.~~

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E-499ii) E-433 King County should support(s) the coexistence of beavers and people in rural King County. ~~((King County should prepare a beaver management strategy to guide a program on issues such as where and how beavers and humans can co-exist with or without engineered solutions and where beavers should be excluded or removed.~~

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3.)) E. Lakes

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There are approximately 700 lakes in King County ranging in size from less than one acre to Lake Washington’s roughly 21,500 acres. These lakes provide habitat that is essential for various life stages of many species of fish and wildlife, including salmonids, as well as recreational opportunities and scenic beauty. Watershed ~~((D))~~development, shoreline alternationalteration, and stormwater runoff into lakes can alter their functioning and lead to eutrophication (increases in nutrients), loss of ~~((shoreline))~~ habitat, and threats to human and ecosystem health. Although sewage treatment has greatly reduced pollution in urban lakes like Lake Washington, stormwater runoff polluted by oil, metals, sediments, pet waste, lawn fertilizers, and ~~((pesticides))~~ toxic chemicals can threaten ~~((human health, aquatic life, and habitat. Construction of bulkheads and docks also has the potential to impact habitat by altering shoreline vegetation and natural erosion patterns))~~ lake ecosystems and those who use them.

King County conducts water quality monitoring assessment on lakes throughout ~~((King County, in some cases supported by interlocal agreements with cities))~~ the county, including sediment quality, habitat, biotic resources, and hydrology. ~~((Some of the earliest evidence of climate change includes temperature changes in regional lakes. Changes in annual temperature cycles in King County’s regional lakes, particularly Lake Sammamish, Lake Union, and Lake Washington, provide some of the most accurate measures of climate change available locally:))~~ This monitoring supports restoration and protection of lakes in King County, as well as improves understanding of climate change, watershed development, stormwater impacts, and swimming, fishing, and drinking water uses.

King County also conducts specialized monitoring assessments for public health and safety. During the summer months, the ~~((c))~~County conducts regular monitoring at public swimming beaches, and contaminate monitoring of some fish species. When monitoring indicates a public health hazard, the County works collaboratively with state agencies and local jurisdictions, and ~~((the))~~ information is provided to Public Health - Seattle & King County~~((, which can issue a temporary closure order. The Washington State Department of Health issues fish and shellfish consumption advisories to protect human health. There are consumption advisories for a number of species in Lake Washington. King County recently implemented a monitoring program to track the level of select contaminants in some fish species in Lake Washington. These data are used to evaluate the potential for both human health (through consumption) and ecological impacts)).~~ This can result in public warnings, consumption advisories, management recommendations, and a temporary closure order if necessary. King County also offers technical response assistance to harmful algal bloom incidents.

~~((E-496))~~ E-434 Lakes ~~((should))~~ shall be protected through management of lake watersheds and shorelines. Lakes ~~((sensitive to nutrients shall))~~ should also be protected through the management of nutrients that stimulate potentially harmful algae blooms and aquatic plant growth. Where sufficient information is available, measurable standards for lake quality should be set and management plans established to meet the standards.

E-435 When a lake borders multiple jurisdictions, King County should coordinate with those jurisdictions on lake protection and management. Formation of lake management districts or other

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3360 financing mechanisms should also be considered to provide the
3361 financial resources necessary to support actions for protection of
3362 ((sensitive)) lakes.

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3364 ~~((E-491))~~ **E-436 King County, in partnership with other governments and**
3365 **community groups, should monitor and assess lake water and sediment**
3366 **quality, physical habitat, ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology.**
3367 **Assessment should identify trends and describe impacts on human and**
3368 **ecosystem health, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat.**

3369
3370 **E-437 ((The c)) King County should collaborate with other ((affected))**
3371 **jurisdictions, Public Health - Seattle & King County((, the State**
3372 **Department of Health, and the State Department of Ecology)), and state**
3373 **agencies to identify and address pollutant sources adversely impacting**
3374 **aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem health((; through local or**
3375 **grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce or remove these**
3376 **inputs)).**

3377
3378 ~~((E-492))~~ **E-438 Swimming beaches on lakes should be monitored for ((bacterial))**
3379 **fecal contamination and algal toxins. When data shows public health to**
3380 **be at risk, Public Health - Seattle & King County should take**
3381 **appropriate action to address public health risks.**

3382 ~~((6.))~~ **F. Puget Sound**

3383 There are approximately ~~((110 miles of marine shoreline in King County, including))~~ 51
3384 miles of marine shoreline in unincorporated areas. Shorelines provide important
3385 functions for maintaining a healthy ecosystem and also provide essential habitat for a
3386 variety of important and listed species, including mammals, birds, fish, and
3387 invertebrates. In addition to recreational opportunities, the marine nearshore
3388 environment provides essential habitat for a variety of species including juvenile
3389 salmonids, forage fish, and several commercially important shellfish species. Kelp and
3390 eelgrass populations are particularly important for providing food and habitat,
3391 especially for juvenile life stages for a variety of key fish and invertebrate species. The
3392 intertidal area of marine beaches are the only spawning habitats for Pacific sand lance
3393 and surf smelt, which form the base for much of the food chain in Puget Sound and are
3394 highly susceptible to impacts from residential development of shoreline areas. Marine
3395 resources and shorelines, especially embayments, are susceptible to impacts from water
3396 pollution, changes in upland vegetation, alteration of natural bluff and beach erosion
3397 patterns, and alteration of nearshore substrates and aquatic vegetation.

3398
3399 The majority of marine waters within King County are subtidal waters, which provide
3400 important ecosystem functions and essential habitat for a variety of important species,
3401 including marine mammals, birds, salmonids and other fish, and invertebrates. Subtidal
3402 waters support geoduck, shrimp, and ~~((bottomfish))~~ commercial and Indian tribal
3403 fisheries ((as well as)), and also provide critical rearing habitats for salmonids and
3404 migratory pathways for marine mammals ((and salmonids)). Resident ((killer whales))
3405 orca are often observed in King County subtidal waters feeding on salmonids, and
3406 Biggs' whales are often seen feeding on seals and sea lions. Adult life stages of many
3407 species, such as rockfish and Dungeness crab, use subtidal waters extensively. In
3408 addition, subtidal waters provide an important connection to Pacific Ocean waters as
3409 well as waters within other parts of Puget Sound. Subtidal habitat is susceptible to
3410 impacts from water pollution, over-utilizing of biological resources, and climate change.

3411
3412 King County conducts water quality monitoring in marine offshore and nearshore areas
3413 throughout King County as part of the Marine Monitoring Program. Nutrients,
3414 chlorophyll, and dissolved oxygen are measured along with other physical and chemical
3415 parameters. Biological parameters, such as ~~((chlorophyll))~~ fecal indicator bacteria and

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3416 phytoplankton and zooplankton community structure are also assessed. Offshore
3417 sediment quality is assessed in various subtidal areas and nearshore sediments are
3418 assessed throughout King County. The Washington State Department of Health issues
3419 fish and shellfish consumption advisories to protect human health. There are
3420 consumption advisories for a number of species within King County marine waters.
3421 King County ~~((recently implemented))~~ maintains a monitoring program to track the level
3422 of select contaminants in some species of fish and shellfish in Elliott Bay and King
3423 County's marine waters. These data are used to evaluate the potential for both human
3424 health (through consumption) and ecological impacts.

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3426 King County's freshwater and saltwater environments are integrally linked. Water,
3427 sediments, and nutrients move from upland areas to Puget Sound. Many species,
3428 including salmon, spend critical periods of their lives in both fresh and salt water.
3429 Salmon migrating from saltwater to their spawning areas bring marine-derived nutrients
3430 back to the upland areas. ~~((Given the functional linkages between freshwater and
3431 saltwater environments, it is critical that planning and management be integrated:~~

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3433 **E-499g) E-439 King County should collaborate with ((the)) Indian tribes, federal
3434 and state agencies, ((including)) the Puget Sound Partnership(()),
3435 cities, Indian ((tribes;)) other counties, and universities to monitor and
3436 assess Puget Sound marine waters, nearshore areas, and embayments.
3437 Monitoring and assessment should:**

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- 3438 **a. Address water and sediment quality, bioaccumulation of chemicals,
3439 physical habitat, ((and)) biotic resources, and hydrology ((:
3440 Assessment should)); and**
- 3441 **b. Identify trends and describe impacts on human and ecosystem
3442 health and safety, aquatic life, and wildlife habitat.**

3444 **E-440 ((The c)) King County should collaborate with other ((affected))
3445 jurisdictions, Public Health ((-)) - Seattle & King County, ((the State
3446 Department of Health, and the State Department of Ecology)), and state
3447 agencies to identify and address pollutant sources adversely impacting
3448 aquatic life and/or human and ecosystem health((; through local or
3449 grant funding opportunities, the county should reduce or remove these
3450 inputs)).**

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3452 **((E-499h)) E-441 King County should protect and enhance the natural
3453 environment in those areas recommended or adopted as Aquatic
3454 Reserves by Washington State Department of Natural Resources. This
3455 should include participation in management planning for the aquatic
3456 reserves and working with willing landowners adjacent to the reserve
3457 on restoration and acquisition projects that enhance the natural
3458 environment.**

3460 **E-442 King County shall continue to support efforts of the Poverty Bay
3461 Shellfish Protection District to safeguard against threats to water
3462 quality that limit access to existing commercial shellfish harvesting
3463 areas.**

3465 **E-443 King County should continue to support regional programs and actions
3466 to monitor and address fecal pollution of King County lakes, streams,
3467 and beaches, such as the Pollution Identification and Control Program
3468 being run in collaboration with the King Conservation District and
3469 Public Health - Seattle & King County.**

3471 Human waste contains high levels of nutrients and pathogens. These pollutants can
3472 enter Puget Sound marine waters from a variety of pathways including combined sewer
3473 overflow outfalls, septic systems, stormwater runoff, ships and boats, and rivers and
3474 streams. Nutrients are also present in treated wastewater effluent. Public Health -

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3475 Seattle & King County is responsible for assuring that ~~((onsite)) on-site~~ sewage systems
3476 in King County meet state and local regulations. In addition, Public Health - Seattle &
3477 King County is required to identify areas where marine water quality is threatened or
3478 impaired as a result of contamination from ~~((onsite)) on-site~~ sewage systems, to
3479 designate these areas as Marine Recovery Areas, Public Health - Seattle & King County
3480 has developed a Marine Recovery Areas plan for Vashon-Maury Island to identify failed
3481 septic systems within the Marine Recovery Areas, and to assure that these systems are
3482 repaired and maintained.

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3484 The State Department of Health conducts shoreline surveys, which ~~((identifies)) identify~~
3485 pollution sources that may impact water quality. Marine water sampling is to determine
3486 fecal coliform bacteria levels in the marine waters. Shellfish-growing areas are classified
3487 ~~((determining)) according to whether ((or not)) shellfish in the area can be harvested for~~
3488 human consumption. Public Health - Seattle & King County, in partnership with
3489 Department of Natural Resources and Parks and King Conservation District, has
3490 implemented the Quartermaster Pollution Identification and Correction programs to
3491 address the fecal coliform discharges that ~~((caused the shellfish beds to be prohibited~~
3492 ~~from)) limit commercial harvesting.~~

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3494 The Marine Recovery Areas/Pollution Identification and Correction program has
3495 successfully returned portions of Quartermaster Harbor to harvestable condition and is
3496 continuing work on Vashon-Maury Island to address fecal coliform sources such as
3497 properties that have on-site sewage systems that pre-date regulatory oversight systems
3498 or that have failing systems. In addition to Quartermaster Harbor, other ~~((King County))~~
3499 commercial shellfish beds that are listed as threatened or concerned in King County are
3500 East Passage and Colvos Passage on Vashon, and Poverty Bay on the mainland.

3502 Most landowners act as responsible managers of their septic systems and maintain them
3503 effectively. However, those septic systems that are not maintained can fail, and impact
3504 the environment. ~~((The County and the State should work with landowners by providing~~
3505 ~~technical assistance and support to prevent failures, take action to correct failing~~
3506 ~~systems and address the associated problems.))~~

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3508 ~~((E-499i)) E-444 King County should work with landowners, other jurisdictions, the~~
3509 ~~state Department of Health, sewer districts, and the Puget Sound~~
3510 ~~Partnership to proactively address failing septic systems with a priority~~
3511 ~~in ((environmentally sensitive areas, including)) areas where on-site~~
3512 ~~septic could pose an increased public health risk, critical areas and their~~
3513 ~~buffers, and constrained shoreline environments.~~

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3514 ~~((4.)) G. Groundwater Resources~~

3515 Protecting groundwater is an important regional issue because groundwater provides
3516 approximately 30((%)) percent of the water used in King County and is the primary
3517 source of water in the Rural Area~~((s))~~ geography. On Vashon-Maury Island and in other
3518 sole-source aquifer areas, it is the only source of drinking water.

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3520 The natural hydrologic system can be altered by development practices and overuse of
3521 the aquifer. The result may be depletion of aquifers. Groundwater is also subject to
3522 contamination from human activity. Once a source of groundwater is contaminated it
3523 may be lost forever. The cost of protection is considerably less than the cost of
3524 remediation and replacement. Having accurate, up-to-date information on
3525 groundwater quality and quantity is essential for managing this resource. Mapping risk
3526 could be achieved for a variety of pollutants or pollutant classes by integrating
3527 groundwater protection level, distance to groundwater, soil type, pollutant mobility, and
3528 land use information into a new map layer for each pollutant. Finally, public education

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3529 (particularly for individual well owners) and coordinated groundwater management
3530 efforts will help to protect this resource over the long ~~(())~~ run.

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3531
3532 ~~((E-493)) E-445 King County shall identify and map areas in unincorporated King
3533 County that are considered Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas and sole-
3534 source aquifers. The ((c))County shall periodically update this map with
3535 new information from adopted groundwater and wellhead protection
3536 studies and other relevant sources. King County should develop and
3537 maintain map layers of groundwater risk level when funding is
3538 available.~~

3539
3540 ~~((E-494)) E-446 King County should protect the quality and quantity of
3541 groundwater countywide. ((by:~~

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- 3542 ~~a. Implementing adopted Groundwater Management Plans;~~
- 3543 ~~b. Reviewing and implementing approved Wellhead Protection~~
- 3544 ~~Programs in conjunction with cities, state agencies and~~
- 3545 ~~groundwater purveyors;~~
- 3546 ~~c. Developing, with affected jurisdictions, best management practices~~
- 3547 ~~for development and for forestry, agriculture, and mining~~
- 3548 ~~operations based on adopted Groundwater Management Plans and~~
- 3549 ~~Wellhead Protection Programs. The goals of these practices should~~
- 3550 ~~be to promote aquifer recharge quality and to strive for no net~~
- 3551 ~~reduction of recharge to groundwater quantity;~~
- 3552 ~~d. Refining regulations to protect Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas and~~
- 3553 ~~well((-))head protection areas;~~
- 3554 ~~e. Educating the public about Best Management Practices to protect~~
- 3555 ~~groundwater;~~
- 3556 ~~f. Encouraging forest retention and active forest stewardship;~~
- 3557 ~~g. Incorporating into its land use and water service decisions~~
- 3558 ~~consideration of potential impacts on groundwater quality and~~
- 3559 ~~quantity, and the need for long-term aquifer protection;~~
- 3560 ~~h. Coordinating groundwater management efforts with cities, water~~
- 3561 ~~districts, groundwater committees, and state and federal agencies;~~
- 3562 ~~i. Requiring the proper decommissioning of any well abandoned in~~
- 3563 ~~the process of connecting an existing water system to a Group A~~
- 3564 ~~water system; and~~
- 3565 ~~j. When funding is available, monitoring groundwater status and~~
- 3566 ~~trends, especially for the groundwater protection planning areas~~
- 3567 ~~established by King County, and evaluating the groundwater~~
- 3568 ~~monitoring results, along with groundwater monitoring performed~~
- 3569 ~~by public water systems, plus their annual quantities of~~
- 3570 ~~groundwater pumped over the five (()) year period. Findings as an~~
- 3571 ~~indicator of environmental quality should be reported for each~~
- 3572 ~~groundwater management area.))~~

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3573
3574 ~~E-447 King County should work with partners to implement adopted~~

3575 ~~Groundwater Management Plans and approved Wellhead Protection~~

3576 ~~Programs, to coordinate groundwater management among~~

3577 ~~jurisdictions, and to monitor groundwater status and trends.~~

3578
3579 ~~E-448 King County should work with partners to develop best management~~

3580 ~~practices for development, for resource-based operations, and for the~~

3581 ~~general public, and should work to educate the public on groundwater~~

3582 ~~best management practices.~~

3583
3584 ~~E-449 King County should incorporate into its land use and water service~~

3585 ~~decisions consideration of potential impacts on groundwater quality~~

3586 ~~and quantity and the need for long-term aquifer protection and should~~

3587 ~~require the proper decommissioning of any well abandoned in the~~

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process of connecting an existing water system to a Group A water system.

~~((E-495)) King County should protect groundwater recharge quantity and quality by promoting low impact development and other methods that infiltrate stormwater runoff where site conditions permit and where pollution source controls and stormwater treatment can prevent potential groundwater contamination.~~

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E-496)) E-450 ((In making future zoning and land use decisions that are subject to environmental review;)) King County ((shall)) should periodically evaluate and monitor groundwater policies, their implementation costs, and the impacts upon the quantity and quality of groundwater. The depletion or degradation of aquifers needed for potable water supplies ((should)) shall be avoided or mitigated, and the need to plan and develop feasible and equivalent replacement sources to compensate for the potential loss of water supplies ((should)) shall be considered.

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~~((E-497)) E-451 King County should protect groundwater in the Rural Area by:~~
a. Preferring land uses that retain a high ratio of permeable to impermeable surface area, and that maintain and/or augment the natural soil's infiltration capacity and treatment capability for groundwater;
b. Evaluating impacts on groundwater, where appropriate, during review of commercial, industrial, and residential subdivision development projects that are proposed to be located within critical aquifer recharge areas, and, where appropriate, requiring mitigation for anticipated groundwater impacts to domestic water supply resulting from these projects; and
c. Requiring standards for ~~((maximum))~~ vegetation clearing ~~((limits))~~, impervious surface limits, and, where appropriate, infiltration of surface water.

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Climate change has the potential to impact future groundwater availability. Warmer temperatures in the Pacific Northwest are projected to lead to greater demand for water in the summer and fall, while reduced snow pack and associated stream flows could reduce seasonal groundwater recharge. Further analysis of the potential impacts of climate change on groundwater supplies in King County is needed to understand and mitigate for potential impacts.

~~((E-498)) E-452 King County should, in partnership with water utilities, ((evaluate the likely effects of)) work to ensure that climate change impacts on ((aquifer recharge and groundwater supplies and develop a strategy to mitigate potential impacts in coordination with other climate change initiatives)) groundwater are being accounted for in water supply planning and management, such as by:~~
a. Evaluating effects of climate change on aquifer recharge and groundwater supplies; and
b. Developing strategies through climate change initiatives with Indian tribes, cities, water districts, groundwater committees, and state and federal agencies, and Indian tribes to mitigate impacts of climate change.

3641 **((B-)) H. Stormwater Quality**

3642 Rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and groundwater must be protected from the adverse
3643 impacts of development and land use change to continue functioning in a beneficial
3644 manner. Because development both increases runoff from storms and reduces

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3645 streamflows in dry months by limiting infiltration, control of the rate, volume, and quality
3646 of stormwater runoff is critical. Unmitigated stormwater runoff can cause erosion,
3647 sedimentation, and flooding with resulting adverse impacts on water quality, fish and
3648 wildlife habitat, property, and human safety. In addition, stormwater runoff can carry
3649 pollutants, such as oil, heavy metals, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, ~~((and))~~ animal
3650 wastes, ~~dust from tires wear that is lethal to Coho salmon, naturally occurring nutrients~~
3651 ~~at problematic levels, and toxins and contaminants of emerging concern~~ into waters.
3652 Sedimentation from soil disturbed by clearing, grading, farming and logging can
3653 reduce river or stream channel capacity, fill lakes and wetlands, and smother aquatic life
3654 and habitat.

3655
3656 King County stormwater management encompasses a wide range of strategies that
3657 ~~((integrate proven, traditional approaches with new and innovative concepts;))~~ include
3658 ~~maintenance of more traditional, "gray" infrastructure such as stormwater ponds, and~~
3659 ~~encourage more "green" approaches, such as low impact development practices~~
3660 ~~intended to manage stormwater runoff on site, reducing discharges of pollutants in~~
3661 ~~stormwater runoff ((;)) and mimicking natural hydrology.~~

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3662
3663 ~~((King County's stormwater management strategies include but are not limited to,~~
3664 ~~encouraging an approach to site development that includes clustering or smart growth;~~
3665 ~~minimizes impervious surfaces, and maximizes the amount of native plants and soils;~~
3666 ~~using education and social marketing to increase the public's awareness of water quality~~
3667 ~~issues and encourage behaviors that support water quality; providing incentives for~~
3668 ~~private landowners to install green stormwater infrastructure; improving pollution~~
3669 ~~source control by legislating product or material restrictions; improving business~~
3670 ~~practices by educating business owners and operators about pollution-generating~~
3671 ~~activities and best management practices to mitigate them; and constructing and~~
3672 ~~maintaining an stormwater infrastructure system that controls, conveys and treats~~
3673 ~~stormwater runoff. Examples of these programs include the recently launched~~
3674 ~~RainScapes Green Stormwater Infrastructure Incentive for private landowners program;~~
3675 ~~and the first ever King County Stormwater Retrofit Prioritization Framework, which will~~
3676 ~~strategically prioritize King County's work in basins where actions can achieve the~~
3677 ~~greatest benefit to regional water quality.~~

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3678
3679 ~~The County applies evidence-based tools like the Water Quality Benefit Evaluation Tool~~
3680 ~~and Stormwater Retrofit Prioritization Framework to evaluate where water quality~~
3681 ~~investments will bring the greatest benefits, with a focus on communities most impacted~~
3682 ~~by water pollution. The County also conducts research on best management practices~~
3683 ~~for treating contaminants of concern and is conducting research on sources of "forever~~
3684 ~~chemicals" to inform efforts to control pollution at its source.~~

3685
3686 ~~Together these strategies will reduce pollution and flow impacts of stormwater runoff on~~
3687 ~~King County's surface and ground waters.~~

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3688
3689 ~~As required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Phase I Municipal~~
3690 ~~Stormwater Permit, King County ((is making)) has made low impact development the~~
3691 ~~preferred and commonly used approach to site development. As a result of using the~~
3692 ~~low impact development approach, an increasing number of stormwater management~~
3693 ~~best management practices including, but not limited to, rain gardens, dispersion,~~
3694 ~~permeable driveways and walkways, vegetated roofs, and the capture and reuse of~~
3695 ~~rainwater, will be constructed on private property and will rely on private maintenance~~
3696 ~~for their continuing function.~~

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3697
3698 ~~((In addition to the stormwater strategies discussed above, as well as those discussed in~~
3699 ~~Chapter 8: Transportation, effective stormwater management will require a basin or~~
3700 ~~sub-basin approach that identifies areas that were built out under old or non-existent~~
3701 ~~stormwater design standards. Basins where deficiencies in flow control or water quality~~

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3702 are identified would be prioritized to correct those deficiencies. These retrofits could
3703 include upgrades to existing stormwater management structures or the placement of
3704 new ones, including onsite low impact development best management practices like
3705 bioretention or raingardens, or the replacement of impervious pavement with
3706 permeable.

3707
3708 Achieving the goals of contemporary stormwater management may require
3709 improvements to best management practices and encouraging or requiring the use of
3710 different products. Approaches could include using green products, implementing new
3711 land development approaches such as cluster housing, and, in some areas, the setting
3712 aside of land and its dedication to riparian habitat, and maintaining natural vegetation.
3713 ~~The Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit also requires King County to address impacts~~
3714 ~~caused by stormwater discharges from areas of existing development, including runoff~~
3715 ~~from highways, streets, and roads that were built under old or nonexistent stormwater~~
3716 ~~design standards. Modifying stormwater facilities, or building new ones in previously~~
3717 ~~developed areas, is very expensive. The County is developing strategies using~~
3718 ~~evidenced-based tools to identify and prioritize actions to achieve the best outcomes~~
3719 ~~for reducing pollution to Puget Sound. The County is partnering with cities, Indian~~
3720 ~~tribes, counties, and nonprofits to identifying where projects like “stormwater parks” can~~
3721 ~~provide the greatest environmental benefit while increasing access to open space in~~
3722 ~~historically underserved areas.~~

3723
3724 **E-445)) E-453 Stormwater runoff shall be managed through a variety of methods,**
3725 **with the goal of protecting surface water quality, in-stream flows, and**
3726 **aquatic habitat; promoting groundwater recharge while protecting**
3727 **groundwater quality; reducing the risk of flooding; protecting public**
3728 **safety and properties; and enhancing the viability of agricultural lands.**

- 3729
3730 ~~((E-446)) E-454 King County should:~~
- 3731 ~~a. ((e))Evaluate the need for product or material restrictions because~~
 - 3732 ~~of water quality impacts;~~
 - 3733 ~~b. **Ensure the uUse of a data- and science-driven approach to identify**~~
 - 3734 ~~**and reduce the use of contaminants of emerging concern, such as**~~
 - 3735 ~~**6PPD; and**~~
 - 3736 ~~c. **Seek changes to state regulations and permits that to incentivize**~~
 - 3737 ~~**regional stormwater investments where they will achieve the best**~~
 - 3738 ~~**outcomes for pollution reduction; and**~~
 - 3739 ~~d. **Continue to support regional collaborative stormwater**~~
 - 3740 ~~**management approaches, including consideration of incentives for**~~
 - 3741 ~~**regional collaboration and identification of supplemental funding**~~
 - 3742 ~~**sources for collaborative stormwater management in the region.**~~

3743 ~~((2.)) Clean Water Act))~~

3744 The Clean Water Act requires that all states protect and restore their waters to beneficial
3745 uses. This is accomplished through the development of a permitting framework called
3746 the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit ~~((p))~~ Program.
3747 Authority for administering the NPDES Program has been delegated by the
3748 Environmental Protection Agency to the Washington State Department of Ecology
3749 (Ecology), and King County holds a number of NPDES general permits for various
3750 specified activities.

3751
3752 ~~((For instance, the County must comply with permit conditions that cover ongoing~~
3753 ~~construction site activities, industrial activities, and stormwater runoff discharges from~~
3754 ~~the municipal stormwater system. Since 1995, Ecology has issued a NPDES Phase I~~
3755 ~~Municipal Stormwater permit to King County, authorizing stormwater discharges from~~
3756 ~~the County’s municipal separate stormwater sewer system.~~

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3758 ~~((The current permit, set to expire July 31, 2018, contains prescriptive requirements for~~
3759 ~~discovering, controlling and monitoring pollutants in municipal stormwater, as well as~~
3760 ~~stormwater control design standards for site development, public education and~~
3761 ~~outreach, mapping, and operating and maintaining municipal stormwater~~
3762 ~~infrastructure.))~~

3764 ~~The County complies with the current Phase I municipal NPDES stormwater permit by~~
3765 ~~implementing the County's stormwater management program plan ((that can be found~~
3766 ~~at the following website:~~

3767 ~~[http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)~~
3768 ~~[permit/annual-reports.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)~~

3770 ~~)). The implementation of the County's plan is reported to Ecology by submitting an~~
3771 ~~annual report. The annual report documents compliance with permit requirements over~~
3772 ~~the preceding year and the stormwater management plan outlines compliance activities~~
3773 ~~for the upcoming year. ((The most current annual report can be found here:~~

3774 ~~[http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)~~
3775 ~~[permit/annual-reports.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx)~~

3776 ~~**Water Quality Standards and Total Maximum Daily Loads**~~

3778 ~~When a particular water body falls short of state surface water quality standards Ecology~~
3779 ~~must impose a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). A TMDL is developed to restore~~
3780 ~~beneficial uses to the water body by reducing or eliminating pollutants. ((In addition to~~
3781 ~~the actions found in the County's stormwater management plan, the Permit also~~
3782 ~~contains requirements for the County to implement actions that address four impaired~~
3783 ~~water bodies.)) The Bear-Evans watershed, Issaquah Creek, and the Puyallup/White~~
3784 ~~watershed are impaired by elevated levels of fecal coliform((, and)). The Lower White~~
3785 ~~River has a TMDL for elevated pH and Cottage Lake is impaired by elevated levels of~~
3786 ~~total phosphorous. The actions to counteract these elevated levels of pollution~~
3787 ~~include((,)) animal waste education and collection stations at municipal parks, and~~
3788 ~~inventorying and inspecting commercial animal handling facilities. ((King County's Illicit~~
3789 ~~Discharge Detection and Elimination program also conducts field screening for~~
3790 ~~pollution sources by designating high priority areas, and conducting bacteria sampling~~
3791 ~~and monitoring.))~~

3793 ~~In addition to the TMDLs found in the Permit, several others have been approved within~~
3794 ~~King County((,)), including for~~
3795 ~~the Snoqualmie River, Little Bear Creek, Lake Fenwick, Lake Sawyer, the Duwamish~~
3796 ~~River, Lower Green River, Pipers Creek, North Creek, Newaukum Creek, Puyallup River,~~
3797 ~~White River, and Fautleroy Creek. King County TMDLs under development or pending~~
3798 ~~approval by the Environmental Protection Agency include Green River and Newaukum~~
3799 ~~Creek, White and Puyallup Rivers, and Soos Creek. ((A list of these Water Quality~~
3800 ~~Improvement Projects in King County can be found at:~~
3801 ~~<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/TMDLsbyCounty/king.html>))~~

3803 ~~**E-110** ~~Surface waters designated by the state as Water Quality Impaired~~~~
3804 ~~~~under the Clean Water Act (water bodies included in Category 5 of the~~~~
3805 ~~~~Water Quality Assessment) shall be improved through monitoring,~~~~
3806 ~~~~source controls, best management practices, enforcement of existing~~~~
3807 ~~~~codes, and, where applicable, implementation of Total Maximum Daily~~~~
3808 ~~~~Load plans. The water quality of other water bodies shall be protected~~~~
3809 ~~~~or improved through these same measures.~~~~

3811 ~~**E-111** ~~King County shall evaluate development proposals subject to drainage~~~~
3812 ~~~~review in unincorporated King County to assess whether the proposed~~~~
3813 ~~~~actions are likely to cause or contribute to violations of Washington~~~~

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~~State water quality standards in receiving waters for individual pollutants of concern and identify mitigation or requirements to avoid the impacts when appropriate.))~~

~~((There are certain actions that can be used to help moderate water quality. Such actions may include maintaining and increasing connections between surface waters and shallow groundwater or hyporheic flow, promoting riparian vegetation and stormwater structural retrofitting using infiltration techniques including ~~((L))~~ low ~~((H))~~ impact ~~((D))~~ development techniques, and increasing the physical complexity of river channels.~~

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~~E-112)) E-455 When environmental monitoring, testing, or reliable data indicates human activities have caused impaired water quality, such as increased water temperature, fecal contamination, low oxygen, excess nutrients, metals, or other contaminants, King County shall take actions ~~((which will))~~ that help moderate those impairments.~~

~~((E-705 King County shall fully comply with the monitoring requirements in its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, including seeking compliance strategies that are cost-effective and useful.~~

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~~E-461)) E-456 King County shall use incentives, regulations, capital projects, open space acquisitions, public education and stewardship, and other programs. ~~((like))~~ such as recycled water, to manage its aquatic resources ~~((Puget Sound, rivers, streams, lakes, freshwater and marine wetlands, and groundwater))~~ and to protect and enhance their multiple beneficial uses. Use of water resources for one purpose should, to the fullest extent practicable, preserve opportunities for other uses.~~

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~~((E-462)) E-457 Development shall occur in a manner that supports continued ecological and hydrologic functioning of water resources and should not have a significant adverse impact on water quality. ~~((or))~~ water quantity, or sediment transport, and should maintain base flows, natural water level fluctuations, unpolluted groundwater recharge in Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas, and fish and wildlife habitat.~~

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~~((C.))~~ V. Upland Areas

3854

~~((F.))~~ A. Forest Cover

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King County recognizes the value of trees and forests in both rural and urban communities for benefits such as improving air and water quality and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat. Forests absorb and slowly release rainwater to streams and aquifers, filter runoff, store carbon, and provide food, shade, and cover for wildlife. In doing so, they help to prevent flooding and erosion, reduce stormwater runoff and increase infiltration, protect drinking water, ~~((and))~~ support fish and wildlife and their habitat, and provide recreational opportunities and health benefits to communities. ~~((Therefore, it is important that regulations protecting critical areas like wetlands take into consideration both regulations and incentive programs intended to conserve forest cover in upland areas.))~~ Forested headwaters in upper reaches of watersheds can be especially important for preventing flooding, improving water quality, and protecting salmon and other wildlife habitat, given the presence of large areas of with relatively low levels of development. Forests in rural King County are also relied upon for recreation

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3868 and resource use, including harvest and firewood collection and cultivation of special
3869 forest products categorized as edibles, florals, and medicinals. ~~The King County 30-~~
3870 ~~Year Forest Plan provides goals and strategies for the management of forests in the~~
3871 ~~county to maintain and enhance these benefits. Another strategy for managing forest~~
3872 ~~health is through development of Forest Stewardship Plans, which~~ provide mechanisms
3873 for tailoring regulations and best management practices for forest management to
3874 individual properties. Completion of one of these plans can also qualify landowners for
3875 tax incentive programs and streamlined permitting. ~~((The retention or restoration of~~
3876 ~~forest cover and native vegetation also reduces stormwater runoff and maximizes~~
3877 ~~natural infiltration processes, thus reducing the need for additional stormwater~~
3878 ~~management.~~

3879 ~~**E-447)) E-501 ((King County recognizes that conserving and restoring headwater**~~
3880 ~~**and upland forest cover is important for preventing flooding,**~~
3881 ~~**improving water quality, and protecting salmon and other wildlife**~~
3882 ~~**habitat.)) The central role that forests ((cover)) play((s)) in supporting**~~
3883 ~~**hydrologic and other ecological processes should be reflected in**~~
3884 ~~**((policies and programs addressing)) stormwater management,**~~
3885 ~~**flooding, wildlife, and open space policies and programs.**~~

3886
3887
3888 ~~**((E-448)) E-502 King County's critical areas and clearing and grading regulations**~~
3889 ~~**should provide for activities compatible with long-term forest use,**~~
3890 ~~**including use of recreational trails, firewood collection, forest fire**~~
3891 ~~**((prevention)) risk reduction, forest management, and control of**~~
3892 ~~**invasive plants.**~~

3893
3894 ~~**((E-449)) E-503 King County shall promote retention of forest cover and significant**~~
3895 ~~**trees using a mix of regulations, incentives, and technical assistance.**~~

3896
3897 ~~**E-504 King County shallouid identify and implement recommended strategies**~~
3898 ~~**to establish and protect corridors of forest with old-growth**~~
3899 ~~**characteristicsthat optimize ecological, social, and economic benefits of**~~
3900 ~~**establishing and maintaining large blocks of forest, particularly in**~~
3901 ~~**upper watershed areas and along major river corridors in support of**~~
3902 ~~**habitat for salmon and other wildlife. These approaches should:**~~
3903 ~~**a. Promote establishment of a broad mix of native tree species and age**~~
3904 ~~**classes, including eventual establishment of forests with old growth**~~
3905 ~~**characteristics in areas prioritized as having high conservation value;**~~
3906 ~~**and**~~
3907 ~~**b. Consider the effect of conservation acquisitions on the viability of the**~~
3908 ~~**timber resource economy in King County.**~~

3909 ~~((2.)) Soils and)) B. Organics and Waste~~

3910 ~~((Soils play a critical role in the natural environment. The benefits of healthy soils~~
3911 ~~include: (1) keeping disease-causing organisms in check, (2) moderating stormwater~~
3912 ~~runoff, (3) filtering, binding, and biodegrading pollutants, (4) recycling and storing~~
3913 ~~nutrients, and (5) serving as the basis for forest and agricultural fertility. More recently,~~
3914 ~~the carbon storage properties of soils have been recognized as a major~~
3915 ~~climate-moderating influence. The properties of a healthy soil are similar to those of a~~
3916 ~~sponge, faucet, and filter. They soak up and store water, naturally regulate the flow of~~
3917 ~~water, and bind and degrade pollutants. The presence of millions of macro and~~
3918 ~~microorganisms in soil creates a vibrant soil culture where organic material is consumed~~
3919 ~~and air and water are retained. Nutrients are made available to plants to allow healthy~~
3920 ~~root growth and oxygen generation.~~

3921
3922 ~~It is common for healthy native soils to be removed during land development. Even~~
3923 ~~when soils are not removed, development and other human activity often cause soil~~

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3924 compaction, removal, and erosion of healthy, native soils. Fewer organisms are present
3925 in disturbed soils. The resulting decrease in organic matter inhibits the soil's ability to
3926 hold water, which increases stormwater runoff. In addition, plants cannot thrive in
3927 disturbed soils because of the lack of nutrients. This, in turn, causes people to use more
3928 chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and water to induce plant growth. The combination of
3929 increased stormwater runoff and increased fertilizer and pesticide use results in greater
3930 water pollution downstream.

3931
3932 ~~((Increasing the organic content in disturbed soils can help restore their environmental
3933 function. Composted organic materials that might be used include yard debris, food
3934 and wood wastes, soiled paper, biochar, biosolids and/or livestock wastes, but not
3935 others, such as fly ash from industrial smokestacks. Benefits of incorporating
3936 composted organic materials in soils include: improving stream habitat, supporting
3937 healthier plants, reducing stormwater runoff, and closing the recycling loop for organic
3938 materials. The transformation of degraded soils to enhance their ability to uptake and
3939 store carbon may be the one of the most effective actions that can be taken to mitigate
3940 the near-term effects of climate change.))~~

3941
3942 It is preferable to leave native soil and vegetation in place as much as possible so that it
3943 can continue to function as a natural sponge and filter, minimizing erosion and
3944 stormwater runoff. Where soil is disturbed or removed, soil function can be improved
3945 by providing soil with adequate depth and organic matter content.

3946
3947 ~~**E-450** Site development practices should minimize soil disturbance and
3948 maximize retention of native vegetation and soils. Where soil
3949 disturbance is unavoidable, native soils should be stockpiled on site
3950 and reused on site in accordance with best management practices to
3951 the maximum extent practicable.~~

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3952
3953 ~~**E-451** King County shall require the use of organic matter to restore disturbed
3954 soils on site developments.~~

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3955
3956 Salmon play an important role in sustaining the productivity of soils in riparian and
3957 floodplain areas. Salmon mature in saltwater environments and then spawn and die in
3958 their original spawning streams. In doing so, salmon transport nutrients back to
3959 watersheds that eventually become available to vegetation.

3960
3961 ~~**E-452** The role of salmon in transferring nutrients and maintaining the
3962 productivity of riparian and floodplain soils should be incorporated in
3963 the development of salmon and soil conservation plans.))~~

3964
3965 Organics comprise a large portion of the waste generated by King County residences,
3966 businesses, and farms. ~~Management of ((F))this organic waste stream requires~~
3967 significant solid waste, farm management, and wastewater treatment resources. Many
3968 of these "waste materials" (yard debris, food and wood waste, soiled paper, biosolids,
3969 and agricultural livestock wastes), can be minimized, recycled, and reused to provide
3970 numerous uses that are beneficial to the environment and the economy.

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3971
3972 ~~((King County has a long history of resource conservation and waste reduction and
3973 recycling. Programs have successfully captured organic materials for beneficial use
3974 such as yard debris, residential food waste, and biosolids applications to farms, forests
3975 and composting. However, large volumes of organic waste continue to be disposed of
3976 in the landfill. Significant volumes of livestock waste generated in the suburbs, Rural
3977 Areas and Natural Resource Lands are inadequately managed, which can adversely
3978 impact water quality and fish habitat.~~

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3979
3980 Although efforts are underway to increase the amount of organic materials that are
3981 recycled, the region still lacks the capacity to process all of these materials. Along with

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3982 its efforts to promote beneficial use of these products, King County is working with
3983 organic material processors and others to try and increase the processing capacity in
3984 the region.) through advancement of the Re+ program, which focuses on actions to
3985 minimize King County's environmental footprint, create more green jobs, divert waste
3986 from the landfill, and ensure everyone in King County has equitable access to efficient
3987 waste services.

3988 ~~((E-453)) E-505 King County should implement programs to improve availability
3989 and markets for organic materials for soils that have been disturbed by
3990 new and existing developments.~~

3992 ~~((E-454) King County shall regard the region's organic waste materials as
3993 resources which should be reused as much as possible, and minimize
3994 the disposal of such materials.~~

3996 ~~E-455)) E-506 King County shall work with regional ((stakeholders)) partners to
3997 ensure a viable and safe organics recycling infrastructure that allows for
3998 yard, food, wood, biosolids, manure and other organic wastes to be
3999 turned into resources benefiting climate change, soil health, water
4000 quality, and maximizing landfill diversion, consistent with the County's
4001 zero waste of resources and Re+ goals.~~

4004 ~~((King County seeks to divert as much material as possible from disposal to reduce
4005 overall costs of solid waste management, conserve resources, protect the environment,
4006 and strengthen the county's economy (see Chapter 9((:)), Services, Facilities, and
4007 Utilities((, F-266)). In many cases, organic materials can be recycled into a beneficial,
4008 highly valued resource helping to meet these diversion goals. Beneficial uses of organic
4009 materials include, but are not limited to, the following: soil amendment, mulch, erosion
4010 control, and even energy production.~~

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4012 King County recognizes that in most cases, the best management method for yard
4013 debris and livestock wastes is to compost it on the property where it is generated.
4014 Examples of residential onsite yard debris management techniques include grasscycling
4015 (leaving the grass on the lawn when it is cut) and backyard composting.

4017 ~~E-456)) E-507 King County shall promote, encourage, and require, where
4018 appropriate, the beneficial use and reuse of organic materials in soils
4019 and minimize their disposal, including but not limited to their use in the
4020 following activities: agriculture and silviculture; road, park, and other
4021 public project development; site development and new construction;
4022 restoration and remediation of disturbed soils; nursery and sod
4023 production; and landscaping. For these purposes, organic materials do
4024 not include fly ash.~~

4026 ~~((E-457)) E-508 King County agencies shall use and promote compost and
4027 ((recycled organic products, ((such as compost,)) whenever feasible.
4028 ((and promote the application of ((organic material)) compost to
4029 compensate for historical losses of organic content in soil caused by
4030 human actions, including development, landscaping, agricultural
4031 practices, and resource extraction. Where use of compost is not
4032 feasible, agencies shall consider use of other recycled organic
4033 products, such as biosolids.~~

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4035 ~~((E-458)) E-509 King County ((will)) shall seek to enhance soil quality((,;)) and
4036 protect water quality and biodiversity across the landscape by
4037 developing policies, programs, and incentives that support the goal of
4038 no net loss of organic material.~~

4039

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4040 Biosolids are the nutrient-rich organic product from the wastewater treatment process
4041 which can be recycled as a soil amendment. At King County's wastewater treatment
4042 plant, solids are removed from the wastewater and treated in large digesters where the
4043 organic solids are stabilized, reducing the volume by half. After digestion, a portion of
4044 water is removed, leaving the semisolid material ready for recycling.

4045
4046 The Biosolids Management Program's mission is to safely and sustainably return carbon
4047 and nutrients to the land through the use of biosolids. The Biosolids Management
4048 Program pursues environmental stewardship through diverse public-private
4049 partnerships. One hundred percent of county biosolids are beneficially used through
4050 the forestry and agriculture programs. ~~((A portion of the County's biosolids are
4051 composted as a Class A product.~~

4052
4053 **E-459)) E-510 King County supports and should explore ways to beneficially use**
4054 **biosolids locally, whenever feasible.**

4055
4056 On-farm composting as a method of managing livestock waste and other organic waste
4057 materials is ~~((becoming))~~ an important waste management strategy for farmers. Benefits
4058 of on-farm composting include:

- 4059 • Additional revenue from the sale of compost;
- 4060 • Reduced costs for water, fertilizers and pesticides, due to reduced water usage and
4061 reduced reliance on fertilizers and pesticides;
- 4062 • Reduced impacts to surface waters; and
- 4063 • Increased crop yields.

4064
4065 ~~((King County's Livestock Management Ordinance, adopted in December 1993, sets
4066 manure management standards in order to minimize impacts to water quality by
4067 preventing farm wastes from contaminating the region's watersheds. The Livestock
4068 Management Ordinance)) Regulations for managing livestock encourage~~((s))~~ farmers to
4069 implement farm plans in collaboration with the King Conservation District to protect and
4070 enhance natural resources, including water quality. The King Conservation District
4071 provides technical assistance and education to agricultural landowners on how to
4072 implement best management practices, which include manure storage facilities and
4073 pasture renovation, as well as stream and wetland buffer fencing ~~((and clean water
4074 diversion))~~. The resulting farm plans can include provisions for ~~((onsite)) on-site~~ and
4075 ~~((offsite)) off-site~~ management of livestock wastes and strategies to integrate processing
4076 livestock wastes with other organic waste materials. These strategies should be
4077 consistent with the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan,
4078 including but not limited to on-farm composting and land application of processed yard
4079 debris. Farm plans that address livestock waste management further compliance with
4080 the provisions of the Clean Water Act and other federal and state mandates regarding
4081 water quality.~~

4082
4083 **((E-460)) E-511 King County shall promote livestock waste management that keeps**
4084 **waste out of stormwater runoff and from infiltration to groundwater,**
4085 **and enhances soil health by methods such as combining livestock**
4086 **waste with other plant and animal waste material for incorporation into**
4087 **crop soils.**

4088 **~~((G.)) Hazardous Waste))~~**

4089 Throughout King County, businesses use and generate hazardous materials as part of
4090 their normal operations. There are numerous rules and requirements for the proper
4091 management of these materials and requirements can vary slightly by jurisdiction.

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4092 Often the businesses will learn of these requirements after they have found out that they
4093 are not in compliance. To help mitigate the potential harmful effects to human health
4094 and the environment and to minimize the economic impacts to businesses that may
4095 generate hazardous chemicals, King County provides education and technical
4096 assistance to businesses on requirements for proper management and disposal of
4097 hazardous chemicals, as well as information on less toxic alternatives.

4098 Contacting businesses with information on proper hazardous waste disposal as early as
4099 possible in the business development phase can help to prevent improper disposal of
4100 hazardous waste and associated risks to public safety and the environment. Taking a
4101 preventative approach can also help to avoid costly code violations.

4102 ~~((E-499t))~~ E-512 King County should review **permits for new businesses** ~~((permit
4103 and change of use applications for businesses))~~ that propose to use
4104 hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous waste as part of their
4105 operations. The ~~((c))~~County should offer to provide technical assistance
4106 related to hazardous waste disposal requirements ~~((, (spill response:))~~
4107 and non-toxic alternatives.
4108
4109
4110

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4111 ~~((V.))~~ Geologically Hazardous Areas

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4112 King County is located at a tectonically active convergent plate margin, which is
4113 characterized by dynamic geologic processes including active mountain building,
4114 abundant seismic activity, and volcanism. In addition, the relatively recent glacial history
4115 has resulted in the creation of numerous steep and unstable hillsides throughout the
4116 county, many of which are prone to naturally occurring landslides. Snow avalanches are
4117 also a common occurrence in the Cascade Mountains in ~~((E))~~eastern King County. The
4118 hazardous impacts from these processes can be worsened with climate change, and
4119 increases in extreme wet weather increase risks from geologic hazards.

4120 Often, ~~((times))~~ the result of these naturally occurring events can be beneficial to the
4121 environment ~~((,))~~ by providing gravel and woody debris in streams and rivers ~~((,))~~ and
4122 continuing the process of natural regeneration. Salmon need gravel for spawning and
4123 in-stream debris for cover and to provide shade and regulate temperature. While the
4124 relatively flat Puget Lowlands made it historically ideal for development and agriculture,
4125 the natural processes of erosion and deposition will continue. King County must
4126 balance the positive benefits of these natural occurrences with any adverse impacts that
4127 pose a threat to public health and safety. The ~~((c))~~County must also strike a balance
4128 between allowing naturally occurring landslides and erosion, and the need to prevent
4129 the unnatural acceleration of landslides and erosion due to development activities.

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4130 Coal mines have created additional areas of subsidence and instability in addition to
4131 those ~~((which))~~ that occur naturally. When human activity occurs in areas subject to such
4132 active geologic processes, the potential consequences to life, property, and
4133 environmental integrity can be enormous. If geologic processes are recognized and
4134 appropriately addressed in the course of development activities, adverse consequences
4135 can be substantially reduced if not completely eliminated.
4136
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4138 ~~((A.))~~ Erosion Hazard Areas

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4139 Virtually any area in King County can experience soil erosion if subjected to
4140 inappropriate grading and construction practices. The ~~((US))~~ United States Department
4141 of Agriculture's ~~((Soil))~~ Natural Resources Conservation Service has identified certain soil
4142 types in King County as being especially subject to erosion ~~((,))~~ if disturbed. These

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4143 Erosion Hazard Areas may not be well suited to high-density developments and
4144 intensive land uses because of the sensitivity of these soils to disturbance.

4145 ~~((E-501) Grading and construction activities shall implement erosion control
4146 best management practices and other development controls as
4147 necessary to reduce sediment and pollution discharge from
4148 construction sites to minimal levels.~~

4150 ~~E-502) E-601 Land uses ((permitted)) allowed in Erosion Hazard Areas shall
4151 minimize soil disturbance and should maximize retention and
4152 replacement of native vegetative cover.~~

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4153 ~~((E-503) E-602 Slopes with a grade of 40((%)) percent or more shall not be
4154 developed unless the risks and adverse impacts associated with such
4155 development can be reduced to a non-significant level.
4156 ((No-disturbance zones shall be designated where basin plans identify
4157 the need to prevent erosion damages in areas that are extremely
4158 sensitive to erosion impacts. Properly designed stormwater tightlines
4159 may be allowed within designated no-disturbance zones.))~~

4160 ~~((Vegetation is an important component of the natural environment. This general term
4161 refers to all plant life growing at, below or above the soil surface. It includes trees,
4162 shrubs, herbs, grasses and aquatic plants. Vegetation, especially forests, provides many
4163 significant ecological functions. Vegetation absorbs, filters and slows surface water flow:
4164 This is particularly important over aquifer recharge areas. Native vegetation also
4165 provides wildlife habitat to which native species are well adapted. Forests are key
4166 components in atmospheric cycles; they absorb carbon dioxide, produce oxygen and
4167 filter particulate matter. Additionally, they absorb noise and are aesthetically pleasing.~~

4168 ~~Noxious weeds are nonnative invasive plants that pose a threat to health and safety,
4169 agriculture, wildlife, wetlands and recreational areas. They tend to spread in areas that
4170 have been disturbed by urban development and agriculture and are difficult to
4171 eradicate once they become established. Without natural predators, some noxious
4172 weeds can displace native plant communities, reducing plant diversity. Invasive plants
4173 also decrease the quality of wildlife habitats, reduce visual quality, and increase
4174 maintenance and production costs for natural resource managers and farmers.~~

4175 ~~E-504 King County should protect native plant communities by encouraging
4176 management and control of nonnative invasive plants, including
4177 aquatic plants. Environmentally sound methods of vegetation control
4178 should be used to control noxious weeds.~~

4179 ~~E-506 The use of native plants should be encouraged in landscaping
4180 requirements and erosion control projects, and in the restoration of
4181 stream banks, lakes, shorelines, and wetlands.~~

4182 ~~E-507 In response to watershed-based salmon conservation Water Resource
4183 Inventory Area plans and as part of King County's continued basin
4184 planning and stewardship programs, King County may adopt
4185 vegetation retention goals for specific drainage basins. These goals
4186 should be consistent with R-334, as applicable. The county should
4187 adopt incentives and regulations to attain these goals, and the county
4188 should monitor their effectiveness.))~~

4196 ~~((B.))~~ Landslide Hazard Areas

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4197 Certain hillsides in King County are either naturally unstable or susceptible to instability
4198 when disturbed. These hillsides contain slopes greater than 15((%)) percent, are

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4199 underlain by impermeable soils, and are subject to seepage. They also include areas
4200 that have experienced landslides in the past.

4201
4202 Many of the largest and most active landslides in King County are associated with the
4203 steep slopes adjacent to river corridors or along marine shorelines where glacial strata
4204 are eroded and steepened. Areas undergoing rapid undercutting due to stream bank
4205 erosion, wave action, or human alteration of stormwater discharge are potentially
4206 unstable and such areas may be prone to damaging landslides.

4207
4208 Construction in areas susceptible to landslides is expensive and difficult. Landslides on
4209 such slopes following development can result in enormous public and private costs and
4210 severe threats to human health and safety. Such landslides can also cause severe
4211 natural resource damage.

4212
4213 ~~((Partly in response to the 2014 State Route 530 Landslide,))~~ King County has
4214 undertaken an effort to refine ~~((our))~~ its knowledge of landslide hazard areas using
4215 updated mapping methods. King County ~~((initiated a project in 2014 to map and
4216 characterize))~~ has mapped and characterized landslide hazard areas using the best
4217 available Light Detection And Ranging imagery and recent geologic mapping to
4218 identify potential areas at risk of ~~((landsliding))~~ landslide. Known and potential landslide
4219 hazard areas can be indicated by the known presence of shallow landslides, deep-
4220 seated slumps, debris fans and flows, rockfalls, avalanches, unstable and over-
4221 steepened slopes along river and stream channels, long runout presence or potential.
4222 ~~((The results of this work will be))~~ This mapping is used to inform future planning,
4223 outreach, and regulatory decisions.

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4224
4225 **~~((E-507a)) E-603~~ King County should ~~((work with))~~ partner with jurisdictions
4226 to ~~((maintain a))~~ periodically review and update the ~~((map and))
4227 inventory and map~~ of known and potential landslide hazards ~~((areas in
4228 unincorporated King County ((that is based upon the best available
4229 information)) consistent with using best available science and current
4230 data. ((This information ((will)) shall be used to inform future planning
4231 and guide development regulations.~~**

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4232
4233 **~~((E-507b)) E-604~~ King County ~~((should))~~ shall make landslide hazards information
4234 readily available to the public ~~((in order))~~ to improve the general
4235 understanding of landslides and their associated hazards. This may
4236 include making information available on a public website and
4237 providing outreach and assistance to current and prospective property
4238 owners and developers.**

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4239
4240 **~~((E-508)) E-605~~ Landslide hazard areas shall not be developed unless the risks and
4241 adverse impacts associated with such development are eliminated or
4242 minimized so that they are at a non-significant level. Development
4243 proposed in areas affected by landslide hazards shall be adequately
4244 reviewed and mitigated as needed to eliminate or minimize risk to the
4245 development as well as to ensure the development does not increase
4246 landslide or erosion hazards that would adversely impact adjacent
4247 properties or natural resources.**

4248

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4249 ~~((E-508a))~~ **E-606 King County shall consider landslide hazards and related flooding**
4250 **hazards in the context of hazard communication, operational**
4251 **preparedness, and emergency response.**

4252 ~~((C.))~~ **Seismic Hazard Areas**

4253 King County is an earthquake-prone region subject to ground shaking, seismically
4254 induced landslide and liquefaction of soil. Areas with low-density soils are likely to
4255 experience greater damage from earthquakes.

4256 ~~E-509~~ **In areas with severe seismic hazards, special building design and**
4257 **construction measures should be used to minimize the risk of structural**
4258 **damage, fire and injury to occupants and to prevent post-seismic**
4259 **collapse.**
4260

4261 ~~D.))~~ **C. Volcanic Hazard Areas**

4262 King County is located in a region characterized by active volcanism. The volcanic
4263 hazard that poses the greatest risk to safety and wellbeing of county residents would be
4264 from a lahar (volcanic mudflow) originating on ((Mt.)) Mount Rainier and flowing down
4265 the White River valley (possibly overflowing into the lower Green River Valley). Ongoing
4266 investigations by the ((U.S.)) United States Geological Survey continue to clarify the
4267 nature of this hazard. Current information provides the basis for taking steps to mitigate
4268 that risk.

4269 ~~((E-510))~~ **E-607 King County should work with the ((U.S.)) United States Geological**
4270 **Survey to identify lahar hazard areas and shall work with local**
4271 **governments to assess the risk to county residents from lahars and to**
4272 **implement appropriate emergency planning and implement**
4273 **appropriate development standards.**
4274

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4275 ~~((E.))~~ **D. Coal Mine Hazard Areas**

4276 King County has a long and varied history of underground and surface coal mining.
4277 Some coal mining was conducted by large, well-capitalized mining companies that used
4278 methods such as detailed underground and surface mapping and protection of surface
4279 improvements. Other mines were small operations or re-mining operations that sought
4280 to maximize coal extraction with less regard for surface impacts or mapping. Some
4281 intensively developed areas of King County are located over abandoned underground
4282 coal workings, including Talbot Hill and the north Benson Hill of Renton, the Spring Glen
4283 area around Cascade Vista, East Fairwood, Black Diamond, southwest Issaquah, and the
4284 Newcastle/Coal Creek area.

4285 The greatest dangers to people, wildlife, and surface facilities typically exist around
4286 mine portals, timber chutes, air shafts, and workings which have collapsed to the
4287 surface. Other areas were deep mined by "room and pillar" mining techniques in which
4288 "pillars" of coal were left to provide support for the mining of adjacent "rooms." Once
4289 abandoned, pillars would collapse and rooms of mined-out coal would fill with
4290 collapsed roof material, coal debris, and water. Regional downwarping of these areas
4291 was generally not observable and usually happened in the early years following mining
4292 of a section. Deep-mined areas with a high ratio of overburden/cover-to-void usually
4293 present no hazards for surface development. However, areas with low
4294 overburden/cover-to-void ratio present higher risks and may require more advanced
4295 investigations and construction techniques for development. Mine portals, timber
4296 chutes, airshafts, and workings which have collapsed to the surface require the greatest
4297 need for detailed engineering studies to ensure that these sites are safe for new,
4298 productive use.
4299

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

- 4300
- 4301 ~~((E-511)) E-608 King County ((will)) shall encourage efforts by public and private~~
- 4302 ~~property owners and the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and~~
- 4303 ~~Enforcement to return lands to their highest productive use by safely~~
- 4304 ~~minimizing or eliminating coal mine hazards.~~
- 4305
- 4306 ~~((E-512)) E-609 King County shall require all development proposals potentially~~
- 4307 ~~subject to coal mine hazards to assess the mine-related hazards,~~
- 4308 ~~including risks to structures, improvements, occupants, and public~~
- 4309 ~~health and safety.~~
- 4310
- 4311 ~~((E-513)) E-610 King County shall allow development within coal mine hazard~~
- 4312 ~~areas if the proposal includes appropriate mitigation for identified,~~
- 4313 ~~mine-related hazards using best available engineering practices and if~~
- 4314 ~~the development is in compliance with all other local, state, and federal~~
- 4315 ~~requirements.~~
- 4316
- 4317 ~~((E-514) King County shall require all landowners proposing new development~~
- 4318 ~~in coal mine hazard areas to document the potential hazard on the title~~
- 4319 ~~of the parcel or parcels being developed. This notice may include~~
- 4320 ~~reference to any available technical studies or detailed hazard~~
- 4321 ~~delineations.))~~
- 4322

VII. Planning for Disasters

4324 King County has an active emergency planning program ~~((that goes beyond the land~~

4325 ~~use and supporting services planning, that occurs through the Comprehensive Plan.))~~

4326 ~~b) Based on the five phases of emergency management (protection, prevention,~~

4327 ~~response, recovery, and mitigation). ((F)) this work takes into account mitigation of~~

4328 ~~hazard impacts prior to disasters, as well as the rebuilding of communities following a~~

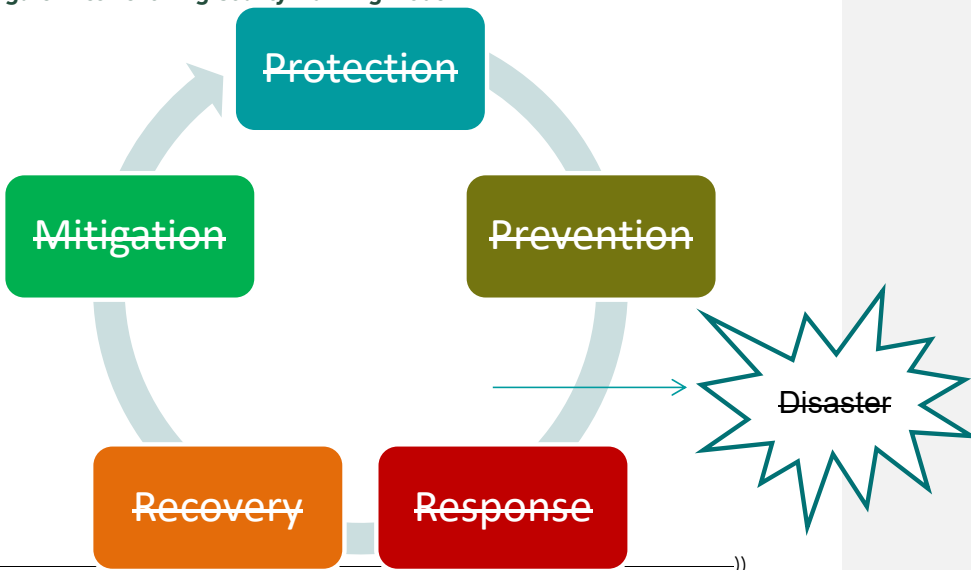
4329 ~~disaster. ((The following diagram illustrates the facets of planning for disasters:~~

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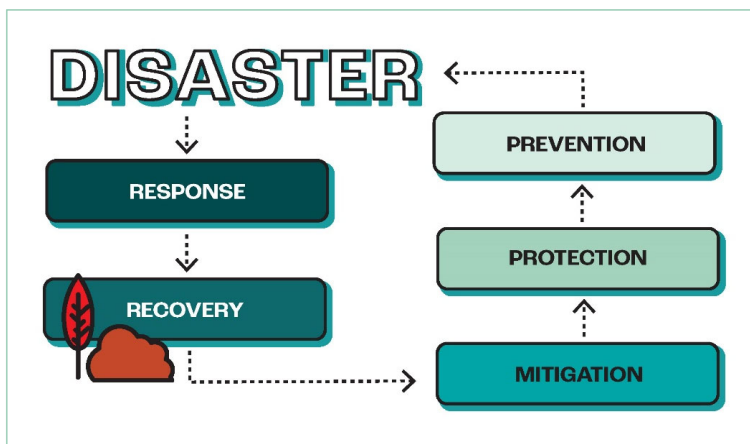
Figure: Resilient King County Planning Model



4332

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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King County is susceptible to multiple hazards including earthquakes, flooding, and landslides. ~~((Based on the five phases of emergency management (depicted above);~~ ~~†))~~The process of mitigation allows the ~~((e))~~County to build more resilient communities by assessing vulnerabilities~~(:))~~ and ~~((taking))~~ take sustained action to permanently eliminate or reduce risk to future disasters. These actions can inform land use planning, such as ~~in ((the C))critical ((A))areas ((Ordinance)) regulations.~~

When a disaster does occur, the process of recovery allows the ~~((e))~~County to review the Comprehensive Plan and its core principles, develop a recovery strategy by engaging the community, and rebuild the community in a way that sustains physical, emotional, social, and economic ~~((well-being))~~wellbeing.

~~((E-601))~~ **E-701 King County shall ~~((incorporate into))~~ consider high-priority strategies and actions identified in the King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, or successor plans, in its land use and transportation planning, economic development efforts, and natural resource management ~~((the most promising actions)), to reduce impacts from natural hazards~~(:))~~ such as earthquake, flooding, and landslides ~~((risk)).~~~~**

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VIII. Air Quality

A. Overview

~~((Clean air, free of pollutants, is essential for the day-to-day quality of life and long-term health of county residents. King County has shown critical leadership in forging solutions to air pollution and will continue to do so well into the future:))~~

King County works ~~((for clean air))~~ to ensure clean and healthy air in partnership with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, which ~~((has))~~ serves as the lead air quality regulatory and monitoring ~~((responsibilities))~~ agency for the region in accordance with the Clean Air Act. ~~((Underlying drivers of the Clean Air Act include protecting public health, reducing property damage, and generally protecting the environment. Because air quality impacts water quality, a better understanding is needed regarding the input of pollutants via air transport from both local and distant sources.~~

~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

4385
4386))The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency is the lead agency responsible for monitoring and
4387 regulating ~~((six“))~~criteria air pollutants~~((“ using standards set by the Environmental~~
4388 Protection Agency. The six ~~“criteria”~~ air pollutants are:

- 4389 ● ~~Fine particulate matter (dust, soot, smoke);~~
- 4390 ● ~~Ground-level ozone (smog);~~
- 4391 ● ~~Carbon monoxide (gas primarily from vehicle exhaust);~~
- 4392 ● ~~Sulfur dioxide (gas primarily from industrial processes like smelters, paper mills, and~~
4393 ~~power plants);~~
- 4394 ● ~~Oxides of nitrogen; and~~
- 4395 ● ~~Lead.)~~ (fine particulate matter, ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur oxide, oxides of
4396 nitrogen, and lead).

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4397
4398 The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency also focuses on reducing harmful air toxics that
4399 come ~~((primarily))~~ from wood smoke and diesel burning~~((; as well as))~~ and greenhouse
4400 gases such as carbon dioxide and methane from landfills. ~~((The Puget Sound Clean Air~~
4401 ~~Agency is also responsible for regulating))~~ They also regulate air pollution emissions ((of
4402 air pollution)), such as asbestos and gasoline vapors, from businesses. King County
4403 coordinates with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency on regional air quality data and on
4404 related community plans and projects.

4405
4406 Efforts to address climate change and improve air quality are strongly linked. For
4407 example, conversion from conventional to ~~((hybrid))~~ electric buses and fleet vehicles
4408 ~~((not only helps to))~~ reduces greenhouse gas emissions~~((; but also reduces))~~ and
4409 emissions of fine particulate(s) matter that can be harmful to public health. Similarly, in
4410 indoor settings, conversion from gas to electric stoves and furnaces reduces indoor and
4411 outdoor pollution. Additionally, a likely impact of climate change on air quality is an
4412 increase in fine particulate matter from more wildfires and wildfire smoke episodes that
4413 can impact regional air quality and increase ground-level ozone because higher
4414 temperatures enhance the conversion of precursors into ground-level ozone. Ozone
4415 and fine particulate matter can exacerbate health conditions such as asthma, chronic
4416 obstructive pulmonary disease, and heart disease, and generally reduce respiratory
4417 system functioning. Because of these linkages, there is significant overlap ((with))
4418 between this section and the climate change section of this chapter. ~~((Section II, subpart~~
4419 ~~B of this chapter relates to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These strategies usually~~
4420 ~~concurrently reduce other types of air pollution. Section II, subpart C of this chapter~~
4421 ~~describes the linkages between climate change and health impacts, including policies~~
4422 ~~related to minimizing health inequities among vulnerable populations more negatively~~
4423 ~~impacted by climate change and air pollution.))~~

4424 B. Ozone, Fine Particulate and Toxics

4425 Reducing criteria pollutants ~~((with))~~ continue to be a primary focus for King County. The
4426 ozone strategy identified by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency for the central Puget
4427 Sound region focuses on reducing volatile organic compounds, which are precursors to
4428 ozone formation. Emission of volatile organic compounds results mostly from vehicles,
4429 as well as to a significant degree from household chemicals and paint evaporation.

4430
4431 In addition to ozone, fine particulate~~((s))~~ matter (dust, soot, and smoke) also represent a
4432 serious health threat. Health studies have shown a significant association between
4433 exposure to fine ~~((particles))~~ particulate matter and premature death from heart or lung
4434 disease. Fine ~~((particles))~~ particulate matter can aggravate heart and lung diseases and
4435 have been linked to effects such as: cardiovascular symptoms; cardiac arrhythmias;
4436 heart attacks; respiratory symptoms; asthma attacks; and bronchitis. These effects can
4437 result in increased hospital admissions, emergency room visits, absences from school or

~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

4438 work, and restricted activity days. Individuals that may be particularly sensitive to fine
4439 ~~((particles))~~ particulate matter exposure include people with heart or lung disease,
4440 ~~((older adults))~~ people aged 62 years and older, and children. Diesel emissions are one
4441 of the county's largest sources of fine particulate matter emissions. ~~((King County's~~
4442 ~~participation in the ultra-low sulfur diesel program, known as "Diesel Solutions," has~~
4443 ~~made tremendous strides in cleaning up King County Metro's fine particulate~~
4444 ~~emissions.))~~ Indoor burning and outdoor burning are a major source of fine
4445 particulate~~((s))~~ matter, especially during winter months.

4446
4447 Contributions of fine particulate matter from wildfire smoke are also a growing concern.
4448 Climate change is contributing to an increase in the frequency of large wildfires in the
4449 Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. As a result, King County is seeing more days in
4450 summer with degraded air quality. For example, in 2020, King County experienced 14
4451 days of air quality identified as "unhealthy for sensitive groups" to "hazardous," air
4452 quality due to smoke from fires near Portland, Oregon. In 2022, King County
4453 experienced more than 30 days with "moderate" to "very unhealthy" air quality due to
4454 smoke from the Bolt Creek fire near Skykomish. Public Health has partnered with
4455 community-based organizations to develop outreach materials on wildfire smoke
4456 hazards, to distribute box fans and air filters for indoor air filtration, and to set up HEPA
4457 air filtration units for homeless service providers, small businesses, childcare providers,
4458 and schools.

4459
4460 ~~((As a large county with a mix of urban, Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands uses,))~~
4461 King County will continue to face risks from air ((toxics)) pollution that can be toxic to
4462 people, pets, and wildlife. Examples of ((air toxics)) toxins that may be present in air
4463 pollution include benzene, formaldehyde, mercury, and dioxins. The air quality impact
4464 of ((toxics)) these toxins cannot be evaluated in isolation. Their greatest health risk
4465 comes from their combined effect. ((National air toxics assessment data indicate that air
4466 toxics risks in the Puget Sound region are in the top five percent in the nation.)) The
4467 Environmental Protection Agency and its regulatory partners at the state and local level
4468 identify steps to reduce toxic air pollutants and provide important health protections~~((+))~~
4469 by reducing toxic emissions from industrial sources; reducing emissions from vehicles
4470 and engines through stringent emission standards and cleaner burning gasoline; and
4471 addressing indoor air pollution through voluntary programs.

4472
4473 Local air monitoring data done by the Washington State Department of Ecology
4474 indicates that diesel exhaust and wood smoke are key contributors to ~~((toxics))~~ air
4475 pollution toxins.

4476
4477 ~~((In 2002, King County Metro became the first transit agency in the United States to test~~
4478 ~~articulated hybrid-diesel electric buses. King County Metro currently owns 214~~
4479 ~~articulated hybrid buses, the largest such fleet in the nation. A National Renewable~~
4480 ~~Energy Laboratory study found articulated hybrids provide a 30% reduction in~~
4481 ~~greenhouse gases and are 40% more reliable than diesel fueled articulated buses.))~~
4482 The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has adopted increasingly stringent air
4483 pollution standards for heavy-duty vehicles, which has significantly reduced air
4484 pollution. In 2020, Metro retired the last of its diesel-only fleet vehicles; the entire bus
4485 fleet is now either diesel electric hybrid or zero-emission. Metro has continued its
4486 efforts to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions and has committed to
4487 transitioning to a fully zero emission bus fleet by 2035. As of 2023, Metro operates a
4488 fleet of more than 1,300 buses, comprised of approximately 1,145 diesel-electric
4489 hybrids, 174 zero emission trolleys, and 45 zero emission battery electric buses.

4490
4491 ~~((Wood smoke is a leading contributor to air toxics. King County will examine proposals~~
4492 ~~to curtail the impacts of woodstove burning and land-clearing practices in rural parts of~~
4493 ~~the county.))~~

4494

~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

4495 The focus of King County air quality improvement efforts is to engage in projects and
4496 changed practices ~~((to))~~ that reduce county emissions, ~~reduce the impacts of poor air~~
4497 ~~quality on health (particularly for frontline communities),~~ and promote policies that
4498 incorporate consideration of air quality impacts. Motorized vehicle and other fuel
4499 burning engine-related emissions are the primary source of ozone, fine particulate
4500 matter, ~~((toxics))~~ toxins, and greenhouse gas emissions in King County and therefore
4501 should be a primary focus for emissions reduction.

4502 ~~((E-301))~~ **E-801 King County should support initiatives that reduce air pollution**
4503 **emissions due to indoor and outdoor wood burning consistent with the**
4504 **actions of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency to control this source of**
4505 **(public health threat) health impacts.**

4506 ~~((E-302))~~ **E-802 King County ((will)) shall continue to actively develop partnerships**
4507 **with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, local jurisdictions, the state,**
4508 **and public, private, and ((not-for-profit)) nonprofit groups to promote**
4509 **programs, ((and)) policies, and code changes that reduce emissions and**
4510 **health impacts of ozone, wildfire smoke, fine particulates, toxics, and**
4511 **greenhouse gases, particularly for those populations already**
4512 **experiencing health disparities linked to air quality.**

4513 **E-803 King County shall encourage the use of methods to improve indoor**
4514 **air quality and reduce smoke infiltration into indoor environments**
4515 **during wildfire smoke events, particularly for populations already**
4516 **experiencing health disparities, including people aged 62 and over,**
4517 **such as air filtration technologies and other mechanisms that reduce**
4518 **the level of wildfire smoke that can make its way into indoor**
4519 **environments.**

4520 ((More detailed policies related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving
4521 air quality can be found in Section II of this chapter, Chapter 8: Transportation, and
4522 Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities.))

4528 ~~((VII.))~~ **IX. Monitoring and Adaptive Management**

4529 ~~((King County's environment is constantly changing in response to land and water
4530 management actions that are within its control, as well as climate cycles and geologic
4531 processes that are beyond human control. The ((c))County makes significant
4532 investments in projects, programs, and policy implementation to help ensure that its
4533 environment supports a range of ecological, cultural, and economic values that are
4534 fundamental to the region's quality of life.~~

4535 King County's policies, regulations, and actions to protect and restore the environment
4536 need to be assessed on an ongoing basis to ensure that they are having the intended
4537 effect, and that they are responding to changing conditions. Efforts to protect the
4538 environment ~~((will also need to reflect))~~ ~~requires continuous~~ improvements in
4539 knowledge about the natural environment and how human ~~((activity impacts))~~ activities
4540 affect ecological systems ~~((, and uncertainties about ecological and biological
4541 processes))~~.

4542 Assessing the effectiveness of specific and cumulative actions requires data collected
4543 within rigorous monitoring programs. Monitoring provides essential information to
4544 track: (1) changes in the natural and built environment, (2) implementation of planned
4545 and required actions (like construction of wetland mitigation projects), and (3)
4546 effectiveness of environmental protection actions. Monitoring information ~~((can~~

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~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**

4550 support)) is essential to supporting a formal ~~((A))~~ adaptive ~~((M))~~ management program to
4551 modify policies, goals, and management decisions as necessary, and inform regulatory
4552 change.

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4553
4554 Adaptive management can be used to help ~~((insure))~~ ensure that projects, programs,
4555 and policies are moving the ~~((c))~~ County toward its environmental goals over time.
4556 Adaptive ~~((M))~~ management is defined as the process of making hypotheses of
4557 management outcomes, collecting data relevant to those hypotheses, and then using
4558 monitoring data to inform changes to policies and actions to better achieve intended
4559 goals. Adaptive management concepts are often applied in programs intended to
4560 address complex natural resource management problems, for example in Water
4561 Resource Inventory Area plans for salmon recovery or in Habitat Conservation Plans to
4562 comply with the Endangered Species Act. The Washington Administrative Code calls
4563 for local governments to use monitoring and adaptive management to address
4564 uncertainties in best available science for protecting critical areas like wetlands.

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4565
4566 King County conducts a diverse array of monitoring activities, ~~((ranging from
4567 project-specific))~~ including permit-required monitoring of Capital Improvement Projects
4568 and legally required monitoring of municipal wastewater and stormwater discharges in
4569 compliance with ~~((National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System))~~ NPDES ~~((permit
4570 requirements))~~. Effectiveness monitoring is used to evaluate projects and programs
4571 to improve project designs and ecosystem management activities. Ambient monitoring
4572 is performed watershed-wide ~~((ambient monitoring of))~~, encompassing groundwater,
4573 rivers, streams, lakes, and marine waters of Puget Sound to the extent that funding
4574 allows. For example, King County maintains a continuous water quality monitoring
4575 program for freshwater streams, rivers, lakes, and marine waters. This long-term
4576 monitoring program informs the County's understanding of changes in water quality
4577 over time ~~((including those caused by climate change, and contributes to))~~ allowing for
4578 the identification of emerging pollution issues and sources of water pollution. ~~((The
4579 monitoring program also allows the quantification of water quality and aquatic habitat
4580 improvements.))~~ The status and trends information provided by long-term monitoring
4581 programs allows for better understanding of how systems are responding to pressures
4582 like climate change and human impacts. The data collected by these programs
4583 additionally provides the necessary baseline information for many scientific studies
4584 conducted in King County wetlands, lakes, streams, and marine waters by ~~((e))~~ County
4585 scientists, as well as scientists at universities and state and federal agencies.

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4586
4587 Financial resources for environmental protection programs, including monitoring, are
4588 limited ~~((Because baseline monitoring does not result in an actual project "on the
4589 ground," and often is not mandated, it may))~~ and generally do not compete well with
4590 other priorities for limited funding. However, investments in monitoring will provide
4591 essential information for evaluating the effectiveness of current actions and guiding
4592 future policy decisions, priorities, and investments. To make the most efficient use of
4593 limited resources, it is critical that the ~~((e))~~ County look for opportunities to coordinate its
4594 data collection and dissemination efforts so that they can meet as many information
4595 needs as possible. The ~~((e))~~ County should also partner with entities conducting
4596 monitoring, including other governments and universities.

4597
4598 ~~((When data are collected, it is important that its usefulness is maximized. "Metadata" is
4599 background information on data, and is necessary to facilitate the understanding, use,
4600 storage, sharing, and management of data. For example, metadata can describe how a
4601 particular data set was collected, provide definitions for types of data, and describe the
4602 reliability of the data.~~

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4603
4604 **E-704) E-901 King County should conduct a comprehensive and coordinated
4605 program of environmental monitoring and assessment to track
4606 long-term changes in climate ~~((e.g.))~~ such as precipitation~~((,))~~ and**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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temperature), water quality and quantity, toxics in fish and shellfish, land use, land cover and aquatic and terrestrial habitat, natural resource conditions, and biological resources as well as the effectiveness of policies, programs, regulations, capital improvement projects, and stormwater treatment facility design. This monitoring program should be coordinated with ~~Indian tribes~~, other jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, ~~Indian ((tribes,))~~ and universities to ensure the most efficient and effective use of monitoring data.

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~~((E-702)) E-902~~ King County should seek to develop and maintain a publicly accessible ~~((;))~~ geo-spatial database on environmental conditions to inform policy decisions, support technical collaboration, and inform the public. ~~((All King County monitoring data should be supported by metadata.~~

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~~E-703)) E-903~~ King County should establish a decision -support system suitable for adaptive management that uses data from its environmental monitoring programs.

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~~((A.)) Performance Measurement ((,)) and Performance Management ((and KingStat)))~~

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~~((Like adaptive management in realm of science, performance management includes collecting data, analyzing data to inform decision-making, and making programmatic course corrections based on this analysis:))~~

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King County reports to the public both community-level conditions and agency performance measures. Monitoring data referenced in this chapter serves as a core element of helping elected officials and the public stay informed about the state of the environment and the effectiveness of agency programs.

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~~((The executive's KingStat program is using environmental monitoring data to assess environmental conditions, develop appropriate county responses, and provide an opportunity to collaborate and partner with other organizations in making improvements. With respect to environmental conditions, data used in KingStat includes marine water, freshwater, terrestrial habitat, fish and wildlife, atmosphere, and resource consumption:~~

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~~E-704)) E-904~~ King County should continue to collect data on key natural resource management and environmental parameters for use in ~~((KingStat, King County's Strategic Plan implementation goals and objectives, and other))~~ environmental ~~((benchmarking))~~ monitoring programs. Findings should be reported to the public, partner agencies, and decision-makers. The information collected should be used to inform decisions about policies, work program priorities and resource allocation.

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~~((B.)) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Compliance~~

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King County operates under a number of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits, including a general Phase I Municipal Stormwater permit, and a number of general Industrial and Sand and Gravel Stormwater permits for Transit, Solid Waste and Roads facilities. There are individual wastewater permits for wastewater treatment plants and a solid waste management facility. King County also is issued construction stormwater permits for capital projects involving land disturbance. Complying with

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

4659 these permits is a high priority for King County as part of its strategy for protecting
4660 ground and surface water quality.

4661 ~~((C.))~~ ~~Water Resource Inventory Areas Salmon~~
4662 ~~Recovery Plan Implementation~~

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4663 ~~((D.))~~ ~~Effectiveness of Critical Areas Regulations~~

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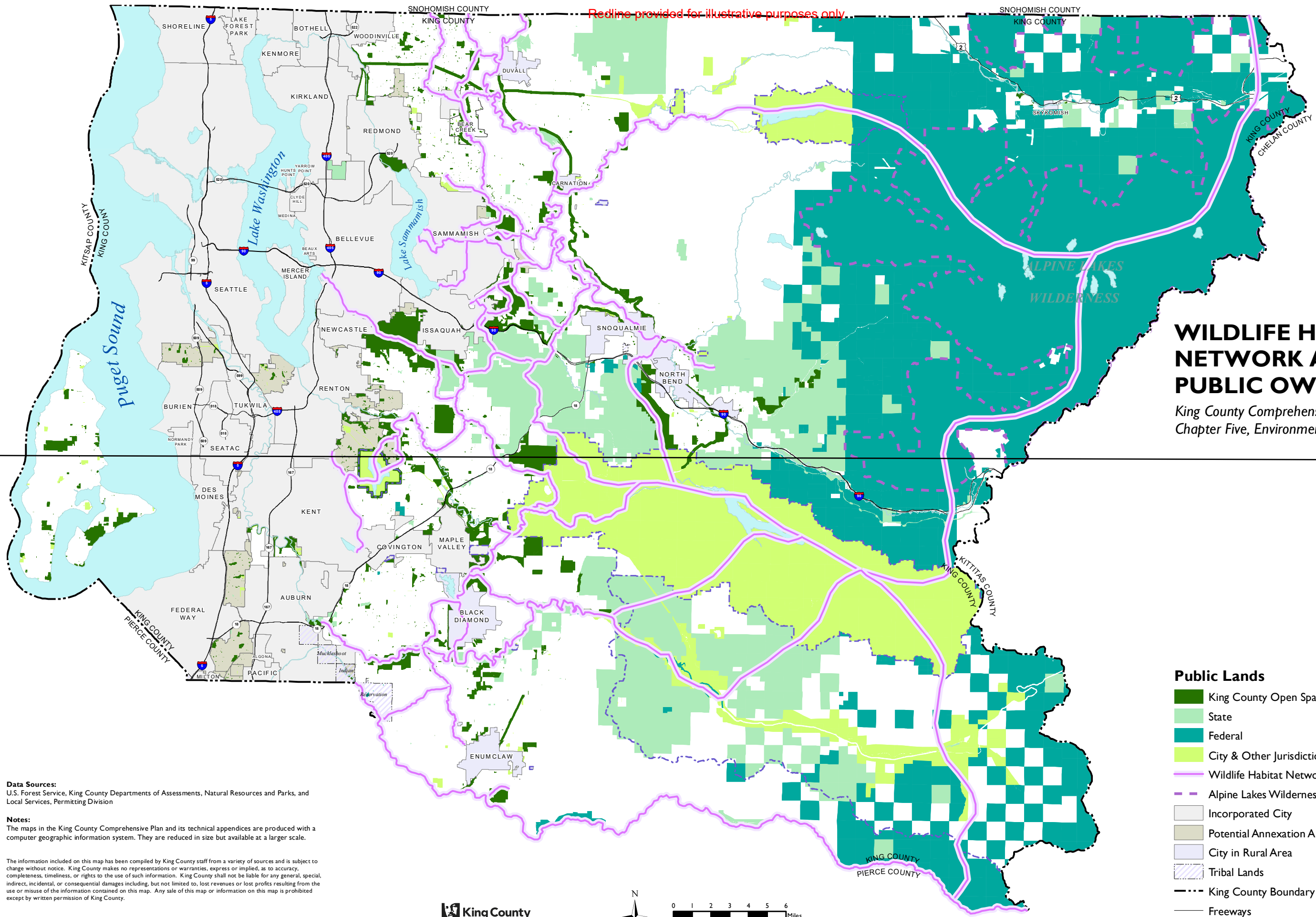
4664 Under the Growth Management Act, all counties and cities are required to periodically
4665 review their comprehensive plans and development regulations, including critical area
4666 regulations, for consistency with the Growth Management Act. Growth Management
4667 Act also requires local governments to include best available science in the
4668 development of land use policies and regulations to protect the functions and values of
4669 critical areas. Washington State Department of Commerce procedural criteria for
4670 adoption of comprehensive plans and development regulations provide direction on
4671 how local governments should include best available science in their critical area
4672 regulations ~~((Washington Administrative Code)) Chapter 365-195 Washington~~
4673 ~~Administrative Code~~. The procedural criteria call for the use of a precautionary
4674 approach, in which development and land use activities are strictly limited until the
4675 uncertainty is sufficiently resolved, where the science is uncertain.

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4676 Coupled with this precautionary approach should be an adaptive management
4677 program that allows for changes to regulations as new information comes in to address
4678 uncertainties. ~~((The a))~~ adaptive management program is dependent upon a monitoring
4679 program that is designed to obtain the information needed to determine the
4680 effectiveness of regulations.))
4681

Redline provided for illustrative purposes only



WILDLIFE HABITAT NETWORK AND PUBLIC OWNERSHIP 2020

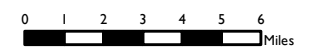
King County Comprehensive Plan, 2020
Chapter Five, Environment

- Public Lands**
- King County Open Space System
 - State
 - Federal
 - City & Other Jurisdiction
 - Wildlife Habitat Network
 - Alpine Lakes Wilderness
 - Incorporated City
 - Potential Annexation Areas
 - City in Rural Area
 - Tribal Lands
 - King County Boundary
 - Freeways
 - Municipal Watershed

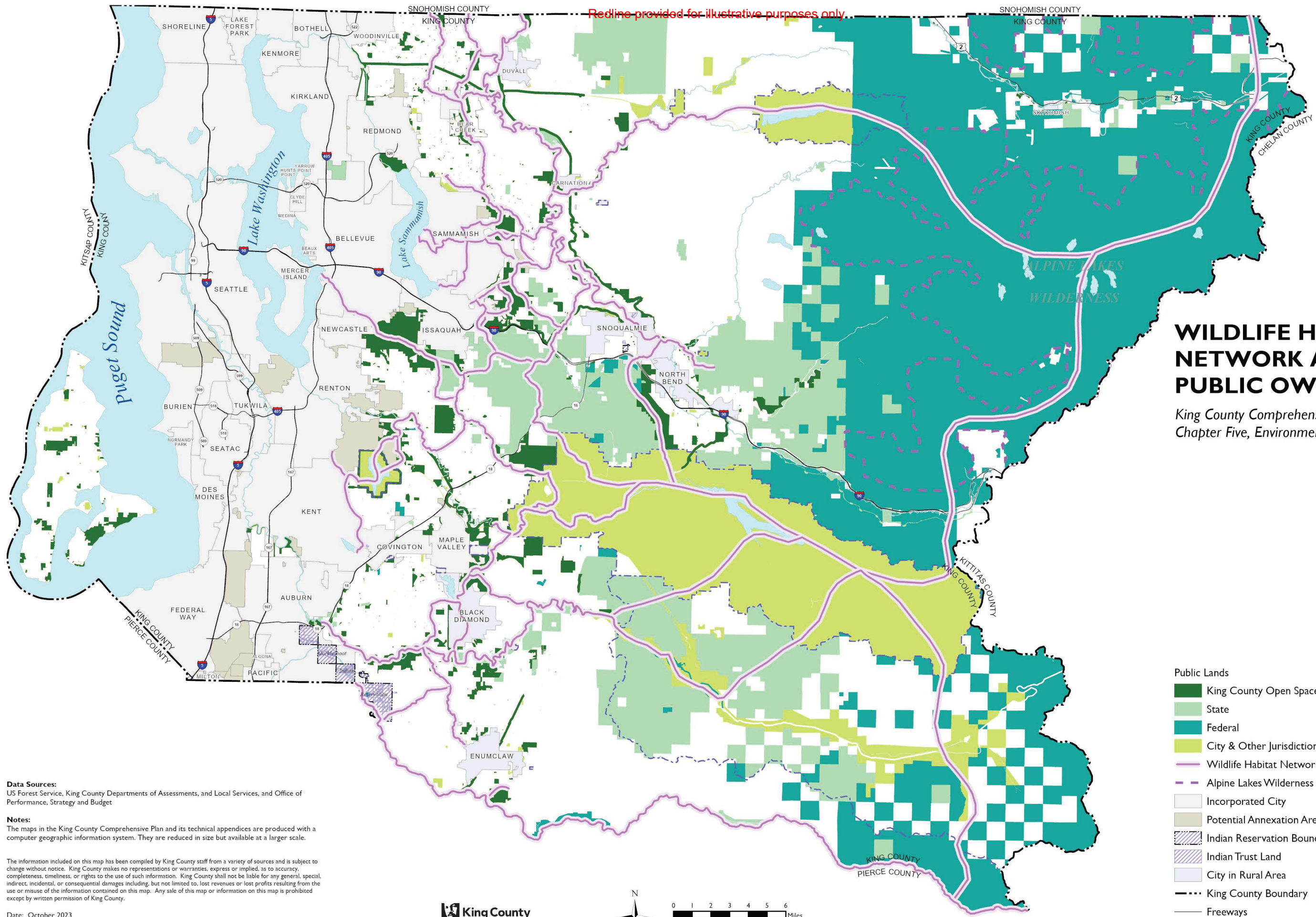
Data Sources:
U.S. Forest Service, King County Departments of Assessments, Natural Resources and Parks, and Local Services, Permitting Division

Notes:
The maps in the King County Comprehensive Plan and its technical appendices are produced with a computer geographic information system. They are reduced in size but available at a larger scale.

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Redline provided for illustrative purposes only



WILDLIFE HABITAT NETWORK AND PUBLIC OWNERSHIP 2024

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter Five, Environment

- Public Lands
 - King County Open Space System
 - State
 - Federal
 - City & Other Jurisdiction
- Wildlife Habitat Network
- Alpine Lakes Wilderness
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- Indian Reservation Boundary
- Indian Trust Land
- City in Rural Area
- King County Boundary
- Freeways
- Municipal Watershed

Data Sources:
US Forest Service, King County Departments of Assessments, and Local Services, and Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Notes:
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Date: October 2023
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CHAPTER 6

SHORELINES

1 ((



2))
3

4 ((I.)) Introduction

5 ((A.)) Recitals

6 King County adopts the following recitals, which are based on the Shoreline Management Act legislative
7 findings in Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020. These recitals represent King County's belief and
8 agreement that a coordinated approach to utilizing, managing, and protecting the shoreline resource is
9 necessary and essential. ~~((These recitals apply to the shoreline jurisdiction.))~~

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- 10 1. Shorelines are some of the most valuable and fragile of King County's natural resources. There
11 is appropriate concern throughout the county relating to the utilization, protection, restoration,
12 and preservation of the shoreline jurisdiction.
- 13 2. Ever increasing pressures of additional use are being placed on the shoreline jurisdiction, which
14 in turn necessitates increased coordination in its management and development.
- 15 3. Much of the shoreline jurisdiction and the uplands adjacent thereto are in private ownership.
16 Unrestricted construction on the privately owned or publicly owned shorelines is not in the best
17 public interest; and therefore, coordinated planning is necessary ~~((in order))~~ to protect the
18 public interest associated with the shoreline jurisdiction while recognizing and protecting
19 private property rights consistent with the public interest.
- 20 4. There is a clear and urgent demand for a planned, rational, and concerted effort, jointly
21 performed by federal, state, and local governments, to prevent the inherent harm in an
22 uncoordinated and piecemeal development of King County's shoreline jurisdiction.
- 23 5. It is the intent of King County to provide for the management of the shoreline jurisdiction by
24 planning for and fostering all reasonable and appropriate uses. This program is designed to
25 ~~((insure))~~ ensure the development in a manner that, while allowing for limited reduction of rights
26 of the public in the navigable waters, will promote and enhance the public interest.
- 27

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx~~
~~((Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440))TBD~~

- 28 6. King County shoreline policies are intended to protect against adverse effects to the public
29 health, the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the waters of the state and their aquatic life,
30 while protecting generally public rights of navigation and corollary rights incidental thereto.
- 31 7. In the implementation of this chapter, the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and
32 aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible
33 consistent with the overall best interest of the state, the county, and the people generally. To
34 this end uses shall be preferred which are consistent with control of pollution and prevention of
35 damage to the natural environment or are unique to or dependent upon use of the state's
36 shoreline.
- 37 8. Alterations of the natural condition of the shoreline jurisdiction, in those limited instances when
38 authorized, shall be given priority for single ~~((family)) detached residences)) detached homes~~
39 and their appurtenant structures~~((;)) ports((;)) shoreline recreational uses, including but not~~
40 limited to, parks, marinas, piers, and other improvements facilitating public access to
41 shorelines~~((;)) industrial and commercial developments that are particularly dependent on their~~
42 location on or use of the shoreline jurisdiction~~((;)) and other development that will provide an~~
43 opportunity for substantial numbers of the people to enjoy the shorelines.
- 44 9. Shorelines and shorelands in King County shall be appropriately designated and these
45 classifications shall be revised when circumstances warrant, regardless of whether the change in
46 circumstances occurs through man-made causes or natural causes. Any areas resulting from
47 alterations of the natural condition of the shorelines and shorelands no longer meeting the
48 definition of "shorelines of the state" shall not be subject to the provisions of King County
49 Shoreline Master Program.
- 50 10. Permitted uses in the shorelines zone shall be designed and conducted in a manner to minimize,
51 insofar as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of the shoreline
52 jurisdiction and any interference with the public's use of the water.

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54 ~~((B.)) About ((King County and)) King County Shorelines~~

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55 ~~((1.)) Geography~~

56 King County covers 2,130 square miles and extends from Puget Sound in the west to 8,000-foot Mt.
57 Daniel at the Cascade crest in the east. King County's shoreline jurisdiction includes saltwater coastline,
58 river floodplains, and extensive lakes and streams.

60 ~~((2.)) King County's shoreline jurisdiction))~~

63 King County's diverse shorelines fringe or flow into Puget Sound. Puget Sound and surrounding lowland
64 lakes and river valleys are relatively young in geologic terms. Puget Sound is a glacially-carved, deep
65 fjord between the Cascade and Olympic mountains.

67 Puget Sound is King County's link to the Pacific Ocean via two connections: the Strait of Juan de Fuca
68 and the Strait of Georgia. Water, people, and a diverse array of fish and wildlife travel freely between the
69 ocean and King County via Puget Sound and these Straits.

71 Puget Sound is a large estuary complex created by the freshwater it receives from streams, rivers and
72 springs, and tidal exchange introduced through the two Straits. It is one of the more prominent and
73 productive estuaries in the world. In 1988, it was identified as an Estuary of National Significance by the
74 United States government. Within Puget Sound are numerous small to large estuaries. The largest
75 estuary in King County is the Green-Duwamish, although it is now a small remnant of its
76 pre-development state.

77
78 Puget Sound consists of five basins. King County's portion of Puget Sound lies within the Central Basin
79 and includes Vashon-Maury Island. The Central ~~((or Main))~~ Basin extends from Admiralty Inlet to Tacoma
80 Narrows. It is the largest and deepest of the basins. The major drainages to the Central Basin, including
81 ~~the~~ Cedar River/Lake Washington watershed (including Lake Sammamish and the Sammamish River), the
82 Green-Duwamish watershed, and ~~the~~ Puyallup River/White River watershed, drain a total area of about
83 2,700 square miles and contribute slightly less than 20~~((%))~~ percent of Puget Sound's freshwater input.
84 The Snohomish watershed (including the Snoqualmie River Basin that lies mostly in King County) outlet
85 into Puget Sound lies in Everett.

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86
87 Shorelines of the State in King County, as defined by the Shoreline Management Act, include the total of
88 all shorelines and shorelines of statewide significance. Shorelines include shorelands, which are defined
89 as those lands extending landward for 200 feet from the ordinary high water mark, floodways and
90 contiguous floodplain areas landward 200 feet from such floodways, and all associated wetlands and
91 river deltas. King County currently includes the 100-year floodplain in its shoreline jurisdiction.
92 Shoreline jurisdiction under the Shoreline Management Act does not include Indian tribal reservation
93 lands or lands held in trust by the federal government for ~~((the))~~ Indian tribes.

94
95 Table S-1 below shows the number of shoreline miles managed under King County's Shoreline Master
96 Program.

Table S-1. Miles of shoreline under King County's jurisdiction

Lake	River/Stream	Marine
((234)) 229	((1,696)) 1,690	51

97
98
99
100 ~~((Puget Sound is located in a region that has great overlap between valuable natural resources and a~~
101 ~~burgeoning human population. The productivity, diversity and value of the resources are greatly~~
102 ~~affected by the extent and density of the population. Due to proximity to transportation routes and~~
103 ~~abundant food and water resources, most of the region's human development since the mid-1800s,~~
104 ~~when settlers of European descent started to explore and develop the region, has occurred along Puget~~
105 ~~Sound's shorelines, large lakes, and rivers.~~

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106 ~~((C.))~~ **Washington State's Shoreline Management Act**

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107 ~~((1, — Overview of))~~ **2. Washington State Shoreline Management Act**

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108 ~~((Washington's Shoreline Management Act was passed by the Legislature in 1971 and adopted by the~~
109 ~~public in a 1972 referendum. The goal of the Shoreline Management Act is "to prevent the inherent~~
110 ~~harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state's shorelines."))~~

111
112 The Shoreline Management Act establishes a broad policy giving preference to uses that:

- Protect the quality of water and the natural environment,
- Depend on proximity to the shoreline ("water-dependent uses"), and
- Preserve and enhance public access or increase recreational opportunities for the public along shorelines.

113
114
115
116
117 The Shoreline Management Act establishes a balance of authority between local and state government.
118 Cities and counties are the primary regulators but the state, through the Department of Ecology, has
119 authority to review local shoreline master programs and shoreline permit decisions.
120

121
122 Under the Shoreline Management Act, ~~((each city and c))~~ the County adopts a Shoreline Master Program
123 that is based on the Department of Ecology's Shoreline Master Program rules or guidelines, but tailored
124 to the specific needs of the community. ~~((More than 200 cities and all 39 counties have Shoreline Master~~
125 ~~Programs. Local Shoreline Master Programs combine both plans and regulations. The plans are a~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD
Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx
(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

126 comprehensive vision of how shoreline areas will be used and developed over time. Regulations are the
127 standards that shoreline projects and uses must meet.
128

129 The Department of Ecology provides technical assistance to local governments undertaking Master
130 Program amendments. Master Programs and Master Program amendments are only effective after
131 approval from the Department of Ecology. In reviewing Master Programs, the Department of Ecology is
132 limited to a decision on whether ~~((or not))~~ the Program is consistent with the policy and provisions of the
133 Shoreline Management Act and the Department of Ecology's guidelines:))
134

135 Local governments may modify Master Programs to reflect changing local circumstances, new
136 information, or improved shoreline management approaches. ~~((All changes to Master Programs require
137 public involvement and approval from the Department of Ecology. At a minimum, local governments
138 must hold public hearings.~~

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139
140 In 2003, the Department of Ecology adopted revised state guidelines. Cities and counties with Shoreline
141 Master Programs are required to update their Shoreline Master Programs to bring them into compliance
142 with these new state guidelines:))

143 ~~((2. History of shoreline management in King County~~

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144 King County adopted its original Shoreline Master Program through two ordinances adopted by the
145 King County Council and approved by the King County Executive, John Spellman, on May 2, 1978:
146 Ordinance 3692 adopted the Shoreline Master Plan, which established the goals, objectives, and
147 policies of the King County Shoreline Master Program. Ordinance 3688 adopted the development
148 regulations that implemented the Shoreline Master Plan. By a letter dated June 30, 1978, the
149 Department of Ecology stated that it had approved King County's Shoreline Master Program.
150

151 The 1978 Shoreline Master Plan addressed the required elements of the shoreline guidelines originally
152 adopted by the Department of Ecology in 1972. The 1978 Plan established goals, objectives, and
153 policies for eight different shoreline elements. For each of the four shoreline environments, it also
154 established general policies.
155

156 The 1978 Plan stated that:

157 "Each environment represents a particular emphasis in the type of uses and the extent of
158 development that should occur within it. The system is designed to encourage uses in each
159 Environment which enhance the character of the Environment while at the same time requiring
160 reasonable standards and restrictions on development so that the character of the Environment is
161 not destroyed."
162

163 Finally, the 1978 Shoreline Master Program included general policies for a variety of different shoreline
164 use activities, including agriculture, mining, recreation, and residential development. Associated
165 shoreline regulations establish the designation criteria, the allowed uses, and development standards for
166 the four shoreline environments recognized by the 1972 state guidelines.
167

168 In 1990, the King County Council adopted regulations governing environmentally sensitive areas, some
169 of which include areas also within shoreline jurisdiction. (Ordinance 9614) King County updated its
170 critical areas regulations effective January 1, 2005. (Ordinances 15032, 15033, and 15034) King
171 County's Critical Areas Regulations and its Shoreline Master Program both provide that the regulations
172 that are most protective of the environment apply in the case of a conflict.
173

174 ~~((3.))~~ Shoreline jurisdiction under the Shoreline Management Act

175 ~~((D.))~~ C. King County's Shoreline Master Program

176 The Shoreline Master Program adopted by King County provides a legal framework for decision ~~((v))~~
177 making on land use and other activities that complies with the Shoreline Management Act. This section
178 describes the elements of the Shoreline Master Program, with the details being further ~~((developed))~~
179 ~~described~~ throughout this chapter.

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180 ~~((1.))~~ Components of the Shoreline Master Program

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181 The King County Shoreline Master Program consists of this chapter and the implementing shoreline
182 management regulations.

183
184 This chapter describes King County's shoreline goals and policies. It addresses the shoreline jurisdiction,
185 overall shoreline policy goals, shoreline element policies, Shoreline Master Program relationship to other
186 laws, shoreline environment designations, environmental protection, shoreline use and modification,
187 and administrative policies.

188
189 The terms "Shoreline Master Program," "Shoreline Program" and "Program" are all used throughout this
190 chapter to describe King County's shoreline policies (this chapter) and shoreline management
191 regulations in their entirety.

192
193 The following documents provide supporting information for these goals and policies:

194
195 **King County Shoreline Protection and Restoration Plan (September 2010):** The Shoreline
196 Protection and Restoration Plan summarizes the methods and results of King County's shoreline
197 analysis with respect to restoration planning, the elements and applicability of the restoration plan,
198 and the ways in which shoreline restoration is expected to occur over time.

199
200 **King County Shoreline Public Access Plan (September 2010):** The Shoreline Public Access Plan
201 includes an inventory of existing formal and informal shoreline public access opportunities in the
202 unincorporated area, and identifies gaps in public access opportunities. The Shoreline Public
203 Access Plan describes King County's priorities for providing new public access to major shorelines in
204 the unincorporated area.

205
206 **King County Shoreline Cumulative Impacts Assessment (September 2010):** The Shoreline
207 Cumulative Impacts Assessment provides a mechanism for examining the potential success of
208 ~~((c))~~ County policies and regulations in meeting the goal of no net loss of shoreline ecological
209 processes and functions.

210
211 **King County Shoreline Inventory and Characterization (May 2007):** The Shoreline Inventory and
212 Characterization includes the data and analytic methods used to develop King County's shoreline
213 inventory and shoreline characterization (including evaluation of existing physical and shoreline
214 ecological processes and functions, public access and recreation, land use and economic
215 development, public facilities and utilities, and archaeological and historic resources). In addition,
216 the Shoreline Inventory and Characterization includes methodologies for cumulative impact analysis
217 associated with shoreline management and comprehensive shoreline restoration planning.
218 ((Specific data can be found at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/shorelines>))

219
220 **King County Shoreline Map Folio ~~((and List))~~ (September 2010):** The Shoreline Map Folio
221 includes all maps produced and referenced as part of the Shoreline Master Program, with the
222 exception of those maps included in this chapter.

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~~((2016))~~ 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ~~((updated December 6, 2022))~~ Adopted TBD
Attachment A to Ordinance ~~((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555))~~ ~~XXXX~~
~~((Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440))~~TBD

224 **King County Shoreline List (December 2020):** The King County Shoreline List includes all streams
225 and lakes within the shoreline jurisdiction. ~~((All geographic information can be found at:~~
226 <http://www.kingcounty.gov/shorelines>))

227 ~~((2.))~~ ~~((p))~~ Shoreline Policies

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228 The Shoreline Master Program contains specific policies relating to a wide variety of shoreline uses and
229 issues.

230
231 Shoreline policies establish broad shoreline management directives. They are statements of intent by
232 King County that direct or authorize a course of action or specify criteria for regulatory or non-regulatory
233 action. The policies serve as the basis for regulations that govern use and development along the
234 shoreline.

235
236 King County's shoreline policies must:

- 237 1. Be consistent with the Shoreline Management Act;
- 238 2. Address the Master Program elements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100;
- 239 3. Include policies for environmental designations as described in Washington Administrative
240 Code 173-26-211;
- 241 4. Be designed and implemented in a manner consistent with all relevant constitutional and
242 other legal limitations on regulation of private property; and
- 243 5. Be consistent with the King County Comprehensive Plan ~~((and functional plans ((adopted as~~
244 ~~components of the Comprehensive Plan))~~).

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245
246 Shoreline policies provide a comprehensive foundation for the Shoreline Master Program regulations,
247 which are more specific standards that are used to evaluate shoreline development proposals. King
248 County must evaluate permit applications in light of the shoreline policies and may approve a permit
249 only after determining that the development conforms to the policies in the Shoreline Master ~~((Plan))~~
250 ~~Program~~.

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251
252 In addition, shoreline policies assist in prioritizing King County's spending on facilities and services within
253 shorelines of the state. Finally, the shoreline policies provide direction for regional issues such as
254 resource management, environmental protection, transportation, inter-governmental coordination, and
255 regional planning.

257 ~~((3.))~~ Shoreline Environments

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258 The Shoreline Management Act requires that shoreline ~~((management))~~ programs classify shoreline
259 areas into specific environment designations. ~~((The Department of Ecology's guidelines recommend six~~
260 ~~different environment designations, but does not require that local programs adopt this particular~~
261 ~~scheme. King County's 1978 Shoreline Master Program adopted the four environment designations~~
262 ~~recommended by the Department of Ecology at that time: Urban, Rural, Conservancy, and Natural. ((In~~
263 ~~this update))~~ Subsequently, King County ~~((is adopting))~~ ~~adopted~~ eight environment designations in total,
264 based on the recommendations from the Department of Ecology.)) These environment designations are
265 ~~((:))~~ listed below and further discussed in the "Shoreline Environment Designations" section of this
266 chapter.

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267 - High Intensity Shoreline Environment

268 - Residential Shoreline Environment

269 - Rural Shoreline Environment

270 - Conservancy Shoreline Environment

271 - Resource Shoreline Environment

272 - Forestry Shoreline Environment

273 - ~~Natural Shoreline Environment~~

274 : ~~Aquatic Environment~~

275
276 ((**High Intensity Shoreline Environment:** Applied to areas that provide high-intensity
277 water-oriented commercial, transportation, and industrial uses.

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278 **Residential Shoreline Environment:** Applied to accommodate residential uses at urban densities,
279 while allowing for non-residential uses that are consistent with the protection of the shoreline
280 jurisdiction.

281
282 **Rural Shoreline Environment:** Applied to accommodate rural residential shoreline development,
283 while allowing for rural non-residential uses that are consistent with the protection of the shoreline.
284

285 **Conservancy Shoreline Environment:** Applied to protect and conserve the shoreline for
286 ecological, public safety, and recreation, purposes. Includes areas with important shoreline
287 ecological processes and functions, valuable historic and cultural features, flood and geological
288 hazards and recreational opportunities. Residential areas can also be designated as conservancy
289 shorelines.
290

291 **Resource Shoreline Environment:** Applied to allow for mining and agriculture land uses, except for
292 shorelines that are relatively intact or that have minimally degraded shoreline processes and
293 functions.
294

295 **Forestry Shoreline Environment:** Applied in areas to allow for forest production and protect
296 municipal water supplies.
297

298 **Natural Shoreline Environment:** Applied to shorelines that are relatively intact or have minimally
299 degraded shoreline processes and functions that are intolerant of human use.
300

301 **Aquatic Shoreline Environment:** Applied to the areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark.))
302
303

304 ~~((4.)) Shoreline program elements~~

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305 The Shoreline Management Act identifies eight “program elements” that must be addressed and
306 included in local shoreline master programs:
307

308 **Economic development element** that considers the location and design of industries, industrial
309 projects of statewide significance, transportation facilities, port facilities, tourist facilities, commerce,
310 and other developments that are particularly dependent on shorelines of the state:
311

312 **Public access element** that considers public access to publicly owned land along shorelines of the
313 state:
314

315 **Recreational element** that identifies recreational opportunities along shorelines, such as parks,
316 tidelands, beaches, and recreational areas, and that pursues acquisition through implementation of
317 the King County Shoreline Master Program.
318

319 **Circulation element** that consists of the general location and extent of existing and proposed major
320 thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities.
321

322 **Land use element** that considers the general distribution and location, as well as the extent of use
323 on the shorelines and adjacent areas for housing, business, industry, transportation, agriculture,
324 natural resources, recreation, education, public buildings and grounds, and other categories of
325 public and private use of the land.

326
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Conservation element that addresses the preservation of natural resources including, but not limited to, scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital estuarine areas for fish and wildlife:

Historic, cultural, scientific and educational element that prevents the destruction of or damage to any site having historic, cultural, scientific, or educational value as identified by the appropriate authorities, including affected Tribes, and the state office of archaeology and historic preservation:

Flood hazard element that considers the prevention and minimization of flood damages:

336 ~~(((5-)) 4.))~~ Shoreline modifications and uses

337 ~~((The Shoreline Management Act requires that local Shoreline Master Programs distinguish between~~
338 ~~shoreline modifications and shoreline uses:))~~

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339 ~~The~~ Shoreline Management Act makes a distinction between a shoreline use and a shoreline
340 modification. A shoreline use is an activity that is allowed within the shoreline ~~((s))~~ jurisdiction. In most
341 cases, ~~((in order))~~ to engage in an activity, the shoreline must be modified. Shoreline modifications often
342 involve construction of a physical element, such as a dike, breakwater, dredged basin, or fill, as well as
343 other actions such as clearing, grading, application of chemicals, or significant vegetation removal. This
344 means that shoreline modifications are often undertaken in support of or in preparation for an activity
345 along shorelines.

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346
347
348 **Shoreline modifications** are generally related to construction of a physical element, such as a dike,
349 breakwater, dredged basin, or fill, but can include other actions such as clearing, grading, or application
350 of chemicals. A shoreline modification is usually undertaken in support of or in preparation for a
351 shoreline use.

352 **Shoreline uses** are classified as "water-dependent," "water-related," "water-enjoyment," or
353 "water-oriented."

354 **A water-dependent use** is a use or portion of a use that cannot exist in a location that is not
355 adjacent to the water and that is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its
356 operations.

357 **A water-related use** is a use or portion of a use that is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront
358 location but whose economic viability is dependent upon a waterfront location because:

- 359 (a) The use has a functional requirement for a waterfront location such as the arrival or shipment
360 of materials by water or the need for large quantities of water; or
- 361 (b) The use provides a necessary service supportive of the water-dependent uses and the
362 proximity of the use to its customers makes its services less expensive or more convenient.

363 **A water-enjoyment use** is a recreational use or other use that facilitates public access to the
364 shoreline as a primary characteristic of the use; or a use that provides for recreational use or
365 aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline for a substantial number of people as a general characteristic of
366 the use and which, through location, design, and operation, ensures the public's ability to enjoy the
367 physical and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. ~~((In order t))~~To qualify as a water-enjoyment use,
368 the use must be open to the general public and the shoreline-oriented space within the project must
369 be devoted to the specific aspects of the use that fosters shoreline enjoyment.

370 **A water-oriented use** is a use that is water-dependent, water-related, water-enjoyment, or a
371 combination of such uses.

377 ~~((II.))~~ Shoreline Jurisdiction

378 ~~((A.))~~ King County's Responsibility to Regulate Shorelines

379 ~~((1.))~~ King County assumes primary responsibility for shoreline planning and
380 regulation

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381 King County has primary responsibility for shoreline management planning and for the administration of
382 shoreline regulations within its jurisdiction:

383 **S-101** ~~King County has primary responsibility within its boundaries for planning required by
384 the Shoreline Management Act and for administering its shoreline regulatory program.~~

387 King County recognizes that its Shoreline Master Program is subject to review and approval by the
388 Washington State Department of Ecology and that the Shoreline Master Program must be consistent
389 with the policies and provisions of the Shoreline Management Act (~~Chapter 90.58~~ Revised Code of
390 Washington ~~((90.58))~~):

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391 ~~((2.))~~ King County's Shoreline Master Program is intended to be consistent with the
392 Shoreline Management Act & Guidelines

393 King County's Shoreline Master Program is intended to be consistent with the required elements of the
394 Department of Ecology's guidelines for implementing the Shoreline Management Act that are found in
395 Chapters 173-26 and 173-27 of the Washington Administrative Code. King County's Shoreline Master
396 Program shall be interpreted consistently with the Shoreline Management Act. In the event of a conflict
397 between Shoreline Management Act and King County's Shoreline Master Program, the Shoreline Master
398 Program should be interpreted to give meaning and effect to the Shoreline Management Act.

399 **S-102))** ~~S-101 King County's Shoreline Master Program ~~((is to be))~~ shall be interpreted consistently
400 with the policies and requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (Chapter 90.58
401 Revised Code of Washington ~~((90.58))~~) and the shoreline guidelines found in Chapters
402 173-26 and 173-27 of the Washington Administrative Code.~~

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403 **~~((S-103~~ King County's Shoreline Master Program is to be interpreted consistently with the
404 required elements of the shoreline guidelines found in Chapters 173-26 and 173-27 of
405 the Washington Administrative Code.**

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406 ~~3.))~~ King County's Shoreline Master Program is to be liberally construed

407 The Shoreline Management Act explicitly provides that it is exempt from the rule of strict construction
408 and must be liberally construed to give full effect to the Act's objectives and purposes. By adopting a
409 liberal standard of construction, the state Legislature demonstrated the importance it attached to
410 protecting the shoreline and accomplishing the goals and policies of the Shoreline Management Act.
411 Consistent with this mandate, and because King County believes that accomplishing the goals and
412 objectives of the Shoreline Management Act within the county is of primary importance, the Shoreline
413 Master Program is to be liberally construed to accomplish its objectives and purpose.

414 **S-104** ~~King County's Shoreline Master Program is exempted from the rules of strict
415 construction and shall be construed liberally to give full effect to its objectives and
416 purpose.))~~

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422 ~~((B.))~~ King County's Shoreline Jurisdiction

423 ~~((1.))~~ Shoreline jurisdiction extends over all "shorelines" and "shorelines of
424 statewide significance" within unincorporated King County))

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425 The Shoreline Management Act applies to all "shorelines of the state," ~~(("Shorelines of the state" are~~
426 ~~defined to))~~ which include "shorelines" and "shorelines of statewide significance." ~~((It is important to~~
427 understand the distinction between the terms "shorelines" and "shorelines of statewide significance."
428 Both)) These terms are used throughout the Shoreline Management Act and define the scope of King
429 County's shoreline jurisdiction. The distinction is important because the Shoreline Management Act
430 imposes greater and more specific obligations when dealing with shorelines of statewide significance.
431

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432 ~~((a.))~~ "Shorelines of the state" are defined in the Shoreline Management Act as follows:
433 "Shorelines of the state" are the total of all "shorelines" and "shorelines of statewide significance"
434 within the state.

435
436 ~~b.~~ "Shorelines" ~~((Shorelines))~~ are defined in the Shoreline Management Act as follows:
437 "Shorelines" means all of the water areas of the state, including reservoirs, and their associated
438 shorelands, together with the lands underlying them; except (i) shorelines of statewide
439 significance; (ii) shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a point where the mean annual
440 flow is 20 cubic feet per second or less and the wetlands associated with such upstream
441 segments; and (iii) shorelines on lakes less than 20 acres in size and wetlands associated with
442 such small lakes.

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443
444 ~~((b.)) c.~~ "Shorelines of statewide significance." ~~((Shorelines of statewide significance,))~~ as specifically
445 defined in the Shoreline Management Act, include:

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- 446 - Those areas of Puget Sound between the ordinary high water mark and the line of extreme
447 low tides;
- 448 - Lakes, whether natural, artificial or a combination thereof, with a surface acreage of 1,000
449 acres or more measured at the ordinary high water mark; and
- 450 - Natural rivers or segments thereof downstream of a point where the mean annual flow is
451 measured at 1,000 cubic feet per second or more.

452
453 In unincorporated King County, the water bodies that qualify as shorelines of statewide
454 significance include:

- 455 - The marine waters around Vashon-Maury Island
- 456 - Northeast Lake Washington (north of Kirkland) and southwest Lake Washington (west of
457 Renton)
- 458 - Lake Sammamish at Marymoor State Park and Lake Sammamish State Park
- 459 - Mud Mountain Reservoir and White River from river mile 15.5 to river mile 46 (excluding the
460 Muckleshoot Indian Reservation between river mile 8.9 and river mile 15.5)
- 461 - Green River from its confluence with the Duwamish River to river mile 95
- 462 - Duwamish River from river mile 3.5 to river mile 5
- 463 - Chester Morse Lake (Reservoir)
- 464 - Tolt Reservoir
- 465 - Mainstem Snoqualmie River to river mile 43 and Middle Fork Snoqualmie River to river mile
466 39
- 467 - South Fork Skykomish River to river mile 30

468
469 Associated shorelands that are adjacent to shorelines of statewide significance are included within
470 the shoreline of statewide significance jurisdiction.
471

472 ~~((c.)) d. "Shorelands"~~

473 ~~((Shorelines includes "associated shorelands" which))~~ are defined in the Shoreline Management Act as
474 follows:

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475 "Shorelands" or "shoreland areas" means those lands extending landward for two hundred feet
476 in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways
477 and contiguous floodplain areas landward 200 feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and
478 river deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the
479 provisions of [Chapter 90.58 RCW].
480

481 ~~((d.)) e. Shoreline jurisdiction~~

482
483 ~~((King County's shoreline jurisdiction consists of the combination of shorelines, shorelines of statewide
484 significance, and shorelands:~~

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485
486 ~~S-105)) S-102 King County's shoreline jurisdiction extends over ((all)) the shorelines of the state ((,
487 as that term is defined in the Shoreline Management Act,)) and 100-one-hundred-year
488 floodplain of the shorelines of the state in unincorporated King County. This includes
489 ((jurisdiction over)) shorelines, shorelines of statewide significance, ((and)) shorelands,
490 floodways, and the adjacent land extending 200 feet landward from the floodway.
491~~

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492 ~~((e.)) Options to extend geographic jurisdiction over shorelines and shorelines of statewide
493 significance~~
494

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495 The Shoreline Management Act gives King County two options concerning the scope of its shoreline
496 jurisdiction:
497

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498 The first option allows the ~~((c))~~ County to include 100-year floodplains:

499 Any county or city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year flood plain to be included
500 in its master program as long as such portion includes, as a minimum, the floodway and the
501 adjacent land extending landward two hundred feet therefrom. (Revised Code of Washington
502 90.58.030(2)(d)(i))
503

504 In its original Shoreline Master Program adopted in 1977, King County included the 100-year floodplain.
505 The continued regulation of the 100-year floodplain is necessary to comply with certain federal
506 requirements under the National Flood Insurance Program. Therefore, King County continues to extend
507 its shoreline jurisdiction to cover 100-year floodplains:
508

509 ~~S-106 King County includes within its shoreline jurisdiction the 100-year floodplains of
510 shorelines of the state.~~
511

512 The second option allows the extension of shoreline jurisdiction to include land necessary for buffers for
513 critical areas that extend beyond the 200 foot shoreland jurisdiction:

514 Any city or county may also include in its master program land necessary for buffers for critical
515 areas, as defined in chapter 36.70A RCW, that occur within shorelines of the state, provided that
516 forest practices regulated under chapter 76.09 RCW, except conversions to nonforest land use,
517 on lands subject to the provisions of this subsection (2)(d)(ii) are not subject to additional
518 regulations under Chapter 90.58 RCW. (Revised Code of Washington 90.58.030(2)(d)(iii))
519

520 King County is not exercising its option to extend its shoreline jurisdiction to include lands for buffers for
521 critical areas:
522

523 ~~5-107) S-103~~ Where critical areas are located within the shorelines of the state in ~~((the))~~
524 unincorporated King County ~~((shorelands))~~, the shoreline jurisdiction shall not include
525 the critical area buffers that extend outside of the shoreline jurisdiction boundary.

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526 ~~((2.))~~ Jurisdictional map))

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527 Applying these definitions within King County has involved an extensive survey of the shoreline
528 jurisdiction, which is discussed in detail in the King County Shorelines Inventory and Characterization
529 (May 2007). The Shorelines of the State map at the end of this chapter generally shows the ~~((complete))~~
530 scope of King County's shorelines and shorelines of statewide significance.

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531 ~~((III.))~~ Shoreline Policy Goals

532 ~~((A.))~~ Introduction to Shoreline ~~((g))~~ Goals

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533 King County's shoreline has a long history of settlement because of the abundant natural resources,
534 availability of water, and usefulness as transportation routes. The shoreline also draws people to enjoy
535 the aesthetic and recreational value that marine beaches, lakes, and rivers provide. The shoreline
536 supports some of the region's most important industries, such as shipping, fishing, and tourism.
537

538 Because of the unique and irreplaceable value of the shorelines of the state, King County recognizes that
539 it is in the public interest to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions, while allowing
540 reasonable and necessary use of shorelines to support the regional economy and provide recreational
541 opportunities for the public.
542

543 The high demand for shoreline use over time has degraded shoreline ecological processes and
544 functions in many areas. Many segments of King County's shoreline jurisdiction are devoid of native
545 vegetation, the banks are hardened with additions of rock and other materials, sediment movement is no
546 longer driven by natural forces, and valuable fish and wildlife habitat is gone or impaired to a significant
547 extent. Unaltered shorelines are increasingly rare. It has become critical to restore and enhance
548 degraded shorelines.
549

550 A vast majority of the shoreline jurisdiction, particularly in the lower parts of the regional watersheds and
551 along the marine shorelines, is in private ownership, giving the residents of King County an important
552 role in protecting unique and irreplaceable shoreline values. The challenge for King County is to
553 manage these lands in a manner that protects, restores, and enhances King County's shoreline
554 jurisdiction, while respecting private property rights and protecting the public interest.
555

556 ~~((King County has established a set of general policy goals that provide overarching guidance for
557 discretionary decision-making, support shoreline regulations, and define the vision that King County has
558 for the use, protection, restoration and enhancement of the shorelines of the state. These policy goals
559 reflect the wide range of Shoreline Management Act mandates, while at the same time preserving the
560 maximum possible flexibility for King County to address the unique shoreline conditions within its
561 jurisdiction.))~~

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562 ~~((B.))~~ Statement of Applicability

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563 ~~((The Shoreline Management Act includes a requirement ((that)) for development proposals ((must)) to
564 obtain a shoreline ((substantial development)) permit. However, the Shoreline Management Act includes
565 a number of exemptions from this requirement. ((For example, proposals to construct a single family
566 residence or to construct a bulkhead to protect a single family residence are exempt from the~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

567 requirement to obtain a substantial development permit. Activities that do not require a shoreline
568 substantial development permit can; ~~Because even exempt projects can still have negative impacts,~~
569 individually and cumulatively, ~~((adversely impact adjacent properties and natural resources. King County~~
570 has both the authority and the responsibility to enforce Shoreline Master Program regulations on all uses
571 and development in the shoreline jurisdiction. In order to ensure that permit-exempt activities comply
572 with the Shoreline Management Act and the County's Shoreline Master Program;)) King County generally
573 requires applicants with exempt projects to apply for a shoreline exemption.

574
575 Because there has been confusion in the past regarding the scope of the Shoreline Management Act, ~~the~~
576 ~~Department of Ecology~~ requires that all Master Programs contain the following policy statement:))

577
578 **S-201 All proposed uses and development occurring within King County's shoreline jurisdiction**
579 **((must)) shall conform to the Shoreline Management Act and to King County's Shoreline**
580 **Master Program.**

581 **S-202 King County should require applicants with exempt projects to apply for a shoreline**
582 **exemption.**

583
584 **~~((S-904)) S-203 Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program nor in any action taken under~~**
585 **the Shoreline Master Program shall be construed to affect any Indian tribal treaty right**
586 **to which the United States is a party.**
587

588 ~~((C.))~~ Shoreline Preferred Uses

589 ~~((The Shoreline Management Act establishes mandatory preferences for uses that are unique to or~~
590 ~~dependent upon a shoreline location. ((These preferred uses apply to the entire shoreline jurisdiction;~~
591 ~~both the shorelines and shorelines of statewide significance. The Shoreline Management Act preferred~~
592 ~~uses are recognized in the following policies:~~

593
594 **S-202) S-204 In establishing and implementing shoreline policies and development regulations,**
595 **King County shall give preference to uses that are unique to or dependent upon a**
596 **shoreline location.**

597
598 **~~((S-203)) S-205 King County, when determining allowable uses and resolving use conflicts in the~~**
599 **shoreline jurisdiction, shall apply the following preferences and priorities in the order**
600 **listed below:**

- 601 a. Reserve appropriate areas for protecting and restoring shoreline ecological
602 processes and functions to control pollution and prevent damage to the natural
603 environment and to public health.
- 604 b. Reserve shoreline areas for water-dependent and associated water-related uses.
605 Harbor areas, established pursuant to Article XV of the State Constitution, and other
606 areas that have reasonable commercial navigational accessibility and necessary
607 support facilities, such as transportation and utilities, should be reserved for
608 water-dependent and water-related uses that are associated with commercial
609 navigation, unless adequate shoreline is reserved for future water-dependent and
610 water-related uses and unless protection of the existing natural resource values of
611 such areas preclude such uses. Shoreline mixed-use developments may be allowed
612 if they include and support water-dependent uses and address specific conditions
613 that affect water-dependent uses.
- 614 c. Reserve shoreline areas for other water-related and water-enjoyment uses that are
615 compatible with ecological protection and restoration objectives.
- 616 d. Locate single ~~((family))~~ detached residential uses where they are appropriate and
617 can be developed without significant impact to shoreline ecological processes and
618 functions or displacement of water-dependent uses.
- 619 e. Limit nonwater-oriented uses to those locations that are inappropriate for higher
620 priority uses or locations where the nonwater-oriented uses demonstrably
621 contribute to the objectives of the Shoreline Management Act.

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~~((S-204)) S-206 In particular circumstances, the preferred use policies, the local economic and land use conditions, and the policies and regulations that ((assure)) ensure protection of shoreline resources may result in a determination that other uses may be considered as necessary or appropriate. These other uses may be accommodated, provided that the preferred uses are reasonably provided for throughout the shoreline jurisdiction.~~

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~~((D.))~~ General Policy Goals

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~~((The Shoreline Management Act policies of protecting shoreline ecological processes and functions, fostering reasonable use, and maintaining the public right of navigation and corollary uses result in certain mandatory policy goals for the shoreline jurisdiction.~~

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~~These policies apply to both shorelines and shorelines of statewide significance. The policies are not ranked in a specific order. King County reserves the right to balance these general policies based on the unique circumstances, location and physical condition of the shoreline.~~

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~~S-205) S-207 The following policy goals shall apply to all of the shoreline jurisdiction. The goals are not ranked in importance and have been assigned a ((number)) letter for identification purposes only.
a. The use of the shoreline jurisdiction for those economically productive uses that are particularly dependent on shoreline location or use.
b. The use of the shoreline jurisdiction for public access and recreation.
c. Protection and restoration of the ecological processes and functions of shoreline natural resources.
d. Protection of the public right of navigation and corollary uses of waters of the state.
e. The protection and restoration of buildings and sites having historic, cultural, and educational value.
f. Planning for public facilities and utilities correlated with other shorelines uses.
g. Prevention and minimization of flood damage.
h. Recognizing and protecting private property rights.
i. Preferential accommodation of single ((family)) detached residential uses.
j. Coordination of shoreline management with other relevant local, state, and federal agencies and programs.~~

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~~((E.))~~ Shorelines of Statewide Significance Policy Goals

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~~((The Shoreline Management Act identifies certain shorelines as "shorelines of statewide significance" and raises their status by setting use priorities and by calling for a higher level of effort in implementing the Shoreline Master Program. The state ((t))Legislature has declared that the interest of all people shall be paramount in the management of shorelines of statewide significance.~~

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~~S-206) S-208 The interests of all people shall be paramount in the management of shorelines of statewide significance within King County.~~

~~The ((t))Legislature has established policy goals that govern shorelines of statewide significance. Significantly, these policy goals are ranked in order of preference, ((i.e.)) meaning the first goal must be given priority over all subsequent goals.~~

~~The following policy recognizes and accepts the policy goals as directed by the Shoreline Management Act for shorelines of statewide significance:~~

670
671
672
673

~~((S-207)) S-209 In developing and implementing its Shoreline Master Program for shorelines of statewide significance, King County shall give preference, in the following order of preference, to uses that:
a. Recognize and protect the statewide interest over local interest;~~

- 674 b. Preserve the natural character of the shoreline;
- 675 c. Result in long-term over short-term benefit;
- 676 d. Protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline;
- 677 e. Increase public access to publicly owned areas of the shorelines;
- 678 f. Increase recreational opportunities for the public in the shoreline; and
- 679 g. Provide for any other element as defined in Revised Code of Washington
- 680 90.58.100.

681
682 ((S-208)) S-210 In developing and implementing policies relating to shorelines of statewide
683 significance, King County shall provide for optimum implementation of policies that
684 satisfy the statewide interest.

685 ~~((F.)) State-Owned Shoreline Policy Goals~~

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686 The state also owns property within King County. The Shoreline Management Act requires that certain
687 policies be adopted with regard to shoreline land owned by the state. This is distinct from shorelines of
688 statewide significance, which may or may not be in state ownership. Because state-owned shoreline is
689 often adapted to providing recreational activities for the public, King County has given special
690 consideration to these factors in developing the Shoreline Master Program.

691 ~~G.)) E. Balancing Policy Goals~~

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692 ~~((The policy goals for the management of the shoreline jurisdiction have the potential for conflict. King~~
693 ~~County shorelines are considered among the most valuable and fragile of King County's natural~~
694 ~~resources. These shorelines are valuable for economically productive industrial and commercial uses,~~
695 ~~recreation, navigation, residential amenity, scientific research, and education. They are fragile because~~
696 ~~shorelines depend upon a balance between physical, biological, and chemical systems that may be~~
697 ~~significantly altered by both natural forces (earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, storms, droughts,~~
698 ~~floods) and human activities (industrial, commercial, residential, recreation, navigational). Unbridled use~~
699 ~~of the shorelines ultimately could destroy their utility and value for human use.~~

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700
701 **S-210)) S-211 The policy goals of King County's Shoreline Master Program relate both to the use**
702 **and protection of the extremely valuable and vulnerable shoreline resources of the**
703 **state.**

704
705 **((S-211)) S-212 King County shall accommodate in the shoreline jurisdiction all reasonable and**
706 **appropriate uses consistent with protecting against adverse effects to the public health,**
707 **the land and its vegetation and wildlife, and the waters of the state, and consistent with**
708 **public rights of navigation.**

709
710 **((S-212)) S-213 ((The policy of achieving)) Development regulations shall provide both shoreline**
711 **use and protection ((is reflected in the provision that)) by requiring permitted uses in**
712 **the shoreline jurisdiction ((shall)) to be designed and conducted in a manner to avoid or**
713 **minimize, in so far as practical, any resultant damage to the ecology and environment of**
714 **the shoreline area and the public's use of the water.**

715
716 **((S-213)) S-214 King County shall balance shoreline use and shoreline protection when meeting the**
717 **policy goals of the Shoreline Management Act.**

718
719 **((S-209)) S-215 King County should encourage and help facilitate the use of state-owned shorelines**
720 **for public recreational activities, where appropriate.**

721 ~~((H.)) Multiple Approaches to Accomplishing Policy Goals~~

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722 The policy goals in the Shoreline Master Program may be achieved through a variety of methods that go
723 beyond simply regulating development within the shoreline jurisdiction. There are a wide range of

724 non-regulatory tools available that provide incentives for property owners to work cooperatively with
725 King County to achieve these policy goals. In addition, King County works closely with other public and
726 non-profit groups to achieve mutually beneficial objectives.

727
728 **S-214) S-216 The King County Shoreline Master Program policies may be achieved by a number**
729 **of different means, both regulatory and non-regulatory. These include, but are not**
730 **limited to:**

- 731 a. Regulations controlling development within the shoreline jurisdiction;
- 732 b. Acquisition of land and easements by purchase, lease, or gift, either alone or in
- 733 concert with other local governments;
- 734 c. Accepting grants, contributions, and appropriations from any public or private
- 735 agency or individuals;
- 736 d. Public facility and park planning;
- 737 e. Watershed planning;
- 738 f. Voluntary salmon recovery projects; and
- 739 g. Incentive programs, such as the transfer of development rights or the public benefit
- 740 rating system.

741 ~~((IV.))~~ Shoreline Element Policy Goals

742 ~~((A.))~~ Need for shoreline elements

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743 The Shoreline Management Act requires local master programs to include a number of elements that
744 range from use of shorelines for economic benefit and accommodating necessary infrastructure to
745 protecting both cultural and natural resources. These elements are addressed separately throughout this
746 chapter and are based on the following overarching King County Shoreline Master Program element
747 policy goals:))

748 ~~((B.))~~ A. Economic Development Element

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749 ((King County's economy is the largest and most significant ((in the Puget Sound Region and)) among
750 counties in Washington State. With almost half of the state's nonagricultural jobs and almost 83,900
751 businesses, it is essential that the King County accommodate the industries and infrastructure to support
752 a healthy and vibrant economy. Most of the county's industry and infrastructure lies within the
753 incorporated cities and is not subject to the King County Shoreline Master Program. However, there are
754 some portions of the shoreline jurisdiction in unincorporated King County that provide for economic
755 development of the region:)) The Economic Development Element considers the location and design of
756 industries, industrial projects of statewide significance, transportation facilities, port facilities, tourist
757 facilities, commerce, and other developments that are particularly dependent on shorelines of the state.

758
759 **S-301 King County should plan for the location and design of industries, transportation**
760 **facilities, port facilities, tourist facilities, commerce, and other developments that are**
761 **particularly dependent on their location on or use of the shorelines of the state.**

762 ~~((C.))~~ B. Public Access Element

763
764 ((King County believes the shoreline should be accessible to the general public to enjoy and use within
765 the limitations of private property rights and ecological considerations. Since a significant amount of
766 shoreline property is in private ownership, the responsibility to maintain and provide public access falls
767 primarily on public projects. Not all sites are appropriate for use by the public and must be evaluated
768 carefully to ensure that public access can be safely provided without harm. Provisions should also be
769 retained and sought to provide opportunities for the public to enjoy views of the water and shoreline:))

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770 ~~The Public Access Element considers public access to publicly owned land along shorelines of the state.~~
771 ~~The King County Shoreline Public Access Plan (July 2009) provides details on the analysis of existing~~
772 ~~shoreline public access in King County, identified public access gaps and opportunities, and the~~
773 ~~resulting shoreline Public Access Plan policies.~~

- 774
775 **S-302 King County shall:**
776 **a. Support the public interest with regard to rights to access waters held in public trust**
777 **by the state, while protecting private property rights and public safety, as well as**
778 **considering impacts on shoreline ecological processes and functions.**
779 **b. Protect the rights of navigation and the space necessary for water-dependent uses.**
780 **c. To the greatest extent feasible and consistent with the overall best interest of the**
781 **state and the people generally, protect the public's opportunity to enjoy the**
782 **physical and aesthetic qualities of shorelines of the state, including views of the**
783 **water.**
784 **e. Regulate the design, construction, and operation of permitted uses in the shorelines**
785 **of the state to minimize, insofar as practical, interference with the public's use of**
786 **the water.**

787
788 ~~((When planning shoreline public access, King County should try to achieve an integrated system that~~
789 ~~can supplement, and be coordinated with, multimodal transportation planning. King County has~~
790 ~~identified areas of potential public access that will be assessed in more detail through shoreline permits~~
791 ~~and public projects. The King County Shoreline Public Access Plan (July 2009) provides details on the~~
792 ~~analysis of existing shoreline public access in King County, identified public access gaps and~~
793 ~~opportunities, and the resulting shoreline Public Access Plan.))~~

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794
795 **S-303 The King County Shoreline Master Program should increase the amount and diversity of**
796 **public access to the shoreline jurisdiction in areas identified within a shoreline public**
797 **access gap. New public access should minimize impacts to shoreline ecological**
798 **processes and functions, preserve natural shoreline character as much as possible,**
799 **protect private property rights, and consider public safety.**

800
801 **S-304 Public agencies, including local governments, port districts, state agencies, and public**
802 **utility districts, should include public access in their development proposals if public**
803 **access is compatible with the activity and can be provided safely. An assessment of the**
804 **impact of public access on the shoreline and constructed features should also be**
805 **conducted.**

806
807 **S-305 King County shall require public access to shorelines of the state for land division of five**
808 **or more lots, tracts, or parcels and (water-enjoyment, water-related, and**
809 **nonwater-dependent) for new non-residential uses (and for subdivisions of land into**
810 **more than four parcels) unless:**

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- 811 **a. The development proposal is not compatible with public access;**
812 **b. There is a safety or security concern;**
813 **c. Inclusion of public access will have an environmental impact that cannot be**
814 **mitigated; or**
815 **d. There are legal limitations on allowing public access.**

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx
(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

817 **S-306** King County shall adopt development regulations that establish maximum building
818 height limits, setbacks, and view corridors to minimize the impact to existing views
819 from public property or a substantial number of residences. Where providing direct
820 public access or allowing for water dependent shoreline uses conflicts with maintaining
821 existing views, the direct public access or water dependent shoreline uses shall have
822 priority.

823 ~~((D))~~ **C. Recreational Element**

824 Shorelines provide many opportunities for recreation, such as boating, swimming, beach combing,
825 hiking, and nature viewing. Since much of the shoreline jurisdiction is in private ownership, using public
826 lands for recreation will become increasingly important. Opportunities should be sought through public
827 projects to protect and enhance recreational opportunities. The Recreational Element identifies
828 recreational opportunities along shorelines, such as parks, tidelands, beaches, and recreational areas,
829 and that pursues acquisition through implementation of the King County Shoreline Master Program.

830
831 **S-307** King County should protect and, when possible, expand recreational opportunities,
832 including but not limited to parks, beaches, tidelands, swimming beaches, and boat
833 launches.

834
835 **S-308** King County should evaluate opportunities to acquire shoreline property for purposes
836 of public recreation from willing sellers of private property.

837 ~~((E))~~ **D. Circulation Element**

838 ~~((Circulation and transportation planning is conducted at many levels in King County. The overarching
839 transportation planning agency in the Puget Sound region is the Puget Sound Regional Council, an
840 association of cities, ((towns,)) counties, ports, and state agencies that serves as a forum for developing
841 policies and making decisions about growth and transportation issues in the Puget Sound region. At the
842 local level, cities and counties approve local circulation patterns for their individual jurisdictions. King
843 County should consider the policy goals in this Shoreline Master Program when participating in regional
844 and local transportation planning discussions.))
845 The Circulation Element consists of the general location and extent of existing and proposed major
846 thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other public utilities and facilities.~~

847
848 **S-309** The King County Shoreline Master Program should guide the ~~((c))~~County's
849 transportation plans and projects within the shoreline jurisdiction.

850 ~~((F))~~ **E. Land Use Element**

851 ~~((Land use in King County is established through implementation of the Washington State Growth
852 Management Act. To implement the Growth Management Act, King County relies primarily on the King
853 County Comprehensive Plan and functional plans that are adopted as part of this Comprehensive Plan
854 for facilities and services. This Comprehensive Plan establishes an Urban Growth Area and designates
855 land use and zoning for the unincorporated portions of King County. It also delineates and protects
856 Agricultural Production Districts, Forest Production Districts and mineral resource sites.)) The Land Use
857 Element considers the general distribution and location, as well as the extent of use on the shorelines
858 and adjacent areas for housing, business, industry, transportation, agriculture, natural resources,
859 recreation, education, public buildings and grounds, and other categories of public and private use of
860 the land.~~

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862 **S-310 The King County Comprehensive Plan should consider the policy goals of the King**
863 **County Shoreline Master Program when designating land use and zoning on shorelines**
864 **of the state and adjacent lands.**

865 ~~((G)) E.) Conservation Element~~

866 The Shoreline Management Act requires local master programs to include a conservation element for
867 the preservation of natural resources, including critical areas, scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital
868 freshwater, saltwater and estuarine areas for fish and wildlife. ~~The Conservation Element addresses the~~
869 ~~preservation of natural resources including, but not limited to, scenic vistas, aesthetics, and vital~~
870 ~~estuarine areas for fish and wildlife.~~

873 ~~((1.)) Critical areas~~

874 King County's critical areas ordinance is based on best available science and protects coal mine hazard
875 areas; erosion hazard areas; flood hazard areas; seismic hazard areas; landslide hazard areas; volcanic
876 hazard areas; steep slope hazard areas; critical aquifer recharge areas; wetlands; aquatic areas
877 (including lakes, rivers and streams and marine areas); and wildlife habitat conservation areas. The
878 Growth Management Act requires that a Shoreline Master Program provide a level of protection for
879 critical areas located within shorelines that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions
880 necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources. Policy S-403 adopts this requirement.)

881
882 Past development of the shorelines has degraded the habitat for many species by activities such as
883 armoring banks against wave action and the erosive force of water flowing downstream; removal of
884 vegetation; straightening channels; installing in-stream structures for flood control, hydroelectricity, and
885 water supply; and allowing stormwater runoff that degrades water quality. ~~(Degraded shorelines should~~
886 ~~be restored and shorelines that are in good condition should be preserved.)~~

887
888 **S-311 King County shall protect shoreline critical areas and, where possible, should restore**
889 **degraded habitat and critical area functions and values.**

890 ~~((2)) Scenic vistas)~~

891 The natural topography of King County provides numerous scenic vistas of the shoreline. King County
892 should ensure that development occurring both within and outside the shorelines of the state avoids
893 impacts on scenic vistas and protects view corridors while balancing other policy goals of this ~~(plan)~~
894 ~~program.~~

895
896 **S-312 King County should consider and, when possible, require protection of scenic vistas of**
897 **the shoreline jurisdiction when reviewing public and private development proposals.**

898 ~~((3)) Aesthetics)~~

899 Natural shorelines are visually aesthetic in their natural state. When these shorelines are altered through
900 development, the aesthetic value of the shoreline should be preserved as much as possible. In areas
901 where shorelines have already been developed with little consideration of the aesthetics, restoration
902 should return the shoreline to an aesthetically-pleasing environment.
903

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904 **S-313** King County should ensure that public and private development proposals protect and
905 restore the aesthetic quality of shorelines in the project design.

906 ~~((H))~~ **G. Historic, Cultural, Scientific, and Educational**
907 **Element**

908 The ~~((h))~~Historic, ~~((c))~~Cultural, ~~((s))~~Scientific, and ~~((e))~~Educational ~~((e))~~Element provides for protection and
909 restoration of historic resources. Historic resources include historic building, sites, objects, districts and
910 landscapes, prehistoric and historic archaeological resources, and traditional cultural places.

- 911
- 912 **S-314** Historic resources in the shoreline jurisdiction should be protected to prevent the
913 destruction of, or damage to, any site having archaeological, historic, cultural, or
914 scientific value through coordination and consultation with the appropriate **Indian**
915 **tribal, local, state, and federal authorities** ~~((, including affected Indian tribes)).~~
916 a. ~~((Sites should be protected in collaboration with appropriate Indian tribal, state,~~
917 ~~federal, and other local governments.))~~ Cooperation among public and private
918 parties ~~((is to))~~ **should** be encouraged in the identification, protection, and
919 management of cultural resources.
920 b. Where appropriate, access to such sites should be made available to parties of
921 interest. Access to such sites ~~((must))~~ **shall** be designed and managed in a manner
922 that gives maximum protection to the resource.
923 c. Opportunities for education related to archaeological, historical, and cultural
924 features should be provided where appropriate and incorporated into public and
925 private programs and development.

926

927 **S-315** King County should work with **Indian** tribal, state, federal, and local governments to
928 maintain an inventory of all known historic resources. King County shall protect these
929 inventories from public disclosure to the extent permitted or required under applicable
930 federal and state law. As appropriate, such sites should be preserved and restored for
931 study, education, and public enjoyment to the maximum possible extent.

932

933 **S-316** Provisions for historic resource preservation, restoration, and education should be
934 incorporated with open space or recreation areas in site development plans whenever
935 compatible and possible.

936

937 **S-317** Cooperation among ~~((involved private and public))~~ parties should be encouraged to
938 ~~((achieve these))~~ **protect** historic, cultural, scientific, and educational ~~((objectives))~~
939 **resources**.

940

941 **S-318** Private and public owners of historic resources should be encouraged to provide public
942 access and educational opportunities at levels consistent with long term protection of
943 both historic values and shoreline ecological processes and functions. Site-specific
944 conditions may require public site access to be restricted at times, but educational
945 means should be provided whenever possible.

946

947 **S-319** Historic resource development should be planned and carried out so as to prevent
948 impacts to the resource. Impacts to neighboring properties and other shoreline uses
949 should be limited to temporary or reasonable levels.

950

951 **S-320** Owners of historic resources are encouraged to make ~~((substantial development))~~ plans
952 known well in advance of application so that appropriate agencies, such as **Indian**
953 **tribes**, the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation,
954 ~~((Indian ((T))tribes))~~; and others, may have ample time to assess the site and make
955 arrangements to preserve historic, cultural, scientific, and educational values as
956 applicable.
957

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958 **S-321** If development is proposed adjacent to an historic resource, the proposed development
959 should be designed and operated so as to be compatible with continued protection of
960 the historic, cultural, or archaeological resource.

961 ~~((V.))~~ Shoreline ~~((Plan))~~ Master Program
962 Relationship To ~~((Other Laws))~~ County
963 Regulations

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964 ~~((A.))~~ Washington's Growth Management Act

965 The Growth Management Act, passed by the Washington State Legislature in 1990 and 1991, seeks to
966 further protect the quality of life in Washington State. The Growth Management Act requires that the
967 state's most populous and fastest growing counties and their cities prepare comprehensive land use
968 plans that anticipate growth for a 20-year horizon. Smaller communities and those communities that are
969 experiencing a slow rate of growth may choose to plan under the Growth Management Act, but are not
970 required to do so. Comprehensive Plans adopted in accordance with the Growth Management Act must
971 manage growth so that development is directed to designated urban areas and away from the Rural
972 Area and Natural Resource Lands. The Growth Management Act also requires local governments to
973 designate and protect critical areas and to identify and protect natural resource lands, which include
974 commercially significant forestry, agriculture, and mining areas. In 1997, the Washington State
975 legislature amended both the Growth Management Act and the Shoreline Management Act in an effort
976 to achieve consistency between the two statutes. Among the amendments to the Growth Management
977 Act was a provision that makes the policies and goals of the Shoreline Management Act also policies and
978 goals of the Growth Management Act. See Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.480.

979
980 **S-401** ~~The King County Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with the Washington~~
981 ~~State Growth Management Act.~~

982 ~~B.))~~ King County Countywide Planning Policies

983 King County, along with the City of Seattle, City of Bellevue, and suburban cities established the Growth
984 Management Planning Council to prepare a coordinated policy framework for future development in
985 King County. In July 1992, the Growth Management Planning Council adopted Phase 1 of the
986 Countywide Planning Policies. Phase 2 was adopted in 1994. The King County Countywide Planning
987 Policies have been ratified by a majority of the jurisdictions in King County and therefore apply to all
988 jurisdictions. The Countywide Planning Policies address critical areas, land use patterns, transportation,
989 community character and open space, affordable housing, development and provision of urban services,
990 siting of public capital facilities, economic development, and regional financing and governance.

991
992 **S-402** ~~The King County Shoreline Master Program must be consistent with and coordinated~~
993 ~~with the King County Countywide Planning Policies.~~

994 ~~C.))~~ A. Critical Areas Regulations

995 Critical areas located within shorelines are regulated under the Shoreline Management Act and
996 implemented through local Shoreline Master Programs. ~~((The Growth Management Act requires that~~
997 ~~shoreline master programs provide a level of protection for shoreline critical areas that assures no net~~
998 ~~loss of shoreline ecological functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources.~~

1000 **S-403)) S-401** The King County Shoreline Master Program ~~((and implementing regulations))~~ shall
1001 provide a level of protection for critical areas in the shoreline jurisdiction that ~~((assures))~~

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ensures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources.

~~((The Shoreline Management Act provides options for assuring consistency with the Growth Management Act protection of critical areas. These options range from including the Growth Management Act critical areas regulations in the Shoreline Master Program to preparing a discrete set of shoreline regulations:~~

~~**S-404)) S-402 The King County Shoreline Master Program includes by reference portions of the King County critical areas regulations into the Shoreline Master Program to meet the requirements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.090((3) and 90.58.090(4)).**~~

~~((D:))~~ **B. Zoning, Clearing and Grading, and Stormwater Regulations**

King County has adopted a wide array of development regulations that protect various aspects of the environment and implement other King County policies. These regulations generally include King County's surface water management regulations, clearing and grading regulations, and zoning. In the shoreline jurisdiction, the Shoreline Master Program may impose additional requirements. Shoreline ~~((development))~~ management regulations must:

1. Be sufficient in scope and detail to ensure implementation of the Shoreline Management Act ~~((statewide))~~ shoreline ~~((management))~~ policies, this chapter, and the King County Comprehensive Plan and functional plans ~~((adopted to implement the Comprehensive Plan));~~
2. Include regulations that apply to the environmental designations classified under Washington Administrative Code 173-26-211;
3. Include general regulations, specific use regulations that address issues of concern in regard to specific uses, and modification regulations;
4. Include clearing and grading and stormwater regulations that protect the ecological processes and functions of the shorelines; and
5. Design and implement regulations and mitigation standards in a manner consistent with all relevant constitutional and other legal limitations on the regulation of private property.

~~((Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100))~~

However, to the extent that it can, consistent with requirements of the Shoreline Management Act, King County will rely on its existing regulations to meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act.

~~**S-405)) S-403 To the maximum extent practical, King County's Shoreline Master Program shall rely on King County's existing regulations, including critical areas regulations, surface water management regulations, clearing and grading regulations, and zoning ((in order)) to comply with the Shoreline Management Act and the Department of Ecology's guidelines.**~~

~~((E:))~~ **C. Flood Hazard Management Plan**

The King County Flood Hazard Management Plan directs floodplain management within King County. This Plan was developed in coordination with incorporated cities within King County as directed by Revised Code of Washington 86.12.210 and is binding on each jurisdiction located within King County. The goals of the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan are:

1. To reduce the risks from flood and channel migration hazards.
2. To avoid or minimize the environmental impacts of flood hazard management.
3. To reduce the long-term costs of flood hazard management.

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1051 Flood hazard regulations are implemented within unincorporated King County. Each jurisdiction within
1052 King County is required under the Flood Hazard Management Plan to adopt flood hazard management
1053 regulations that meet the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program.

1054
1055 ~~((In 2007, the King County Council approved the formation of a countywide Flood Control Zone District
1056 under the authority in Revised Code of Washington 86.15.025. The overarching countywide strategies
1057 and objectives include:~~

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- 1058 1. Improving levee protection through major commercial, industrial and residential areas;
- 1059 2. Improving flood water conveyance and capacity;
- 1060 3. Reducing hazards by removing flood, erosion, and landslide prone residential structures;
- 1061 4. Providing safe access to homes and businesses by protecting key transportation routes;
- 1062 5. Minimizing creation of new risks to public safety from development pressure.

1063
1064 The King County Flood Control Zone District is governed by a District Board of Supervisors that consists
1065 of the members of the King County Council. ~~)) An advisory committee advises the board of supervisors of
1066 the Flood Control Zone District on regional flood protection issues by providing recommendations to
1067 the board of supervisors on the district's work program and budget, including capital improvement
1068 program projects. King County will rely on the Flood Hazard Management Plan and the Flood Control
1069 Zone District to meet the general shoreline master program provisions for flood hazard reduction in
1070 Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221((3)).~~

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1071
1072 **S-406) S-404 The King County Shoreline Master Program ((will)) shall rely on the policies and**
1073 **programs established in the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan and flood**
1074 **hazard regulations to meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act and the**
1075 **Department of Ecology's guidelines for flood hazard reduction.**

1076 ~~((VI.)) Shoreline Environment Designations~~

1077 ~~((A.)) Introduction ((to shoreline environment designations~~

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1078 ~~Shoreline management addresses a wide range of physical conditions and development settings.)) The
1079 Shoreline Master Program classifies shoreline reaches into defined environment designations, based on
1080 the existing use pattern, the current biological and physical character of the shoreline, and the goals and
1081 aspirations of the community. King County prescribes environmental protection measures, allowable
1082 use provisions, and development standards for each shoreline environment designation.~~

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1083
1084 King County has established eight shoreline environment designations:

- 1085 • ~~((A.)) High Intensity Shoreline Environment~~
- 1086 • ~~((B.)) Residential Shoreline Environment~~
- 1087 • ~~((C.)) Rural Shoreline Environment~~
- 1088 • ~~((D.)) Conservancy Shoreline Environment~~
- 1089 • ~~((E.)) Resource Shoreline Environment~~
- 1090 • ~~((F.)) Forestry Shoreline Environment~~
- 1091 • ~~((G.)) Natural Shoreline Environment~~
- 1092 • ~~((H.)) Aquatic Environment~~

1093
1094 This section sets forth the purpose, criteria, and management policies for each shoreline environment
1095 designation. The Shoreline Environment Designation map((s)) at the end of this chapter show how the
1096 environment designations apply to shoreline reaches within the shoreline jurisdiction in unincorporated
1097 King County. ~~((Shoreline areas that meet the jurisdictional criteria, but that are not mapped or
1098 designated, are assigned a Conservancy designation until the Shoreline Master Program is amended to
1099 assign a shoreline environment to that shoreline reach.))~~

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1101 **S-501** ~~Shoreline areas that are not mapped or designated; shall be assigned a Conservancy~~
1102 ~~Shoreline Environment until the Shoreline Master Program is amended to assign a~~
1103 ~~shoreline environment designation to that shoreline reach.~~

1104 **1. Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria**

1105 ~~((King County has a long history of comprehensive planning and basin planning. Beginning in the~~
1106 ~~1980s, basin plans were developed throughout the county and helped identify fragile aquatic resources.~~
1107 ~~Relying on these plans, King County has assigned zoning that is appropriate given the nature of the~~
1108 ~~resources that need protection. As a result, fragile resources generally have zoning classifications that~~
1109 ~~permit only low intensity development. King County's zoning regulations limit high intensity~~
1110 ~~development to urban areas designated under the Countywide Planning Policies and the King County~~
1111 ~~Comprehensive Plan.~~

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1112 King County recognizes, however, that zoning by itself is insufficient to determine the shoreline
1113 environment designations. ~~Other factors are also important in assuring~~) To ensure that the shoreline
1114 environment designations help King County achieve the goals of the Shoreline Management Act(
1115 These factors include;)) ~~the following factors are considered~~ for a given shoreline:

- 1117 • Existing development patterns together with zoning, the King County Comprehensive Plan
1118 land use designations and other officially adopted plans;
- 1119 • Existing shoreline ecological processes and functions and the degree of human alteration;
- 1120 • Whether the reach has a restoration priority that demonstrates it has both basin conditions
1121 and existing shoreline condition that support extra efforts to maintain shoreline ecological
1122 processes and functions and the length of such reaches;
- 1123 • ~~Indian tribal, ((F))~~ federal, state, county, ~~Indian ((tribal))~~ and municipal watershed ownership
1124 status;
- 1125 • The goals of King County residents for their shorelines as set forth in this chapter;
- 1126 • Pursuant to Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100(~~((4))~~), for state-owned shorelines the
1127 public demand for wilderness beaches and other recreational activities and for ecological
1128 study areas; and
- 1129 • Other state policies in the Shoreline Management Act and the Department of Ecology's
1130 guidelines (Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020 and ~~Chapter 173-26~~ Washington
1131 Administrative Code (~~((173-26))~~), respectively).

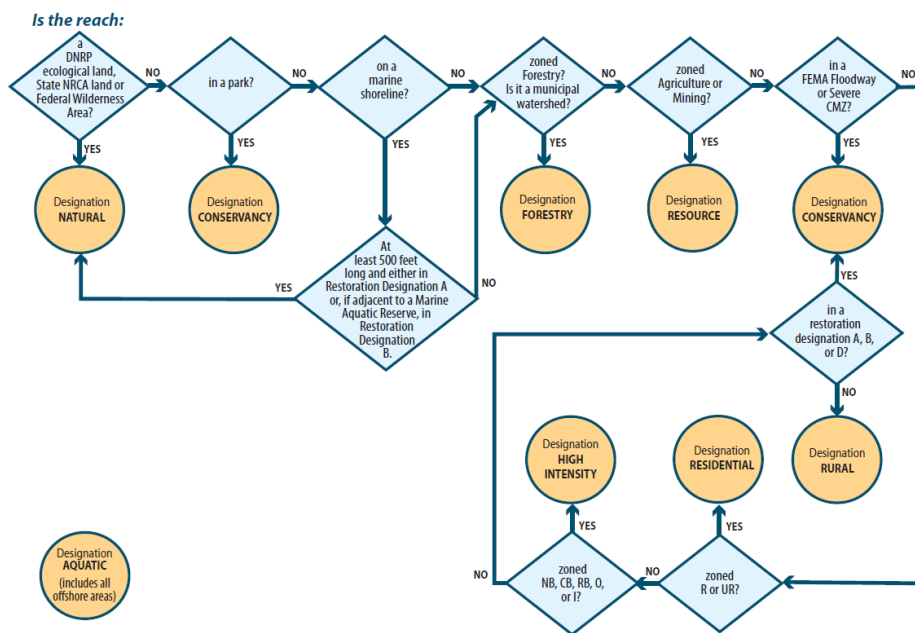
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1132 Figure S-1 depicts the decision((-))making process that is used to determine the appropriate shoreline
1133 environment designation for a given shoreline.
1134
1135

1136 Figure S-1: Pathway of decisions in applying criteria to produce shoreline environment
 1137 designations.

Flowchart for Shoreline Environment Designations



1138 The shoreline environment designations take into account several elements. Areas currently meeting the
 1139 criteria for high levels of protection are given greater levels of protection. The determination of whether
 1140 an area deserves a greater level of protection is based either on its current ownership and condition,
 1141 ((e.g.)) such as publicly owned natural areas or wilderness areas, or on its restoration rating. The
 1142 restoration rating is discussed in more detail below. Zoning is also an important criterion. King County
 1143 has for years implemented zoning as a means to protect more sensitive areas from intense development.
 1144 Shoreline environment designations also take into account whether a reach is located within a floodway
 1145 and severe channel migration hazard area and gives greater protection to these areas due to their
 1146 importance in maintaining shoreline ecological processes and functions and because of public health
 1147 and safety concerns.
 1148

1149 The restoration rating (see King County Shoreline Protection and Restoration Plan (July 2009)) is
 1150 included in the shoreline environment designation as a way to incorporate more strongly the current
 1151 degree of alteration along the shoreline, the biological importance of the reach in a watershed context,
 1152 and the restoration priorities associated with the combination of the two analyses. The restoration
 1153 ((designations)) ratings are largely concerned with whether it is most appropriate to implement measures
 1154 to protect or conserve a site, restore it to a previous condition, or undertake projects to enhance its
 1155 current condition or to create new features with shoreline ecological processes and functions. These
 1156 ratings also provide guidance on areas where it is important to protect existing shoreline ecological
 1157 processes and functions.
 1158

1159 Restoration ratings combine the reach characterization based on the results from an alterations analysis
 1160 with the context of basin analyses (See Table S-2). The reach or drift cell characterization is an

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assessment of the extent to which ecosystem structure, processes, and, ultimately, functions for a reach or drift cell are affected by anthropogenic factors. Scores resulting from this assessment are indicative of the degree to which shoreline ecological processes have been altered and impaired. The reach characterizations are found in King County Shoreline Inventory and Characterization: Methodology and Results (May 2007). The basin analysis is based on the Basin Condition Map ~~((adopted by the King County Council))~~ in King County Code 21A.24.065.

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~~Table S-2. Restoration ((scores)) ratings and associated actions.~~

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Restoration Score	Basin Condition	Reach Condition	Actions
A	High	High	Conserve, Preserve
B	High	Moderate	Conserve, Preserve, Restore, Enhance
C	High	Low	Restore, Enhance
D	Moderate	High	Conserve, Enhance, Restore, Preserve
E	Moderate	Moderate	Conserve, Enhance, Restore
F	Moderate	Low	Enhance, Restore
G	Low	High	Enhance, Conserve
H	Low	Moderate	Enhance, Create
I	Low	Low	Enhance, Create

Each ~~((designation)) rating~~ has specific restoration goals associated with it, based on the conditions observed on-site and in the basin. Depending on condition, as indicated by the degree of alteration, reaches and drift cells were placed into one of nine categories of preferred actions. These range from preservation and conservation under the highest conditions (high basin and reach conditions, ~~((i.e.,))~~ meaning the least altered from natural) to enhancement and creation under the poorest condition (low basin and reach conditions, the most altered from natural).

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The various actions are defined as follows:

Preserve - To protect intact processes, often through acquiring lands or easements to exclude activities that may negatively affect the environment.

Conserve - To maintain biodiversity by protecting or increasing the natural potential of landscapes to support multiple native species. Typically, this is accomplished through financial incentives for landowners intended to offset any economic loss resulting from managing the land for conservation.

Restore - To transform degraded conditions to a close approximation of historical conditions. Restoration generally involves more intense and extensive modification and manipulation of site conditions than would occur with enhancement projects. Example actions include levee breaching, removal, or setback.

Enhance - To improve a targeted ecological attribute and/or process. Example actions may include culvert replacement, riparian plantings and fencing, invasive species removal, and streambank stabilization.

Create - To construct or place habitat features where they did not previously exist ~~((in order))~~ to foster development of a functioning ecosystem. Examples include tidal channel excavation and the placement of dredge material intended to create marsh or other habitat. Creation represents the most experimental approach and, therefore, may have a lower degree of success, particularly when landscape-scale ecological processes are not sufficient to support the created habitat type.

The marine shoreline ~~((, which in unincorporated King County occurs only))~~ around Vashon-Maury Island ~~((,))~~ is treated a little differently than freshwater shorelines in the designation strategy. This is in

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1202 recognition of both the differing character of marine shorelines, which are subject to tidal influences,
1203 wakes from large commercial vessels, and some variation in the ecological processes affecting them, as
1204 well as the creation of the Maury Island Environmental Aquatic Reserve along Maury Island and
1205 Quartermaster Harbor shorelines by the Washington state Department of Natural Resources. More
1206 protection by shoreline designation was afforded to marine shorelines with active feeder bluffs and little
1207 alteration to processes. As a result, in these areas, areas with a restoration rating of A or B were
1208 designated natural in recognition of the importance of conserving existing shoreline ecological functions
1209 and processes in this area.

1210 ~~((B.))~~ High Intensity Shoreline Environment

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1211 Purpose

1212 ~~((The purpose of the High Intensity Shoreline Environment is to provide for high intensity water-oriented~~
1213 ~~commercial and industrial uses.))~~

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1215 **S-502** ~~The purpose of the High Intensity Shoreline Environment is to provide for high intensity~~
1216 ~~water-oriented commercial and industrial uses.~~

1217 High Intensity ~~Shoreline Environment~~ Designation Criteria

1218 ~~((S-501))~~ **S-503** A shoreline may be designated High Intensity ~~Shoreline Environment~~ if the
1219 shoreline is characterized by high intensity development or uses or is zoned
1220 Neighborhood Business (NB), Commercial Business (CB), Regional Business (RB), Office
1221 (O), or Industrial (I), and:

- 1222 a. The shoreland does not contain limitations on urban uses, such as geological
1223 hazards or flood hazards; and
- 1224 b. The shoreline does not provide important shoreline ecological processes and
1225 functions that would be significantly compromised by high intensity residential,
1226 commercial, or industrial use.

1227 High Intensity ~~Shoreline Environment~~ Management Policies~~((:))~~

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1228 ~~((S-502))~~ **S-504** In the High Intensity Shoreline Environment, King County shall give priority to
1229 non-residential land uses that are water-dependent or water-related.

1231 ~~((S-503))~~ **S-505** King County shall discourage non~~((:))~~water-oriented, non-residential land uses in
1232 the High Intensity Shoreline Environment. Shoreline mixed-use developments that
1233 include and support water dependent uses may be allowed. King County should allow
1234 non~~((:))~~water-oriented land uses in the High Intensity Shoreline Environment only in
1235 limited situations and only if they do not conflict with or limit opportunities for
1236 water-dependent uses or are located on sites where there is no direct access to the
1237 shoreline.

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1239 ~~((S-504))~~ **S-506** Prior to allowing expansion of a high intensity non~~((:))~~water-oriented use in the
1240 shoreline environment, King County shall determine that there is no feasible alternative
1241 for locating the expansion outside of the shoreline jurisdiction.

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1243 ~~((S-505))~~ **S-507** King County should require visual or physical public shoreline access to be
1244 provided ~~((whenever feasible))~~ in the High Intensity Shoreline Environment.

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1246 ~~((S-506))~~ **S-508** King County shall protect the aesthetic character of the shoreline in the High
1247 Intensity Shoreline Environment through development regulations, including sign
1248 controls, development siting criteria, screening requirements and architectural
1249 standards, landscaping requirements, and maintenance of natural vegetation.

1251 ~~((S-507)) S-509~~ King County shall require that the scale and intensity of new uses and development
1252 within the High Intensity ~~Shoreline~~ Environment is compatible with, and protects or
1253 enhances, the existing character of the area.

1254 ~~((C.)) Residential Shoreline Environment~~

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1255 Purpose

1256 ~~((The purpose of the Residential Shoreline Environment is to accommodate residential and commercial
1257 uses on a scale appropriate with urban residential zones.))~~

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1259 ~~S-510~~ The purpose of the Residential Shoreline Environment is to accommodate residential and
1260 commercial uses on a scale appropriate with urban residential zones.

1261 Residential Shoreline ~~Environment~~ Designation Criteria

1262 ~~((S-508)) S-511~~ A shoreline may be designated Residential Shoreline ~~Environment~~ if the shoreland
1263 is characterized by urban levels of residential development or uses or is zoned Urban
1264 Residential (R) or Urban Reserve (UR) and:

- 1265 a. The shoreland does not contain limitations on urban uses, such as geological
1266 hazards or flood hazards; and
- 1267 b. The shoreline ~~does~~ not provide important shoreline ecological processes and
1268 functions that would be significantly compromised by urban levels of residential
1269 development.

1270 Residential Shoreline Environment Management Policies ~~((;))~~

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1271 ~~((S-509)) S-512~~ King County shall require that the scale and intensity of new uses and development
1272 within the Residential Shoreline Environment is compatible with ~~((;))~~ and protects or
1273 enhances the existing character of the area.

1275 ~~((S-510)) S-513~~ King County should encourage ~~((public or private))~~ outdoor recreation facilities that
1276 are compatible with the character of the area in the Residential Shoreline Environment.
1277 Water-dependent and water-enjoyment recreation facilities that provide opportunities
1278 for people to access and enjoy the shoreline are preferred uses in the Residential
1279 Shoreline Environment.

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1281 ~~((S-511)) S-514~~ King County should discourage non ~~((;))~~ water-oriented commercial uses in the
1282 Residential Shoreline Environment. A non ~~((;))~~ water-oriented commercial use may be
1283 allowed as part of a shoreline mixed-use development or if the non ~~((;))~~ water-oriented
1284 use provides a substantial benefit with respect to the goals and policies of this Program,
1285 such as providing public access or restoring degraded shorelines.

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1286 ~~((D.)) Rural Shoreline Environment~~

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1287 Purpose

1288 ~~((The purpose of the Rural Shoreline Environment is to accommodate land uses normally associated with
1289 rural levels of development while providing appropriate public access and recreational uses to the
1290 maximum extent practicable.))~~

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1292 ~~S-515~~ The purpose of the Rural Shoreline Environment is to accommodate land uses normally
1293 associated with rural levels of development while providing appropriate public access and
1294 recreational uses to the maximum extent feasible.

1295 Rural Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria

1296 ~~((5-512)) S-516~~ A shoreline may be designated Rural Shoreline if the shoreland is characterized by
1297 rural levels of development or if the shoreland is zoned Rural Area (RA-2.5, RA-5, RA-10,
1298 and RA-20) and:
1299 a. The shoreland does not contain limitations on rural residential uses, such as
1300 geological hazards or flood hazards; and
1301 b. The shoreline does not provide important shoreline ecological processes and
1302 functions that would be significantly compromised by rural levels of residential
1303 development.

1304 Rural Shoreline Environment Management Policies~~((;))~~

1305 ~~((5-513)) S-517~~ King County should limit uses in the Rural Shoreline Environment to those rural
1306 development activities and associated services that sustain the shoreline's physical and
1307 biological resources and that protect options for restoration to the maximum extent
1308 ~~((practicable)) feasible~~ given the nature of rural development.

1310 ~~((5-514)) S-518~~ King County ~~((should)) shall~~ require that ~~((multi-family and multi-lot)) residential~~
1311 ~~land division~~ and recreational developments in the Rural Shoreline Environment
1312 provide public access and joint use for community recreational facilities, ~~where~~
1313 ~~appropriate.~~

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1314 ~~((E.)) Conservancy Shoreline Environment~~

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1315 Purpose

1316 ~~((The purpose of the Conservancy Shoreline Environment is to conserve areas that are a high priority for~~
1317 ~~restoration, include valuable historic properties or provide recreational opportunities.))~~

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1318 ~~S-519~~ ~~The purpose of the Conservancy Shoreline Environment is to conserve areas that are a high~~
1319 ~~priority for restoration, include valuable historic properties, or provide recreational~~
1320 ~~opportunities.~~
1321

1322 Conservancy Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria

1323 ~~((5-515)) S-520~~ A shoreline may be designated Conservancy Shoreline ~~Environment~~ if it is in an area
1324 where important shoreline ecological processes have not been substantially degraded
1325 by human activities, where important shoreline ecological processes would be
1326 degraded by development or present a public health or safety risk, or where the
1327 shoreline is in public ownership and is managed for public access or recreation. Areas
1328 that may be included in Conservancy Shoreline are:
1329 a. Shoreline reaches primarily within an identified FEMA floodway or severe channel
1330 migration hazard zone;
1331 b. Lake shorelines or river shorelines with a restoration ~~((plan)) rating of A, B, or D;~~
1332 c. Marine shorelines with a restoration ~~((plan)) rating of A, B, or D;~~ and
1333 d. Shorelines in public ownership and managed for public access or recreation.

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1334 Conservancy Shoreline Environment Management Policies~~((;))~~

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1335 ~~((5-516)) S-521~~ King County should limit uses in the Conservancy Shoreline Environment to those
1336 that sustain the shoreline area's physical and biological resources or to uses of a
1337 nonpermanent nature that do not substantially degrade the rural or natural character of
1338 the shoreline area or disturb historic and cultural resources. King County should
1339 discourage non-residential uses in the Conservancy Shoreline ~~Environment~~ except as
1340 follows:
1341 a. King County should allow aquaculture, forestry, and agriculture in the Conservancy
1342 Shoreline Environment; and

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~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1343 b. King County should allow water-dependent and water-enjoyment recreation
1344 facilities as preferred uses if significant adverse impacts to the shoreline are
1345 mitigated.
1346

1347 ((5-517)) S-522 King County shall require that new uses or development in the Conservancy
1348 Shoreline Environment preserve the existing character of the shoreline consistent with
1349 the purpose of the environment, including:

- 1350 a. Limiting the total effective impervious surface in the shoreline jurisdiction to no
1351 more than ((ten)) 10 percent ((in order)) to maintain the existing hydrologic
1352 character of the site; and
- 1353 b. Allowing more effective impervious surface coverage on lots legally created prior to
1354 the date of adoption of this update to King County's Shoreline Master Program. In
1355 these cases, effective impervious surface coverage shall be limited to the maximum
1356 extent ((practicable)) feasible.

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1357 ((F.)) Resource Shoreline Environment

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1358 Purpose

1359 ((The purpose of the Resource Shoreline Environment is to allow for mining and agricultural uses on
1360 lands that have been designated under the Growth Management Act as agricultural lands of long-term
1361 commercial significance or mineral resource lands where those lands do not provide significant
1362 shoreline ecological processes and functions.))

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1363 S-523 The purpose of the Resource Shoreline Environment is to allow for mining and agricultural
1364 uses on lands that have been designated under the Growth Management Act as agricultural
1365 lands of long-term commercial significance or mineral resource lands where those lands do
1366 not provide significant shoreline ecological processes and functions.
1367

1368 Resource Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria

1369 ((5-518)) S-524 A shoreline may be designated Resource Shoreline Environment if the shoreland is
1370 zoned Agriculture or Mineral and the shoreline is not designated Natural Shoreline
1371 Environment under Policy S-525.

1372 Resource Shoreline Environment Management Policies((:))

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1373 ((5-519)) S-525 King County should limit uses in the Resource Shoreline Environment to agricultural
1374 and mining activities.

1375 ((5-520)) S-526 King County shall adopt development standards for the Resource Shoreline
1376 Environment to preserve the existing character of the shoreline consistent with the
1377 purpose of the environment.
1378
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1380 ~~((G.))~~ Forestry Shoreline Environment

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1381 Purpose

1382 ~~((The purpose of the Forestry Shoreline Environment is to allow for forestry uses in the Forest Production~~
1383 ~~District and to protect municipal watersheds.))~~

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1385 ~~**S-527** The purpose of the Forestry Shoreline Environment is to allow for forestry uses in the Forest~~
1386 ~~Production District and to protect municipal watersheds.~~

1387 Forestry Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria

1388 ~~((S-521)) S-528 A shoreline may be designated Forestry Shoreline Environment if the shoreland is~~
1389 ~~within the Forest Production District and the shoreline is not designated as a Natural~~
1390 ~~Shoreline or a Conservancy Shoreline Environment.~~

1391 Forestry Shoreline Environment Management Policies ~~((;))~~

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1392 ~~((S-522)) S-529 King County shall require forest practices in the Forestry Shoreline Environment to~~
1393 ~~comply with standards that provide protection for shoreline ecological processes and~~
1394 ~~functions equal to or greater than the forest practice rules adopted by the Washington~~
1395 ~~State Department of Natural Resources ((and in effect on January 1, 2007)).~~

1397 ~~((S-523)) S-530 King County shall allow activities related to the direct management and delivery of~~
1398 ~~municipal domestic water supplies in the Forestry Shoreline Environment only when~~
1399 ~~consistent with municipal domestic water supply best management practices.~~

1401 ~~((S-524)) S-531 King County shall allow agricultural and aquaculture uses within the Forestry~~
1402 ~~Shoreline Environment if the use is subject to appropriate limitations or conditions to~~
1403 ~~ensure that the use does not expand or alter practices in a manner inconsistent with the~~
1404 ~~purpose of the designation.~~

1405 ~~((H.))~~ Natural Shoreline Environment

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1406 Purpose

1407 ~~((The purpose of the Natural Shoreline Environment is to protect those shoreline areas that are relatively~~
1408 ~~free of human influence and are of high ecological quality. This designation allows only very low~~
1409 ~~intensity uses ((in order)) to maintain the existing high levels of ecological process and function.))~~

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1411 ~~**S-532** The purpose of the Natural Shoreline Environment is to protect those shoreline areas that~~
1412 ~~are relatively free of human influence and are of high ecological quality. This designation~~
1413 ~~allows only very low intensity uses to maintain the existing high levels of ecological~~
1414 ~~process and function.~~

1415 Natural Shoreline Environment Designation Criteria

1416 ~~((S-525)) S-533 A shoreline may be designated Natural Shoreline Environment if the shoreline is:~~
1417 ~~a. Of high ecological quality and is performing an important, irreplaceable ecological~~
1418 ~~process or function that would be damaged by human activity;~~
1419 ~~b. Unable to support new development or uses without significant adverse impacts to~~
1420 ~~shoreline ecological processes and functions or risk to human safety;~~
1421 ~~c. A federally designated wilderness area or in an area managed by the King County~~
1422 ~~Department of Natural Resources and Parks as natural lands; or~~

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx
(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

1423 d. A marine shoreline reach that extends at least five hundred feet along the ordinary
1424 high water mark and either has a restoration plan rating of A or has a restoration
1425 plan rating of B and is located adjacent to the Maury Island Marine Aquatic Reserve.

1426 Natural Shoreline Environment Management Policies((-:))

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1427 ((5-526)) S-534 King County shall not allow new shoreline armoring in the Natural Shoreline
1428 Environment.

1429 ((5-527)) S-535 King County shall ((not allow)) prohibit the following new uses in the Natural
1430 Shoreline Environment:

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- 1431 a. Commercial uses;
- 1432 b. Industrial uses;
- 1433 c. Nonwater-oriented recreation uses that require shoreline modification ((in order))
1434 to provide shoreline access;
- 1435 d. Mining and associated facilities, such as docks, piers, and loading facilities; and
- 1436 e. Transportation facilities, utility corridors, and parking areas that can be located
1437 outside of the Natural Shoreline Environment.

1438 ((5-528)) S-536 King County may allow single ((family)) detached residential development in the
1439 Natural Shoreline Environment as a shoreline conditional use if the scale and intensity of
1440 the use is limited to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions and is
1441 consistent with the purpose of the environment. King County shall require new
1442 subdivisions and short((-:)) subdivisions in the Natural Shoreline Environment to locate
1443 new structures and impervious surfaces outside of the shoreline jurisdiction to the
1444 maximum extent ((practicable)) feasible.

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1445 ((5-529)) S-537 King County shall allow scientific, historical, cultural, and educational research uses
1446 in the Natural Shoreline Environment if no significant ecological impact on the area will
1447 result.

1448 ((5-530)) S-538 Except for removal of noxious weeds or invasive vegetation as provided for in
1449 S-((-645))635, King County shall not allow vegetation removal in the Natural Shoreline
1450 Environment that will reduce the capability of vegetation to perform normal ecological
1451 processes and functions.

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1452 ((5-531)) S-539 King County shall allow agricultural and aquaculture uses of a very low intensity
1453 nature within the Natural Shoreline Environment if the use is subject to appropriate
1454 limitations or conditions to ensure that the use does not expand or alter practices in a
1455 manner inconsistent with the purpose of the designation.

1456 ((5-532)) S-540 King County shall allow passive and low((-:)) impact recreational activities in the
1457 Natural Shoreline Environment. New passive and low impact recreation activities shall
1458 use designs that avoid or minimize impacts to shoreline processes and functions.
1459 Maintenance of trails and campsites shall minimize disturbance, and restoration of
1460 impacted areas is encouraged.

1461 ((5-533)) S-541 King County should use tax incentives, easements, and buyouts to protect
1462 shorelines in the Natural Shoreline Environment with important fish and wildlife habitat
1463 at risk from moderate to high intensity development.

1471 ((I.)) Aquatic Environment

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1472 Purpose

1473 ((The purpose of the Aquatic Environment is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics
1474 and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark.))

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S-542 The purpose of the Aquatic Environment is to protect, restore, and manage the unique characteristics and resources of the areas waterward of the ordinary high water mark.

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Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment Designation Criteria

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~~((S-534)) S-543~~ A shoreline shall be designated Aquatic if it is waterward of the ordinary high water mark ((of the shoreline)).

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Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment Management Policies((:))

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~~((S-535)) S-544~~ King County shall allow new in-water and over-water structures in the Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment only for water-dependent uses, public access, or ecological restoration.

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~~((S-536)) S-545~~ King County shall limit the size of new over-water structures in the Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment to the minimum necessary to support the structure's intended use.

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~~((S-537)) S-546~~ King County shall encourage multiple uses of over-water facilities in the Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment ((in order)) to reduce the impacts of shoreline development and increase the effective use of water resources.

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~~((S-538)) S-547~~ King County shall require all developments and uses on navigable waters or their beds in the Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment to be located and designed to minimize interference with surface navigation, to consider impacts to public views, and to allow for the safe, unobstructed passage of fish and wildlife and materials necessary to create or sustain their habitat, particularly those species dependent on migration.

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~~((S-539)) S-548~~ King County shall not allow uses in the Aquatic ((Shoreline)) Environment that adversely impact the ecological processes and functions of critical saltwater and freshwater habitats, except when necessary to achieve the objectives of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020, and then only when the adverse impacts are mitigated according to the sequence described in Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201((2)(e)) as necessary to ((assure)) ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.

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~~((S-540)) S-549~~ King County shall consider the guidance in the Maury Island Aquatic Reserve Management Plan in making decisions about permitted uses in the shoreline jurisdiction.

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((VII.)) Environment Protection Policies

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((A.)) General Environmental Protection Policy Goals

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~~((The Department of Ecology's guidelines recognize that shoreline ecological processes and functions may be impaired not only by shoreline developments that are required to obtain shoreline substantial development permits, but also by past actions, unregulated activities, and developments that are exempt from the shoreline substantial development permit requirements. The loss or degradation of shoreline ecological processes and functions from any of these activities can significantly impact shoreline natural resources and may also adversely impact human health and safety.))~~

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The concept of ecological processes and functions recognizes that any ecological system is composed of a wide variety of interacting physical, chemical, and biological processes. These processes are interdependent in varying degrees and at different scales, and that result in the landscape, habitats and

1524 species as they exist at any time. Ecological functions are the work performed or roles played
1525 individually or collectively within ecosystems by these processes.
1526
1527 Nearly all shoreline areas, even substantially developed or degraded areas, retain important ecological
1528 processes and functions that contribute to the survival and successful reproduction of plants and
1529 animals. For example, an intensely developed harbor area may also have an important function as a fish
1530 migration corridor and feeding area critical to species survival. In addition, ecosystems are
1531 interconnected and many species may depend on the functioning of multiple systems for critical
1532 resources. As examples, anadromous fish depend upon the viability of freshwater, marine, and
1533 terrestrial shoreline ecosystems, and many wildlife species associated with shorelines depend on the
1534 functioning of both terrestrial and aquatic environments. Therefore, the policies for protecting and
1535 restoring ecological processes and functions should apply to the maximum extent practical to all
1536 shoreline areas, not just those that remain relatively unaltered.

1537
1538 **1. Cumulative Impacts and "No Net Loss" of Ecological Processes and**
1539 **Functions**

1540 The Shoreline Management Act requires that King County's Shoreline Master Program achieve no net
1541 loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions from new uses or development, and that it address
1542 the cumulative impacts on shoreline ecology that would result from future shoreline development. ~~((The~~
1543 ~~Shoreline Management Act also requires local governments to plan for restoration of shoreline~~
1544 ~~ecological processes and functions where they have been impaired, thus working towards actual~~
1545 ~~improvement in shoreline ecological processes and functions.))~~ The following policies ensure that King
1546 County will address cumulative impacts of existing and proposed shoreline development and work
1547 towards improving shoreline ecological processes and functions.
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1549 ~~((S-608)) S-601~~ **The ((King County)) Shoreline Master Program shall consider the cumulative impacts**
1550 **of reasonably foreseeable future development to ensure no net loss of shoreline**
1551 **ecological processes and functions.**

1552 ~~((S-601)) S-602~~ **King County shall ensure that new uses, development, and redevelopment within**
1553 **the shoreline jurisdiction do not cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and**
1554 **functions.**

1555 ~~((S-609)) S-603~~ **The Shoreline Master Program is intended to fairly allocate the burden of**
1556 **addressing cumulative impacts. King County should adopt policies and regulations that**
1557 **are designed to avoid the need for individualized cumulative impacts analysis for**
1558 **commonly occurring and planned development.**

1559 ~~((S-602))~~ ~~King County should protect shorelines and conduct restoration in areas that have been~~
1560 ~~previously degraded.))~~

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1561 ~~((S-603)) S-604~~ **King County shall require shoreline uses and modifications to be designed and**
1562 **managed to prevent degradation of water quality and alteration of natural**
1563 **hydrographic conditions to the maximum extent practical.**

1564 ~~((S-604))~~ ~~King County's Shoreline Master Program shall include regulations and mitigation~~
1565 ~~standards to ensure that permitted and exempt developments in the aggregate will not~~
1566 ~~cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.))~~

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1567 **S-605** ~~((King County's))~~ **The Shoreline Master Program ((goals and policies ((will)) shall**
1568 **promote restoration of impaired shoreline ecological processes and functions. Policies**
1569 **and programs and non-regulatory actions that contribute to restoration goals ((will))**
1570 **shall be identified. King County should consider the direct and indirect effects of**
1571 **regulatory or non-regulatory programs of other local, state, and federal governments,**
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as well as any restoration effects that may result from shoreline ((development))
management regulations and mitigation standards.

~~S-606~~ The King County Shoreline Master Program identifies restoration opportunities and
planning elements that together should improve the overall condition of habitat and
resources within the shoreline jurisdiction.

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S-607 King County should provide options for property-specific technical assistance and
tailored applications of shoreline management regulations through Rural Stewardship
Plans for single ((family)) detached residential uses in the upland areas of the Rural,
Conservancy and Natural Shoreline Environments. Rural Stewardship Plans must be
consistent with the goals of the Shoreline Management Act and King County Shoreline
Protection and Restoration Plan, and ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological
processes and functions.

~~S-611~~) S-606 When updating the Shoreline Master Program, King County should analyze
proposed policies and regulations to determine whether they will cause cumulative
adverse impacts to the shoreline and consider how such impacts may be avoided. The
evaluation of cumulative impacts should consider:
a. Current condition of the shorelines and associated natural processes;
b. Reasonably foreseeable future development and shoreline uses;
c. An appropriate evaluation of the effect on shoreline ecological processes and
functions caused by unregulated activities, development exempt from permitting,
and effects such as the incremental impact of residential bulkheads, residential
piers, or runoff from newly developed properties; and
d. Beneficial effects of any established regulatory programs under other local, state,
and federal laws.

~~S-612~~) S-607 King County should use the shoreline permitting or shoreline conditional use
permitting processes for development proposals that may have impacts that cannot be
anticipated or uncommon impacts that have not been considered or identified at time of
adoption of the ((King County)) Shoreline Master Program to ensure that all impacts are
addressed and that there is no net loss of shoreline ecological function ((of the
shoreline)) after mitigation.

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~~S-613~~) S-608 King County shall consider and address cumulative impacts of shoreline
development on shoreline ecological processes and functions and on shoreline uses
given priority under Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington ((Chapter 90.58)).

~~S-616~~) S-609 King County shall apply mitigation measures in the following sequence of steps
listed in order of highest priority to lowest priority ((in evaluating the impacts of
development and redevelopment on critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction)):
a. Avoid the impacts altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
b. Minimize impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its
implementation by using appropriate technology or by taking affirmative steps to
avoid or reduce impacts;
c. Rectify impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
d. Reduce or eliminate the impacts over time by preservation and maintenance
operations;
e. Compensate for impacts by replacing, enhancing, or providing substitute resources
or environments; and
f. Monitor the impact and the compensation projects and taking appropriate
corrective measures.

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~~2.2~~) Ongoing Evaluation, Review of Cumulative Impacts and Duty to Update

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((King County will periodically review the Shoreline Master Program and make amendments that it
determines are necessary to reflect changing local circumstances, new information and improved data,

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(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1635 and to meet the requirements of Revised Code of Washington 90.58.080 and applicable guidelines.
1636 King County will also monitor actions taken to implement the Shoreline Master Program and the
1637 shoreline conditions to inform updates of Shoreline Master Program provisions and improve shoreline
1638 management over time.

1639
1640 ~~**S-614)) S-610 King County shall periodically review and amend its Shoreline Master Program**~~
1641 ~~**using a process that inventories and ensures meaningful understanding of current and**~~
1642 ~~**potential ecological processes and functions provided by affected shorelines.**~~

1643 ~~**((B.)) Shoreline Critical Areas**~~

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1644 ~~**((1.)) Standard for protection under the Shoreline Management Act**~~

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1645 The Growth Management Act requires King County to protect the functions and values of critical areas,
1646 which are defined as wetlands, critical aquifer recharge areas, frequently flooded areas, geologically
1647 hazardous areas, and fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas. Critical areas located within the
1648 shoreline jurisdiction are protected under the Shoreline Master Program rather than the Growth
1649 Management Act. The Shoreline Master Program provides a level of protection for critical areas to
1650 ~~((assure)) ensure~~ no net loss of shoreline ecological functions. In addition, the Shoreline Management
1651 Act requires King County to give optimum protection of shorelines of ~~((state-wide)) statewide~~
1652 significance. The King County Comprehensive Plan ~~((and functional plans ((adopted as elements of the~~
1653 ~~King County Comprehensive Plan))~~ also guides the protection of critical areas within the shoreline
1654 jurisdiction.

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1655 ~~**((2.)) Use of scientific and technical information**~~

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1656 The Shoreline Management Act requires local governments to use scientific and technical information
1657 when establishing protection measures for critical areas. To achieve this requirement, King County has,
1658 to the extent feasible:

- 1659 1. Used a systematic interdisciplinary approach that ensures the integrated use of the natural
1660 and social sciences and the environmental design arts;
- 1661 2. Consulted with and obtained the comments of any federal, state, regional, or local agency
1662 having any special expertise with respect to environmental impacts;
- 1663 3. Considered all plans, studies, surveys, inventories, and systems of classification made or
1664 being made by federal, state, regional, or local agencies, by private individuals, or by
1665 organizations dealing with King County shorelines;
- 1666 4. Used all available information regarding hydrology, geography, topography, ecology,
1667 economics, and other pertinent data; ~~and~~
- 1668 5. Employed, when possible, all appropriate, modern scientific data processing and computer
1669 techniques to store, index, analyze, and manage the information gathered.

1670
1671 King County has reviewed and synthesized a wide range of scientific information resulting in regulatory
1672 standards based on the best available science for the protection of critical areas. In addition, King
1673 County considered ~~((state,)) Indian tribal, state,~~ and federal programs to provide a full spectrum of
1674 planning and regulatory measures to guide critical areas protection in shorelines.

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1675
1676 ~~**((S-615)) S-611 In considering development regulations to protect shoreline ecological processes**~~
1677 ~~**and functions, King County shall consider the scientific and technical information**~~
1678 ~~**contained in functional plans, ((adopted to implement the Comprehensive Plan,**~~
1679 ~~**adopted)) watershed plans, ((King County)) critical areas regulations, and ((state,))**~~
1680 ~~**Indian tribal, state, and federal programs.**~~

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1682 ~~((In order t))To ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions resulting from~~
1683 development proposed in shoreline critical areas, the King County Shoreline Master Program requires

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1684 that development proposals analyze the environmental impacts of the proposal and consider measures
1685 to avoid, if possible, and then mitigate for the adverse environmental impacts:))

1686 ~~((3.))~~ Wetlands

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1687 ~~((When determining allowed uses within wetlands and their buffers in shorelines of the state,~~
1688 ~~consideration should be given to those uses that would result in no net loss of wetland area and wetland~~
1689 ~~function. Consideration should be given to specific uses that are likely to positively impact the physical,~~
1690 ~~chemical, and biological processes that create and sustain wetlands.~~

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1691
1692 **S-617)) S-612 King County wetland regulations shall address the following uses to achieve, at a**
1693 **minimum, no net loss of wetland area and functions:**

- 1694 a. **Removal, excavation, grading, or dredging of soil, sand, gravel, minerals, organic**
1695 **matter, or material of any kind;**
- 1696 b. **Dumping, discharging, or filling with any material, including discharges of**
1697 **stormwater and domestic, commercial, or industrial wastewater;**
- 1698 c. **Draining, flooding, or disturbing of the open water level, duration of inundation, or**
1699 **groundwater table;**
- 1700 d. **Driving of pilings;**
- 1701 e. **Placing of obstructions;**
- 1702 f. **Construction, reconstruction, demolition, or expansion of any structure;**
- 1703 g. **Significant vegetation removal, except for non-conversion forest practices**
1704 **regulated under Chapter 76.09 Revised Code of Washington ((chapter 76.09));**
- 1705 h. **Other uses or development that results in a significant ecological impact to the**
1706 **physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of wetlands; and**
- 1707 i. **Activities reducing the functions of buffers.**

1708
1709 ~~((Wetlands shall be categorized based on rarity, irreplaceability, or sensitivity to disturbance, as well as~~
1710 ~~the functions the wetland provides. The Shoreline Management Act provides the option of using~~
1711 ~~specified wetland rating systems or developing a regionally specific system, provided the system is~~
1712 ~~scientifically based and provides a method to distinguish wetland quality and function. King County~~
1713 ~~adopted the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington for use in categorizing~~
1714 ~~wetlands under the Growth Management Act critical areas development standards.~~

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1715
1716 **S-618)) S-613 King County shall categorize wetlands within shorelines of the state as provided for**
1717 **in Chapter 5((:)), Environment((, of the King County Comprehensive Plan)).**

1718
1719 ~~((The King County Shoreline Master Program provisions that would allow limited alterations to wetlands~~
1720 ~~shall be consistent with the policy of no net loss of wetland area and functions, wetland rating, and~~
1721 ~~scientific and technical information.~~

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1722
1723 **S-619)) S-614 King County should allow alterations to wetlands only if there is no net loss of**
1724 **wetland functions and values and the alteration is consistent with the critical areas**
1725 **regulations.**

1726
1727 ~~((The King County Shoreline Master Program requires buffers be delineated and protected around~~
1728 ~~wetlands. The size of the wetland buffer is based on the classification of the wetland and its~~
1729 ~~characteristics and whether the wetland is located within or outside of the Urban Growth Area.~~
1730 ~~Mitigation measures have been established to obtain a reduced buffer width in return for added~~
1731 ~~measures to address light, noise, toxic runoff, change in water regime, pets and human disturbance,~~
1732 ~~dust, and degraded buffer condition. Other modifications to buffer widths are allowed through buffer~~
1733 ~~averaging. Circumstances, such as the presence of threatened or endangered species or proximity to~~
1734 ~~steep slopes, may authorize increased buffer widths.~~

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1735
1736 **S-620)) S-615 King County shall delineate buffers around wetlands to protect and maintain**
1737 **wetland functions. Buffer widths shall be based on wetland category, ecological**

1738 **function, characteristics and setting, potential impacts with adjacent land use, and other**
1739 **relevant factors.**

1741 ~~((The King County Shoreline Master Program requires that mitigation measures achieve equivalent or~~
1742 ~~greater wetland functions including, but not limited to, habitat complexity, connectivity and other~~
1743 ~~biological functions, and seasonal hydrological dynamics. Preferential consideration is given to measures~~
1744 ~~that replace the impacted functions directly and in the immediate vicinity of the impact.~~

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1746 **S-621** ~~In determining appropriate mitigation measures applicable to shoreline development,~~
1747 ~~the mitigation sequencing requirements described in Washington Administrative Code~~
1748 ~~173-26-201((2)(e)) require that lower priority measures shall be applied only where~~
1749 ~~higher priority measures are determined to be infeasible or inapplicable.~~

1750
1751 King County may authorize alternative compensatory mitigation within the watershed that addresses
1752 limiting factors or identified critical needs for shoreline resource conservation based on watershed or
1753 comprehensive resource management plans applicable to the area of impact. Authorization of
1754 compensatory mitigation measures may require appropriate safeguards, terms, or conditions as
1755 necessary to ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.

1756
1757 **S-622)) S-616** ~~King County may allow compensatory mitigation only after a mitigation sequence is~~
1758 ~~applied ((see) consistent with Policy S-((616))609 and higher priority means of~~
1759 ~~mitigation are determined to be infeasible.~~

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- 1760 a. **Compensatory mitigation replacement ratios or other mitigation provisions shall**
- 1761 **consider:**
 - 1762 1. **The risk of failure of the compensatory mitigation action;**
 - 1763 2. **The length of time the compensatory mitigation action will take to replace**
 - 1764 **adequately the impacted wetland functions and values; and**
 - 1765 3. **The gain or loss of the type, quality, and quantity of the ecological functions of**
 - 1766 **the compensation.**
- 1767 b. **Performance standards shall be established to evaluate the success of**
- 1768 **compensatory mitigation.**
- 1769 c. **Long-term monitoring shall be required to determine if performance standards are**
- 1770 **met.**
- 1771 d. **Long-term protection and management shall be required for compensatory**
- 1772 **mitigation sites.**

1773 ~~((4.))~~ **Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas**

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1774 King County has classified and mapped critical aquifer recharge areas according to the vulnerability of
1775 the aquifer. Vulnerability is the combined effect of hydrogeological susceptibility to contamination and
1776 the contamination loading potential. High vulnerability is indicated by land uses that contribute
1777 contamination that may degrade groundwater and by hydrogeologic conditions that facilitate
1778 degradation. Low vulnerability is indicated by land uses that do not contribute contaminants that will
1779 degrade groundwater and by hydrogeologic conditions that do not facilitate degradation. ~~((Critical~~
1780 ~~aquifer recharge areas are required to be protected under the Growth Management Act as a critical~~
1781 ~~area.~~

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1782
1783 **S-623)) S-617** ~~The King County Shoreline Master Program shall protect critical aquifer recharge~~
1784 ~~areas consistent with the King County Comprehensive Plan and critical areas~~
1785 ~~regulations.~~

1786 ~~((5.))~~ **Geologically Hazardous Areas**

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1787 Geologically hazardous areas include areas susceptible to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other
1788 geological processes and events. They pose a threat to the health and safety of residents when
1789 incompatible commercial, residential, or industrial development is sited in areas of significant hazard.
1790 Some geological hazards can be reduced or mitigated by engineering, design, or modified construction

1791 or mining practices, so that risks to health and safety are acceptable. When technology cannot reduce
1792 risks to acceptable levels, building in geologically hazardous areas is best avoided. Under the King
1793 County Shoreline Master Program, geologically hazardous areas include:

- 1794 • ((1-)) Alluvial fan hazard areas;
- 1795 • Channel migration zones;
- 1796 • Erosion hazard areas;
- 1797 • ((2-)) Landslide hazard areas;
- 1798 • ((3-)) Seismic hazard areas;
- 1799 • ((4-)) Coal mine hazard areas;
- 1800 • ((5-)) Volcanic hazard areas;
- 1801 • Tsunami hazard area; and
- 1802 • ((6-)) Steep slope hazard areas.

1803
1804 The following policies to protect health and safety and also to reduce the loss of shoreline ecological
1805 processes and functions apply to geological hazardous areas located within the shoreline jurisdiction.

1806
1807 ~~((S-624 — Development regulations for geologically hazardous areas shall meet the minimum
1808 requirements in Washington Administrative Code 365-190-120.~~

1809
1810 ~~S-625)) S-618 King County shall prohibit development and new lot creation in geologically
1811 hazardous areas if it would result in increased risk of injury to people or property
1812 damage, consistent with King County Code ((c))Chapter 21A.24.~~

1813
1814 ~~((S-626 — King County shall prohibit new development that requires structural stabilization in
1815 geologically hazardous areas. Stabilization will be allowed in these areas only if the
1816 stabilization is necessary to protect existing allowed uses, there is no alternative
1817 location available, and no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions will
1818 result. Stabilization measures shall conform to Washington Administrative Code
1819 173-26-231.~~

1820
1821 ~~S-627 — King County may allow stabilization structures or measures in geologically hazardous
1822 areas to protect existing primary residential structures, if there are no alternatives,
1823 including relocation or reconstruction of the residential structure, the stabilization is in
1824 conformance with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231, and no net loss of
1825 shoreline ecological processes and functions will result.))~~

1826
1827 ~~6.7) Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas~~

1828 ~~((King County is required by the Growth Management Act to protect fish and wildlife habitat
1829 conservation areas as critical area. The Washington State Department of Commerce adopted guidelines
1830 to assist local governments in designating critical areas, including fish and wildlife habitat conservation
1831 areas. The Department of Commerce guidelines are designed to define and protect areas necessary to
1832 maintain species in suitable habitats within their natural geographic distribution, at least in part so that
1833 isolated subpopulations are not created.)) The Department of Commerce identifies the following areas
1834 as being suitable for fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas:~~

- 1835 1. Areas with which endangered, threatened, and sensitive species have a primary association;
- 1836 ~~((areas critical for habitat connectivity;))~~
- 1837 2. Habitats and species of local importance;
- 1838 3. Commercial and recreational shellfish areas;
- 1839 4. Kelp and eelgrass beds; herring, smelt and sand lance spawning areas;
- 1840 5. Naturally occurring ponds under twenty acres and their submerged aquatic beds that
1841 provide fish or wildlife habitat;
- 1842 6. Waters of the state;
- 1843 7. Lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers planted with game fish by an Indian tribal or other
1844 governmental ~~((or Indian ((T))tribal))~~ entity; or

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~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1845 8. State natural area preserves and natural resource conservation areas.
1846
1847 The King County Comprehensive Plan and its development regulations protect the functions and values
1848 of fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas through its provisions governing aquatic areas and wildlife
1849 habitat conservation areas.
1850

1851 The Department of Ecology’s guidelines divide fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas into critical
1852 saltwater and critical freshwater habitats.
1853

1854 *a. Critical saltwater habitat*

1855 Critical saltwater habitats include all kelp beds, eelgrass beds, spawning and holding areas for forage
1856 fish, such as herring, smelt and sand lance; subsistence, commercial and recreational shellfish beds;
1857 mudflats, spits, intertidal habitats with vascular plants~~(-);~~ and areas with which priority species have a
1858 primary association. Critical saltwater habitats include both the shorelines and the adjacent submerged
1859 areas.
1860

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1861 ~~((S-628)) S-619 King County shall provide a high level of protection to critical saltwater habitats due~~
1862 ~~to the important ecological functions they provide.~~
1863

1864 ~~((S-629)) S-620 Protection and restoration of critical saltwater habitats should integrate~~
1865 ~~management of shorelands as well as submerged areas.~~
1866

1867 Comprehensive planning for the protection and restoration of critical saltwater habitat should include
1868 state resource agencies, local and regional government entities including, but not limited to, *affected*
1869 *Indian tribes*, the Port of Seattle, ~~((and))~~ Sound Transit~~((, and affected Indian tribes)).~~ To reverse the
1870 impacts from development on critical saltwater habitats, the King County Shoreline Master Program
1871 should look for opportunities to restore critical saltwater shorelines and protect them from further
1872 degradation. All resources should be reviewed and considered.
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- 1874 ~~((S-630)) S-621 As part of its management planning for critical saltwater habitats, King County~~
1875 ~~should include an evaluation of current data and trends regarding:~~
1876 **a. Available inventory and collection of necessary data regarding physical**
1877 **characteristics of the habitat, including upland conditions, and any information on**
1878 **species population trends;**
1879 **b. Terrestrial and aquatic vegetation;**
1880 **c. The level of human activity in such areas, including the presence of roads and level**
1881 **of recreational types. Passive or active recreation may be appropriate for certain**
1882 **areas and habitats;**
1883 **d. Restoration potential;**
1884 **e. Tributaries and small streams flowing into marine waters;**
1885 **f. Dock and bulkhead construction, including an inventory of bulkheads serving no**
1886 **protective purpose;**
1887 **g. Conditions and ecological function in the near-shore area;**
1888 **h. Uses surrounding the critical saltwater habitat areas that may negatively impact**
1889 **those areas, including permanent or occasional upland, beach, or over-water uses;**
1890 **i. Potential *Indian* tribal uses of critical saltwater habitats to ensure that these uses are**
1891 **protected and restored when possible; and**
1892 **j. An analysis of what data gaps exist and a strategy for gaining this information.**
1893

1894 Because of the need for a higher level of protection for critical saltwater habitat, allowed uses should be
1895 carefully limited and only allowed to meet other policy goals of the Shoreline Management Act.
1896

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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx
(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1897 ~~((5-631)) S-622 Docks, bulkheads, bridges, fill, floats, jetties, utility crossings, and other~~
1898 ~~human-made structures shall not intrude into or over critical saltwater habitats except~~
1899 ~~when all of the conditions below are met:~~
1900 ~~a. The public's need for such an action or structure is clearly demonstrated, and the~~
1901 ~~proposal is consistent with protection of the public trust, as embodied in Revised~~
1902 ~~Code of Washington 90.58.020;~~
1903 ~~b. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or~~
1904 ~~location is not feasible or would result in unreasonable and disproportionate cost to~~
1905 ~~accomplish the same general purpose;~~
1906 ~~c. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological~~
1907 ~~functions associated with critical saltwater habitat; and~~
1908 ~~d. The project is consistent with ((state and)) Indian ((F)) tribal and state interests in~~
1909 ~~resource protection and species recovery.~~

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1911 ~~((5-632)) S-623 Public or private noncommercial docks for public, individual residential, or~~
1912 ~~community use may be authorized provided that:~~
1913 ~~a. Avoidance of impacts to critical saltwater habitats by an alternative alignment or~~
1914 ~~location is not feasible; and~~
1915 ~~b. The project, including any required mitigation, will result in no net loss of ecological~~
1916 ~~functions associated with critical saltwater habitat.~~

1917 ~~((b:)) Critical freshwater habitat~~
1918 ~~Critical freshwater habitats are as equally important ((to)) as saltwater areas ((as)) for fish and wildlife~~
1919 ~~habitat conservation areas along shorelines of the state. Critical freshwater habitats include streams and~~
1920 ~~rivers, with their associated channel migration zones, floodplains, wetlands, and lakes. Shorelines along~~
1921 ~~these freshwater habitats often have been highly developed and are currently adversely impacted by~~
1922 ~~improper stormwater, sewer, or industrial outfalls; unmanaged clearing and grading; and stormwater~~
1923 ~~runoff from buildings and parking lots. Some impacts include altered quality and quantity of stormwater~~
1924 ~~runoff, as well as destruction or alteration of vegetation. Potential impacts from vegetation changes can~~
1925 ~~include increased water temperatures and altered hydrographic conditions. All of these changes create~~
1926 ~~inhospitable conditions in water bodies for priority species and, in addition, make them more~~
1927 ~~susceptible to problems stemming from catastrophic flooding, droughts, landslides, and channel~~
1928 ~~changes.~~

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1930 ~~Some freshwater habitats, particularly rivers and floodplains, often are considered as hazardous areas~~
1931 ~~that can threaten life and property during catastrophic events, such as flooding. Development can~~
1932 ~~exacerbate such conditions.~~

1933 ~~As with critical saltwater habitats, comprehensive planning for the protection and restoration of critical~~
1934 ~~freshwater habitat should include affected Indian tribes, state resource agencies, and local and regional~~
1935 ~~government entities including, but not limited to the Port of Seattle((-)) and Sound Transit((-) and affected~~
1936 ~~Indian tribes)). To reverse the impacts from development on critical freshwater habitats, the King County~~
1937 ~~Shoreline Master Program should look for opportunities to restore critical freshwater shorelines and~~
1938 ~~protect them from further degradation. All resources should be reviewed and considered.~~

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1939 ~~((5-633)) S-624 King County shall provide a high level of protection to critical freshwater habitats~~
1940 ~~due to the important ecological functions they provide.~~

1941 ~~((5-634)) S-625 King County should establish priorities for protection and restoration, where~~
1942 ~~appropriate, along unincorporated river corridors and lake shorelines.~~

1943 ~~((5-635)) S-626 King County ((should)) shall regulate uses and development as necessary within and~~
1944 ~~along stream channels, associated channel migration zones, wetlands, lake shorelines,~~
1945 ~~((and)) floodplains, and other critical areas within the shoreline jurisdiction, to ((assure))~~
1946 ~~ensure that no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions results from new~~
1947 ~~development near freshwaters of the state, including associated hyporheic zones.~~

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~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1954 ~~((S-636)) S-627 King County shall protect ecological functions associated with critical freshwater~~
1955 ~~habitat as necessary to ((assure)) ensure no net loss from shoreline activities and~~
1956 ~~associated changes.~~

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1957 ~~((S-637)) S-628 King County should facilitate authorization of appropriate restoration projects.~~
1959

1960 ~~((C.))~~ Frequently Flooded Areas and Channel Migration
1961 Hazard Areas

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1962 The King County ((2013)) Flood Hazard Management Plan (Flood Plan) ((was)) is adopted as a functional
1963 plan of the King County Comprehensive Plan. The Flood Plan outlines the policies, programs, and
1964 projects that King County uses to reduce the risk from flooding and channel migration. The ((King
1965 County 2013)) Flood Hazard Management Plan was reviewed for consistency with the Shoreline
1966 Management Act and determined to be consistent with it. King County maps Channel Migration Hazard
1967 Areas and applies critical areas regulations to ((assure)) ensure that channel migration can be
1968 accommodated.

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1969 ~~((S-638)) S-629 The policies contained within the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, or~~
1970 ~~((its)) successor plan, constitute the policies for the protection of frequently flooded~~
1971 ~~areas and channel migration within shorelines. Provisions implementing these policies~~
1972 ~~are included in the critical areas regulations.~~

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1973 ~~((S-639)) S-630 King County shall continue mapping channel migration zones on all of its rivers and~~
1974 ~~streams within shoreline jurisdiction where channel migration zones have not already been~~
1975 ~~mapped.~~
1976
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1978 ~~((D.))~~ Shoreline Vegetation Conservation

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1979 A major intent of vegetation conservation is to protect and restore the ecological processes and
1980 functions performed by stands of vegetation along shorelines. Vegetation conservation can also be
1981 undertaken to protect human safety and property, to increase the stability of river banks and coastal
1982 bluffs, to reduce the need for structural shoreline stabilization measures, to improve the visual and
1983 aesthetic qualities of the shoreline, to protect particular plant and animal species and their habitats, and
1984 to enhance shoreline uses.

1985 In King County, aquatic environments, as well as their associated upland and wetland vegetated areas,
1986 provide significant habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife species. Healthy environments for
1987 aquatic species are inseparably linked with the ecological integrity of the surrounding terrestrial
1988 ecosystems. For example, nearly continuous stretches of mature forest characterize the natural riparian
1989 conditions of the Pacific Northwest. Riparian areas along marine shorelines provide the same or similar
1990 functions as their freshwater counterparts. The most commonly recognized functions of the shoreline
1991 vegetation include, but are not limited to:

- 1993 • Providing shade necessary to maintain cool water temperatures required by salmonids,
1994 spawning forage fish, and other aquatic biota.
- 1995 • Providing external organic inputs critical for some aquatic life.
- 1996 • Providing food for various insects and other benthic macro invertebrates, which are in turn
1997 food sources for fish, birds, and other wildlife.
- 1998 • Stabilizing banks, minimizing erosion, and reducing the occurrence of landslides. The roots
1999 of trees and other riparian vegetation provide the bulk of this function.
- 2000 • Reducing fine sediment input into the aquatic environment through stormwater retention
2001 and vegetative filtering.
- 2002 • Filtering and vegetative uptake of nutrients and pollutants from groundwater and storm
2003 runoff.

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- Providing a source of large woody debris for introduction into the aquatic system. Large woody debris is a primary structural component in streams that functions as a hydraulic roughness element to moderate flows and store sediment. Large woody debris also serves a pool-forming function, providing critical salmonid rearing and refuge habitat. Abundant large woody debris increases aquatic diversity and stabilizes systems.
- Regulating microclimates in the lake and stream-riparian and intertidal corridors.
- Providing critical wildlife habitat, including migration corridors and feeding, watering, rearing, and refuge areas.

The length, width, and species composition of a shoreline vegetation community all contribute substantively to aquatic ecological functions. Likewise, the biological communities of the aquatic environment are essential to ecological functions of the adjacent upland vegetation. The ability of vegetated areas to provide critical ecological functions diminishes as the length and width of the vegetated area along shorelines is reduced. When shoreline vegetation is removed, there is a greater risk that important ecological functions will not be provided.

Sustaining different ecological functions requires varying widths, compositions, and densities of vegetation. The importance of the different functions, in turn, varies with the type of shoreline setting. For example, in forested shoreline settings, periodic introduction of fallen trees, especially conifers, into the stream channel is an important attribute that is critical to natural stream channel maintenance.

Vegetation conservation includes activities to protect and restore vegetation that contributes to the ecological functions of shoreline areas along or near marine and freshwater shorelines.^(*) Vegetation conservation provisions generally include ~~((the))~~ prohibiting or limiting plant clearing and earth grading, restoring vegetation, and controlling invasive weeds and nonnative species. Vegetation conservation does not include those activities covered under the Washington State Forest Practices Act, except for conversion to other uses and those other forest practice activities over which local governments have authority.

~~((5-640)) S-631 King County shall adopt ((planning)) provisions to address vegetation conservation and restoration ((and regulatory provisions to address conservation of vegetation, as necessary;)) to ((assure)) ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions, to avoid adverse impacts to soil hydrology, and to reduce the hazard of slope failures or accelerated erosion.~~

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~~((5-641)) S-632 Vegetation conservation provisions apply to all shoreline uses and developments, regardless of whether ((or not)) the use or development requires a shoreline ((substantial development)) permit.~~

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~~((5-642)) S-633 Vegetation conservation standards shall not apply retroactively to existing uses and structures, such as existing agricultural practices.~~

~~((5-643)) S-634 King County should identify which ecological processes and functions are important to the local aquatic and terrestrial ecology, and then conserve sufficient vegetation to maintain these functions. Vegetation conservation areas are not necessarily intended to be closed to use and development, but should provide for management of vegetation in a manner adequate to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.~~

~~((5-644)) King County should adopt development regulations for ((vegetated)) riparian areas along streams, which once supported or could in the future support mature trees, that~~

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~~((*) Vegetation conservation does not include those activities covered under the Washington State Forest Practices Act, except for conversion to other uses and those other forest practice activities over which local governments have authority.)~~

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~~include buffers of sufficient width to facilitate the growth of mature trees and periodic recruitment of woody vegetation into the water body to ~~((support vegetation-related))~~ provide shoreline ecological function~~((s))~~:~~

~~S-645))~~ S-635 King County should adopt mechanisms to implement the vegetation conservation policies of this chapter. These mechanisms may include setback or buffer requirements, riparian widths sufficient to support the growth of mature trees and recruitment of woody vegetation, clearing and grading standards, regulatory incentives, environment designation standards, or other provisions. Selective pruning of trees for safety and view protection may be allowed. Removal of noxious weeds and invasive vegetation should be allowed as long as appropriate best management practices are followed.

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~~((E.))~~ Water Quality, Stormwater and Non-Point Pollution

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The Shoreline Master Program must protect against adverse impacts to the public health, to the land with its vegetation and wildlife, and to the waters of the state and their aquatic life. The intent of water quality, stormwater, and non-point pollution policies is to provide shoreline protection by preventing adverse impacts to shoreline ecological processes and functions, aquatic habitats, and water dependent uses such as aquaculture and fishing.

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~~((S-646))~~ Shoreline Master Program water quality, stormwater, and non-point pollution policies apply to all development and uses in the shoreline jurisdiction that affect water quality.

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~~S-647))~~ S-636 King County should work to prevent impacts to water quality and stormwater quantity that would result in a net loss of shoreline ecological functions, degraded aesthetic qualities, loss of recreational opportunities, or reduction in water-dependent uses, such as aquaculture and fishing.

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~~((S-648))~~ S-637 King County should ensure mutual consistency between shoreline management provisions and other regulations that address water quality and stormwater quantity, including Public Health - Seattle & King County standards, the King County Surface Water Design Manual, and King County surface water management regulations. The regulations that are most protective of ecological functions shall apply.

~~((S-649))~~ S-638 The Shoreline Master Program shall include provisions to implement the water quality, stormwater, and non-point pollution policies in this chapter.

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~~((F.))~~ Preparing for Climate Change

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~~((As discussed in Chapter 5 ~~((of the King County Comprehensive Plan))~~, Environment, c))~~ Climate change ~~((has the potential for))~~ will have significant impacts on shorelines and shoreline habitats. Sea ~~((=))~~ level rise and storm surges may place at risk infrastructure, habitat restoration projects, and other development, including residential development. King County has adopted a Sea Level Rise Risk Area and associated code requirements for properties located in areas adjoining a Sea Level Rise hazard area on Vashon-Maury Island. The Risk Area recognizes that coastal flooding will expand inland with sea level rise, affecting areas that may not experience flooding today. ~~These regulations will help reduce the impacts of sea level rise by ensuring that ~~((N))~~ new development and ~~((maintenance or replacement of))~~ improvements to existing development ~~((should take into))~~ accounts the ~~((potential for harm that may))~~ impacts that can result from sea ~~((=))~~ level rise.~~

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~~((S-650))~~ S-639 King County shall ensure that new projects for and major maintenance or replacement of utilities, roads, and other public infrastructure consider the impacts of sea ~~((=))~~ level rise in the location, design, and operation of the projects.

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~~((Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440))TBD~~

2105 ~~((S-651)) S-640~~ Habitat protection and restoration projects in the shoreline jurisdiction shall
2106 consider implications of sea((·))level rise and other climate change impacts to promote
2107 resiliency of habitats and species.

2108 ~~((VIII.))~~ Shoreline Use ~~((And Shoreline~~
2109 ~~Modification))~~

2110 ~~((A.))~~ Shoreline Use versus Shoreline Modification

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2111 ~~((B.))~~ A. General Shoreline Uses

2112 ~~((1.))~~ Generally

2113 Land uses in King County are based on federal, state, and county policies and regulations.)) The
2114 baseline permitted uses are established in zoning regulations. Land uses that would be allowed in
2115 zoning may be further limited by the King County Shoreline Master Program and shoreline management
2116 regulations.
2117

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2118 ~~((S-701))~~ King County shall give preference to uses in the shoreline that are consistent with the
2119 control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment or are unique
2120 to or dependent upon the shoreline.
2121

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2122 ~~S-702)) S-701~~ Development within the shoreline jurisdiction shall protect the public's health,
2123 safety, and welfare, as well as the land, including its vegetation and wildlife, and
2124 protect property rights, while implementing the policies of the Shoreline Management
2125 Act.
2126

2127 ~~((S-703)) S-702~~ Where there is a conflict between the uses permitted in ~~((the ((land use zone))~~
2128 ~~zoning code~~ and the Shoreline Master Program for a site, the Shoreline Master Program
2129 shall control and preference shall be given first to water-dependent uses, then to
2130 water-related uses, and finally to water-enjoyment uses.
2131

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2132 ~~((S-704))~~ Shoreline Master Program development regulations shall ensure no net loss of shoreline
2133 ecological processes and functions.
2134

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2135 ~~S-705)) S-703~~ King County shall adopt use policies and development regulations to achieve
2136 consistency among and between shorelands and adjacent lands as required by Revised
2137 Code of Washington 90.58.340.
2138

2139 ~~((2.))~~ B. Shoreline Conditional Uses

2140 ~~((For the purposes of the King County Shoreline Master Program, a))~~ A shoreline conditional use may be
2141 appropriate ~~((in order))~~ to:

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- 2142 1. Effectively address unanticipated uses that are not classified in the Shoreline Master Program;
2143 2. Address cumulative impacts; or
2144 3. Provide the opportunity to require specially tailored environmental analysis or design criteria for
2145 types of use or development that may otherwise be inconsistent with a specific designation
2146 within the Shoreline Master Program or with the Shoreline Management Act policies.
2147

2148 ~~((5-706))~~ **S-704** The following types of uses and development should require a shoreline conditional
2149 use permit:
2150 ~~((1-))~~ a. Uses and development that may significantly impair or alter the public's use of
2151 the waters of the state;
2152 ~~((2-))~~ b. Uses and development which, by their intrinsic nature, may have a significant
2153 impact on shoreline ecological processes and functions depending on location,
2154 design, and site conditions; and
2155 ~~((3-))~~ c. Development in critical saltwater habitats.
2156

2157 ~~((3-))~~ **C. Agriculture**

2158 The Shoreline Management Act defines agricultural activities as:

2159 "agricultural uses and practices including, but not limited to: Producing, breeding, or increasing
2160 agricultural products; rotating and changing agricultural crops; allowing land used for agricultural
2161 activities to lie fallow in which it is plowed and tilled but left unseeded; allowing land used for
2162 agricultural activities to lie dormant as a result of adverse agricultural market conditions; allowing
2163 land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant because the land is enrolled in a local, state, or
2164 federal conservation program, or the land is subject to a conservation easement; conducting
2165 agricultural operations; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural equipment; maintaining,
2166 repairing, and replacing agricultural facilities, provided that the replacement facility is no closer to
2167 the shoreline than the original facility; and maintaining agricultural lands under production or
2168 cultivation".
2169

2170
2171 The Shoreline Management Act prohibits shoreline master programs from requiring modification to or
2172 limiting existing agricultural activities on agricultural lands in the shoreline jurisdiction. This limitation
2173 does not apply to new agricultural activities.

2174 The Shoreline Master Program encourages agricultural uses that are compatible with the shoreline
2175 designation in which they are proposed.

2176
2177 ~~((5-707))~~ **S-705** The King County Shoreline Master Program shall not require modification of or limit
2178 existing agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction. Existing agricultural
2179 activities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall be governed by existing provisions of the
2180 King County Comprehensive Plan and the King County Code.

2181 ~~((5-708))~~ **New agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction shall comply with the critical
2182 areas regulations incorporated into the shoreline master program as they apply to
2183 agricultural activities.**

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2184
2185 ~~As required by the Growth Management Act, King County has designated agricultural lands of long-term
2186 commercial significance. These lands have been included in Agricultural Production Districts under the
2187 King County Comprehensive Plan. Land uses meeting the definition of "agricultural activities" also occur
2188 outside the designated Agricultural Production Districts. The King County Shoreline Master Program
2189 encourages agricultural uses, but they must be compatible with the shoreline designation in which they
2190 are proposed. In addition, under the rare circumstances when land is removed from the Agricultural
2191 Production Districts, any development occurring on that land must be consistent with the shoreline
2192 designation where it is located.~~

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2193
2194 ~~S-709))~~ **S-706** New agricultural activities within the shoreline jurisdiction and outside the
2195 Agricultural Production Districts shall be consistent with the shoreline designation
2196 where the land is located.

2197
2198 ~~((S-710))~~ **S-707** New agricultural activities within the shoreline jurisdiction and outside the
2199 Agricultural Production Districts shall be located and designed to ensure no net loss of
2200
2201

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

2202 shoreline ecological processes and functions and shall not result in an adverse impact
2203 on other shoreline resources and ecological values.

2204
2205 ~~((5-711)) S-708 Development and uses on land removed from the Agricultural Production Districts~~
2206 ~~shall be consistent with the shoreline designation where the land is located.~~
2207

2208 ~~((4.))~~ D. Forestry

2209 In general, the Department of Ecology's guidelines require local shoreline master programs to rely on
2210 the Forest Practices Act and the rules implementing that Act and the Forest and Fish Report as adequate
2211 management of commercial forest uses within the shoreline jurisdiction. When a property owner
2212 chooses to convert commercial timber land to a use other than timber production, the regulations for
2213 commercial forestry no longer apply. Shorelines of statewide significance require a higher level of
2214 protection.

2215
2216 ~~((5-712)) S-709 If land is being converted to a non-forest use through Class IV-General forest~~
2217 ~~practice, the provisions of the King County Shoreline ((Management)) Program that~~
2218 ~~apply to development activities govern((s)) the proposed land use.~~

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2219
2220 ~~((5-713)) S-710 Within shorelines of statewide significance, selective commercial timber cutting~~
2221 ~~shall be used for timber harvest within two hundred feet abutting landward of the~~
2222 ~~ordinary high water mark so that no more than thirty percent of the merchantable trees~~
2223 ~~may be harvested in any ((ten-)) 10-year period of time. Through a shoreline conditional~~
2224 ~~use permit, King County may approve:~~

- 2225 a. ~~Other timber harvesting methods in those limited instances where the topography,~~
2226 ~~soil conditions, or silviculture practices necessary for regeneration render selective~~
2227 ~~logging ecologically detrimental; and~~
- 2228 b. ~~Clear cutting of timber that is solely incidental to the preparation of land for other~~
2229 ~~uses authorized by the King County Shoreline Master Program.~~

2230
2231 ~~((5-714)) S-711 For forest practice conversions and other Class IV-General forest practices, where~~
2232 ~~there is a likelihood of conversion to nonforest uses, King County shall ensure that there~~
2233 ~~is no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions and that there are no~~
2234 ~~significant adverse impacts to other shoreline uses, resources, and values such as~~
2235 ~~navigation, recreation, and public access.~~
2236

2237 ~~((5.))~~ E. Surface Drilling for Oil and Gas

2238 The Shoreline Management Act prohibits surface drilling in the waters of Puget Sound north to the
2239 Canadian ~~((boundary))~~ border and the Strait of Juan de Fuca seaward from the ordinary high water mark
2240 and on all lands within one thousand feet landward from that line.

2241
2242 ~~((5-715)) S-712 Surface drilling for oil or gas shall be prohibited in Puget Sound seaward from the~~
2243 ~~ordinary high water mark and on all lands within one thousand feet landward from the~~
2244 ~~ordinary high water mark on Puget Sound.~~
2245

2246 ~~((6.))~~ F. Aquaculture

2247 ~~((a.))~~ 1. General Aquaculture

2248 Aquaculture is the culture or farming of fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants and animals. Aquaculture
2249 does not include the harvest of wild geoduck associated with the state managed wildstock geoduck
2250 fishery. ~~((Aquaculture is dependent on the use of the water area and, when consistent with goals for~~
2251 ~~aesthetics, public access, control of pollution and prevention of damage to the environment should be~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx~~
~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

2252 allowed so long as it does not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.)) The
2253 visual and aesthetic impacts of aquaculture should not overwhelm adjacent land uses.

2254
2255 ~~((5-716)) S-713 Aquaculture is a water-dependent use and should be an allowed use of the~~
2256 ~~shoreline when consistent with control of pollution and avoidance of adverse impacts to~~
2257 ~~the environment and preservation of habitat for native species, ((f)) consistent with~~
2258 ~~Washington Administrative Code 173-26-241(((3)(b))))).~~

2259
2260 ~~((5-716a)) S-714 King County shall prohibit nonnative marine finfish aquaculture.~~

2261
2262 ~~((5-717)) S-715 Potential locations for aquaculture activities are relatively restricted because of~~
2263 ~~specific requirements related to water quality, temperature, oxygen content, currents,~~
2264 ~~adjacent land use, wind protection, commercial navigation, and salinity. The~~
2265 ~~technology associated with some forms of aquaculture is still experimental and in~~
2266 ~~formative states. Therefore, when implementing development regulations related to~~
2267 ~~aquaculture, King County should provide flexibility in its development regulations~~
2268 ~~governing the siting of aquaculture facilities, where appropriate. Those regulations~~
2269 ~~shall require avoidance of adverse impacts to existing uses((;)) to the maximum extent~~
2270 ~~practical, and no net loss in shoreline ecological functions and processes. If King County~~
2271 ~~determines that certain types of aquaculture involve a significant risk of net loss in~~
2272 ~~shoreline ecological functions or cumulative adverse effects on the environment or~~
2273 ~~native species and their habitats, the County may prohibit or condition such uses in its~~
2274 ~~development regulations.~~

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2275
2276 ~~((5-718)) S-716 Aquaculture activities shall be designed, located, and operated in a manner that~~
2277 ~~supports long-term beneficial use of the shoreline and protects and maintains shoreline~~
2278 ~~ecological processes and functions. Aquaculture permits shall not be approved where it~~
2279 ~~would result in net loss of shoreline ecological functions; net loss of habitat for native~~
2280 ~~species including eelgrass, kelp, and other macroalgae; adverse impacts to other~~
2281 ~~habitat conservation areas; or interference with navigation or other water-dependent~~
2282 ~~uses.~~

2283
2284 ~~((5-719)) S-717 Aquaculture facilities shall be designed, operated, and located so as not to spread~~
2285 ~~disease to native aquatic life, establish new nonnative species that cause significant~~
2286 ~~ecological impacts, or substantially impact the aesthetic qualities and public access of~~
2287 ~~the shoreline.~~

2288
2289 ~~((5-720)) S-718 Preference should be given to those forms of aquaculture that involve lesser~~
2290 ~~environmental and visual impacts and lesser impacts to native plant and animal species.~~
2291 ~~In general, projects that require no structures, submerged structures, or intertidal~~
2292 ~~structures are preferred over those that involve substantial floating structures. Projects~~
2293 ~~that involve little or no substrate modification are preferred over those that involve~~
2294 ~~substantial modification, recognizing that in some circumstances that the importation of~~
2295 ~~sand or pea gravel on rocky or cobble substrates may result in more diverse habitat.~~
2296 ~~Projects that involve little or no supplemental food sources, pesticides, herbicides, or~~
2297 ~~antibiotic application are preferred over those that involve such practices.~~

2298
2299 ~~((5-721)) S-719 Aquaculture shall not be permitted if it involves significant risk of cumulative~~
2300 ~~adverse effects on water quality, sediment quality, benthic and pelagic organisms, or~~
2301 ~~wild fish populations through potential contribution of antibiotic resistant bacteria,~~
2302 ~~((or)) escapement of non((-)) native species, or other adverse effects on native species or~~
2303 ~~threatened or endangered species and their habitats.~~

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2304
2305 ~~((5-722)) S-720 King County shall consider the potential beneficial impacts and the potential~~
2306 ~~adverse impacts of new aquaculture development on the physical environment; on~~
2307 ~~other existing and approved land and water uses, including navigation; and on the~~
2308 ~~aesthetic qualities of a project area.~~

2310 ~~((5-723)) S-721~~ Legally established aquaculture uses, including authorized experimental projects,
2311 should be protected from incompatible uses that may seek to locate nearby. King
2312 County may deny uses or developments that have a high probability of damaging or
2313 destroying a legally established existing aquaculture.

2314
2315 ~~((5-724)) S-722~~ King County should review and make permit decisions on restoration projects
2316 associated with aquaculture in a timely manner.

2317
2318 ~~((5-725)) S-723~~ Experimental aquaculture projects in water bodies should be limited in scale and
2319 should be approved for a limited period of time. Experimental aquaculture means an
2320 aquaculture activity that uses methods or technologies that are unprecedented or
2321 unproven in the State of Washington.

2322
2323 ~~((5-726)) S-724~~ King County should actively seek substantive comment regarding potential adverse
2324 impacts of any shoreline permit application for aquaculture from all appropriate ~~Indian~~
2325 ~~tribal, ((F))federal, ((S))state, indian tribal, and local agencies((; the Muckleshoot Tribe,~~
2326 ~~the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the Tulalip Tribes and other tribes with treaty fishing~~
2327 ~~rights.)) and the general public. Comments of nearby residents or property owners~~
2328 ~~directly affected by an aquaculture proposal should be considered and evaluated,~~
2329 ~~especially in regard to use compatibility and aesthetics.~~

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2330
2331 ~~((5-727)) S-725~~ The rights of treaty Indian tribes to aquatic resources within their usual and
2332 accustomed areas should be addressed through the permit review process. Direct and
2333 early coordination between the applicant or proponent and the ~~relevant tribe(s)~~ should
2334 be encouraged.

2335
2336 ~~((5-727a)) S-726~~ King County should ensure proper management of upland uses in the
2337 shoreline jurisdiction to avoid degradation of water quality of existing shellfish areas,
2338 including adoption of additional protections from impacts of geoduck aquaculture.

2339 ~~((b-)) 2.~~ Net Pens

2340 One specific type of aquaculture is a net pen, which is a type of large cage used to farm finfish in open
2341 water. These net pens allow for the exchange of water between the farm and the surrounding
2342 environment. ~~((In 2017, a large commercial net pen near Cypress Island collapsed and released~~
2343 ~~hundreds of thousands of nonnative salmon into King County's shorelines of statewide significance:~~

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2344
2345 Following this incident, King County reviewed its net pens regulations in 2018 for potential impacts on
2346 native species and found that c) Commercial salmon net pen aquaculture operations generally have
2347 adverse environmental and ecological impacts that do not appear to meet the ~~((SMA)) Shoreline~~
2348 ~~Management Act~~ standard of 'no net loss of ecological function.' These adverse impacts include
2349 increased disease transmission, increased water quality impacts, competition for food and habitat,
2350 predation on local native salmon, and genetic introgression.

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2351
2352 King County's native salmon runs are among the Puget Sound region's most precious and irreplaceable
2353 natural resources. King County, ~~((area)) Indian~~ tribes, the state, the region, and the federal government
2354 have collectively invested hundreds of millions of dollars over many years to help protect and restore
2355 native salmon species. ~~((The impacts of net pens to native salmon outlined above would threaten years~~
2356 ~~of work and millions of dollars in investments.))~~

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2357
2358 The environmental and ecological risks associated with commercial salmon net pens may also apply to
2359 other finfish net pens, including net pens for noncommercial native salmon and commercial native
2360 finfish. ~~((but there is a lack of current information regarding these risks. The Department of Ecology's~~
2361 ~~Shoreline Master Program Handbook lists only three references to guide local jurisdictions in how to~~
2362 ~~regulate net pens, all of which predate the Endangered Species Act listings of Southern Resident Puget~~
2363 ~~Sound Orcas, Puget Sound Chinook salmon, and Puget Sound steelhead as threatened. The~~

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~~((2016))~~ 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ~~((updated December 6, 2022))~~ Adopted TBD
Attachment A to Ordinance ~~((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555))~~ ~~XXXXX~~
~~((Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440))~~TBD

2364 Department of Ecology acknowledges in the handbook that interim net pen guidelines from the 1980s
2365 are out of date and caution should be used if ~~relying on them~~.

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2367 In response to the Cypress Island incident, the Washington State Legislature adopted Engrossed House
2368 Bill 2957 prohibiting new or expanded leases for nonnative marine finfish aquaculture. House Bill 2957
2369 also directed state agencies to continue updating guidance and informational resources for planning
2370 and permitting marine net pen aquaculture. State agencies were further directed to seek advice and
2371 assistance from the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, national centers for coastal ocean science,
2372 and to invite consultation with universities and federally recognized Indian tribes ~~and report back to the~~
2373 ~~Legislature~~. ~~((The applicable state agencies must report to the legislature in late 2019. The resulting~~
2374 ~~updated guidance has been published as Publication 22-06-008 and 22-06-009 and is available on the~~
2375 ~~Department of Ecology's website.~~

2376
2377 ~~(S-272b))~~ ~~S-727~~ King County shall prohibit new commercial salmon net pen aquaculture operations
2378 to avoid adverse impacts on native salmon runs.

2379
2380 ~~((S-272c))~~ ~~S-728~~ King County shall support ~~Indian~~ tribal treaty fishing rights, including operation of
2381 noncommercial native salmon net pens for temporary rearing and brood stock recovery
2382 programs.

2383
2384 ~~((S-727d))~~ ~~S-729~~ King County shall review and condition the siting of net pens to ensure they apply
2385 all necessary environmental and ecological protections and meet the standard of no
2386 adverse impacts and no net loss of ecological function.

2387
2388 ~~((S-727e))~~ ~~S-730~~ King County shall revisit its policies and regulations associated with net pens,
2389 including the prohibition on commercial native salmon net pens, during the next
2390 statutory-required periodic review of this program. At that time, additional research
2391 and guidance from the state is expected to be available.

2392
2393 ~~((7.))~~ G. Boating Facilities

2394 Boating facilities provide ~~((the boating public))~~ recreational opportunities on waters of the state ~~((but~~
2395 ~~should be sited carefully to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions and to~~
2396 ~~maintain the aesthetic quality of the shoreline. For purposes of the King County Shoreline Master~~
2397 ~~Program, "b))" Boating facilities" do not include docks serving four or fewer single~~ ~~((family residences))~~
2398 ~~detached~~ ~~residences~~ ~~homes~~.

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- 2399
2400 ~~((S-728))~~ ~~S-731~~ Boating facilities shall be located only at sites with suitable environmental
2401 conditions, shoreline configuration, access, and neighboring uses, and:
2402 a. Meet health, safety, and welfare requirements;
2403 b. Mitigate aesthetic impacts;
2404 c. Provide public access in new marinas, unless there is a safety or security concern;
2405 d. Prevent the impacts to shoreline resources from boaters living on their vessels;
2406 e. Restrict vessels ~~((should be restricted))~~ from extended mooring on waters of the
2407 state unless authorization is obtained from the Washington Department of Natural
2408 Resources and impacts to navigation and public access are mitigated;
2409 f. ~~((Assure))~~ ~~Ensure~~ no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions or
2410 other significant adverse impacts; and
2411 g. Protect the rights of navigation.
2412

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2413 ~~((8.))~~ H. Commercial Development

2414 Some commercial uses within the shoreline jurisdiction may be required to incorporate appropriate
2415 design and operational elements to qualify as water-related or water-enjoyment. Public access and
2416 ecological restoration are considered appropriate mitigation for the impact to shorelines unless it is

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx~~
~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

2417 determined public access is infeasible or inappropriate. Most commercial land in unincorporated King
2418 County is located outside the shoreline jurisdiction.

2420 ~~((5-729)) S-732~~ King County shall require all commercial development on public land to provide
2421 public access, unless the use is incompatible with public access or there are public
2422 safety concerns.

2424 ~~((5-730)) S-733~~ King County shall permit non~~((r))~~ water-oriented commercial uses in the shoreline
2425 jurisdiction only if:

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2426 a. The non~~((r))~~ water-oriented commercial use is limited to the minimum size necessary
2427 for the use;

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2428 b. The use provides a significant public benefit with respect to the Shoreline
2429 Management Act's objectives such as providing public access and ecological
2430 restoration; and

2431 c. The use is part of a mixed-use project that includes water-dependent uses~~((r))~~ or
2432 navigability is severely limited at the proposed site.

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2433 ~~((5-731)) S-734~~ King County may allow nonwater-oriented commercial development in the
2434 shoreline jurisdiction if the site is physically separated from the shoreline by another
2435 property or public right-of-way.

2438 ~~((5-732)) S-735~~ King County shall allow over-water nonwater-dependent commercial uses only in
2439 existing structures or if the use is auxiliary to and necessary to support a
2440 water-dependent use. The area of any over-water structure shall be limited to the
2441 maximum extent practical.

2443 ~~((5-795)) S-736~~ King County may allow water-related and water-enjoyment uses as part of a
2444 shoreline mixed-use development on over-water structures where they are clearly
2445 auxiliary to and in support of water-dependent uses, provided the minimum size
2446 requirement needed to meet the water-dependent use is not violated.

2448 ~~((5-733)) S-737~~ King County shall prohibit commercial development that will have significant
2449 adverse impact to other shoreline uses, resources, and values, such as navigation,
2450 recreation, and public access. King County shall require mitigation for all commercial
2451 development in the shoreline jurisdiction to ensure that it does not cause a net loss of
2452 shoreline ecological processes and functions.

2454 ~~((9-)) I. Industr~~((y))~~ial Development~~

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2455 ~~((The King County Shoreline Master Program establishes a hierarchy for industrial development within
2456 the shoreline jurisdiction. Most industrial land in King County is located within cities rather than within
2457 unincorporated King County.~~

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2459 ~~S-734)) S-738~~ In the shoreline jurisdiction, King County shall give preference to industrial uses in
2460 the following order: first, water-dependent industrial uses; second, water-related
2461 industrial uses; and third, non~~((r))~~ water-oriented industrial uses.

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2463 ~~((S-735)) S-739~~ ~~((To mitigate for the impacts of industrial development within the shoreline
2464 jurisdiction;))~~ King County ~~((should)) shall~~ require ecological restoration and public
2465 access~~((, unless it determines that public access is infeasible or inappropriate)) for
2466 industrial development, where appropriate.~~

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2468 ~~((S-736)) S-740~~ King County shall require industrial uses located on public land in the shoreline
2469 jurisdiction to provide public access, unless the use is incompatible with public access or
2470 there are public safety concerns.

2471

2472 ~~((S-737))~~ **S-741** King County should encourage ~~((i))~~ industrial development and redevelopment to
2473 be located where environmental cleanup and restoration of the shoreline can be
2474 incorporated.

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2476 ~~((S-738))~~ **S-742** King County shall permit new nonwater-oriented industrial development in the
2477 shoreline jurisdiction only if:
2478 a. The use is part of a mixed-use project that includes water-dependent uses or
2479 navigability is severely limited; and
2480 b. The use provides a significant public benefit with respect to the Shoreline
2481 Management Act's objectives, such as providing public access and ecological
2482 restoration.

2484 ~~((S-739))~~ **S-743** King County may allow nonwater-oriented industrial uses in the shoreline
2485 jurisdiction if the site is physically separated from the shoreline by another property or
2486 public right-of-way.
2487

2488 ~~((10:))~~ **J.** In-Water Structures

2489 "In-water structure" means a structure placed by humans within a stream, river, or lake waterward of the
2490 ordinary high ~~((f))~~ water mark that either causes or has the potential to cause water impoundment or the
2491 diversion, obstruction, or modification of water flow. In-water structures may include those for
2492 hydroelectric generation, irrigation, water supply, flood control, transportation, utility service
2493 transmission, fish collection weir, or other purposes.

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2495 ~~((S-740))~~ **S-744** In-water structures shall provide for the protection and preservation of shoreline
2496 ecological processes and functions, and cultural resources, including, but not limited to,
2497 fish and fish passage, wildlife and water resources, shoreline critical areas, hydro ~~((r))~~
2498 geological processes, and natural scenic vistas.

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2500 ~~((S-741))~~ **S-745** The location and planning of in-water structures shall give due consideration to the
2501 full range of public interests and shoreline ecological processes and functions, with
2502 special emphasis on protecting and restoring habitat for threatened or endangered
2503 species.
2504

2505 ~~((11:))~~ **K.** Mining

2506 King County has identified and designated land that is appropriate for the removal of sand, gravel, soil,
2507 minerals, and other extractable resources. ~~((In King County, gravel removal was a common method of~~
2508 flood control in the first half of the 20th century. However, ~~m))~~ Mining within shorelines can have
2509 significant impacts, particularly to habitat for threatened and endangered aquatic and riparian species.
2510

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2511 ~~((S-742))~~ **S-746** Mining may be allowed within the shoreline jurisdiction if it is:
2512 a. Consistent with the environment designation policies of the King County Shoreline
2513 Master Program and provisions of the Shoreline Management Act; and
2514 b. Located within mineral resource lands designated by the King County
2515 Comprehensive Plan.

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~~((5-743)) S-747~~ New mining and associated activities shall be designed and conducted to comply with the regulations of the environment designation where the activity occurs and the provisions applicable to critical areas where relevant. Accordingly, meeting the standard of no net loss of ecological function shall include avoidance and mitigation of adverse impacts during the course of mining and reclamation. It is appropriate, however, to determine whether there will be no net loss of ecological function based on evaluation of final reclamation required for the site. Preference shall be given to mining proposals that result in the restoration, creation, or enhancement of habitat for threatened or endangered species.

~~((5-744)) S-748~~ The King County Shoreline Master Program provisions and permit requirements for mining should be ~~((coordinated))~~ consistent with the requirements of Chapter 78.44 Revised Code of Washington ~~((Chapter 78.44))~~.

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~~((5-745)) S-749~~ The proposed subsequent use of mined property shall be consistent with the provisions of the shoreline environment designation in which the property is located.

~~((5-746)) S-750~~ King County shall permit mining within the active channel of a river only as follows:
a. Removal of specified quantities of sand and gravel or other materials at specific locations will not adversely affect the natural processes of gravel transportation for the river system as a whole;
b. The mining and any associated permitted activities will not have significant adverse impacts to habitat for threatened or endangered species nor cause a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions;
c. The determinations required by items ~~((1))~~ a. and ~~((2))~~ b. of this policy shall be consistent with Revised Code of Washington 90.58.100~~((1))~~ and Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201~~((2))~~(a). Such evaluation of impacts should be appropriately integrated with relevant environmental review requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act and the Department of Ecology guidelines;
d. In considering renewal, extension, or reauthorization of gravel bar and other in-channel mining operations in locations where they have previously been conducted, King County shall require compliance with this policy if no such review has previously been conducted. Where there has been prior review, King County shall review the previous determinations ~~((in-order))~~ to ensure that current site conditions comply with the Program; and
e. These requirements do not apply to dredging of authorized navigation channels when conducted in accordance with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231~~((3))~~(f).

~~((5-747)) S-751~~ King County shall require a shoreline conditional use permit for mining activity within a severe channel migration hazard zone located within the shoreline jurisdiction.

~~((12:))~~ L. Recreational Development

Recreational development includes uses and activities designed to allow public enjoyment and use of the water and shoreline ~~((King County recreational planning provides for))~~, including parks, trails, open space, and opportunities for both active and passive recreational use ~~((in King County))~~.

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~~((5-748)) S-752~~ Recreational development is allowed in the shoreline jurisdiction and ~~((must))~~ shall be consistent with the shoreline environment designation in which the property is located.

~~((5-749)) S-753~~ King County shall plan to provide public recreational uses on ~~((c))~~ County-owned shoreline, consistent with the goals of this chapter.

2571 ((13:)) M. Residential Development

2572 The Shoreline Management Act recognizes single ((family)) detached residential development as a
2573 priority use within shorelines of the state. The term "residential development" also includes attached
2574 and ((multifamily)) multiunit dwellings ((units)) as well as subdivision of shoreline land into new residential
2575 lots. In King County, single detached ((dwelling units)) residences are the most common shoreline
2576 development. Residential development is often fairly high density to maximize water frontage. Care
2577 must be taken to assure that shoreline residential development and the related impacts from shoreline
2578 armoring, stormwater runoff, on-site sewage disposal systems, introduction of pollutants, and vegetation
2579 modification and removal do not result in significant damage to the shoreline.

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2580
2581 ((S-750)) S-754 Single ((family)) detached residential development is a priority use in the shoreline
2582 jurisdiction in King County.

2583
2584 ((S-751)) S-755 King County shall require a conditional use permit for construction or expansion of
2585 a single((family residence)) detached home residence that is located within an aquatic
2586 area buffer in the Forestry or Natural Shoreline Environment.

2587
2588 ((S-752) Shoreline residential development, including accessory structures and uses, should be
2589 sufficiently set back from steep slopes and shorelines vulnerable to erosion so that
2590 structural improvements, including bluff walls and other stabilization structures, are not
2591 required to protect these structures and uses.

2592
2593 S-753)) S-756 New over-water residences((, including floating homes,)) are not a preferred use
2594 and shall be prohibited in the shoreline jurisdiction. Existing communities of ((floating
2595 or)) over-water homes should be reasonably accommodated to allow improvements
2596 associated with life-safety matters and to ensure protection of private property rights.
2597 King County shall limit the expansion of existing ((floating homes, including over-water
2598 and underwater footprint, and)) over-water communities to the minimum necessary to
2599 ensure consistency with constitutional and other legal limitations that protect private
2600 property.

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2601
2602 ((S-754)) S-757 King County should require ((multifamily)) multiunit residential development and
2603 subdivisions within the shoreline jurisdiction creating more than four lots to provide
2604 public access.

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2605
2606 ((S-755)) S-758 King County shall require subdivisions and short subdivisions to:
2607 a. Be designed, configured, and developed in a manner that ensures no net loss of
2608 shoreline ecological processes and functions at full build-out of all lots;
2609 b. Prevent the need for new shoreline stabilization or flood risk reduction measures
2610 that would cause significant impacts to other properties or public improvements, a
2611 net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions, or interfere with channel
2612 migration; and
2613 c. Implement the provisions and policies for shoreline designations and the general
2614 policy goals of this chapter.
2615

2616 ((14:)) N. Transportation and Parking

2617 Providing for transportation and parking is necessary to support water-dependent uses, to support the
2618 regional economy, and for access to privately owned property. ((However, transportation facilities
2619 should be located and designed to have the least impact on the ecological processes and functions of
2620 the shoreline:)) Transportation planning in shorelines should ((not be focused totally on ((automobiles))
2621 vehicles, but should)) consider a wide range of options, including vehicles, buses, light rail, commuter
2622 rail, bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian facilities. Transportation planning can be a tool for ((finding
2623 opportunities to provide)) providing public access to the shorelines.
2624

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2625 ((S-756)) S-759 King County shall require transportation and parking plans and projects located in
2626 the shoreline jurisdiction to be consistent with the public access policies in this chapter
2627 and environmental protection provisions.
2628

2629 ((S-757)) S-760 Where appropriate, circulation system planning in the shoreline jurisdiction shall
2630 include systems for pedestrian, bicycle, and public transportation and ((combining))
2631 combine transportation uses to minimize the footprint of transportation facilities.
2632 Circulation planning and projects should support existing and proposed shoreline uses
2633 that are consistent with the King County Shoreline Master Program.
2634

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2635 ((S-758)) S-761 Transportation and parking facilities located in the shoreline jurisdiction shall be
2636 planned, located, and designed to have the least possible adverse impact on unique or
2637 fragile shoreline features, not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
2638 functions, or adversely impact existing or planned water-dependent uses. Where other
2639 options are available and feasible, new transportation facilities or transportation facility
2640 expansions should not be constructed within the shoreline jurisdiction.
2641

2642 ((S-759)) S-762 Parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction are not a preferred use. King County
2643 shall allow parking facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction only when necessary to support
2644 an authorized use and when an alternatives analysis shows there are no feasible
2645 alternatives outside of the ((200-foot)) shoreline jurisdiction. Parking facilities in the
2646 shoreline jurisdiction shall use ((t))low ((l))impact ((D))designs, such as porous concrete
2647 and vegetated swales, and be planned, located, and designed to minimize the
2648 environmental and visual impacts.
2649

2650 ((15.))O. Utilities

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2651 Utilities include services and facilities that produce, convey, store, or process power, gas, water, sewage,
2652 stormwater, communications, oil, or waste. Utilities that are classified as on-site utilities serving only one
2653 primary use are considered "accessory utilities" and are considered part of the primary use.
2654

2655 ((S-760)) S-763 Utility facilities shall be designed and located to ((assure))ensure no net loss of
2656 shoreline ecological processes and functions, preserve the natural landscape, and
2657 minimize conflicts with present and planned land and shoreline uses, while meeting the
2658 needs of future populations in areas planned to accommodate growth.
2659

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2660 ((S-761)) S-764 King County shall allow modification of existing utility facilities and the location of
2661 new water-oriented portions of utility facilities in the shoreline jurisdiction provided
2662 that ((a)) mitigation sequenc((e))ing is applied ((see policy S-616)) consistent with
2663 Policy S-609 and there is no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. To
2664 the maximum extent practical, those parts of utility production and processing facilities
2665 that are not water-oriented, such as power plants and sewage treatment plants, shall be
2666 located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction.
2667

2668 ((S-762)) S-765 Transmission facilities for the conveyance of services, such as power lines, cables,
2669 and pipelines, shall be located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction where ver feasible.
2670 ((Transmission facilities located within the shoreline jurisdiction shall assure no net loss
2671 of shoreline ecological processes and functions.))
2672

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2673 ((S-763)) S-766 Utilities should be located in existing developed rights-of-way and corridors to the
2674 maximum extent practical.
2675

- 2676 ~~((S-764)) S-767 Unless no other feasible alternative location exists, King County should discourage:~~
- 2677 a. ~~Locating pipelines and cables in water, on tidelands, or roughly parallel to the~~
- 2678 ~~shoreline; and~~
- 2679 b. ~~The development of facilities that may require periodic maintenance that disrupts~~
- 2680 ~~shoreline ecological processes and functions.~~

~~((King County shall ensure that any utility facilities that are allowed do not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions or significant adverse impacts to other shoreline resources and values.~~

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2686 ~~€:))~~ IX. Shoreline Modifications

2687 ~~((4:))~~ A. General Policies Governing Shoreline Modifications

2688 A shoreline modification is construction of a physical element, such as a dike, breakwater, dredged
2689 basin, or fill, as well as other actions such as clearing, grading, application of chemicals, or significant
2690 vegetation removal to support or prepare for a shoreline use. ~~((These activities should be directly~~
2691 ~~related to a legal shoreline use and should not be conducted for other purposes.~~

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2692 ~~S-765)) S-801 King County should allow structural shoreline modifications only when necessary to~~
2693 ~~support or protect a legally established structure or a legally existing shoreline use that~~
2694 ~~is in danger of loss or substantial damage, or when a modification is necessary for~~
2695 ~~reconfiguration of the shoreline for mitigation or enhancement purposes.~~

2696 ~~((S-766)) S-802 ((In order))To reduce the adverse effects of shoreline modifications, King County~~
2697 ~~should limit the number and extent of shoreline modifications ((in number and extent to~~
2698 ~~the maximum extent practicable)).~~

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2699 ~~((S-767)) S-803 King County shall only allow shoreline modifications that are appropriate to the~~
2700 ~~specific type of shoreline and environmental conditions for which they are proposed.~~

2701 ~~((S-768)) S-804 King County shall ensure that shoreline modifications individually and cumulatively~~
2702 ~~do not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions. ((In order~~
2703 ~~t))To achieve this goal, King County shall give preference to those types of shoreline~~
2704 ~~modifications that have a lesser impact on the shoreline and by requiring mitigation of~~
2705 ~~identified impacts resulting from shoreline modifications.~~

2706 ~~((S-769)) S-805 Where applicable, King County shall develop regulations and impose conditions~~
2707 ~~based on scientific and technical information and a comprehensive analysis of shoreline~~
2708 ~~conditions for drift cells for marine waters or reaches for lakes and river and stream~~
2709 ~~systems.~~

2710 ~~((S-770)) S-806 King County should plan for the enhancement of impaired shoreline ecological~~
2711 ~~processes and functions where feasible and appropriate, while accommodating~~
2712 ~~permitted uses. To the maximum extent practical, King County should incorporate~~
2713 ~~appropriate measures to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions from the~~
2714 ~~impacts of shoreline modifications.~~

2721 ~~((2:))~~ B. Shoreline Stabilization

2722 Shorelines are impacted by wind and wave action, currents, tides, and flood waters, resulting in erosion
2723 of banks and shifts in channels. These ~~((impacts))~~ are natural processes that support shoreline ecological
2724 processes and functions, but they also impact human use of shorelines.

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD
Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) ~~xxxxx~~
(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

2726 These natural processes are likely to be affected by climate change. Lowland rivers may see higher flows
2727 in the autumn and winter and mid-elevation rivers may see higher winter flows. In both cases, these
2728 changes could lead to more frequent flooding. The marine shorelines around Vashon-Maury Island and
2729 the Duwamish Estuary may also see effects due to sea(=)level rise. Increased sea elevations will make
2730 development and infrastructure in low-lying areas more susceptible to flooding due to high tides and
2731 storms. Waves will encroach further onto low-lying beaches and cause greater beach erosion,
2732 threatening or damaging low-lying structures. At the same time steep slopes may receive increased
2733 moisture due to predicted changes in precipitation patterns, potentially resulting in an increase in
2734 landslides that may cause property destruction and threaten human safety.

2735
2736 Humans have long desired to "control" these natural processes by constructing shoreline stabilization
2737 structures. The negative (side) impacts of structural solutions includes the high cost of construction,
2738 long-term cost of maintenance and repair, the false sense of security for humans relying on these
2739 structures, and the high impact to the shoreline environment. These negative impacts are likely to
2740 increase as the effects of climate change become more apparent. These impacts include:

- 2741 1. Beach starvation where sediment is prevented from supplying the beach, thus impeding a
2742 dynamic process.
- 2743 2. Habitat degradation, particularly through removal of shoreline vegetation.
- 2744 3. Sediment impoundment where the sources of sediment are lost and longshore transport is
2745 diminished, resulting in lowering of down-drift beaches, narrowing of the high tide beach,
2746 and the coarsening of beach sediment.
- 2747 4. Exacerbation of erosion as wave energy is reflected back from hard surfaces onto the beach,
2748 increasing erosion.
- 2749 5. Groundwater impacts that can lead to a rise of the water table on the landward side of an
2750 erosion control structure, which results in increased pore pressures in the beach material
2751 and accelerated erosion of sand-sized material from the beach.
- 2752 6. Hydraulic impacts where wave energy is reflected back onto the beach, resulting in scour
2753 lowering the beach elevation, or coarsening the beach, resulting in failure of the structure.
- 2754 7. Loss of shoreline vegetation and the loss of erosion control that the vegetation provided, as
2755 well as loss of the habitat function provided by vegetation.
- 2756 8. Loss of large woody debris, which plays an important role in biological diversity and habitat
2757 as well as stabilizing the shoreline.
- 2758 9. Restriction of channel movement and creation of side channels, impacting recruitment of
2759 large woody debris and gravel for spawning.

2760
2761 As alternatives to constructing a hard-surfaced structural facility, nonstructural methods that have lesser
2762 impacts on shoreline ecological processes and functions are available. These nonstructural methods
2763 may also allow for adaptation to the effects of climate change. For example, if buildings are constructed
2764 further away from the existing water edge, beyond the range of sea(=)level rise, shoreline protection
2765 would be unnecessary. For most projects, a range of options is available. These include "soft" measures,
2766 such as revegetation to stabilize banks, which provide a variety of other ecological processes and
2767 functions, and "hard" measures, such as bulkheads, which often detract from or provide only limited
2768 ecological function. Shoreline stabilization options include, but are not limited to:

- 2769 1. Vegetation enhancement;
- 2770 2. Upland drainage control;
- 2771 3. Biotechnical measures;
- 2772 4. Beach enhancement;
- 2773 5. Anchor trees;

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx~~
~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

- 2774 6. Gravel placement;
- 2775 7. Rock revetments;
- 2776 8. Gabions;
- 2777 9. Concrete groins;
- 2778 10. Retaining walls and bluff walls;
- 2779 11. Bulkheads; and
- 2780 12. Seawalls.

~~((S-771)) S-807 King County shall require shoreline stabilization to be consistent with Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221((5)) for vegetation retention and ((Washington Administrative Code 173-26-221(2) for)) protection of critical areas.~~

~~((S-772)) S-808 King County shall adopt standards to first avoid and then mitigate the impact to shoreline ecological processes and functions when alteration of the shoreline is allowed for the construction of single detached ((dwelling units)) residences and accessory structures. These standards shall address the design and type of protective measures and devices that are allowed.~~

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~~((When structural shoreline stabilization is proposed to protect existing development, the following measures apply:~~

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~~S-773 King County may allow construction of new or replaced structural shoreline stabilization and flood control works to protect an existing structure if King County determines there is a documented need, including a geotechnical analysis that the structure is in danger from shoreline erosion caused by tidal action, currents or waves.~~

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~~When new development occurs within the shoreline jurisdiction, the following measures apply:~~

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~~S-774) S-809 King County shall ((require)):~~

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- a. ~~Require ((n))New shoreline development, including subdivisions and short subdivisions, to be located and designed, as well as the creation of new subdivisions and short subdivisions, to avoid the need for future structural slope or shoreline stabilization ((to the maximum extent practicable)); and~~
- b. ~~Require Nnew development to be set back from steep or eroding slopes so that structural slopes or shoreline stabilization is not needed for the life of the development; and~~
- c. ~~Not allow new development that requires shoreline stabilization that will cause significant impacts to adjacent or down-current properties and shoreline areas.~~

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~~((S-775) King County shall require that lots in new subdivisions and short subdivisions to be created so that shoreline stabilization will not be necessary in order for reasonable development to occur, using geotechnical analysis of the site and shoreline characteristics.~~

~~S-776 King County shall require new development on steep slopes or bluffs to be set back sufficiently to ensure that shoreline stabilization is unlikely to be necessary during the life of the structure, as demonstrated by a geotechnical analysis.))~~

~~S-777 King County shall not allow new development that requires shoreline stabilization that will cause significant adverse impacts to adjacent or down-current properties and shoreline areas.~~

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2827 ~~((S-778))~~ King County should notify all prospective developers of new development along
2828 Vashon-Maury Island that their development may be impacted by sea-level rise and
2829 should encourage all such new development to be set back a sufficient distance to
2830 avoid the need for shoreline protection during the expected life of the development.))
2831

2832 New "hard" structural stabilization measures should be used as a last resort after exploring and
2833 evaluating other soft measures.))

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2834 **S-810** New or enlarged structural sShoreline stabilization to protect an existing primary
2835 structure shall be allowed only when:

- 2836 a. ~~The Necessary to protect existing primary structures is at imminent risk from~~
2837 shoreline erosion caused by tidal action, currents, or waves;
- 2838 b. ~~No lower-impact alternative exists, including relocation or reconstruction of the~~
2839 structure;
- 2840 c. ~~On-site drainage has been directed away from the shoreline edge; and~~
- 2841 d. ~~When impacts are mitigation to ensure There is no net loss of shoreline ecological~~
2842 processes and functions.; and d. ~~Stabilization measures are in conformance with~~
2843 Washington Administrative Code 173-26-231.
- 2844

2845 ~~((S-779))~~ **S-811** ~~((King County shall require the use of soft methods of shoreline stabilization to the~~
2846 maximum extent practicable.)) King County shall allow new and replacement ~~((hard))~~
2847 structural stabilization measures ~~((only))~~ for new nonwater-dependent development, as
2848 follows:

- 2849 a. ~~((To protect existing nonwater-dependent development and structures, including~~
2850 single((-family residences)) detached homes, if:
2851 1-) The erosion is not the result of upland conditions, such as the loss of vegetation
2852 and drainage;
- 2853 ~~((2-))~~ b. ~~Nonstructural measures, such as locating the development further from the~~
2854 shoreline, planting vegetation, or installing on-site drainage improvements, are not
2855 feasible or not sufficient;
- 2856 ~~((3-))~~ c. ~~The need to protect primary structures from imminent risk of damage due to~~
2857 erosion is demonstrated through a geotechnical report submitted by a qualified
2858 specialist. The damage must be caused by natural processes, such as tidal action,
2859 currents, and waves; and
- 2860 ~~((4-))~~ d. ~~Mitigation is provided such that the ((erosion control structure)) shoreline~~
2861 stabilization will not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological processes and
2862 functions.
- 2863

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2864 **S-812** ~~((b. To protect water-dependent development if))~~ King County shall allow new
2865 structural shoreline stabilization for water-dependent development, as follows:

- 2866 ~~((1-))~~ a. ~~The erosion is not the result of upland conditions, such as the loss of vegetation~~
2867 and drainage;
- 2868 ~~((2-))~~ b. ~~Nonstructural measures, planting vegetation, or installing on-site drainage~~
2869 improvements are not feasible or not sufficient;
- 2870 ~~((3-))~~ c. ~~The need to protect primary structures from damage due to erosion is~~
2871 demonstrated through a geotechnical report submitted by a qualified specialist;
2872 and
- 2873 ~~((4-))~~ d. ~~The ((erosion control structure)) shoreline stabilization will not result in a net~~
2874 loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
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2876 **S-813** King County shall allow new structural stabilization ~~((c. F))~~ to protect shoreline
2877 restoration projects or hazardous substance remediation projects pursuant to Chapter
2878 70A.305 Revised Code of Washington ~~((Chapter 70.105D))~~ if) as follows:

- 2879 ~~((1-))~~ a. ~~Nonstructural measures, planting vegetation, or installing on-site drainage~~
2880 improvements are not feasible or not sufficient; and
- 2881 ~~((2-))~~ b. ~~The ((erosion control structure)) shoreline stabilization will not result in a net~~
2882 loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
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2885 ~~((The King County shoreline jurisdiction includes a large number of shoreline stabilization structures,~~
2886 ~~many of which were constructed years ago with little or no consideration of the impact on shoreline~~
2887 ~~ecological processes and functions:~~

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2888
2889 **S-780)) S-814** ~~An existing shoreline stabilization structure may be replaced ((with a ((similar~~
2890 ~~structure if)) method ,provided that is the least similar or less impactful stabilization~~
2891 ~~measure is used and, as follows:~~
2892 ~~a. The replacement is designed, located, sized, and constructed to ensure no net loss~~
2893 ~~of ecological functions;~~
2894 ~~b. The replacement does not encroach waterward of the ordinary high water mark or~~
2895 ~~the existing shoreline stabilization structure and is moved as far landward of the~~
2896 ~~ordinary high water mark as possible;~~
2897 ~~c. The existing shoreline stabilization structure is removed;~~
2898 ~~d. The replacement does not increase the size of the existing stabilization structure;~~
2899 ~~and~~
2900 ~~e. The existing shoreline stabilization can no longer adequately serve its purpose and~~
2901 ~~there is a demonstrated need to protect principal uses or structures from erosion caused~~
2902 ~~by currents, tidal action, or waves.~~

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2903
2904 ~~((S-781) King County shall require replaced shoreline protection structures to be designed,~~
2905 ~~located, sized, and constructed to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes~~
2906 ~~and functions:~~

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2907
2908 **S-782)) S-815** ~~Replacement walls or bulkheads to protect a residence shall not encroach~~
2909 ~~waterward as measured at an elevation of two-feet above the current ordinary~~
2910 ~~((high-water)) high water mark, unless:~~
2911 ~~a. The residence was occupied prior to January 1, 1972;~~
2912 ~~b. There are overriding safety or environmental concerns; and~~
2913 ~~c. The replacement ((structure)) shall abut the existing shoreline stabilization structure~~
2914 ~~and be located on the landward side of the existing structure.~~

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2915
2916 ~~((S-783)) S-816~~ ~~If a net loss of ecological processes and functions associated with critical saltwater~~
2917 ~~habitats will result from leaving an existing shoreline protection structure that is~~
2918 ~~proposed for replacement, King County shall require the structure to be removed as~~
2919 ~~part of the replacement measure.~~

2920
2921 ~~((S-784)) S-817~~ ~~King County shall ((encourage)) require the use of soft shoreline stabilization~~
2922 ~~measures that use placement or growth of natural materials that closely resemble~~
2923 ~~natural scales and configurations, or other soft stabilization measures where~~
2924 ~~appropriate, and that provide restoration of shoreline ecological processes and~~
2925 ~~functions waterward of the ordinary ((high-water)) high water mark.~~

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2926
2927 ~~((S-785)) S-818~~ ~~King County should encourage replaced structural shoreline stabilization located on~~
2928 ~~Vashon-Maury Island to be relocated outside of the coastal high hazard area (also~~
2929 ~~known as the coastal 100-year floodplain) whenever possible.~~

2930
2931 ~~((King County should make decisions on shoreline stabilization measures based on technical studies and~~
2932 ~~reports that objectively analyze the current conditions and the impact of the proposed stabilization~~
2933 ~~measure. A geotechnical report addressing geologic and habitat conditions developed by a qualified~~
2934 ~~geologist or geotechnical engineer and habitat specialist should be a requirement of a development~~
2935 ~~proposal application that includes shoreline stabilization as part of the development.~~

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2936
2937 ~~S-786) ((When shoreline stabilization is proposed, King County shall require a geotechnical~~
2938 ~~report to address the need to prevent potential damage to a primary structure. The~~
2939 ~~report shall estimate time frames and rates of erosion and the urgency associated with~~
2940 ~~the specific situation. King County should not allow hard armoring solutions, unless a~~
2941 ~~geotechnical report confirms that there is a significant possibility that the structure will~~
2942 ~~be damaged within three years as a result of shoreline erosion in the absence of such~~

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hard armoring measures, or where waiting until the need is immediate would foreclose the opportunity to use measures that avoid impacts on shoreline ecological processes and functions. If the geotechnical report confirms a need to prevent potential damage to a primary structure, but the need is not as immediate as the three years, the report may still be used to justify more immediate authorization to protect against erosion using soft measures.)) **When shoreline stabilization is proposed, King County shall ensure that the stabilization method used is the least ecologically impactful, technically feasible option.**

The construction of shoreline stabilization measures results in impacts to the ecological processes and functions of the shoreline. The following measures should be considered to mitigate the impacts of shoreline stabilization projects:

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~~5-788~~) **S-819** If structural shoreline stabilization measures are demonstrated to be necessary, King County shall:

- ~~(1-)~~ a. Limit the size of stabilization measures to the minimum necessary;
- ~~(2-)~~ b. Require the use of measures designed to ~~(assure)~~ **ensure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions;**
- c. Ensure the shoreline stabilization method is the least ecologically impactful, technically feasible option; and**
- ~~(3-)~~ d. Require the use of soft approaches, unless they are demonstrated not to be sufficient to protect primary structures, dwellings, and businesses.

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~~(5-789)~~ **S-820** King County shall ensure that publicly financed or subsidized shoreline erosion control measures do not restrict appropriate public access to the shoreline, except where such access is determined to be infeasible because of incompatible uses, safety, security, or harm to shoreline ecological processes and functions. Where feasible, King County shall require ecological restoration and public access improvements to be incorporated into the project.

~~(5-790)~~ **S-821** King County shall discourage new development and redevelopment on feeder bluffs. Where a legal building lot exists and the landowner has no option to locate new development or redevelopment away from feeder bluffs and other areas that affect beach sediment-producing areas, King County shall require that they avoid, to the maximum extent ~~(practicable)~~ **feasible**, and then minimize the adverse impacts to sediment conveyance systems from erosion control measures.

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~~(5-791)~~ **S-822** King County should prioritize feeder bluffs as areas for protection using acquisition, easement, transfer of development rights, and other programs that eliminate or reduce development threats.

~~(Erosion is the breakdown of soil, mud, rock, and other particles by the agents of wind, water, or ice or by living organisms. These materials are moved downward or down-slope in response to gravity. Upland conditions may contribute to this on-going natural physical process and may impact the ability of people to use the shoreline.))~~ Mass wasting is the geomorphic process by which soil, mud, rock, and other particles move downslope under the force of gravity. Types of mass wasting include creep, slides, flows, topples, and falls, each with its own characteristic features. Mass wasting may occur at a very slow rate, particularly in areas that are very dry or those areas that receive sufficient rainfall such that vegetation has stabilized the surface. ~~(It may also occur at very high speed, such as in rock slides or landslides, with disastrous consequences. The desire to protect shoreline development from these impacts leads to proposals for shoreline stabilization.~~

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2995 **S-792) S-823** The impacts of erosion and mass wasting should be mitigated through protection of
2996 geological hazardous areas.

2997 ~~((3.))~~ **C. Piers and Docks**

2998 Piers and docks are some of the most commonly requested modifications to the shorelines. Because
2999 they extend over the water, piers and docks can have a significant impact on the shoreline ecological
3000 processes and functions. Careful consideration should be given to the construction of new piers and
3001 docks, and how they are constructed ((in order)) to minimize their impacts.

3003 ~~((5-798)) S-824~~ King County shall require piers and docks ~~((, including those accessory to
3004 single((family residences)),)) to be designed and constructed to avoid and then
3005 minimize and mitigate the impacts to shoreline ecological processes and functions.
3006 King County shall ((require piers and docks to be constructed of non-toxic materials.
3007 Where toxic materials, such as treated wood, are proposed, the proponent must show
3008 that no non-toxic alternative exists)) prohibit the use of creosote or pentachlorophenol
3009 pilings.~~

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3011 ~~((5-793)) S-825~~ King County shall allow new piers and docks only for water-dependent uses, single
3012 detached residences, or for public access.

3013 **a.** ~~For single detached residences, the pier or dock shall be considered a water-~~
3014 ~~dependent use ((!)) if it is designed and intended as a facility for access to~~
3015 ~~watercraft ((, a dock associated with a single((family residence)) detached home is~~
3016 ~~considered a water-dependent use)).~~ As an alternative to individual private
3017 moorage for residential development: mooring buoys are preferred over floats or
3018 docks and shared moorage facilities are preferred over single use moorage, where
3019 feasible or where water use conflicts exist or are predictable.

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3020 **b.** ~~For all other development, piers or docks shall only be allowed when the applicant~~
3021 ~~demonstrates that a specific need exists to support the intended water-dependent use.~~

3023 ~~((5-794)) S-826~~ King County shall require piers and docks ~~((construction))~~ to be limited to the
3024 minimum size necessary to meet the needs of the proposed water-dependent use.

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3026 ~~((5-796))~~ King County shall allow new pier or dock construction, excluding docks accessory to
3027 single((family residences)) single detached homes, only when the applicant has
3028 demonstrated that a specific need exists to support the intended water-dependent
3029 uses.))

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3031 ~~((5-610)) S-827~~ King County shall prefer and provide special permitting considerations for docks
3032 and piers that are shared among multiple landowners.

3034 ~~((5-797)) S-828~~ If new piers or docks are allowed, King County shall require new residential
3035 development of two or more dwelling units, subdivisions, and short subdivisions to
3036 provide joint use or community dock facilities, when feasible, rather than individual
3037 docks for each dwelling unit or lot. King County shall allow only one pier or dock
3038 associated with a residential development on a parcel.

3039 ~~((4.))~~ **D. Fill**

3040 ~~((Fill means the addition of soil, sand, rock, gravel, sediment, earth retaining structures, or other material
3041 to an area waterward of the ordinary high water mark, in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that
3042 raises the elevation or creates dry land.))~~ Fill is not permitted within the 100-year floodplain without
3043 providing compensatory flood storage to prevent a rise in the base flood, which is a flood having a one
3044 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, often referred to as the "100-year
3045 flood." Fill can impact shoreline ecological processes and functions, including channel migration.

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx~~
~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

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~~((5-799)) S-829 King County shall require fill to be located, designed, and constructed to protect shoreline ecological processes and functions and ecosystem-wide processes, including channel migration and side channels.~~

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~~((5-800)) S-830 King County shall allow fill waterward of the ordinary ~~((high-water)) high water~~ mark only when necessary to support:
~~((1-)) a. Water-dependent use;~~
~~((2-)) b. Public access;~~
~~((3-)) c. Cleanup and disposal of contaminated sediments as part of an interagency environmental clean-up plan;~~
~~((4-)) d. Disposal of dredged material considered suitable under, and conducted in accordance with, the dredged material management program of the Washington Department of Natural Resources;~~
~~((5-)) e. Expansion or alteration of transportation facilities of statewide significance currently located on the shoreline and then only upon a demonstration that alternatives to fill are not feasible; ((or))~~
~~((6-)) f. Mitigation actions, environmental restoration, beach nourishment, enhancement projects; or~~
~~((7-)) g. Flood risk reduction projects implemented consistent with the goals, policies, and objectives of the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan where no reasonable alternative exists.~~~~

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~~((5-801)) S-831 King County shall require a shoreline conditional use permit for fill waterward of the ordinary ~~((high-water)) high water~~ mark for any use, except for projects for ecological restoration or for the maintenance, repair, or replacement of flood protection facilities.~~

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3073 ~~((5-))E. Breakwaters, Jetties, Groins, and Weirs~~

3074 Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs are all structural elements that are constructed to absorb or deflect
3075 wave action or to control excess sediment. A breakwater is an off-shore structure, either floating or not,
3076 which may or may not be connected to the shore and is designed to absorb and reflect back into the
3077 water body the energy of the waves. A jetty is an artificial barrier used to change the natural littoral drift
3078 to protect inlet entrances from clogging by transported sediment. A groin is a barrier-type structure
3079 extending from the backshore into the water across the beach, which is constructed to interrupt
3080 sediment movement along the shore. A weir is a small dam in a stream or river to control the flow of
3081 water. ~~((Although each of these structural elements may sometimes be appropriate, they should be
3082 allowed only under limited circumstances.~~

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3083 ~~S-802)) S-832 King County shall allow breakwaters, jetties, and weirs located waterward of the
3084 ordinary ~~((high-water)) high water~~ mark only where necessary to support
3085 water-dependent uses, public access, shoreline stabilization, or other specific public
3086 purpose.~~

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3087 ~~((5-803)) S-833 Groins are prohibited except as a component of a publicly~~((r))~~sponsored project to
3088 protect or restore shoreline ecological processes and functions.~~

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3089 ~~((5-804)) S-834 King County shall require a shoreline conditional use permit for the construction of
3090 breakwaters, jetties, groins, weirs, and similar structures, except for those structures
3091 installed to protect or restore shoreline ecological processes and functions, such as
3092 woody debris installed in streams.~~

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3097 ~~((S-805))~~ S-835 Breakwaters, jetties, groins, and weirs shall be designed to protect critical areas and
3098 shall provide for mitigation according to the sequence in policy S-616 and defined in
3099 Washington Administrative Code 173-26-201~~((2)(e))~~.

3100 ~~((6.))~~E. Beach and Dunes Management

3101 ~~((Washington's beaches and their associated dunes lie along the Pacific Ocean coast between Point
3102 Grenville and Cape Disappointment and, as shorelines of statewide significance, are mandated to be
3103 managed from a statewide perspective by the Shoreline Management Act.))~~ There are no beaches
3104 ~~((and))~~ with associated dunes in King County.

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3105 ~~((7.))~~G. Dredging and Dredge Material Disposal

3106 Dredging is the removal, displacement, or disposal of unconsolidated earth material such as sand, silt,
3107 gravel, or other submerged materials, from the bottom of water bodies, ditches, or natural wetlands.
3108 Long-term maintenance and support activities are also considered dredging. Dredging can cause
3109 significant ecological damage, which cannot always be avoided. ~~((Mitigation measures should be
3110 required to assure no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.))~~

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3111 King County has a channel monitoring program for King County rivers, which can be used to inform
3112 decisions on dredging activities. ~~((While only certain reaches of these rivers have been surveyed, King
3113 County recognizes the need to continue and enhance the channel monitoring program. In addition,
3114 King County should avoid d))~~Development of shorelines that would require new or maintenance
3115 dredging ~~should be avoided.~~

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3116 ~~((S-806))~~ S-836 King County shall require that new development should be sited and designed to
3117 avoid, to the maximum extent practical, and then to minimize, the need for new or
3118 maintenance dredging.

3119 ~~((S-807))~~ S-837 King County shall allow dredging for the purpose of establishing, expanding, or
3120 relocating or reconfiguring navigation channels and basins when necessary to ~~((assure))
3121 ensure safe and efficient accommodation of existing navigational uses. Significant
3122 adverse ecological impacts shall be minimized and mitigation shall be provided to
3123 ensure that there is no net loss of shoreline ecological processes and functions.
3124 Maintenance dredging of established navigation channels and basins should be
3125 restricted to maintaining previously dredged or existing authorized location, depth, and
3126 width.~~

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3127 ~~((S-808))~~ S-838 King County shall not allow dredging waterward of the ordinary ~~((high-water))~~ high
3128 water mark for the primary purpose of obtaining fill material, except ~~((when the
3129 material is necessary))~~ for the restoration of shoreline ecological processes and
3130 functions. ~~((When allowed, the site where t))~~The fill ~~((is to))~~ shall be placed ~~((shall be
3131 located))~~ waterward of the ordinary ~~((high-water))~~ high water mark. The project must
3132 be either associated with a habitat restoration project under the Model Toxics Control
3133 Act or the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act,
3134 or, if approved through a shoreline conditional use permit, any other significant habitat
3135 enhancement project.

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3136 ~~((S-809))~~ S-839 King County shall ~~((not))~~ only allow disposal of dredge material on shorelands,
3137 ~~((and))~~ in side channels within a river's channel migration zone. ~~((King County shall not
3138 allow disposal of dredge material))~~ and in wetlands located ~~((within the shoreline
3139 jurisdiction. In the limited instances where it is allowed, such disposal shall require))
3140 through a shoreline conditional use permit.~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx~~
~~((Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440))TBD~~

3147 ~~((5-810)) S-840 King County shall require dredging to be conducted consistent with Policy RCM-3~~
3148 ~~of the ((2006)) King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, or successor policies or~~
3149 ~~plans.~~

3150 ~~((8.))~~ H. Shoreline Habitat and Natural Systems
3151 Enhancement Projects

3152 Shoreline habitat and natural systems enhancement projects should be supported and coordinated with
3153 other planning processes, such as salmon conservation plans and the ~~((2006))~~ King County Flood Hazard
3154 Management Plan, or successor plans.

3155 ~~((5-811)) S-841 King County should allow for habitat and natural systems enhancement projects~~
3156 ~~that include, but are not limited to:~~
3157 ~~a. Modification of vegetation;~~
3158 ~~b. Removal of nonnative or invasive plants;~~
3159 ~~c. Shoreline stabilization using soft or non-structural techniques; and~~
3160 ~~d. Dredging, and filling, provided that the primary purpose of such actions is clearly~~
3161 ~~restoration of the natural character and shoreline ecological processes and~~
3162 ~~functions of the shoreline.~~

3163 ~~((5-812)) S-842 Habitat and natural systems enhancement projects should ~~((assure)) ensure that the~~~~
3164 ~~projects address legitimate restoration needs and priorities.~~

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3167 ~~((IX.))~~ ~~Primary and Administrative~~ X. Nuisance
3168 Abatement Policies

3169 ~~((A.))~~ Reservation of Right to Appeal Department of Ecology
3170 Decisions

3171 By law, King County's Shoreline Master Program must be approved by the Department of Ecology, which
3172 has the power to reject or modify part or all of King County's Shoreline Master Program elements:

3174 ~~1. Reservation of right to submit alternate proposal to Ecology~~

3175 If the Department of Ecology recommends a change to some or all of the elements in King County's
3176 Shoreline Master Program, King County reserves the right to submit an alternate proposal for approval:

3177 ~~S-901 If the Department of Ecology recommends changes to any elements of the King County~~
3178 ~~Shoreline Master Program, King County reserves the right to submit an alternate~~
3179 ~~proposal to the Department for its review and approval.~~

3182 ~~2. Appeal of Ecology's decision to reject or modify King County Shoreline Master~~
3183 ~~Program:~~

3184 If the Department of Ecology rejects or modifies part or all of the elements of in King County's Shoreline
3185 Master Program, King County reserves the right to appeal this decision, in whole or part, to the Growth
3186 Management Hearings Board and the courts.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

3188 ~~**S-902**~~ ~~— If the Department of Ecology rejects part or all of King County’s Shoreline Master~~
3189 ~~Program, or if the Department of Ecology recommends changes that are unacceptable~~
3190 ~~to King County, King County reserves the right to appeal the Department’s decision to~~
3191 ~~the Shoreline Management Hearings Board.~~
3192

3193 ~~**B.))**~~ ~~Posting Notice of Effective Date of King County’s~~
3194 ~~Shoreline Master Program and Shoreline Regulations~~

3195 The King County Shoreline Master Program and any amendments to the Shoreline Master Program take
3196 effect only after approval by the Washington State Department of Ecology:

3197 ~~**S-903**~~ ~~— Upon receipt of the letter from the Department of Ecology approving the King County~~
3198 ~~Shoreline Master Program or any amendments to the Shoreline Master Program, King~~
3199 ~~County will promptly post on its website a notice that the Department of Ecology has~~
3200 ~~taken final action and approved the Shoreline Master Program or SMP amendments.~~
3201 ~~The notice will indicate the effective date.~~
3202
3203

3204 ~~**C.))**~~ ~~Indian Treaty Rights Not Affected by Shoreline Master~~
3205 ~~Program~~

3206 King County has sought the input of and consulted with Indian tribes located in and adjacent to King
3207 County when developing the Shoreline Master Program. ~~((However, the Shoreline Master ((Plan))~~
3208 ~~Program and associated shoreline regulations shall not be construed to affect any treaty rights~~
3209 ~~established between the United States and the individual tribes.~~

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3210 ~~**D.))**~~ ~~Power to Abate Nuisance Retained by King County and~~
3211 ~~the State of Washington~~

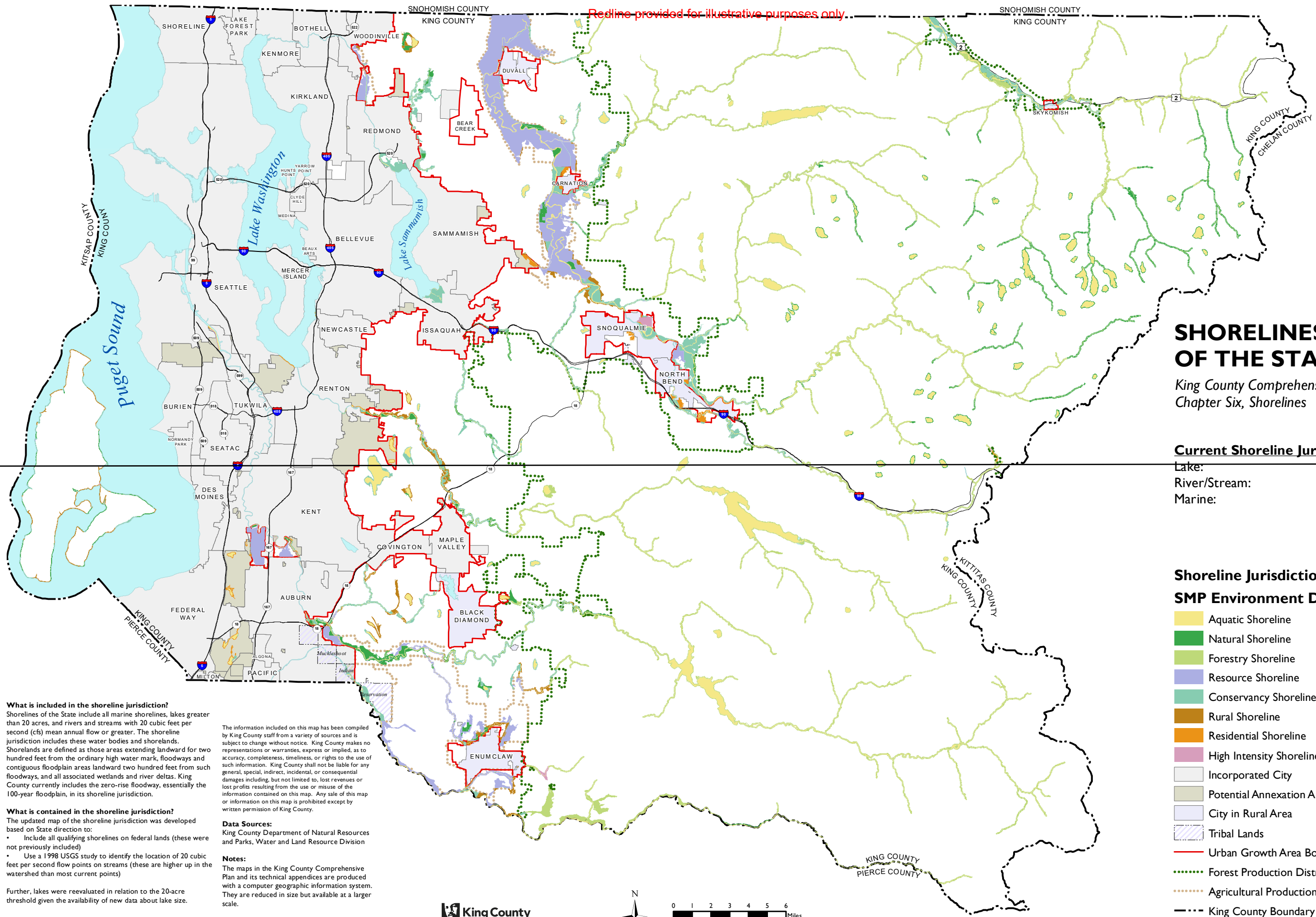
3212 Adoption of the Shoreline Master Program is a requirement of the Shoreline Management Act. King
3213 County’s compliance with this state law should not be construed in any way to limit or modify all other
3214 powers possessed by King County.
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3216 ~~**S-905)) S-901**~~ ~~Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program shall be construed to limit~~
3217 ~~the power of King County or the State of Washington to abate nuisances within the~~
3218 ~~shoreline jurisdiction.~~

3219 ~~**((S-906)) S-902**~~ ~~King County specifically reserves all rights, power, and authority granted to it by~~
3220 ~~law. Nothing in the King County Shoreline Master Program shall be construed in any~~
3221 ~~way to limit any power or authority possessed by King County.~~
3222

Redline provided for illustrative purposes only



SHORELINES OF THE STATE 2020

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2020
Chapter Six, Shorelines

Current Shoreline Jurisdiction Miles

Lake:	220
River/Stream:	1,696
Marine:	51

- Shoreline Jurisdiction**
- Aquatic Shoreline
 - Natural Shoreline
 - Forestry Shoreline
 - Resource Shoreline
 - Conservancy Shoreline
 - Rural Shoreline
 - Residential Shoreline
 - High Intensity Shoreline
 - Incorporated City
 - Potential Annexation Areas
 - City in Rural Area
 - Tribal Lands
 - Urban Growth Area Boundary
 - Forest Production District Boundary
 - Agricultural Production District Boundary
 - King County Boundary
 - Freeways

What is included in the shoreline jurisdiction?
Shorelines of the State include all marine shorelines, lakes greater than 20 acres, and rivers and streams with 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) mean annual flow or greater. The shoreline jurisdiction includes these water bodies and shorelands. Shorelands are defined as those areas extending landward for two hundred feet from the ordinary high water mark, floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet from such floodways, and all associated wetlands and river deltas. King County currently includes the zero-rise floodway, essentially the 100-year floodplain, in its shoreline jurisdiction.

What is contained in the shoreline jurisdiction?
The updated map of the shoreline jurisdiction was developed based on State direction to:

- Include all qualifying shorelines on federal lands (these were not previously included)
- Use a 1998 USGS study to identify the location of 20 cubic feet per second flow points on streams (these are higher up in the watershed than most current points)

Further, lakes were reevaluated in relation to the 20-acre threshold given the availability of new data about lake size.

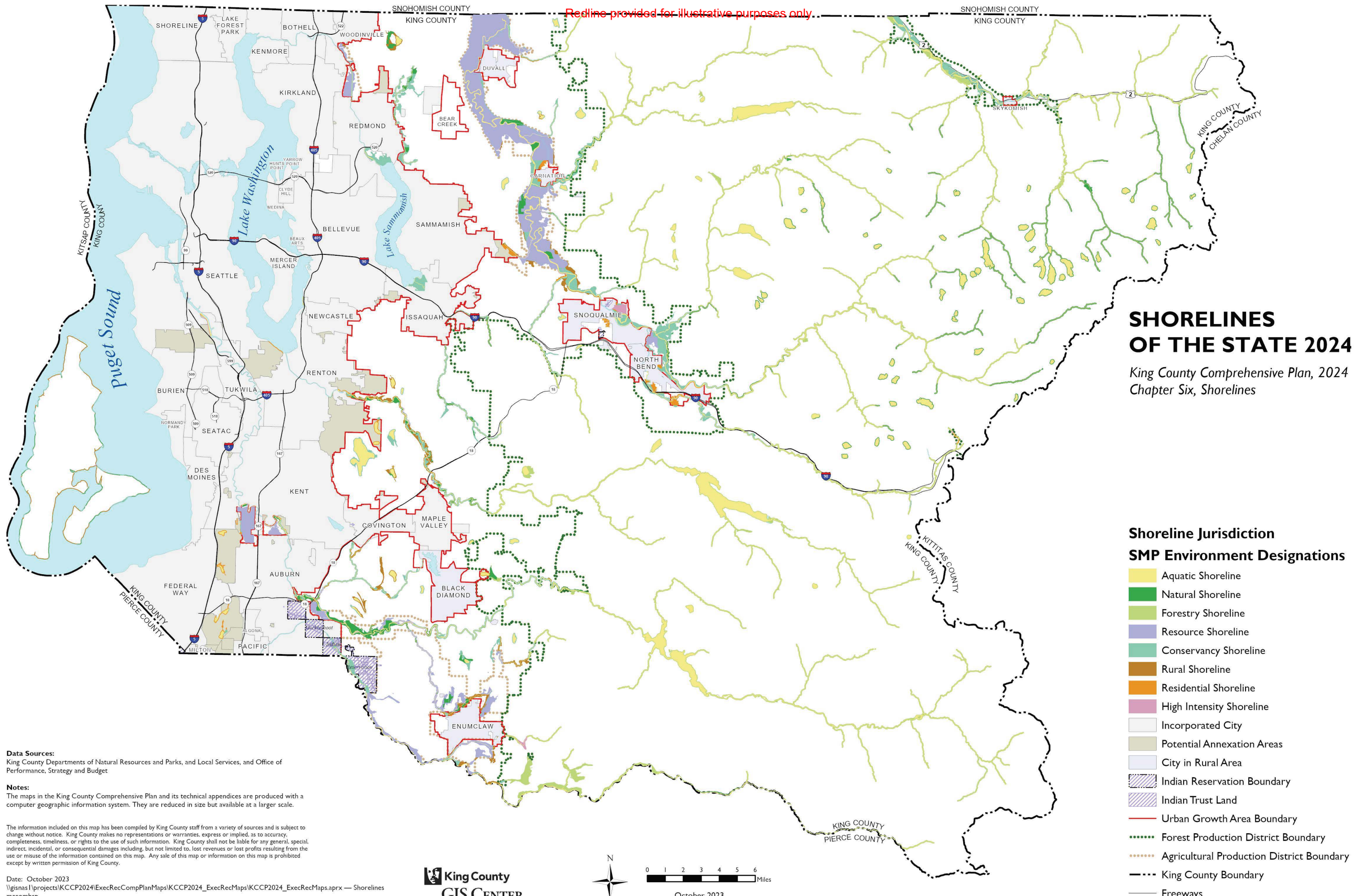
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Data Sources:
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resource Division

Notes:
The maps in the King County Comprehensive Plan and its technical appendices are produced with a computer geographic information system. They are reduced in size but available at a larger scale.



Redline provided for illustrative purposes only



SHORELINES OF THE STATE 2024

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter Six, Shorelines

- Shoreline Jurisdiction**
- Aquatic Shoreline
 - Natural Shoreline
 - Forestry Shoreline
 - Resource Shoreline
 - Conservancy Shoreline
 - Rural Shoreline
 - Residential Shoreline
 - High Intensity Shoreline
 - Incorporated City
 - Potential Annexation Areas
 - City in Rural Area
 - Indian Reservation Boundary
 - Indian Trust Land
 - Urban Growth Area Boundary
 - Forest Production District Boundary
 - Agricultural Production District Boundary
 - King County Boundary
 - Freeways

Data Sources:
King County Departments of Natural Resources and Parks, and Local Services, and Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Notes:
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Date: October 2023
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mccombp



October 2023



CHAPTER 7

PARKS, OPEN SPACE, &

CULTURAL RESOURCES

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

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CHAPTER 7

5

PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND

6

CULTURAL RESOURCES

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The quality of life in King County is directly linked to the quality of the region's environment, with its diverse landscapes reaching from Puget Sound to the Cascade Mountains, scenic beauty, and the variety of cultural and recreational opportunities that enriches lives. These vital natural and cultural resources contribute to the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of county residents and are integral to attracting employment and business activity.

The policies in this chapter focus on the ~~((c))~~County's role as a regional leader in acquiring and protecting its system of ~~((c))~~County-owned parks, forests, natural areas, trails, and other open spaces. In addition to protecting these natural resources, the ~~((c))~~County promotes a high quality of life by supporting cultural opportunities such as music, theater, ethnic heritage museums, literary activities, public art collections, urban historic districts, ~~((and))~~ rural landmarks, ~~and Indian tribal cultural and historic resources:))~~

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12 ~~II.~~ Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

13 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to identify open space~~
14 ~~corridors within and between ((U))urban ((Growth A))areas, including lands useful for~~
15 ~~recreation, wildlife habitat, trails, and connection of critical areas.)) The ((c))County's~~
16 ~~designation of open space includes those lands that are part of the King County open~~
17 ~~space system as well as state parks and natural resource conservation areas and federal~~
18 ~~wilderness areas in unincorporated King County. ((See the Land Use Map ((is)) located~~
19 ~~at the end of Chapter 1, Regional Growth Management Planning. The Growth~~
20 ~~Management Act states that counties are the providers of regional services and local~~
21 ~~rural services, while cities are the appropriate providers of local urban services. As the~~
22 ~~regional government,)) King County manages a regional open space system of parks,~~
23 ~~regional trails, natural or ecological areas, and working resource lands, which includes:~~
24 ~~((While the cities are the managers of local parks, trails and open space lands in the~~
25 ~~incorporated portions of the Urban Growth Area, King County will continue to be the~~
26 ~~provider of)) provides local parks, trails, and open space lands in the ((Rural Area,~~
27 ~~((and)) Natural Resource Lands)) and the urban unincorporated area unincorporated~~
28 ~~areas in addition to regional facilities.~~

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30 ~~((Population growth and associated development continue to transform the county's~~
31 ~~landscape as forested and open lands have been converted to urban uses resulting in~~
32 ~~the fragmentation of wildlife corridors and riparian habitat, as well as the depletion of~~
33 ~~working resource lands and open vistas.)) The policies in this section provide guidance~~
34 ~~for the open space system of lands the ((c))County owns and manages to protect and~~
35 ~~restore the health of natural systems, provide recreational opportunities, shape~~
36 ~~community character, and help sustain agriculture and forestry economics.)) Additional~~
37 ~~benefits ((of the open space and regional trails systems)) beyond recreation include~~
38 ~~providing transportation alternatives, ((as well as)) health benefits from physical activity,~~
39 ~~and access to the outdoors for those who have mobility disabilities. Large, forested~~
40 ~~parks and natural areas help maintain air quality((r)) and water quality and quantity, and~~
41 ~~help mitigate the effects of climate change. Parks and green spaces also provide stress~~
42 ~~relief, rest, and relaxation and contribute to improved mental health and ((well-being))~~
43 ~~wellbeing. The policies also reinforce the ((c))County's focus on linking components of~~
44 ~~the open space system with an emphasis on completing the regional trails system,~~
45 ~~connecting riparian habitat, and reducing forestland fragmentation.~~

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47 Regional recreation and multiuse parks serve a countywide population and provide
48 high-quality, developed facilities that support multiple events, large group gatherings,
49 and special events. Passive parks serve less formal, organized, or intense activities.
50 Local ((rural)) park sites provide for active and passive recreation close to home. The
51 Regional Trails ((System)) network forms the foundation for King County and other
52 agencies' shared-use path networks that reach broadly throughout the ((c))County,
53 linking cities, other counties, and the state, and offering extensive recreation
54 opportunities. In addition to serving recreational users, ((F))the Regional Trails
55 ((System is also an essential part of King County's multimodal transportation system,
56 ~~providing)) network also provides interconnected ((nonmotorized travel)) active
57 ~~transportation options that are important for getting King County residents from place~~
58 ~~to place. Local trails provide circulation within local communities and access to the~~
59 ~~larger ((r))Regional ((t))Trails ((system)) network.~~~~

60
61 Natural areas and working forest sites can provide opportunities for informal, low
62 intensity, and low-impact activities which enable the understanding, appreciation, and
63 significance of natural resources. Passive recreation use of these sites requires little
64 infrastructure, although amenities such as backcountry trails and trailhead facilities may
65 be needed to accommodate appropriate types and levels of public use. Natural areas
66 often contain undeveloped or un((r))developable acreage that is managed primarily to

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67 support habitat to provide ecological benefits ~~((and contribute to biodiversity)).~~
68 Forested areas provide carbon sequestration and reduction in greenhouse gas
69 emissions, and play a role in adaptation to climate change.
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71 For the purposes of the King County open space system, "regional" means sites and
72 facilities that are large in size and serve communities from long distances and multiple
73 jurisdictions. "Local" means sites and facilities that serve unincorporated communities
74 and are smaller sites servicing close-to-home park and recreation needs.
75

76 ~~((P-101) For the purposes of the King County open space system: "regional"~~
77 ~~shall define sites and facilities that are large in size, have unique~~
78 ~~features or characteristics or significant ecological value, and serve~~
79 ~~communities from many jurisdictions; and "local" shall define sites and~~
80 ~~facilities that serve unincorporated communities predominately in the~~
81 ~~Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands:))~~
82

83 A. ~~((The Regional))~~ King County's Open Space 84 System of Parks, Trails, Natural Areas, and 85 Working Resource Lands

86 The policies in this chapter provide the basis to develop a contiguous and functional
87 open space system, connecting and including recreation and multiuse parks, natural
88 areas, working resource lands and regional trails. ~~((The components of this vital system~~
89 ~~contribute to the physical, mental and emotional well-being of county residents. ((Other~~
90 ~~publicly-owned lands such as Farmland Preservation Program and Flood Hazard~~
91 ~~Management properties also contribute to the system and its environmental benefits:))~~
92 The Open Space System Map shows these publicly~~((s))~~ owned open space lands and
93 provides the basis for identifying the linkages necessary to strengthen the physical and
94 functional connectivity of the ~~((e))~~ County's open space system. The following policies
95 reinforce the importance of the ~~((e))~~ County's open space system~~((s))~~ and guide planning
96 and management of appropriate recreational opportunities that best meet regional and
97 local ~~((rural))~~ unincorporated area needs, preserve ecologically significant resources and
98 protect working resource lands.
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~~((P-102)) P-101 King County shall ~~((be))~~ provide a regional ~~((leader in the provision~~
101 ~~of a regional))~~ provider of an open space system consisting of regional
102 and local parks, regional and backcountry trails, natural areas, working
103 resource lands, and flood hazard management lands.
104~~

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~~((P-125)) P-102 Management of the ~~((regional))~~ County's open space system ~~((of~~
108 ~~parks, regional trails, natural areas and working resource lands is))~~ shall
109 be guided by the King County Open Space Plan: Parks, Trails and
110 Natural Areas.
111~~

~~P-103 ~~((The regional network of open space))~~ should provide~~((s))~~ benefits
113 ~~to all county residents equitably including: recreation facilities,~~
114 ~~conservation of natural and working resource lands, improving air and~~
115 ~~water quality, ~~((flood hazard management))~~ and related programs and~~
116 ~~services, thereby contributing to the physical, mental, and emotional~~
117 ~~well-being of county residents:))~~ King County shall:
118 a. ~~Prioritize equity and use the health disparities map, or~~
119 ~~successor opportunities areas map in the development and~~~~

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- ~~acquisition of its open space system to help reduce health disparities and promote environmental justice;~~
- ~~b. ProvidePromote equitable access to the open space system for historically underrepresented and historically underinvested communities; and~~
- ~~c. Ensure that equity and racial and social justice benefits to all residents are prioritized in the open space system provides equitable benefits to all county residents.~~

~~((P-103)) P-104 King County ((will)) shall preserve wildlife corridors, riparian habitat, contiguous forest land, ((as well as)) and open space areas separating ((U))urban ((A))areas from the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands, as part of its open space system.~~

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B. Components of ((the Regional)) King County's Open Space System

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King County's ~~((regional))~~ open space system contains lands with many functions including: active and passive recreation; special purpose sites such as pools and trails; natural areas~~((s))~~ with educational, scientific, wildlife habitat, cultural or scenic values; working resource lands including agriculture and forest~~((s))~~lands; and community-defining systems, including physical and or visual buffers between areas of urban and rural development. ~~((Many sites within the open space system serve more than one function, but each site generally serves a primary role within the system.))~~

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1. ~~4-~~ Recreation Sites

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Regional Parks

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King County's regional ~~((recreation))~~ parks and facilities accommodate a wide range of ~~((active and passive))~~ recreational activities. Recreation sites that make up a functional system include: highly developed sites with organized, scheduled activities such as soccer and softball; ~~((passive or low impact recreation sites that include ((both physical activities and less intense activities such as))~~ informal play, trail use, and picnicking; and multiuse sites that include a ~~((combination of active recreation and passive))~~ spectrum of recreational ~~((with less intensely developed facilities and natural areas))~~ opportunities. ~~((Regional recreation parks serve a broad spectrum of users. These parks and their facilities include those not generally viable for serving individual communities alone due to site or specialized facility requirements or the unique nature of the offering requiring a broader user base to support them.))~~ Regional parks include recreational facilities that rely on a broad user base, require a large area, include a specialized facility, or offer a unique experience.

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Educational and interpretive programming promotes appropriate and enjoyable use of the park system, increases public awareness of the park system's resources and values, and builds support and stewardship for the system and its resources. Programming and special events provide activities and entertainment that attract people to the parks.

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~~((P-104)) P-105 King County shall provide regional parks and recreational facilities that serve users from multiple neighborhoods and communities~~((; Regional parks include unique sites and facilities that should be))~~ and strive to be equitably and geographically distributed, and shall ensure that investments prioritized using opportunity area metrics are delivered in collaboration with the community, cities, and other partners.~~

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~~((P-105)) P-106 King County should facilitate affordable and culturally((-)) accessible educational, interpretive, and aquatic programs on~~

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173 ~~((c)) County-owned properties that further the enjoyment,~~
174 ~~understanding and appreciation of the natural, cultural, and~~
175 ~~recreational resources of the park system and the region.~~

177 ~~((P-106)) P-107 King County should facilitate and seek regional and national~~
178 ~~programs and special events at regional sites and facilities.~~

179 **2. Local ~~((Parks)), Trails, and Open Spaces~~**

180 In the Rural Area, the large geographic area and dispersed populations, individual lots,
181 low residential density, and economies of site management dictate fewer and smaller
182 individual park sites ~~than in urban areas. ((Nearby regional parks and other open~~
183 ~~spaces also provide recreational opportunities in the Rural Area and Natural Resource~~
184 ~~lands.))~~ King County's role in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands ~~((will))~~ reflects
185 rural levels of service. ~~King County also provides local parks in unincorporated urban~~
186 ~~areas and the County's role in these parks reflect urban levels of service. ((These vital~~
187 ~~local parks, local trails, and recreational facilities contribute to the physical, mental, and~~
188 ~~emotional well-being of county residents.~~

189 **~~P-107)) P-108~~ King County shall provide local parks, ~~trails,~~ and other open spaces
190 ~~in ((the Rural Area)) urban and rural unincorporated areas. Local parks,~~
191 ~~trails, and other open spaces that complement the regional ((system))~~
192 ~~open space should be provided in each community ((in Rural Areas)) to~~
193 ~~meet local recreation and open space needs and enhance~~
194 ~~environmental quality and ((visual quality)) view corridors.~~**

197 ~~((P-108)) P-109~~ King County should provide local parks ~~that include fields and~~
198 ~~other active recreation facilities ((with)) in urban and ((rural))~~
199 ~~unincorporated ((communities with fields and other facilities that~~
200 ~~provide opportunities for active sports)) areas. These facilities shall be~~
201 ~~((in addition to and compatible)) additional and complimentary to~~
202 ~~those in ((with King County's)) regional parks.~~

204 ~~P-108a~~ ~~King County shall consider equity in the development and acquisition~~
205 ~~of its open space system to help reduce health disparities and promote~~
206 ~~environmental justice.~~

208 **3. Regional Trails ~~((System)) Network~~**

209 The Regional Trails ~~((System)) network~~ is a major element of the county's greater open
210 space system that provides opportunities for recreation and ~~((nonmotorized~~
211 ~~transportation)) active transportation, as well as corridors often used by wildlife. This~~
212 system contributes to the health and ~~((wellbeing)) wellbeing~~ of ~~((both county residents))~~
213 ~~trail users~~ and the environment. King County is home to one of the largest
214 ~~((nonmotorized))~~ regional trail networks in the North America. King County and local
215 jurisdictions collectively offer ~~((approximately)) over~~ 300 miles of shared-use ~~(multi-~~
216 ~~)purpose~~ paved and unpaved paths connecting communities and linking Puget Sound
217 urban areas with ~~the Rural Area((s)),~~ Natural Resource Lands, and the Cascade
218 Mountains. ~~((These facilities are classified as shared use paths by the Federal Highway~~
219 ~~Administration and are a component of the federally-designated regional transportation~~
220 ~~plan administered by the Puget Sound Regional Council. The))~~ King County
221 ~~((government))~~ stewards some 175 miles of the overall network. The remaining
222 portions of the network are managed by local cities, the Port of Seattle, and Washington
223 State.

225 ~~((Regional trails are ((non-motorized facilities)) used for bicycling, walking, jogging,~~
226 ~~skating, horseback riding where appropriate, and other activities. The paths provide~~

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227 ~~both recreational opportunities and mobility options, connecting users in~~
228 ~~neighborhoods and communities with schools, parks, employment, and other important~~
229 ~~destinations. Regional trails may be paved or soft-surface (gravel) or a combination of~~
230 ~~both. The network reaches more than 30 cities throughout King County, and use is~~
231 ~~extensive. It has been estimated that ((12 million bicycle and pedestrian)) millions of~~
232 ~~trips are made on the network in King County annually. These paths serve a wide range~~
233 ~~of land uses, both urban and rural. They link urban centers, business districts,~~
234 ~~neighborhoods, universities, schools, parks, and transportation centers. They run~~
235 ~~through cities, along waterfronts and scenic shorelines, through river valleys and~~
236 ~~farmlands, and into the Cascade forests.~~

237
238 While intended originally as recreational amenities and linear parks, the regional trails in
239 King County have evolved to provide not only extensive recreation, but also important
240 active transportation opportunities, and social and cultural venues. Today, thousands of
241 daily trips are made on paths such as the Burke-Gilman Trail between suburban cities
242 and Seattle.))

243
244 Recreation remains the primary use on regional trails, but ~~((an increasing number of~~
245 ~~those)) some trips are made for work and school, combining the healthy recreational~~
246 ~~benefits of cycling and walking with the workday commute. The trails are also used for a~~
247 ~~variety of special activities that enrich life in the central Puget Sound region, from~~
248 ~~art-related treks to community fundraisers to long-distance cycling events.~~

249
250 Regional trails in King County now include ~~((not only))~~ decades-old popular routes like
251 the Burke-Gilman Trail ~~((, but also))~~ and trails networking many landscapes and
252 destinations. Routes follow abandoned railroad lines, water pipeline and power line
253 corridors, river levees, and other special features or they may establish their own
254 alignments as they seek out practical courses between destinations. More
255 interconnections provide more travel opportunities. Paths access parks and scenic
256 landscapes, but they also now serve urban centers, major transit facilities, and other
257 important everyday destinations. Future facilities will continue to provide the joint
258 benefits of recreation and regional mobility. More information regarding King County's
259 Regional Trails ~~((System))~~ network, including the proposed future regional trails plan,
260 the Regional Trails Needs Report, can be found in ~~((the Appendices))~~ Appendix C2.

261
262 **~~((P-109)) P-110 King County shall complete and maintain a regional trails ((system))~~**
263 **~~network, ((linking trail corridors to form a countywide network)) to~~**
264 **~~provide recreational opportunities and to allow for transportation and~~**
265 **~~wildlife corridor uses to contribute to the health and well-being of both~~**
266 **~~trail users and the environment. King County ((will)) shall continue to~~**
267 **~~primarily own the land necessary for the operation and management of~~**
268 **~~the trail ((system)) network and pursue public-private funding~~**
269 **~~opportunities for development and maintenance, while ensuring~~**
270 **~~opportunities for access for all King County residents.~~**

271
272
273 ~~((Policies related to the planning, development, and management of the Regional Trails~~
274 ~~((System)) network can be found in the King County ((Parks)) Open Space Plan, Parks,~~
275 ~~Trails, and Natural Areas, a functional plan of the King County Comprehensive Plan.~~
276 ~~Additional policies can also be found in Chapter 8, Transportation.))~~

277
278 ~~((Eastside Rail Corridor)) Eastrail~~

279 ~~((The Eastside Rail Corridor)) Eastrail provides a ((rare and)) unique opportunity to~~
280 ~~develop a major north-south, dual-use ((recreational trail and public transportation))~~
281 ~~corridor in support of active transportation and transit mobility ((through transit,~~
282 ~~nonmotorized and active transportation, including access to transit outside the~~
283 ~~corridor.)) consistent with its federal railbanked status. The owners share ((other))~~

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284 multiple objectives for the corridor including accommodating utilities, parks, recreation,
285 and cultural amenities, and encouraging equitable access to these facilities, and to
286 housing and jobs, in support of economic opportunity for all King County residents.
287 ~~((The corridor will be the focus of regional trail planning and development by King
288 County Parks)) King County is actively developing the regional trail component of
289 Eastrail, connecting regional growth centers, urban communities, other regional trails,
290 and ~~((both))~~ local and high-capacity transit. The trail will connect to existing major
291 regional trail corridors including the Mountains to Sound/I-90 Trail, State Route 520
292 Trail, Sammamish River Trail, Lake to Sound Trail, and others. ~~((The trail will provide
293 opportunities for safe recreation and mobility as a component of King County's Regional
294 Trails System and provide opportunities for environmental benefits to the region.))~~ The
295 trail will help enhance the quality of life of the region's residents by providing important
296 recreation and mobility options for adjacent land uses.
297~~

298 ~~((P-110a))~~ **P-111**~~((The Eastside Rail Corridor regional trail shall be developed))~~ **King
299 County shall develop Eastrail in coordination with the other trail
300 owners, other jurisdictions, local and state agencies, utilities with
301 property interests, and nonprofit and private partners to enhance
302 regional recreation and mobility and connectivity between regional
303 growth centers, urban communities, other regional trails, and local and
304 high-capacity transit, consistent with a commitment to dual use
305 (recreational trail and public transportation), and consistent with
306 federal railbanking. ~~((The trail will enhance the quality of life by
307 providing important recreation and mobility options for adjacent land
308 uses.))~~ The trail corridor shall include high-quality landscaping and
309 environmental features, where appropriate, to enhance the trail
310 experience and to provide ecological benefits to the region.
311**

312 ~~((P-110))~~ **King County shall include the planning and development of a regional
313 trail in the Eastside Rail Corridor, to enhance regional recreation and
314 mobility. This facility will be planned and developed in coordination
315 with other owners of BNSF's former interests, and in close coordination
316 with King County Department of Transportation and other state and
317 local agencies, in support of the commitment to dual use (recreational
318 trail and public transportation), consistent with federal railbanking, and
319 multiple objectives of King County and the other owners. ~~((The trail will
320 be identified in King County's regional trails plan, the Regional Trails
321 Needs Report, as a priority capital facility.~~**
322

323 **P-110b** ~~The Eastside Rail Corridor regional trail shall be developed to the most
324 current regional trail standards, ensuring safe recreation and mobility
325 in accessing trails, streets, and transit consistent with a commitment to
326 dual use (recreational trail and public transportation), and consistent
327 with federal railbanking. The trail corridor will include high-quality
328 landscaping and environmental features where appropriate to enhance
329 the trail experience and to provide ecologic benefits to the region.))~~

330 **4.) Multi~~((+))~~use Sites**

331 ~~((Each portion of a multi-use site will be developed and managed to support the level of
332 use or conservation appropriate to that portion of the site.~~

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334 ~~P-110e)~~ **P-112** ~~Multi~~~~((r))~~ **use sites should include lands that have areas of**
335 **environmental value, but also may accommodate extensive public**
336 **access and active and/or passive recreation opportunities. Each portion**
337 **of a multiuse site shall be developed and managed to support the level**
338 **of use or conservation appropriate to that portion of the site.**

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339 **5. Natural Areas**

340 The King County open space system includes many sites owned by King County whose
341 primary purpose is to conserve and restore ecological value. These sites may allow
342 varying types of public use that do not harm the ecological resources of the site. These
343 sites include many scenic and environmental features of King County's landscape, which
344 play a role in protecting a diversity of vegetation and fish and wildlife important to the
345 beauty and character of the region. King County ~~((with))~~ focuses on linking natural areas
346 to create regional open space corridors of greenways and waterways along the major
347 natural systems, such as rivers and shorelines.

349 ~~((Preserving these areas in partnership with other agencies, Indian tribes, private groups~~
350 ~~and individuals will provide multiple values including environmental and economic~~
351 ~~benefits of air and water quality, surface water management, aquifer recharge, ((and))~~
352 ~~fish and wildlife habitat preservation and enhancement, and preservation of Indian tribal~~
353 ~~cultural and historic resources.))~~

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355 ~~((P-114))~~ **P-113** ~~((King County ((with)) shall manage its))~~ **Management of natural**
356 **areas owned by King County shall ((to)) protect, preserve, and enhance**
357 **important natural resource habitat, biological diversity, and the**
358 **ecological integrity of natural systems.**

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360 ~~((P-112))~~ **P-114** ~~((King County shall recognize and protect t))~~ **The natural character**
361 **and ecological value of its natural areas owned by King County shall be**
362 **protected. These areas are important for preserving fish and wildlife**
363 **and their habitat, native vegetation, ((and)) features of scientific and**
364 **educational value, and Indian tribal cultural and historic resources.**
365 **Development and public use may be limited to preserve the natural**
366 **state and reduce disturbance of the natural and cultural resources. Site**
367 **improvements should be focused on providing educational and**
368 **interpretive opportunities. Public access should be directed to ~~((the))~~**
369 **less-fragile portions of a site to ensure continued protection of the**
370 **ecological and cultural resources.**

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371 **6. Working Resource Lands**

372 The ~~((c))~~ County's open space system includes lands owned by King County that are
373 managed as working farms and forests. The ~~((c))~~ County has purchased these properties
374 ~~((in fee or less than fee ownership))~~ with the intention of conserving the resource use on
375 the site. County ownership and management of these lands conserves the resource
376 land base, allowing the resource activity to continue, while contributing to the local
377 ~~((rural))~~ economy, providing healthy foods, reducing carbon emissions associated with
378 importing food into the region, providing education about agriculture and forestry, and
379 providing passive recreational opportunities on some properties. The ~~((c))~~ County's
380 policies to conserve farmland and encourage agriculture are discussed in Chapter 3,
381 Rural Area ~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands.

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382 *Farmland*

383 ~~((The Farmland Preservation Program is a county program that preserves farmland~~
384 ~~through the purchase of development rights. The farms in the Farmland Preservation~~
385 ~~Program generally remain in private ownership. The county has purchased a farm~~
386 ~~outright in a few cases, with the intention of reselling the land without the development~~

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387 rights to a private farmer.) The County occasionally acquires farmland, either to address
388 farmland access issues or as part of an acquisition for other purposes, such as habitat
389 protection, food risk reduction, or recreational access. Although the County usually
390 intends to resell farmland to a private farmer while retaining a Farmland Preservation
391 Program easement, some farmland has strategic importance to advancing County
392 initiatives and priorities and will be retained in County ownership long-term. The
393 ((c))County has developed a program to lease farms ((to small-scale farmers)) until such
394 time that the property ((can be)) is resold.

396 ~~((P-113))~~ **P-115** Farmland owned by King County shall:

- 397 a. ~~((c))~~Contribute to the preservation of contiguous tracts of
- 398 agricultural land; ~~((and))~~ or
- 399 b. ~~((make affordable farmland available for use by small-scale and~~
- 400 ~~new farmers))~~ Provide access to farmland to farmers who are
- 401 historically underrepresented in agriculture, beginning farming, or
- 402 economically disadvantaged for beginning, low-income, historically
- 403 underserved, and socially disadvantaged farmers.

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405 ~~((P-114))~~ **P-116** ~~((Farmers leasing properties owned by King County shall use~~

406 ~~((A))~~agricultural ~~((B))~~best ~~((M))~~management practices, ~~((I))~~integrated

407 ~~((P))~~pest ~~((M))~~management, and other sustainable farming methods.)

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409 **P-117** King County shall explore opportunities to allow farmers who are

410 historically underrepresented in agriculture, beginning farming, or

411 economically disadvantaged to build equity while leasing farmland

412 owned by the County.

414 ~~((P-115))~~ **P-118** The use and management of farmlands owned by King County shall

415 be consistent with any requirements imposed by the funding program

416 used to purchase each property and shall serve to meet and enhance

417 the objectives of the King County Agriculture Program.

418 *Forestland*

419 ~~((One goal of the King County Open Space System is the c))~~Conservation of forestland,
420 through acquisition of land or conservation easements, ~~((to))~~ decreases threats of
421 conversion resulting from development and fragmentation, ~~((as well as))~~ and promotes
422 ~~((the))~~ understanding of the importance of forest management, including restoration of
423 the forests to more natural conditions. The working forests owned by King County are
424 generally very large parcels of land (several hundred acres or more) that support
425 sustainable forest management practices and contribute to the retention of a
426 contiguous forest.

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427
428 These properties contain valuable fish and wildlife habitat, provide environmental
429 services (such as stormwater management, clean air and water and carbon
430 sequestration), and help mitigate the impacts of climate change, as well as provide
431 high-quality passive recreation, scenic vistas, and educational((#)) and interpretation
432 opportunities.

434 ~~((P-116))~~ **P-119** Working forest land and conservation easements owned by King
435 County shall provide large tracts of forested property in the Rural
436 Forest Focus Areas, the Forest Production District, and Rural Area,
437 ((that will))

438
439 **P-120** These areas Working forest land and conservation easements owned
440 by King County shall remain in active forestry, protect areas from
441 development, or provide a buffer between commercial forestland and
442 adjacent residential development, and may provide ecological or
443 recreational benefits.

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445 ~~((P-117)) P-121 Management goals for working ((F))forest land owned by King~~
446 ~~County shall ((be used to sustain and enhance environmental)) include~~
447 ~~enhancing ecological benefits and functions, ((demonstrate~~
448 ~~progressive)) demonstrating best forest management ((and research))~~
449 ~~practices, ((and provide)) providing passive recreation opportunities,~~
450 ~~and generating revenue ((for the)) to facilitate sustainable management~~
451 ~~of ((the working forest lands)) those sites.~~

452
453 ~~((P-118) Forest land owned by King County shall provide a balance between~~
454 ~~sustainable timber production, conservation and restoration of~~
455 ~~resources, and appropriate public use.))~~

456 7. Backcountry Trails

457 Backcountry trails are ~~((not a separate open space category, rather they are))~~ facilities
458 located within King County's multi~~((-))~~use sites, forest lands and natural areas. These
459 trails allow visitors to directly experience the county's beautiful natural environment as
460 found in its forests, meadows, and marine and fresh~~((-))~~water shoreline. Unlike multi~~((-))~~
461 ~~purpose regional trails that network urban and rural landscapes throughout the~~
462 ~~county, these soft-surface trails are intended for ((passive)) outdoor recreation and~~
463 ~~appreciation and enjoyment of a natural experience with forest and trees, streams and~~
464 ~~wetlands, shorelines, and birds and wildlife. Where backcountry trails are developed on~~
465 ~~lands containing fish ((and)), wildlife, and cultural resources, development and~~
466 ~~management of such trails is undertaken ((so as)) to minimize the impacts on those~~
467 ~~resources.~~

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468
469 ~~((P-118a)) P-122 King County ((will)) shall continue to provide and manage a~~
470 ~~backcountry trail system on its lands in collaboration with other public~~
471 ~~and private landholders and consistent with its Trail Programmatic~~
472 ~~Permit.~~

473 8. Other Open Spaces

474 Preservation of open space in the county reaches beyond the ~~((c))~~County-owned
475 system. Large areas of the county are owned and managed by federal agencies, the
476 state, and other local jurisdictions ~~((that manage the land))~~ for environmental protection,
477 resource production, or a wide range of recreational ~~((opportunities))~~ uses.
478 Additionally, open space benefits are often provided by private land~~((-))~~owners
479 managing their land in ways that protect the environment, conserve natural resources,
480 or provide scenic vistas. ~~((King County acquires property for other reasons, such as~~
481 ~~flood hazards or providing needed public facilities. These lands can also provide open~~
482 ~~space conservation benefits.))~~

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483
484 ~~P-123 King County shall encourage and pursue partnerships and mutually~~
485 ~~beneficial agreements with public agencies, Indian tribes, public~~
486 ~~agencies, nonprofit and community organizations, and the private~~
487 ~~sector to fund, program, manage, and steward sites and facilities for~~
488 ~~public recreation and natural resource protection consistent with the~~
489 ~~classification, role, and use of said sites and facilities.~~

490
491 ~~((King County has acquired lands and manages facilities along major river and stream~~
492 ~~systems for the primary purpose of floodplain management and flood hazard~~
493 ~~management. Major streams and rivers are vital components of the ((c))County's open~~
494 ~~space system, therefore the flood hazard management lands contribute critical links in~~
495 ~~the ((c))County's open space network. ((The King County Flood Control District will~~
496 ~~continue to maintain flood hazard management land and facilities within available~~
497 ~~funding levels.)) The ((c))County will also seek innovative measures for maintaining and~~
498 ~~improving flood hazard management, reducing maintenance costs, integrating flood~~

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499 ~~hazard management and recreational opportunities, and achieving wildlife habitat~~
500 ~~protection and salmon recovery.))~~

501 **C. ~~((Achieving)) Sustaining and Growing the Open~~**
502 **~~Space System~~**

503 Parks and other ~~((c))~~County-owned open space lands ensure a quality of life today and a
504 legacy to future generations. In King County, many types of open spaces and fish and
505 wildlife habitat remain in private ownership and may be subject to future development.
506 ~~King County's Land Conservation Initiative guides the collaborative strategy to~~
507 ~~accelerate the preservation of natural lands, working farms and forests, urban green~~
508 ~~space, and trails in the next 30 years.~~ To ensure that these lands and resources are
509 protected and to offer an alternative to acquisition, the ~~((c))~~County offers landowners a
510 wide variety of tools to preserve their property. ~~((Policies outlining strategies for using~~
511 ~~these tools can be found in Chapters 3, Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands, 4,~~
512 ~~Housing and Human Services, and 7, Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources:))~~

513
514 Cooperation, coordination, and partnerships with public agencies, private groups, and
515 individuals are necessary to develop the ~~((regional parks and))~~ open space system, to
516 meet existing needs for park and recreation facilities, and to accommodate the needs of
517 growth. The Mountains-to-Sound Greenway National Heritage Area, along the I-90
518 corridor, is a successful model for coordination of efforts by public and private entities
519 to protect the backbone of the ~~((c))~~County's open space system. King County will
520 achieve the multiple benefits of resource protection and recreation by building
521 partnerships and coordinating with providers and user groups of the ~~((parks and))~~ open
522 space system. Working together, stewardship can be fostered and these lands and
523 facilities can be enhanced, restored, and operated more economically and efficiently to
524 benefit all county residents.

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525 **1. Priorities**

526 ~~((P-119)) P-124 Open space lands should be acquired to expand and enhance the~~
527 ~~open space system as identified in the King County Open Space Plan:~~
528 ~~Parks, ((Regional)) Trails and Natural Areas.~~

530 ~~((P-120)) P-125 Regional trail corridors should be acquired when identified in King~~
531 ~~County's Regional Trails Needs Report or other trails plans.~~

532
533 ~~((P-121)) King County shall consider equity in the location, development, and~~
534 ~~acquisition of its open space system to help in the reduction of health~~
535 ~~disparities and in the promotion of racial, social, and environmental~~
536 ~~justice.))~~

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537 **2. Criteria**

538 ~~((P-122)) P-126 Lands preserved for ((public parks, regional trails, or other)) open~~
539 ~~space should provide multiple benefits whenever possible.~~

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541 ~~((P-123)) P-127 Decisions on acquisition and development of park, regional trail,~~
542 ~~and other open space sites should consider funding needs for public~~
543 ~~engagement, initial stewardship, site development, long((-))-term~~
544 ~~maintenance, and operations.~~

545
546 ~~((P-124)) P-128 A variety of measures should be used to acquire, protect, manage,~~
547 ~~and develop regional and local ((parks, regional trails, and)) open~~
548 ~~space. Measures can include ((c))County funding and other)) funding~~
549 ~~mechanisms, grants, partnerships, incentives, regulations, dedications,~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

550
551
552

~~((and)) contributions from residential and commercial development based on their service impacts, ((and)) trades of lands, and shared development activities.~~

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553 3. Managing the System

554 As the caretaker of ~~((200)) 205~~ parks, 175 miles of regional trails, more than ~~((200)) 250~~
555 miles of backcountry trails, ~~((28,000)) 32,000~~ acres of open space, and ~~((145,000))~~
556 150,000 acres of conservation easements, King County is one of the region's important
557 providers and managers of public lands. As such, the principles and policies that guide
558 stewardship and management of these lands and resources are critical to ensure these
559 assets continue to contribute to the region's quality of life now and for future
560 generations.

561

562
563 ~~((P-126)) P-129 Development and management of ((parks, regional trails, and))
564 open space ((sites)) should be consistent with the purposes of their
565 acquisition and in consideration of their funding sources.~~

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566
567 ~~((P-127)) P-130 Open space lands shall be classified to identify their role in the
568 open space system and the purpose of the acquisition as recreation
569 site, regional trail, natural area ((park, multiuse site, or)), working
570 ((resource land)) forestland, or multi-use site.~~

571

572 ~~((P-128)) King County will adopt an entrepreneurial approach to managing and
573 operating the open space system and work aggressively to implement
574 multiple and appropriate strategies to fiscally sustain the open space
575 system.))~~

576

577 ~~((P-128a)) P-131 King County should develop management plans (such as master
578 plans, forest stewardship plans, or site management guidelines) that
579 outline goals and objectives and management recommendations for
580 sites within the open space system, as appropriate.~~

581

582 ~~((P-128b)) P-132 King County's use of pesticides and fungicides ((will)) shall be
583 based on integrated pest management principles.~~

584

585 ~~((P-128c)) P-133 King County shall support activities at County parks that advance
586 public health, provide clean environments, and avoid exposure to
587 harmful products, such as tobacco and vaping products, ((in order)) to
588 promote play, physical activity, and family and community connection.~~

589

589 4. Coordination and Partnerships

590 ~~((P-129)) P-134 Recognizing the value of open space in promoting social and
591 economic health and wellness across the county, King County shall be a
592 leader in establishing partnerships with Indian tribes, cities, adjacent
593 counties, Indian (tribes,) state and federal agencies, school and special
594 purpose districts, community organizations, non((-)profit
595 organizations, land((-)owners, and other residents. The ((c))County and
596 these partners should work to:~~

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597 ~~a. Support and strengthen the linkages between rural, resource, and
598 urban communities' use and maintenance of these open spaces;~~

599 ~~b. ((p))Promote and protect all aspects of environmental quality,
600 while addressing equity and racial and social justice goals to
601 complete the ((regional parks and)) open space system through
602 joint planning and management of local and regional sites and
603 facilities.~~

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604

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

605 ~~((P-130)) P-135~~ In the Urban Growth Area, King County shall work in partnership
606 with other jurisdictions to facilitate annexation and transfer of local
607 parks~~((and local trails))~~ and other open space sites to cities or other
608 providers to ensure continued service to the community.

609 ~~((P-131))~~ ~~King County should work with cities to share operational and~~
610 ~~maintenance costs of parks and other open spaces in unincorporated~~
611 ~~areas in which a substantial portion of the users are from incorporated~~
612 ~~areas.~~

613
614
615 **P-132)) P-136** King County ~~((will))~~ shall encourage and support volunteer efforts
616 to maintain and enhance programs, sites, and facilities.

617 5. Public Participation

618 ~~((P-133)) P-137~~ King County ~~((will))~~ shall encourage and seek public input, advice,
619 and participation ~~((from the public))~~ in decisions about ~~((management~~
620 ~~of))~~ the open space system ~~((that relate to key issues such as funding,~~
621 ~~planning, acquisition, development and stewardship))~~ and to advance
622 equitable access to parks and trails.

623
624 ~~((P-134)) P-138~~ King County ~~((will invite and involve a wide variety of interests via~~
625 ~~a diversity of individuals, groups and agencies))~~ shall use a variety of
626 methods to ensure early, continuous, and broad engagement with the
627 public engage the public using approaches consistent with the
628 County's equity and racial and social justice goals and policies. King
629 County ~~((will))~~ shall intentionally engage communities that are the most
630 affected by proposals and plans~~)) and shall provide equitable access for~~
631 historically underrepresented and historically underserved
632 underinvested populations in public engagement about and access to
633 the open space system.

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634
635 ~~((P-135))~~ King County ~~((will))~~ shall use a variety of equitable engagement
636 methods to ensure public involvement from all county residents, such
637 as public meetings, advisory groups, surveys, web and social media
638 postings, news releases, park site signage, mailing lists, newsletters,
639 and through various community groups (including Community Service
640 Areas). These methods ((will)) shall allow for early, continuous, and
641 broad public participation:))

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642 II. Cultural Resources

643 Cultural resources make a significant contribution to the quality of life in King County.
644 Arts and heritage organizations, public art ~~((and)),~~ historic and archaeological
645 properties, and Indian tribal celebrations and traditional cultural events contribute to
646 the region's economic vitality, play an essential role in cultural tourism, and contribute
647 significantly to the county's overall quality of life. As King County grows, the need to
648 protect, support, and enhance cultural opportunities and resources is essential ~~((in~~
649 ~~order))~~ to ~~((sustain))~~ livability. King County plays an important role in supporting the
650 region's cultural life. 4Culture, a County-chartered Public Development Authority,
651 serves as the cultural services agency of King County ~~((county's cultural services~~
652 ~~agency)).~~ 4Culture has operational responsibility for advancing the work of the cultural
653 community in King County by advocating for, supporting, promoting, and enhancing:

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- 654 • arts;
- 655 • heritage;
- 656 • preservation; and
- 657 • public art.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

659 4Culture~~((s))~~ and the King County ~~((h))~~Historic ~~((p))~~Preservation ~~((p))~~Program work
660 together to provide~~((s))~~ funding, advocacy, assistance, and support in preserving and
661 conserving the county's historical and archeological resources through projects and
662 programs including~~((r))~~ interpretation, community education and outreach, cultural
663 tourism, and rehabilitation of historical resources~~((The King County Historic
664 Preservation Program, housed in the County's Department of Natural Resources and
665 Parks, also plays an important role ensuring))~~, ~~as well as~~ and to ensure that historic
666 properties throughout King County are protected and enhanced.
667

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668 King County government can lead by example through stewardship and wise
669 management of its own cultural resources. Historic public buildings and facilities, such
670 as bridges and roads, can be preserved and continue to be used; other historic
671 resources can be converted to public use. As set by policy ED-~~((106))~~109, found in
672 Chapter 10, Economic Development, ~~((in order))~~ to enhance the region's quality of life
673 and economic vitality, the ~~((c))~~County will engage in programs and projects to protect
674 cultural resources and promote expanded cultural opportunities for the county's
675 residents and visitors.
676

677 **P-201 King County shall be a steward of cultural resources under its control.
678 It shall identify and evaluate cultural resources, preserve public art
679 ((works)) and significant historic properties, and interpret and provide
680 public access to them whenever appropriate. County departments and
681 divisions shall collaborate with the Historic Preservation Program to
682 nominate eligible properties for landmark designation.**

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684 **P-202 King County shall consider equity and racial, social, and environmental
685 justice in its promotion and protection of cultural resources.**

686 **P-203 King County shall encourage ~~((preserving, reusing and recycling))
687 preservation and reuse of historic buildings in its facilities planning and
688 other relevant actions, including open space acquisition, and shall
689 encourage the salvage and recycling of those that cannot be feasibly
690 reused. King County shall also assist in encouraging encourage
691 interested parties in pursuing preservation, restoration, and
692 repurposing projects, particularly in those doing repairs and/or
693 upgrades themselves.~~**
694

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695 A. Relationships

696 County residents need arts and heritage opportunities. These include both
697 attendance-driven programs and projects, as well as more localized,
698 community-orientated opportunities ~~((of))~~ for hands-on participation and education.
699 The county's cultural system is comprised of regional and local arts and heritage
700 organizations, individuals, and venues. It also involves relationships with both public
701 and private entities to preserve the region's history, as well as to enhance placement of
702 art in public places. As such, cultural resource management crosses jurisdictional
703 boundaries and involves countless public and private entities and artists throughout the
704 region. The range and complexity of cultural activity in the region requires coordination
705 and cooperation. King County, through its creation of 4Culture, provides this regional
706 coordination and leadership.
707

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708 While 4Culture is not a ~~((c))~~County department, the ~~((c))~~County and 4Culture maintain a
709 unique cooperative relationship. Historically, over 95~~((%))~~ percent of 4Culture's budget
710 has been funded by King County resources from either dedicated tax revenue or capital
711 improvement project budgets. The ~~((council approves the executive's nominations for
712 membership on))~~ Council appoints and confirms members of the 4Culture~~((s))~~ board of
713 directors~~((r))~~, and ~~((F))~~three ~~((c))~~Councilmembers serve on ~~((4Culture's))~~ the board.
714 Additionally, ~~((The F))~~the ~~((c))~~Council annually receives briefings from 4Culture on its

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715 work program and ~~((to discuss plans for the coming year))~~ budget. Therefore, it is
716 through 4Culture that King County maintains its regional role ~~((with regard to))~~ in
717 cultural resource management.

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718
719 **P-204 King County shall support the retention and promotion of the region's**
720 **cultural legacy, promote cultural education, and encourage the**
721 **preservation and celebration of cultural diversity and creativity.**

722
723 **P-205 King County shall support and encourage development of regional**
724 **cultural organizations, facilities, and services that address a countywide**
725 **audience or are dedicated to unique and significant cultural themes or**
726 **disciplines.**

727
728 **P-206 King County shall support and encourage community cultural**
729 **organizations, facilities, and services to provide opportunities for local**
730 **access and participation by all residents throughout the county.**

731
732 **P-207 King County shall encourage excellence and vitality in the arts by**
733 **supporting opportunities for attendance at and participation in diverse**
734 **arts. ~~((and))~~ cultural, ~~and~~ heritage activities throughout the county.**

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735
736 **P-208 King County shall pursue its cultural resource goals by working with**
737 **Indian tribes, residents, property owners, cultural organizations, public**
738 **agencies, ~~Indian ((tribes,))~~ schools and school districts, and others.**

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739
740 **P-209 King County shall provide leadership in pursuing its cultural resource**
741 **goals by actively advancing the protection, enhancement, and ongoing**
742 **use of ~~((c))~~ County-owned and other cultural resources, and by**
743 **promoting intergovernmental cooperation and partnerships for the**
744 **preservation and use of cultural resources.**

745
746 **P-210 King County shall partner with cities to protect and enhance historic**
747 **resources and public art located within city boundaries and ~~Potential~~**
748 **~~((a))~~Annexation ~~((a))~~Areas.**

749 B. Arts, Heritage, and Public Art

750 ~~((The region's artistic environment parallels its natural features in variety and richness.~~
751 ~~Its arts organizations, artists and opportunities are widely known and valued for their~~
752 ~~diversity and excellence in music, theater, dance, literary activity, and visual arts.~~
753 ~~Museums, historical societies, heritage groups, historians, archivists, folklorists, and~~
754 ~~other heritage specialists enrich community life and provide rich cultural experiences for~~
755 ~~county residents and visitors. Without preservation and stewardship of local history by~~
756 ~~these groups, the county's rich history would be lost.))~~

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757
758 ~~**((P-211 King County shall support, preserve, and enhance its heritage by**~~
759 ~~**encouraging opportunities for public attendance and participation in**~~
760 ~~**diverse heritage activities throughout the county.**~~

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761
762 ~~**P-212)) P-211 ((The)) King County ~~((executive and the King County council))~~ shall**~~
763 ~~**~~((regularly seek advice from))~~ continue to collaborate with 4Culture**~~
764 ~~**~~((on))~~ when developing programs, policies, and regulations that**~~
765 ~~**support, enrich, and increase access to the arts, public art, and King**~~
766 ~~**County's heritage.**~~

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767
768 ~~**P-212 King County shall continue to provide financial support for culture**~~
769 ~~**through the Doors Open cultural access program or similar programs**~~
770 ~~**that provide operational and capital support to arts, culture, heritage,**~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

771 science, and historic preservation non-profit organizations; increase
772 access to programming for public school children; help launch new
773 organizations and expand access in underinvested areas; and provide
774 free public access.
775
776

777 ~~((Public art means art for shared public space in King County, including King County~~
778 ~~buildings and infrastructure.)) King County's public art collection includes portable,~~
779 ~~permanently sited, and architecturally integrated artworks that help define ((c))County~~
780 ~~buildings as cultural spaces. Public art also includes art installed or incorporated in~~
781 ~~places developed by others, but accessible to the public. Public art enhances~~
782 ~~community character and diversity, sparks imagination, and provides a direct cultural~~
783 ~~experience for county residents and visitors every day. For new or changing~~
784 ~~communities, public art is a powerful contributor to local character, sense of place, and~~
785 ~~belonging. Public art can also help mitigate the adverse effects of new development.~~
786

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787 **P-213 King County shall, as appropriate, incorporate public art in its**
788 **construction and mitigation projects, as well as its undertakings**
789 **involving public-private partnerships((r)) and development authorities**
790 **that include public funds or resources or have publicly accessible**
791 **components.**
792

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793 **P-214 Maintenance and conservation shall be a consideration in the**
794 **development and management of public art.**
795

796 **P-215 King County shall incorporate public art into its open space system.**

797 C. Historic Preservation

798 ~~((Preservation of historic properties provides multiple benefits.)) Historic properties~~
799 ~~maintain a tangible connection with the past and contribute to community~~
800 ~~understanding, character, and diversity. Preservation can save((s)) energy, conserve((s))~~
801 ~~existing housing and commercial buildings, and retain((s)) historically significant open~~
802 ~~space. Historic properties also play a major role in attracting tourists. The mission of~~
803 ~~the King County Historic Preservation Program((, housed in the County's Department of~~
804 ~~Natural Resources and Parks,)) is to conserve existing historic housing, commercial~~
805 ~~buildings, and other significant properties and to foster heritage tourism throughout the~~
806 ~~county. It provides technical and other assistance ((to cities lacking preservation~~
807 ~~programs)). It also supports the work of the King County Landmarks Commission.~~
808

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809 Many municipalities do not have sufficient resources to administer an historic
810 preservation program. As a result, the history of the region is endangered. King County
811 helps in this regard by providing contracted historic preservation services to interested
812 King County cities. Comprehensive and coordinated protection of significant historic
813 properties is necessary ~~((in order))~~ to ensure that King County's history is preserved.
814

815 **~~((P-217)) P-216 King County shall acquire and preserve historic properties for use~~**
816 **~~by ((c))County and other public agencies and shall give priority to~~**
817 **~~occupying historic buildings whenever feasible.~~**
818

819 **~~((P-215)) P-217 ((The)) King County ((executive and the King County council)) shall~~**
820 **~~regularly seek advice from the Landmarks Commission on programs,~~**
821 **~~policies, and regulations that support and enhance preservation and~~**
822 **~~protection of significant historic properties.~~**
823

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824 ~~((P-216)) P-218 King County shall administer a historic preservation program to~~
825 ~~identify, protect, and enhance historic properties throughout the~~
826 ~~region.~~
827

828 ~~((Historic preservation is an ongoing process that requires identification, evaluation,~~
829 ~~designation and protection of significant properties, and attention to long-term~~
830 ~~enhancement and interpretation. Historic properties are often destroyed through~~
831 ~~neglect. Regular maintenance and other management practices that protect historic~~
832 ~~properties are critical to long-term preservation. King County government can lead by~~
833 ~~example through stewardship and wise management of its own historic properties.))~~
834

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835 Review of development proposals and other actions affecting historic properties
836 resources is necessary ((in order)) to eliminate or minimize adverse effects of
837 development or changing land use. Archaeological sites are particularly sensitive and
838 endangered because they are not visible and may be unexpectedly encountered. King
839 County government can also protect historic properties through careful planning and
840 review of its own undertakings, both directly and in partnerships with private parties and
841 other agencies.
842

843 ~~((P-218)) P-219 King County shall establish comprehensive review and protection~~
844 ~~procedures for historic properties affected by public and private~~
845 ~~projects.~~
846

847 ~~((P-219)) P-220 King County ((may)) should condition public and private projects~~
848 ~~((in order)) to protect historic properties. King County agencies shall~~
849 ~~coordinate with the Historic Preservation Program to provide~~
850 ~~consistent review and mitigation for their projects and undertakings~~
851 ~~throughout the county.~~
852

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853 ~~((P-220)) P-221 King County shall encourage land uses and development that~~
854 ~~retain and enhance significant historic properties and sustain historic~~
855 ~~community character. County building and zoning codes and other~~
856 ~~regulations and standards should provide flexibility to accommodate~~
857 ~~preservation and reuse of historic properties. Zoning actions should~~
858 ~~take into account the effects of zoning on historic properties.~~
859

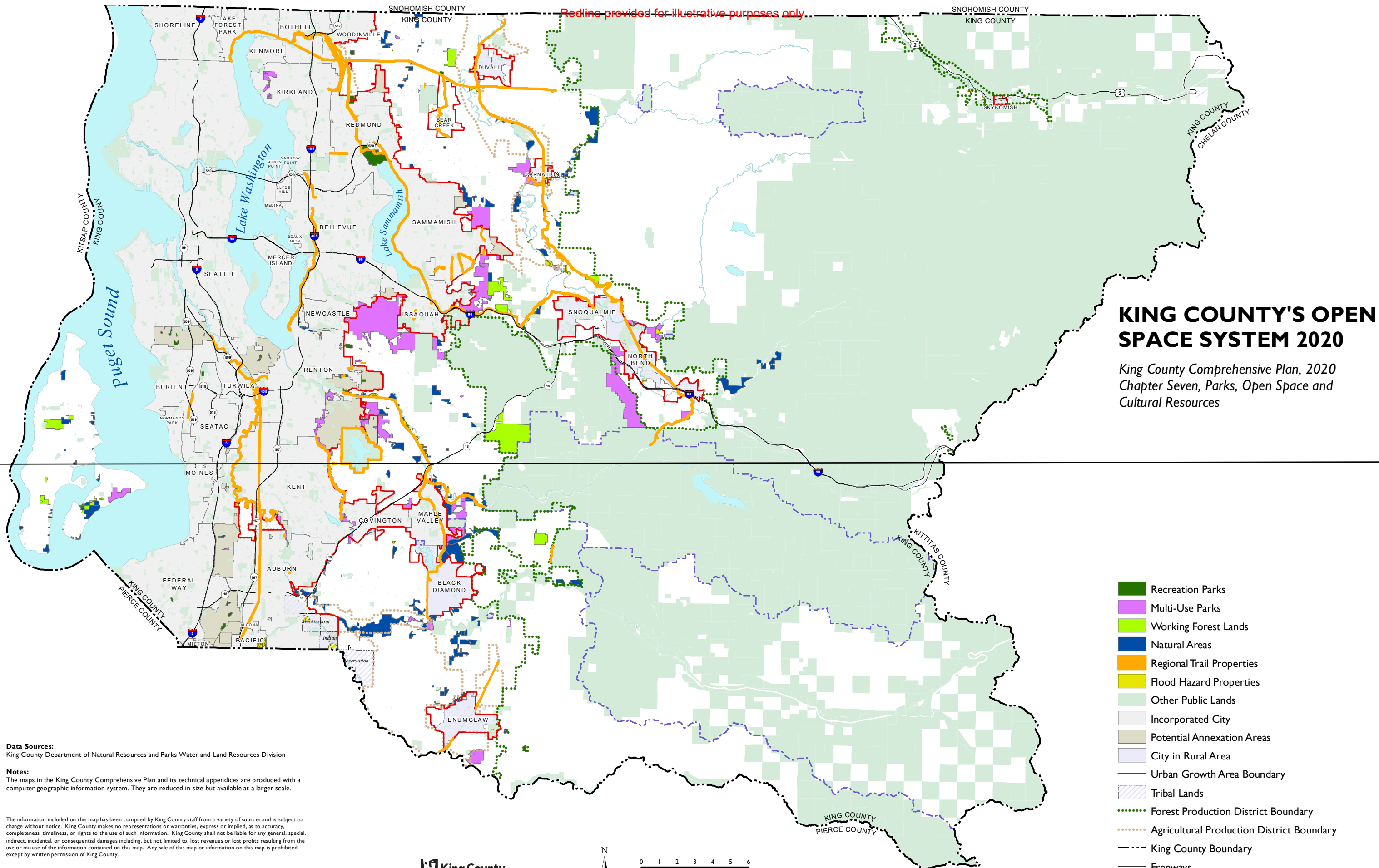
860 ~~P-222 Parcels on which a cemetery is located should be given a land use~~
861 ~~designation, a zoning classification, or both, that allows less intensive~~
862 ~~development than would be assigned to the parcel were the cemetery~~
863 ~~not present.~~
864

865 ~~((P-224)) P-223 King County shall maintain an inventory of historic properties ((in~~
866 ~~order)) to guide its historic preservation decision making.~~
867

868 ~~((Preservation requires active support by governments and cooperation with property~~
869 ~~owners. Incentives such as tax reduction, revolving loans, transfer of development~~
870 ~~rights, expedited permitting, reduced permit fees, zoning flexibility, technical~~
871 ~~assistance, and other measures can be used to encourage preservation. As set by~~
872 ~~policy ED-208, found in Chapter 10, Economic Development, the ((c))County ((shall))~~
873 ~~assist businesses, property owners, and other jurisdictions in preserving and enhancing~~
874 ~~historic properties, including historic business districts, through a variety of incentives~~
875 ~~and economic development measures.))~~

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KING COUNTY'S OPEN SPACE SYSTEM 2020

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2020
Chapter Seven, Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources

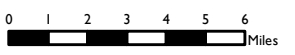
- Recreation Parks
- Multi-Use Parks
- Working Forest Lands
- Natural Areas
- Regional Trail Properties
- Flood Hazard Properties
- Other Public Lands
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- Tribal Lands
- Forest Production District Boundary
- Agricultural Production District Boundary
- King County Boundary
- Freeways
- Municipal Watershed

Data Sources:
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Water and Land Resources Division

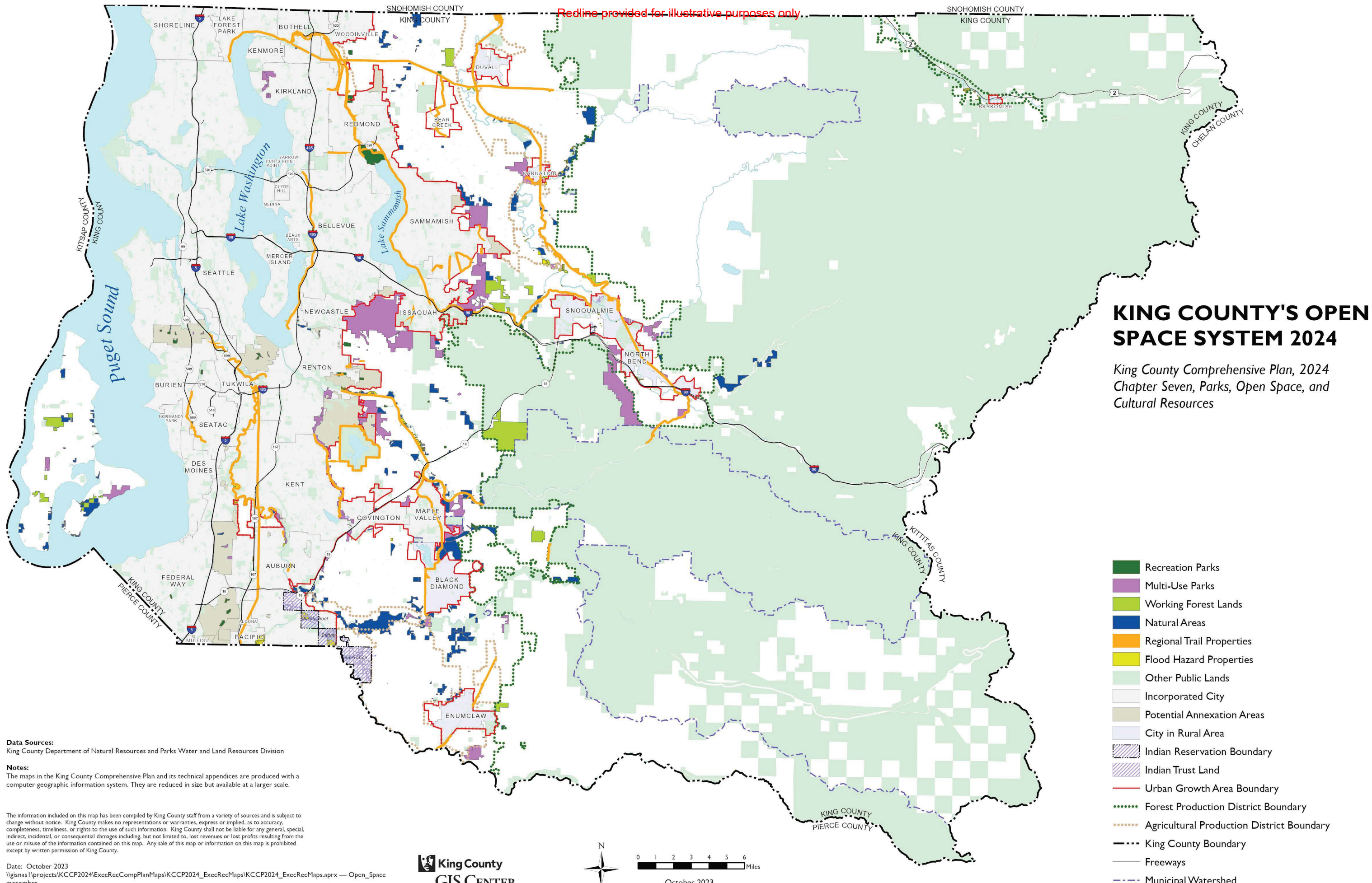
Notes:
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KING COUNTY'S OPEN SPACE SYSTEM 2024

King County Comprehensive Plan, 2024
Chapter Seven, Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources

- Recreation Parks
- Multi-Use Parks
- Working Forest Lands
- Natural Areas
- Regional Trail Properties
- Flood Hazard Properties
- Other Public Lands
- Incorporated City
- Potential Annexation Areas
- City in Rural Area
- Indian Reservation Boundary
- Indian Trust Land
- Urban Growth Area Boundary
- Forest Production District Boundary
- Agricultural Production District Boundary
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Notes:
The maps in the King County Comprehensive Plan and its technical appendices are produced with a computer geographic information system. They are reduced in size but available at a larger scale.

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October 2023

CHAPTER 8

TRANSPORTATION



~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

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CHAPTER 8

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4

TRANSPORTATION

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~~Transportation is critically important to King County and the surrounding region and has profound effects on quality of life ((and the vitality of the economy)), economic vitality, health and safety, racial and social equity, and climate change. Transportation provides access to jobs, education, services, recreation, and other destinations throughout King County. King County plays a central role in the regional transportation sector, supporting a variety of ((motorized, nonmotorized)) ground, air, and marine transportation needs and providing services and facilities ranging from local to international.~~

~~((The County has direct responsibility for the unincorporated area road network. It provides transit services and~~

~~King County Metro also operates streetcar services within the City of Seattle. The King County International Airport/Boeing Field is owned, operated and maintained by the County.~~

~~King County's Marine Division operates passenger-only ferry service from downtown Seattle to Vashon Island and West Seattle.~~

~~The County also provides requested road-related services to over two dozen cities or other agencies through contractual agreements where there is mutual benefit to the County and its customer cities and agencies.) The County manages the network of county roads, bridges, and related infrastructure that~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

~~facilities throughout the County, including within cities, and also performs many of Sound Transit's services under contract.~~

~~services the unincorporated area, and provides road-related services to over two dozen cities and other agencies through contractual agreements.~~

~~The County also provides transit services and facilities throughout King County, including fixed-route transit, flexible on-demand services, vanpool, Access paratransit, and passenger-only ferries. The County operates City of Seattle streetcar services and many Sound Transit services through contracts with the respective agencies.~~

~~The King County International Airport/Boeing Field is owned, operated, and maintained by the County.~~

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~~I.)~~ Creating an Integrated, Sustainable, and Safe Transportation System That Enhances Quality of Life) The Regional Transportation System

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~~(A.)~~ Introduction

King County collaborates with the state and other local governments with the goal of providing an integrated, multi-modal transportation system for the Puget Sound region. These intergovernmental partnerships seek to ensure that the county's transportation system is designed, operated, and maintained in a manner that provides mobility options for a wide range of users; contributes to safe, affordable, and accessible communities for all; advances social and racial equity; helps address complex issues like climate change and homelessness; and safeguards and enhances King County's natural resources and environment. It is important that the county's and the region's transportation system provide equitable travel opportunities for all people and communities. It is also important for all jurisdictions, including King County, to exercise sound financial management in the provision of transportation services and infrastructure.

~~The King County Strategic Plan, as updated in 2015 by Motion 14317, provides policy direction for transportation under the "Mobility" goal, through which the county aims to "deliver a seamless network of transportation options to get people where they need to go, when they need to get there."~~ Transportation and mobility are implemented at in King County through the functional plans: the ~~Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, the Long Range Plan for Public Transportation, the Strategic Plan for Road Services, the King County International Airport Strategic Plan and the King County Ferry District 2014 Strategic Plan, discussed later in the chapter.~~ King County Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2021-2031, Metro Connects (Metro's long-range plan), the King County Metro Service Guidelines, the Strategic Plan for Road Services, and the King County International Airport Strategic Plan, discussed later in the chapter. Implementation of the Regional Trails network, which provides important bicycling and walking links, is guided by Chapter 7, Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources, and the 2022 King County Open Space Plan. King County transportation planning is further informed by the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan, which provides additional guidance related to greenhouse gas reduction goals, community-driven transit development, and climate-resilient transit infrastructure, and King County Code Chapter 2.10, which establishes an integrated effort that intentionally applies the "Fair and Just" principle to all work to achieve equitable opportunities for all people and communities.

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~~The following summarizes~~ The County's priorities ~~for responding to policy direction established and articulated in the~~ King County Strategic Plan, the King County Comprehensive Plan, County transportation agencies' functional plans, and the associated state and regional laws and planning requirements); include:

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- Maintain safe and secure County-owned infrastructure, including roads, bridges, trails, transit vehicles (buses, paratransit vehicles, passenger ferries, non-revenue fleet, etc.), transit facilities, and airport facilities;
- Coordinate and develop multimodal services and facilities for an integrated and seamless regional and local transportation system;

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- 59 • Deliver transportation services that support density and growth in the urban
60 area, and meet the transportation needs of the Rural Area(s)) and Natural
61 Resource Lands without creating additional growth pressure;
- 62 • ~~Maintain and preserve infrastructure that facilitates the efficient movement of~~
63 ~~freight and goods to support economic vitality and regional trade;~~

64 ((

- 65 • ~~((Maintain safe and secure county-owned infrastructure, including roads,
66 bridges, trails, buses and passenger ferries, transit and ferry facilities, and
67 airport facilities;))~~

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- 68 • Provide transportation choices and support travel modes that use less energy,
69 produce fewer pollutants, and reduce greenhouse gases in the region;

- 70 • Identify and adapt to the impacts of climate change on transportation
71 infrastructure and services;

- 72 • Provide opportunities for people to make active transportation choices by
73 increasing the convenience, accessibility, safety, and comfort of taking transit,
74 walking, and bicycling;

- 75 • ~~((Address the transportation needs of people of color, low-income
76 communities, immigrant and refugee populations, people with limited English
77 proficiency;)) Support safe and equitable access to mobility options through
78 transportation investments where needs are greatest, including for populations
79 who are Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color; immigrants; refugees;
80 and other intersectional populations, including those who earn less than 80
81 percent of the area median income and those that have no income, people with
82 disabilities, seniors people aged 62 years and older, people with special
83 transportation needs, LGBTQIA+ people, women, and others who may have
84 limited transportation options)) Support safe and equitable access to mobility
85 options through transportation investments where needs are greatest,
86 including for historically underinvested groups, people with disabilities, people
87 aged 62 years and over, and people with special transportation needs;~~

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- 88 • Address homelessness and other significant issues using a holistic, countywide
89 approach, through actions such as supporting equitable and affordable transit-
90 oriented development, making transit more accessible through actions like
91 amsuch as Metro's income-based approach to fare discounts, and by
92 connecting people to the services and opportunities they need;

93 ((

- 94 • ~~((Identify and adapt to the impacts of climate change on transportation
95 infrastructure and services;))~~

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- 96 • Integrate transportation and land use planning to increase transit use; support
97 sustainable community development, including equitable and affordable
98 transit-oriented development; and provide mobility services that are responsive
99 to community characteristics;

- 100 • Incorporate sustainable development practices into the design, construction,
101 and operation of infrastructure and facilities;

- 102 • Establish and implement clear transportation service priorities and guidelines -
103 with a focus on equity and racial and social justice - and use transportation
104 resources wisely and efficiently;

- 105 • Develop sustainable, equitable funding sources to support the level of services
106 needed by communities; and

- 107 • Monitor and measure system performance and use this feedback to

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108 continuously improve transportation products and services.

109

110 The current and projected economic climate, however, places severe constraints on the
111 County's ability to meet these important goals. The strategic plans for the Road Services
112 Division, Metro Transit Department (Metro), and the Marine Division identify priorities,
113 analyze available funding and constraints, and set targets to help reach these goals.

114 ~~((B.))~~ Components of the Transportation
115 Element

116 The following documents address the Growth Management Act requirements for the
117 transportation element:

- 118 a. This Transportation chapter, which includes the narrative and policy language;
- 119 b. Technical Appendix C, Transportation ~~((of this Comprehensive Plan))~~, which
120 contains the Travel Forecast Summary, ~~((the))~~ Arterial Functional Classification
121 Map, ~~((a t))~~ Transportation ~~((t))~~ Inventory; and Transportation Needs Report
122 ~~((that))~~, which contains a multi~~((r))~~year financial forecast and a multi~~((r))~~year list of
123 road facility needs;
- 124 c. The ~~((r))~~ Roads Capital Improvement Program;
- 125 d. The King County Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, ~~((the Long
126 Range Plan for Public Transportation))~~ Metro Connects, and the Transit Capital
127 Improvement Program; and
- 128 e. Concurrency regulation, which implements the concurrency requirements and
129 is codified ~~((at))~~ in King County Code Title 14.

130 ~~((C.))~~ Consistency with Plans

131 ~~The framework and direction for the development of ((C)) comprehensive ((P)) plans are
132 provided by the Growth Management Act. The transportation element of the King
133 County Comprehensive Plan is consistent with and meets the requirements of regional
134 and countywide plans and policies that respond to the Growth Management Act. The
135 Countywide Planning Policies have been used to guide the development of the
136 transportation element and to ensure consistency with plans and programs developed
137 by adjacent jurisdictions.~~

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139 ~~Regional direction for the transportation element is set by ((Transportation 2040)) the
140 Regional Transportation Plan 2022-2050, developed by the Puget Sound Regional
141 Council. ((Transportation 2040)) The Regional Transportation Plan is consistent with the
142 region's urban growth strategy, VISION ((2040)), also developed by the Puget Sound
143 Regional Council.~~

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145 ~~King County identifies improvements and strategies needed to carry out the land use
146 vision and meet the Level of Service requirements for transportation. Road
147 improvements are guided by the Strategic Plan for Road Services, ((prioritized))
148 identified in the Transportation Needs Report, and funded in the Roads Capital
149 Improvement Program. Public transportation investments are guided by the Strategic
150 Plan for Public Transportation 2021-2031, Metro Service Guidelines, and Metro
151 Connects, and are identified in the Transit Capital Improvement Program((, and the King
152 County Ferry District 2014 Strategic Plan, 2014 – 2018, or successor plans)). Operation
153 and management of the King County International Airport/Boeing Field is guided by the
154 King County International Airport Strategic Plan.~~

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155 ~~((D.))~~ C. Transportation System, Services, and
156 County Responsibilities

157 The region’s transportation system is comprised of the following elements:

- 158 a. Highways, arterial streets, and local/neighborhood streets;
- 159 b. Bridges;
- 160 c. Local and express bus transit and paratransit services and facilities, including
161 Americans with Disabilities Act service programs;
- 162 d. High-capacity transit;
- 163 e. High-occupancy-vehicle lanes and ridesharing facilities;
- 164 f. Facilities and programs for ~~((pedestrians, bicycle riders, and equestrians))~~
165 active transportation, including sidewalks, shoulders, bicycle racks on transit,
166 and regional trails;
- 167 g. Facilities to accommodate freight and goods movement, including railroads,
168 intermodal yards, and distribution centers;
- 169 h. Marine transportation services, ferries and ferry facilities, and navigable
170 waterways;
- 171 i. Airports;
- 172 j. Transportation Demand Management programs, systems, facilities, and
173 technologies; and
- 174 k. Facilities to maintain the transportation system elements.

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176 ~~((The specific responsibilities of King County government are described below.))~~

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177 ~~1.((1.))~~ Public Transportation

178 ~~((Public transportation is vitally important to the Puget Sound region. ((It provides))~~
179 ~~Public transportation enhances regional economic vitality by providing connections to~~
180 ~~jobs, schools, and other destinations, and enables those with limited mobility options to~~
181 ~~travel. ((Public transportation enhances regional economic vitality by freeing up~~
182 ~~roadway capacity and improving the mobility of people, goods, and services.)) It saves~~
183 ~~the region time and money.)) It helps accommodate regional growth by ((making better~~
184 ~~use of)) more efficiently moving people within the region’s existing infrastructure and
185 ~~((benefiting the environment)) reducing the need for single-occupant vehicles and~~
186 ~~space for parking. Public transportation can help address major societal issues, such as~~
187 ~~homelessness, by connecting people to the services and opportunities they need. It~~
188 ~~improves the quality of life and health for residents and visitors to the Puget Sound~~
189 ~~region. ((King County provides public transportation services through the Metro Transit~~
190 ~~Department, as well as passenger ferry service through the Marine Division:~~
191~~

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192 ~~Metro Transit Department))~~

193 ~~The King County Metro Transit Department (Metro) is the designated public transit~~
194 ~~provider for King County. Metro’s mission is to provide the best possible public~~
195 ~~transportation services and improve regional mobility and quality of life in King~~
196 ~~County.)) Metro serves customers with a wide range of mobility services including
197 providing and funding bus, paratransit, vanpool, water taxi (passenger ferry), and
198 flexible services; and by operating the Seattle Streetcar, Sound Transit Link light rail, and
199 Sound Transit Express bus services.
200~~

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201 Metro ~~((provides))~~ operates more than 180 bus routes, and its fixed-route services
202 delivered more than ~~((120))~~ 130 million ~~((fixed-route transit rides per year))~~ passenger
203 trips in 2019. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Metro delivered more than 400,000
204 trips every weekday; roughly half of downtown Seattle commuters relied on transit.
205 Even at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Metro delivered more than 100,000 trips
206 daily. Its fixed~~((-))~~-route system includes a network of frequent all-day~~((,-two-way))~~ bus
207 routes between residential, business, and other ~~((transit))~~ activity centers; express and
208 peak~~((-))~~-period commuter service to major destinations from many neighborhoods and
209 from a network of park-and-ride lots; and local bus services that connect people to their
210 communities and the larger transportation system. ~~((In addition to bus service, Metro~~
211 ~~provides alternative services, such as commuter vanpools, Access paratransit service,~~
212 ~~Commuter Trip Reduction programs, and Rideshare Online, as well as community~~
213 ~~programs such as In Motion and car-sharing;))~~ For people with disabilities who cannot
214 use Metro's regular fixed-route buses, Metro offers Access paratransit service. Metro
215 also offers and additional services for specific age groups, such as people aged 55 years
216 and older via for seniors and people with disabilities via the Community Access
217 Transportation program, which is open to people with disabilities as well. Metro's
218 commuter vanpool program had approximately 1,600 vehicles in operation in 2019;
219 Metro also offers a growing number of flexible services tailored to local needs. Metro
220 also operates a commuter vanpool program for people who don't have convenient
221 transit service between home and work. As of 2023, the vanpool program was serving
222 1,200 commuter groups with a fleet of 1,347 vehicles.

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223
224 Metro augments its own investments by developing partnerships with ~~((local~~
225 ~~jurisdictions, other agencies, employers, and institutions to increase public~~
226 ~~transportation services and improve service effectiveness. Metro enters into agreements~~
227 ~~with public and private entities to fund new or improved public transportation services,~~
228 ~~where the partner contribution may be in the form of direct funding or investment that~~
229 ~~results in transit speed or reliability improvements. Metro also forms partnerships to~~
230 ~~develop and promote alternative commute programs and to manage parking and traffic~~
231 ~~to make public transportation more efficient and attractive. Metro works with the~~
232 ~~Washington State Department of Transportation and local cities to provide services that~~
233 ~~help mitigate the impacts of major construction projects))~~ a range of entities, including
234 transit providers; community-based groups; schools and universities; human service
235 organizations; property owners and managers; businesses; and local, regional, and
236 state agencies and jurisdictions. By working with partners, Metro can leverage public
237 and private resources and discover new opportunities to improve service or
238 infrastructure. Metro can expand its accomplishments by collaborating with partners to
239 design and deliver services, facilities, and access improvements, and to develop
240 policies, programs, products, and incentives. Metro's Service Guidelines and Metro
241 Connects include more information about how Metro will partner with other entities and
242 offer examples of such partnerships.

243
244 Metro is guided by ~~((its))~~ the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation ((2011-2024)) 2021-
245 2031, the King County Metro Service Guidelines, and ((its Long Range Plan for Public
246 Transportation)) Metro Connects. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation defines a
247 vision and mission for public transportation services in King County and describes the
248 strategies to implement that vision. It also defines desired outcomes and describes how
249 progress will be measured. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation and Service
250 Guidelines ~~((strike a balance between productivity;))~~ prioritizes social equity and
251 ~~((geographic value)) sustainability to ensure Metro ~~((serves areas that have many low-~~
252 ~~income and minority residents – and others who may depend on transit))~~ invests where
253 needs are greatest ~~((=including for populations who identify as Black, Indigenous, other~~
254 ~~People of Color; immigrants; refugees; people with low- or no incomes; people with~~
255 ~~disabilities; and people who are linguistically diverse);~~ = addresses climate change; and
256 ~~((that))~~ meets public transportation needs ~~((are met))~~ throughout the county. The
257 ~~((Metro))~~ Service Guidelines ~~((augment the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation by~~~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

258 identifying)) identifies detailed methodologies for how Metro should measure the
259 performance of ~~((Metro's overall))~~ its transit network ~~((, as well as each))~~ as a whole and of
260 its individual bus routes, and ((by providing)) provides clear guidance on how Metro
261 should use transit resources in alignment with ~~((the County's Equity and Social Justice~~
262 ~~Ordinance. The Long Range Plan))~~ Metro and King County policies and values,
263 including equity. Metro Connects sets the long~~((-))~~term vision for service and
264 supporting capital infrastructure.

265
266 Increasing the use of public transportation plays an important role in King County's
267 efforts to ~~((mitigate))~~ address climate change and support livable, healthy communities.
268 Public transportation reduces greenhouse gas emissions by eliminating private vehicle
269 trips, reducing vehicle miles traveled, mitigating traffic congestion, and supporting
270 efficient land use. Metro ~~(('s use of green vehicles, such as))~~ provides public
271 transportation using a "green" fleet of electric trolleys, ~~((and))~~ hybrid diesel-electric
272 buses ~~((, and cleaner-burning fuels, such as Ultra Low Sulfur diesel,))~~ fueled with a
273 biodiesel blend, and battery electric buses. This efficient fleet adds to the
274 environmental advantage of combining many riders in a single vehicle. Metro's policies
275 articulate a goal of transitioning to a zero-emissions bus fleet powered by renewable
276 energy by 2035. Metro's wide range of ((transportation)) mobility alternatives ((,))
277 (including ((vans, carpools)) fixed-route transit, passenger ferries, flexible services,
278 and Access paratransit; ((,)) ~~((and))~~ its support of choices such car- and bicycle-sharing,
279 ((biking and)) walking and rolling to transit, and its commitment to seek out and
280 support opportunities for transit-oriented development; make transit a powerful tool to
281 help reduce pollution and support active, healthy lifestyles.

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282
283 ~~((In addition to reducing single-occupant vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled,))~~
284 Metro is ~~((also))~~ committed to being a leader in environmentally ~~((,))~~ friendly operating
285 and maintenance practices and minimizing its energy use. ~~((Metro educates its~~
286 ~~employees about reducing energy consumption at work and using public transportation~~
287 ~~to commute.))~~ The King County Employee Transportation Program educates people
288 about commuting to work via another option than a single-occupancy vehicle. The
289 agency also incorporates cost-effective green building and sustainable development
290 practices in all capital projects that it plans, designs, constructs, remodels, renovates,
291 and operates.

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292
293 ~~((Metro also is committed to providing equitable opportunities for people from all areas~~
294 ~~of King County to access the public transportation system. It provides travel~~
295 ~~opportunities and ((supporting)) amenities for ((historically disadvantaged)) priority~~
296 ~~populations, ((such as low-income people, students, youth, seniors)) including Black,~~
297 ~~Indigenous, and other People of Color; people with low or no incomes((,))~~ immigrants
298 ~~((and))~~ refugees, ~~((populations,))~~ people with disabilities~~((,))~~ and others with limited
299 transportation options. Additionally, as part of its commitment to supporting regional
300 housing affordability, Metro prioritizes providing housing affordable to populations at
301 or below 80 percent of the area median income in transit-oriented developments on its
302 properties.

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303 ~~((Water Taxis: King County's Marine Division~~

304 The Marine Division, which is a part of the Metro Transit Department, provides service
305 from downtown Seattle to West Seattle and Vashon-Maury Island. The Marine Division is
306 guided by the King County Ferry District 2014 Strategic Plan, which was developed
307 while under the King County Ferry District's governance. The plan expresses the vision
308 and goals for passenger-only ferry service in King County for the next three to five years.
309 The strategies are the broad initiatives to pursue the vision and goals, with specific
310 actions listed under each strategy. The plan's vision is to be a leader in regional mobility
311 benefiting the community and economic development needs of King County through
312 providing water taxi service that is safe, reliable, and a great customer experience while
313 being responsive and accountable to the public. The goals are to: 1) provide reliable

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314 and safe service; 2) deliver financially sustainable water taxi service; and 3) to integrate
315 water taxi service with the broader regional transportation system and economy. The
316 strategies to achieve these goals include: 1) build on strengths and grow ridership; 2)
317 achieve financial stability; 3) coordinate with regional planning and emergency
318 management efforts; and 4) explore growth and partnership opportunities.

319
320 Similar to Metro, King County's passenger-only ferries also use cleaner-burning fuels
321 such as Ultra Low Sulfur diesel and a blend of biodiesel (B-10);)

322
323 Bus, rail, ~~((and))~~ passenger-only ferry, and flexible transit services provide the critical
324 transportation links on which the regional economy depends. ~~((In addition;))~~ These
325 public transportation services depend on convenient connections to roads, highways,
326 ~~((and ((nonmotorized)) active transportation systems.~~ As the region grows, coordinating
327 ~~((transit and passenger-only ferry))~~ public transportation routes and schedules ~~((among))~~
328 across agencies and modes will make public transportation a more viable and
329 convenient option for people traveling in King County. King County seeks input from a
330 broad spectrum of county residents and businesses to identify needs and provide
331 services to meet those needs.

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332 2.((2.)) Road System

333 Travelers in King County use a system of interconnected roads that includes interstate
334 highways, state highways, urban and rural arterials, local access roads, private roads,
335 and forest~~((/))~~ and logging roads. King County is responsible for all ~~((e))~~ County-owned
336 roads, bridges, and related infrastructure in the unincorporated areas of the county, and
337 must meet the road-related transportation needs of a very large and geographically and
338 demographically diverse service area. The ~~((e))~~ County's many bridges are an integral
339 part of the road system, as are other components such as sidewalks, shoulders, ~~((and))~~
340 pathways, bicycle lanes, guardrails, stormwater drainage and water quality treatment
341 facilities, traffic control equipment, and traffic cameras. Interstate highways, state
342 highways, city roads, and private roads are not under ~~((e))~~ County jurisdiction; rather,
343 they are the responsibility of other government agencies or property owners.

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344
345 The Strategic Plan for Road Services defines the ~~((vision and mission))~~ strategic direction
346 for the King County Department of Local Services - Road Services Division: ~~((The~~
347 ~~Strategic Plan for Road Services provides detailed direction for the response to the~~
348 ~~many complex challenges ((, including two trends)) that have had significant impacts on~~
349 ~~the County's road services. One~~ key challenge is that annexations, consistent with the
350 goals of the Growth Management Act, have reduced the urban unincorporated area
351 and ~~((therefore))~~ significantly shrunk the tax base that supports the large and aging
352 unincorporated road system ~~((has shrunk significantly. By 2024, when the next eight-~~
353 ~~year Comprehensive Plan update is completed, Road Services Division's responsibilities~~
354 ~~will likely focus almost entirely on the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. A second~~
355 ~~trend is the))~~ without transferring a proportional amount of bridges or road miles. This
356 issue, and other declines in County road funding, are described in greater detail in the
357 "Financing Services and Facilities that Meet Local and Regional Goals" ((S))section ((IV))
358 of this chapter. The Strategic Plan for Road Services guides the Road Services Division
359 as it ~~((is faced with the consequences of a smaller service area and reduced funding and~~
360 ~~seeks to manage the unincorporated King County road system through focused~~
361 ~~investment of available resources to facilitate the movement of people, goods and~~
362 ~~services, and respond to emergencies))~~ seeks to safely connect communities while
363 addressing a county road funding crisis, widespread and aging infrastructure, and
364 historical underinvestment in urban areas.

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365
366 As of fall/winter 20223, ~~((F))~~ the ~~((e))~~ County-owned unincorporated~~((r))~~ area road system
367 includes approximately:

- 368 • ~~((1,469))~~ 1,467-469 miles of roadway;

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- 369 • ~~((101)) 185~~ bridges, including several jointly owned with cities;
- 370 • 275 miles of sidewalks;
- 371 • ~~((70)) 79~~ traffic signals;
- 372 • ~~((44,000)) 4749,000~~ traffic control signs;
- 373 • ~~((50)) 50-57~~ traffic cameras; ~~((and))~~
- 374 • 3.5 million linear feet of drainage pipes; and
- 375 • ~~((114)) 118~~ miles of protective guardrail.

377 The users of the ~~((c))~~County road system may travel on foot or by car, public transit,
 378 truck, or bicycle, or even on horseback. They may live in an unincorporated area, in
 379 ~~((one of the ((county's)) 39)) cities in King County,~~ or in another county. The
 380 unincorporated road system supports local trips close to home, commuter trips, the
 381 movement of freight and goods, and regional travel between jurisdictions. The system
 382 also provides access to outdoor recreational activities in King County~~((, which has one of~~
 383 ~~the largest concentrations of outdoor recreation enthusiasts in the state)).~~ Public service
 384 providers, such as police, fire, emergency medical responders, Metro ~~((Transit)),~~ and
 385 school buses are also key users. In total, more than one million daily trips are taken on
 386 King County's unincorporated road network. ~~((During this time of tight budgets,~~
 387 ~~changing communities, ((annexations,)) and increasing traffic on aging roads and~~
 388 ~~bridges, the ((c))County must manage facilities and services with exceptional care and~~
 389 ~~efficiency.))~~

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391 3.((3.)) Air Transportation

392 ~~((F))~~ Established in 1928, the King County International Airport/Boeing Field is located in
 393 south Seattle in the Duwamish River Industrial Corridor. It operates on a ~~((24((/7))~~
 394 ~~twenty-four~~ hours a day, seven days a week basis and in all weather. ~~((Established in~~
 395 ~~1928, the airport is supported by revenue generated by its operations, rather than~~
 396 ~~relying on general tax revenues.))~~ King County plans, designs, and implements services,
 397 programs, and facilities for the King County International Airport in compliance with
 398 Federal Aviation Administration regulatory requirements to support a safe, secure, and
 399 efficient international aerospace system. The airport is also a significant employment
 400 center and supports more than ~~((150)) 50~~ on-airport aviation-related businesses,
 401 including The Boeing Company. The airport is a port of entry for international flights
 402 and serves regional air carriers, national and regional cargo carriers, corporate aviation,
 403 and general aviation.

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404
 405 King County International Airport/Boeing Field is the ~~((34th)) 75th~~ busiest airport in the
 406 United States and ranks ~~((25th)) 46th~~ in cargo handling. The airport's air taxi carrier serves
 407 the San Juan Islands. It is also the largest corporate aircraft center in the Pacific
 408 Northwest. Airport business activities are estimated to support almost ~~((5,000)) 7,000~~
 409 direct jobs, plus more than ~~((16,000)) 2,000~~ additional jobs in the region. The airport's
 410 total positive economic impact within the Puget Sound Region and Washington State is
 411 more than ~~((13.5)) \$5.2~~ billion in direct and induced economic activity, including the sale
 412 of goods and services, labor income, and tax revenues.

413
 414 ~~((The King County Department of Transportation has developed a strategic plan for~~
 415 ~~King County International Airport/Boeing Field. This plan was the result of a strategic~~
 416 ~~planning process, which was guided by an advisory committee comprised of Airport~~
 417 ~~Roundtable members and staff from both the executive and legislative branches of King~~
 418 ~~County. The Strategic Plan complements)) The King County International Airport
 419 Strategic Plan, or successor plans, guides the planning, development, and
 420 implementation of airport facilities and services managed by the King County~~

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421 ~~International Airport. Management of the King County International Airport/Boeing~~
422 ~~Field is guided-informed by the King County International Airport Master Plan and the~~
423 ~~Federal Aviation Administration((s))-mandated ((Airport Master Plan and)) Airport~~
424 ~~Layout Plan.~~

425
426 The Bandera and Skykomish Airports, located in eastern King County near the
427 communities of North Bend and Skykomish, are state((-))-owned and operated. ~~Vashon~~
428 ~~Airport, located on Vashon-Maury Island, is publicly owned and operated by King~~
429 ~~County Airport Special District Number One. King County does not have operating or~~
430 ~~regulatory authority over these airports, but does control land use activity adjacent to~~
431 ~~the facilities. ((All airports in the county should make every effort to minimize noise~~
432 ~~impacts to land uses that are especially sensitive to the effects of noise such as~~
433 ~~residential areas, hospitals, and schools.))~~

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434 ~~((E.))II. General Policy Guidance~~

435 ~~((H. Providing Services and Infrastructure that~~ 436 ~~Support the County Land Use Vision~~

437 ~~((This section of Chapter 8 discusses c))County transportation services and policies ((as~~
438 ~~they)) support the ((c))County's land use strategy, which seeks to concentrate~~
439 ~~development and services in urban areas, conserve and enhance the Rural Area((s)) and~~
440 ~~Natural Resource Lands, and create communities that have a positive effect on public~~
441 ~~health and climate change. ((One focus of this section is on issues related to the~~
442 ~~((c))County's responsibilities in the unincorporated area, including Level of Service~~
443 ~~standards for ((c))County roads, transportation concurrency management, mitigation of~~
444 ~~growth-related impacts, avoidance of road expansion in the Rural Area((s)) and Natural~~
445 ~~Resource Lands, prevention of airport/land use conflicts, and support for~~
446 ~~((nonmotorized)) active transportation options. Another focus is on county~~
447 ~~transportation activities that affect a broader region, notably the four-county region's~~
448 ~~policy of concentrating development in more densely populated urban areas. King~~
449 ~~County Metro operates a majority of the transit service in the region and provides~~
450 ~~transportation demand management services to cities and employers. Consequently,~~
451 ~~the region's success in achieving its development goals will depend to a great extent on~~
452 ~~((King)) the County's ability to provide appropriate transit services within King County.))~~

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453 **T-101 King County should provide a safe and accessible system of**
454 **transportation services and facilities that offers travel options to all**
455 **members of the community.**

456
457
458 ~~((T-101a)) T-102 King County should seek to ensure that its system of transportation~~
459 ~~services and facilities equitably serves the mobility needs of~~
460 ~~((disadvantaged)) communities with the greatest need. ((and people~~
461 ~~with limited transportation options, including)) including populations~~
462 ~~who are Black, Indigenous, and other ((p))People of ((c))Color((-));~~
463 ~~immigrants; refugees; and other intersectional populations, including~~
464 ~~((low income communities)) those who earn less than 80 percent of~~
465 ~~area median income and those that have no income, ((people with~~
466 ~~limited English proficiency, immigrant and refugee populations,~~
467 ~~students, youth, seniors, and)) including historically underinvested~~
468 ~~groups.)) people with disabilities, seniorspeople aged 62 years and~~
469 ~~over, and people with special transportation needs. LGBTQIA+ people,~~
470 ~~and/or women.~~

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472 ~~((T-102))~~ **I-103** As a transportation provider and participant in regional
473 transportation planning, King County should support, plan, fund,
474 design, and implement an integrated~~((;))~~ and coordinated ~~((and~~
475 balanced~~))~~ multimodal transportation system that serves the growing
476 travel needs of the county safely, equitably, effectively, sustainably,
477 affordably, and efficiently, ~~((promotes a decrease in the share of~~
478 trips made by single-occupant vehicles)) reduces vehicle miles traveled.
479

480 ~~((T-103))~~ **I-104** In striving to meet the growing need for transportation services,
481 King County shall seek to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of
482 its services, infrastructure, and facilities.
483

484 ~~((T-104))~~ **I-105** The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation ~~((2011-2021))~~ **2021-**
485 **2031**, King County Metro Service Guidelines, ~~((the King County~~
486 Metro Long Range Plan for Public Transportation)) Metro Connects, or
487 successor plans, shall guide the planning, development, and
488 implementation of the public transportation system and services
489 operated by the King County Metro Transit Department.
490

491 ~~((T-105))~~ ~~The King County Ferry District 2014 Strategic Plan, or successor plans,~~
492 ~~shall guide the planning, development and implementation of the~~
493 ~~passenger-only ferry system and services operated by the King County~~
494 ~~Marine Division.))~~
495

496 **T-106** The King County Strategic Plan for Road Services, or successor plans,
497 shall guide the planning, development, and implementation of the
498 unincorporated road system managed by the King County Road
499 Services Division.
500

501 **T-107** The King County International Airport Strategic Plan, or successor
502 plans, shall guide the planning, development, and implementation of
503 airport facilities and services managed by the King County International
504 Airport.
505

506 **T-108** King County shall ~~((consider))~~ evaluate equity impacts and benefits
507 when planning, developing, and implementing transportation
508 programs, projects, and services, including physical, economic, and
509 cultural displacement risk.
510

511 **T-109** As directed by ~~the~~ King County~~((s))~~ Comprehensive Emergency
512 Management Plan, King County shall seek to protect its transportation
513 system against disasters, to the extent possible, by developing
514 prevention and recovery strategies in partnership with other
515 jurisdictions and agencies, and coordinating emergency transportation
516 response.

517 ~~((A-))~~ Land Use and Growth Strategy

518 The transportation element of this Comprehensive Plan is grounded in a firm
519 understanding of the important relationship between land use and transportation. A
520 thoughtfully designed transportation system that supports the ~~((c))~~ County's long-term
521 land use vision and regional growth strategy should provide improved mobility and
522 greater accessibility for all users and contribute to vibrant, thriving communities.
523 Considering the interconnection of land use and transportation can also help address
524 issues like regional affordability by supporting equitable, transit-oriented communities.
525 It should also facilitate more efficient travel that addresses climate change, in part, by
526 ~~((reduces))~~ reducing energy consumption, ~~((and))~~ greenhouse gas emissions, and other
527 forms of pollution.
528

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529 Integrated transportation and land use planning is called for at the regional level in
530 ~~((Vision 2040)) VISION, ((Transportation 2040)) the Regional Transportation Plan, and~~
531 ~~the Countywide Planning Policies regarding transportation((, which)); these plans and~~
532 ~~policies~~ outline and support a regional growth strategy built around the concept that
533 additional infrastructure and services are to be provided in areas that accept an
534 increased share of the region's growth. The Countywide Planning Policies' ~~((=)) 2019-~~
535 ~~2044 ((H))housing and ((E))employment ((G))growth ((F))targets ((2006-2031)) adopted~~
536 ~~by King County and its cities, represent each jurisdiction's agreed-upon fair share of~~
537 ~~future growth and))~~ have been incorporated into the travel demand forecast developed
538 for this plan.

539
540 ~~((Vision 2040)) VISION, ((Transportation 2040)) the Regional Transportation Plan, and~~
541 ~~the Countywide Planning Policies also promote the concept of maximizing mobility~~
542 ~~choices through a multimodal approach to moving people, goods, and services~~
543 ~~efficiently within and beyond the region. Travel to and within regional and countywide~~
544 ~~growth centers is emphasized, with a focus on the availability of transit and~~
545 ~~((nonmotorized ((modes)) active transportation facilities in centers. These urban centers~~
546 ~~are characterized by compact, pedestrian-oriented development((;)) with a mix of~~
547 ~~((different)) office, commercial, civic, entertainment, and residential uses ((and)) that~~
548 ~~can be efficiently and cost-effectively served by transit and ((nonmotorized travel)) active~~
549 ~~transportation options. In addition, these regional plans and policies address the~~
550 ~~importance of protecting and preserving the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands~~
551 ~~and avoiding construction of major new roads and capacity expansion on existing roads~~
552 ~~in the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands.~~

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553
554 Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, Service Guidelines, and Metro
555 Connects also emphasize the importance of integrated transportation and land use
556 planning into providing an integrated mobility network that advances policy goals
557 related to equity, climate change, transit-oriented communities, and others. A
558 multimodal transportation system supports healthful choices by providing greater
559 access to housing, jobs, schools, medical care, healthy food, shopping, recreation, and
560 other services - all of which contribute to a high quality of life. Designing highly
561 connected communities that support safe ~~((nonmotorized travel)) active transportation~~
562 ~~and ((facilitate nonmotorized)) access to the transit system without a car reduces the~~
563 ~~overall cost of living by controlling or lowering transportation costs, reduces vehicle~~
564 ~~miles traveled, reduces air pollution, and leads to opportunities for greater levels of~~
565 ~~physical activity ((through walking and bicycling)).~~

566
567 Regional and countywide guidance also encourages innovative approaches to
568 transportation and land use management, including Transportation Demand
569 Management strategies designed to reduce vehicle miles traveled, single-occupant
570 vehicle trips, and greenhouse gas emissions.

571
572 ~~((Metro operates transit service throughout King County, including in cities, while the~~
573 ~~((c))County((s)) road system service area is limited to the unincorporated area. Due to~~
574 ~~annexations and incorporations, much of the unincorporated road system is~~
575 ~~((transitioning to become primarily)) rural.)) In the Rural Area and Natural Resource~~
576 ~~Lands, protection of natural resources, agriculture and forestry, and the rural lifestyle~~
577 ~~and character are a high priority. ((At the same time)) However, there is still a ((certain))~~
578 ~~limited amount of growth within the Rural Area and on Natural Resource Lands, ((as well~~
579 ~~as high)) significant growth in some adjacent Cities in the Rural Area, ((or)) and growth~~
580 ~~beyond the county's boundaries((;)) that must be considered in managing the road~~
581 ~~system.~~

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582
583 ~~((The county's urban areas, Rural Area((s)), and Natural Resource Lands form a complex~~
584 ~~landscape, and the urban/rural boundary is not a simple straight line. As a result, t)) the~~
585 ~~((c))County's arterial network weaves through ((both)) urban areas, the Rural Area((s)),~~

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586 and Natural Resource Lands as it facilitates regional mobility. This ~~((complex~~
587 ~~urban/rural/resource pattern))~~ presents challenges for planning for the region's mobility
588 needs and providing safe and adequate roadways. ~~((Issues include))~~ ~~in several areas of~~
589 ~~the county,~~ regional arterial corridors ~~((that))~~ link ~~((designated))~~ urban areas by crossing
590 ~~the Rural Area((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands ~~((,~~ and roads located in the Urban Growth
591 Area)). High traffic volumes on ~~((these))~~ roads ~~in the Rural Area and Natural Resource~~
592 ~~Lands~~ may necessitate road improvements to ensure safe and efficient travel. However,
593 it is critical to ensure that appropriate development regulations and access
594 management strategies are first in place ~~((in order))~~ to prevent unplanned and
595 unwanted growth in ~~the~~ Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands.

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596
597 ~~((Growth management envisions different landscapes and infrastructure for urban and~~
598 ~~rural communities. King County is committed to managing its transportation system~~
599 ~~consistent with that vision.))~~

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600
601 ~~((T-201)) I-110 King County prioritizes multimodal transportation options in the~~
602 ~~urban areas, where they are most effective. ((Multimodal transportation~~
603 ~~options such as public transportation, bicycling and walking, are most~~
604 ~~effective in densely developed urban areas. ((As resources allow,))~~
605 ~~King County's transportation investments in urban areas should~~
606 ~~emphasize public transportation and road services and facilities that~~
607 ~~support multiple modes and facilitate connections between them.~~

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608
609 ~~((T-202)) I-111 ((As resources allow,)) King County's transportation investments in~~
610 ~~the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands should emphasize~~
611 ~~maintaining. ((and)) preserving, and, where appropriate, providing~~
612 ~~flexible service options and safe road infrastructure that is compatible~~
613 ~~with the preservation of rural character and does not promote urban or~~
614 ~~unplanned growth.~~

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616 ~~((T-202a)) I-112 In areas not well suited to fixed((-))route transit, the~~
617 ~~((c))County should work with partners to develop a range of~~
618 ~~((alternative)) flexible service options ((such as community shuttles,~~
619 ~~real-time rideshare, community vans and other innovative options)), ~~in~~
620 ~~accordance with consistent with Metro plans and policies.~~~~

621
622 ~~((T-203)) I-113 ((As funding permits,)) King County should partner with~~
623 ~~jurisdictions and the private sector to spur infrastructure investments~~
624 ~~that enhance safe, equitable, and accessible opportunities for transit,~~
625 ~~pedestrians, bicyclists, carpools and van((-))pools, and other~~
626 ~~alternatives to single-occupant vehicles.~~

627 ~~((F.))B. Level of Service Standards~~

628 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires Level of Service standards for all arterials and~~
629 ~~transit routes to judge performance of the transportation system. The Growth~~
630 ~~Management Act also calls for specific actions and requirements for bringing into~~
631 ~~compliance facilities or services that are not meeting the adopted Level of Service~~
632 ~~standard. King County's Level of Service standards comply with growth management~~
633 ~~policies of encouraging growth in the urban area while restricting growth in the Rural~~
634 ~~Area and Natural Resource Lands.))~~

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635
636 Level of service for arterials is a qualitative measure that describes traffic flow and is
637 often represented by a system using the letters A through F. Level of Service A
638 represents the least congested conditions and Level of Service F represents the most
639 congested conditions. Level of Service B is indicative of stable traffic flow. However,
640 unlike Level of Service A, operating speed is beginning to be restricted by other traffic.
641 At Level of Service E, operation is unstable, and speeds are reduced but will fluctuate

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widely from point to point. ~~((There is little independence of speed selection and maneuverability at Level of Service E.))~~ Level of Service F is indicative of forced flow of traffic with extremely low speeds and long delays at intersections.

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~~((King County has been one of the most successful jurisdictions in the state in implementing the Growth Management Act by directing growth to urban areas and encouraging annexation by cities, which are the preferred provider of municipal services. As a result, the majority of the urbanized area is contained within cities ((and the final remaining urban unincorporated islands are expected to annex by 2020)). While annexations have helped support the ~~C((c))~~ County's land use, density and service goals, unincorporated King County no longer has the tax base to support growing travel needs with transportation capacity improvements in the urban area. The urban pockets that remain are influenced by development in surrounding cities and during the peak travel times commute travel is heavily impacted from people traveling to and from cities and other counties.))~~

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In the remaining urban pockets of unincorporated King County, road usage is heavily impacted by development in the larger surrounding cities; however, there are more travel choices available in these areas. The urban level of service reflects these factors.

~~((King County recognizes a profound difference between t))~~The differences in the nature and character of the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands as compared with the urban area ~~((and ((therefore sets)) means that ((t)) level of ((S)) service standards for arterials ((to)) allow less congestion in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands the ((vast)) majority of the road network operates at Level of Service B; however, there are key arterials (typically the Rural Regional Corridors) that are frequently congested from carrying traffic from one urban area to another, and these often operate at a Level of Service C or lower.~~

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In addition, King County recognizes ~~((certain areas, called))~~ that Rural Towns, or Rural Mobility Areas, ((where)) have land use designations that support a greater variety of transportation mode choices. The ((t)) level of ((S)) service standards for Rural Mobility Areas are set to recognize these greater choices and support and encourage people to use forms of transportation other than ((cars)) single-occupant vehicles. ((The Rural Mobility Areas are the Rural Towns of Vashon, Snoqualmie Pass, and Fall City.))

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In addition to ~~((the))~~ Rural Mobility Areas, certain ((large)) areas with the Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center((s)) land use designation are recognized as having distinct mobility characteristics and ~~((will))~~ have a ((t)) level of ((S)) service standard consistent with their land use character. ~~((The large Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers))~~ These are ((t)) Cottage Lake, Maple Valley, Preston, and Cumberland.

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The framework for identifying appropriate levels of service for King County Metro services is established in ~~((the))~~ Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation ((and)), the King County Metro Service Guidelines, and Metro Connects. Level of service standards for Regionally Significant State Highways are adopted by the Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board. Level of S service standards for Highways of Statewide Significance are set by the Washington State Department of Transportation. Highway level of service standards are shown in Appendix C, Transportation.

~~**((T-214b) King County shall design a new concurrency management methodology that is efficient to administer, incorporates travel demand management principles, includes measures of congestion based on optimizing movement of people rather than cars, and promotes increased efficiency of the transportation system as a whole.**~~

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~~(T-215))~~ **T-114** The ~~((L))~~level of ~~((S))~~service standard for the Urban Area shall be E except as provided in T-~~((216))~~115. The ~~((L))~~level of ~~((S))~~service standard for the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands shall be B, except as provided in T-~~((216))~~115, T-~~((217))~~116, and T-~~((218))~~117. These standards shall be used in concurrency testing.

~~((T-216))~~ **I-115** The ~~((L))~~level of ~~((S))~~service standard for certain minor residential and minor commercial developments~~((-along-with))~~ and certain public and educational facilities, as established in the King County Code, shall be Level of Service F. This standard shall be used in concurrency testing.

~~((T-217))~~ **I-116** Rural Mobility Areas shall be defined as ~~unincorporated Rural Towns~~Towns designated in the Comprehensive Plan. The ~~((L))~~level of ~~((S))~~service standard for designated Rural Mobility Areas shall be E. This standard shall be used in concurrency testing.

~~((T-218))~~ **I-117** The ~~((L))~~level of ~~((S))~~service standards for the Cottage Lake, Maple Valley, Preston, and Cumberland Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers shall be D. This standard shall be used in concurrency testing.

T-118 The appropriate levels of service for King County Metro transit services shall be established in Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, the King County Metro Service Guidelines, and Metro Connects, or successor documents.

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C.~~((B.))~~ Travel Forecasts

Travel demand forecasts are used to project transportation system needs. They provide an important link between land use and transportation. The Puget Sound Regional Council's Forecasting Model uses regionally adopted growth targets for the year ~~((2034))~~ 2050, and was used to develop the travel demand forecasts for this plan, ~~the~~ Transportation Appendix, and the Transportation Needs Report Appendix.

~~((Recent generations of the Puget Sound Regional Council model have increased the level of detail in unincorporated King County, allowing improved analysis of future transportation system performance and system improvement needs, within the framework of growth management and regional and ((c))County policy guidance regarding appropriate urban and rural levels of service.))~~

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D.~~((C.))~~ Impact Mitigation

~~((The State Environmental Policy Act establishes environmental review of project impacts on all elements of the environment including transportation.))~~

~~(T-225))~~ **I-119** Needed rights-of-way, strategies to manage transportation demand, and off-site improvements should be identified and required as conditions of development approval to the extent that such conditions are directly related to impact mitigation.

~~((T-226))~~ **I-120** King County shall encourage the development of highly connected, grid-based arterial and nonarterial road networks in new developments and areas of in~~((-))~~fill development. To this end, the ~~((c))~~County should:

- a. Make specific findings at the time of land-use permit review to establish a nonarterial grid system for public and emergency access in developments; and
- b. Require new commercial~~((;))~~ and ~~((multifamily((;)))~~ multiunit developments and residential subdivisions to develop highly

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connective street networks to promote better accessibility and avoid single street((-))-only access.

~~((T-227))~~ **I-121 Development proposals should extend the public road system through dedication when the extension is in the public interest. Conditions that may warrant such an extension include, but are not limited to, impacts on neighborhood circulation, increases in the use of arterials for local vehicular trips, reductions in traffic safety through uncoordinated and inadequately spaced street access to arterials, and restrictions on the availability of alternative emergency access routes.**

~~((T-228))~~ **I-122 As mitigation for the impacts of new development and as a condition of development approval, King County shall require the improvement of existing off-site roadways and undeveloped road rights-of-way, and other strategies to reduce demand on roads. Impacts that may warrant such mitigation include, but are not limited to, those that create safety concerns, raise road operational issues, or increase the number of residences served by a single access route.**

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~~((E.((C.))) Financing~~

~~Fully achieving King County's transportation goals depends on adequate funding for transportation system and service needs: ((This section discusses the extent to which the transportation system and services can be funded within a reasonable revenue forecast and expenditure schedule. The Growth Management Act requires the ((c))County to include an analysis of funding capabilities, a multiyear financing plan based on needs, and a discussion of how to raise additional funds to build needed transportation projects, or to reassess growth and Level of Service standards to resolve potential funding shortfalls in a ((ten))10-year time frame. This analysis is provided in the Transportation Needs Report and summarized below.))~~

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~~((D)) E.) Funding Priorities ((Consistent with Transit and Road Strategic Plans))~~

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~~C. Public Transportation Revenue Sources~~

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~~1. Metro Transit))~~

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~~((King County Metro Transit's)) Metro's budget provides for both the operating and capital needs of its public transportation system. The operating budget funds Metro's broad range of public transportation services. The capital budget provides for transit facilities needed to operate Metro's services, such as maintenance and bus storage facilities, transit centers and park-and-ride((s)) lots, bus shelters and other passenger facilities, buses, and non-revenue vehicles.~~

~~Metro's primary source of revenue, a 0.9((%)) percent sales tax (the maximum authorized by the state), provides ((approximately 54%)) more than half of Metro's revenues. This rate has been in effect since late 2006, when voters approved a 0.1((%)) percent increase as part of the Transit Now initiative. Sales tax is a highly volatile revenue source because it fluctuates with changes in economic conditions. It is also regressive, as people with lower incomes spend a larger portion of their income on sales tax than people with higher incomes. Metro has had to rely more on sales tax~~

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802 since 2000, when the Washington legislature eliminated the motor vehicle excise tax for
803 transit.

804
805 ((Beginning in 2009, King County levied a 5.5 cent property tax to support transit.)) King
806 County levies a 1.25 cent property tax for ferry service and a 5.5 cent property tax for
807 other Metro transit services. Fares paid by users of Metro's system ((and transit
808 advertising revenues)) provided about ((a quarter)) 15 percent of Metro's operating
809 revenues before the COVID-19 pandemic and about five percent of operative revenues
810 in 2022. ((Metro also receives)) Other sources of revenues include: federal and state
811 grants, ((that)) which can fluctuate significantly and contribute primarily to capital
812 expenses, and revenues from vanpool operations, investment income, and service
813 partners. Examples of service partnership funding include revenue from Sound Transit
814 for operating Link light rail and Sound Transit Express, and from the City of Seattle;
815 these sources account for about 15 percent of Metro's total operating revenue.

816
817 ((The Great Recession and a slower than normal recovery took a major toll on Metro's
818 largest revenue source, sales taxes. After the 2008 recession caused a steep drop in
819 sales tax revenue, Metro took action to preserve transit service by cutting costs, raising
820 fares, and making a host of fiscal reforms. Metro's ongoing efficiency gains, projections
821 of lower fuel costs, improved sales tax forecasts and other financial improvements
822 enabled the County to adopt a 2015/2016 budget and six-year financial plan that does
823 not envision future service cuts.

824
825 Beginning in 2011, sales tax revenues began to recover and by 2015, sales tax receipts
826 have been restored to pre-recession levels in terms of purchasing power. The near term
827 outlook is for continued growth, however this is tempered by the reality and need to
828 plan for economic downturns. Over the last 50 years there has been, on average, a
829 recession every eight years. The county's financial policies and reserve requirements
830 help Metro plan for the eventuality of economic downturns.

831
832 In November 2014, Seattle voters approved funding for additional transit service. The
833 City of Seattle subsequently entered into a contract with King County to purchase Metro
834 service through the County's Community Mobility Contracts Program. Seattle will
835 expand service on Metro routes that serve the city by about 10%. Additionally, Metro
836 will leverage Seattle's Regional Partnership Fund created as part of the voter approved
837 measure to improve transit service for suburban commuters through regional
838 partnerships. This funding is scheduled to expire after 2020.))

839
840 The COVID-19 pandemic added uncertainty to Metro's financial situation, particularly
841 due to the pandemic's impact on ridership and the resultant fare revenue impacts. The
842 need remains for long-term, sustainable funding that fully meets King County's current
843 and future demand for ((bus)) transit service. The need for transit outlined in Metro
844 Connects exceeds Metro's current funding capacity for service, and the funding gap will
845 only increase as Metro moves toward the 2050 service network, which envisions
846 approximately 70 percent more transit service. Metro will not be able to grow its system
847 as planned without significant amounts of new, sustainable funding. Funding source
848 volatility has a uniquely negative impact on service growth and capital program
849 development.

850
851 ((Metro will continue striving for efficiency improvements to make the most of every
852 available transit dollar, and county leaders have pledged to continue working for a
853 statewide transportation funding solution. Over the coming years, Metro will continue
854 to take actions to stabilize its finances and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of
855 service delivered as state, county and local officials work on a long-term transit funding
856 solution.))

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~~B.))D. Road-Related Funding Capabilities))~~

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King County ((is experiencing)) has a structural roads funding crisis, largely due to municipal annexations, ((the 2008 recession, declines in)) Washington State's outdated tax system, stagnant gas tax revenues, the effects of voter initiatives, and an aging bridge and road system. The lack of revenue is significantly impacting the ((c))County's capacity to maintain and improve roads. Regional growth over the last few decades has resulted in higher traffic volumes and congestion, contributing to the deterioration of the County's road network.

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King County receives road revenues from a variety of sources, including a dedicated unincorporated King County property tax, ((federal and state grants,)) gas tax, federal and state grants, and local taxes ((and road mitigation payments from private developments)). The dedicated property tax and gas tax provide the largest portion of funding for the Road Services Division ((71% in 2014)) 76 percent in 2023). The property tax is tied to the assessed value of properties in unincorporated King County. The County road system and its funding mechanisms predate growth management. After annexation of high-property value properties into cities, the County's unincorporated area tax base is small relative to the size and age of the unincorporated road system. In King County, 13 percent of the total population pays for the roads that support more than one million trips every day.

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((During the recession, property values in unincorporated King County dropped sharply. While the economy has shown signs of recovery, future growth in revenues is significantly limited by state law and is not predicted to recover in real terms during the horizon of this plan.)) Property tax growth is capped at one percent annually, a pace slower than the ongoing growth in the cost of delivering services or the rate of inflation. Washington State's outdated tax system limits the County's ability to leverage revenue sources to support its funding needs. Local governments, like King County, need the flexibility and tools to help implement a more effective tax system and to preserve and maintain local roads. Gas tax revenues ((have been)) are flat, in part because of increased vehicle((s that are more fuel efficient)) fuel efficiency, lower sales of gas due to ((the)) economic conditions, changing driving patterns, and a decline in the revenue allocation to King County due to the reduction in road miles from ((recent)) annexations.

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Grant funding supports important road projects, but grants alone, even sizeable ones, will not be sufficient to address the current and growing volume of unmet road and bridge needs. In addition, grants typically fund capital projects, are rarely available for maintenance and operations, and are an unpredictable and unreliable source of funding due to the competitiveness of the grant process.

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The County has consistently pursued structural funding solutions through regional collaboration. However, solutions to address the estimated \$250-400 million annual funding gap are still needed at the local, regional, and state level, including:

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The County pursues structural funding solutions through collaboration at the local, regional, and state level. Initiatives have included the 2015-2016 Bridges and Roads Task Force and the 2017 Regional Transportation System Initiative. ((In August 2015, a panel)) This task force, comprised of regional leaders ((and)) community members ((began meeting to explore solutions for maintaining and preserving the aging bridge and road system in unincorporated King County. The Bridges and Roads Task Force membership included neighbors, representatives from agriculture and recreation organizations)), road experts, and public policy leaders((. In January 2016, the Task Force recommended a host of reforms and funding principles. The Task Force)) identified the range of the bridges and ((R)) roads funding gap as \$250 to \$400 million a year, and ((generated 152 recommendations)) recommended policy changes needed to address that gap((. Among the recommendations were the following:)) including:

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

913 • ~~((Revenue:))~~ Authority from the state Legislature for a fair, non-regressive,
914 ~~sustainable~~ countywide revenue tool ~~((that is))~~ tied to inflation ~~((is sustainable~~
915 ~~over the long-term, and))~~ that provides a benefit to both cities and the County.
916 ~~((The Task Force recognized that the most successful approach may involve~~
917 ~~using multiple revenue tools and efficiencies with some additional resources~~
918 ~~dedicated to city transportation needs.))~~

919 • ~~((Infrastructure: Authority))~~ Support from the state Legislature ~~((that provides~~
920 ~~for cities to annex orphan))~~ to facilitate the annexation of ~~((C))~~ county roads ~~((that~~
921 ~~lie))~~ inside ~~((their))~~ and adjacent to city boundaries ~~((;))~~ and ~~((supports))~~
922 annexation of Potential Annexation Areas ~~((within the growth boundaries of~~
923 ~~those cities)).~~

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925 ~~Under the Regional Transportation System Initiative, a similar panel identified a~~
926 ~~transportation network of regionally significant city, county, and state facilities; its unmet~~
927 ~~needs; and ways to improve network performance on the roads, streets, and routes that~~
928 ~~connect communities.~~

930 ~~Without additional funding, it is increasingly difficult to monitor, maintain, operate,~~
931 ~~repair, and improve the system of bridges and roads in unincorporated King County.~~
932 ~~Aging infrastructure and maintenance facilities, and an inability to adequately invest in~~
933 ~~infrastructure asset management, have resulted in a system of roads, bridges, and~~
934 ~~buildings in decline and at risk of failure. Without the resources to perform timely~~
935 ~~preventative maintenance, the County is forced into a more reactive maintenance~~
936 ~~mode. Deferring maintenance leads to an exponential increase in the cost to repair and~~
937 ~~sustain roads in the future.~~

938 Financial viability to support the operation of the road system and provide for capital
939 construction and preservation needs is tested over two ~~((time frames))~~ ~~timeframes~~
940 for the Comprehensive Plan. The Transportation Needs Report, the ~~((c))~~ County's 20-year
941 transportation plan, identifies the road-related investments needed to support the land
942 use vision of the ~~((County's))~~ Comprehensive Plan. The ~~((20-year plan))~~ ~~Transportation~~
943 ~~Needs Report~~ provides an assessment of revenues projected from currently available
944 resources and identifies reasonable options for securing additional revenues over the
945 life of the plan. Secondly, the biennial update of the ~~((r))~~ Roads Capital Improvement
946 Program examines the specifics of how to implement the financing plan over the next six
947 years.
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949 ~~((T-401)) T-123~~ Financial investments in transportation should support a
950 ~~sustainable((;))~~ transportation system, consistent with the priorities
951 established in ~~((the King County Strategic Plan and))~~ each department
952 and division's strategic plan or other functional plans.

955 ~~((T-402))~~ ~~King County should fund services, operations, and capital facilities that~~
956 ~~support local and regional transportation and land use goals and result~~
957 ~~in a ((balanced;)) sustainable, equitable, affordable, safe, and efficient~~
958 ~~multimodal transportation system.~~

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960 ~~T-403)) T-124~~ ~~((The unincorporated county road system provides transportation~~
961 ~~connections for large numbers of users that travel through the Rural~~
962 ~~Area and Natural Resource Lands to reach adjoining cities, other~~
963 ~~counties or regional destinations.))~~ King County should ~~((seek))~~ pursue
964 and support regional planning and funding sources that ~~((could be used~~
965 ~~to repair and maintain the arterial system))~~ recognize the
966 ~~interdependent, cross-jurisdictional nature of the region's~~
967 ~~transportation system, including impacts of urban development on the~~
968 ~~rural area transportation network.~~

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~~((2016))~~ 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ~~((updated December 6, 2022))~~ Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ~~((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555))~~ ~~xxxxx~~ ~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~FBD

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~~((T-404))~~ **I-125** When funding transportation projects in areas where annexations or incorporations are expected, King County should seek interlocal agreements with the affected cities and other service providers to provide opportunities for joint grant applications and cooperative funding of improvements.

975

~~((D.))~~ Revenue Shortfall))

976 The state Growth Management Act provides guidance for managing a revenue shortfall.
977 The following actions can be used to balance the funding shortfall of the plan:

- 978 1. Reduce transportation funding needs;
- 979 2. Develop new revenue options;
- 980 3. Change ~~((t))~~level of ~~((s))~~service; or
- 981 4. Change land use.

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~~((T-405))~~ **I-126** During review of its Comprehensive Plan, King County should consider and address any potential shortfalls likely to occur between expected revenues and costs to maintain, preserve, and improve transportation infrastructure and service levels. Such review could include a reassessment of land use, growth targets, ~~((t))~~level of ~~((s))~~service standards, and revenue availability.

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~~((T-406))~~ **I-127** King County shall continually work to improve the efficiency of its operations and delivery of projects and services ~~((in order))~~ to minimize the need for new revenue sources).

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~~((T-407))~~ **I-128** ~~((New funding sources should be identified and pursued that provide adequate and sustainable resources for transportation system investments.))~~ To provide adequate and sustainable resources for transportation services, infrastructure, and facility improvements, King County shall maximize its efforts to obtain federal and state funding and should identify and pursue new funding sources, including leveraging partnership opportunities, grants, and other cooperative funding mechanisms. These funding sources should not be regressive, and whenever possible, provide multi-~~((r))~~jurisdictional benefits.

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~~((T-408))~~ ~~To help finance transportation services, infrastructure, and facility improvements, King County should leverage partnership opportunities, grants and other cooperative funding mechanisms and shall maximize its efforts to obtain other federal and state funding ((to help finance transportation services, infrastructure, and facility improvements)):~~

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~~((T-409))~~ ~~King County shall maximize its efforts to obtain federal and state funding for its transportation services, infrastructure and facility improvements.))~~

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1014

~~((D.))~~E. Climate Change, Air Quality, and the Environment

1015 Clean air and ~~eliminating-minimizing~~ greenhouse gas emissions contribute((s)) to the
1016 health of people, ~~((the))~~ ecosystems, and the economy. ~~((Transportation is the primary
1017 source of air pollutants regionally. In addition to complying with state and federal
1018 regulations described below, t))~~The ~~((c))~~County is working to reduce transportation-
1019 related emissions, ~~which are=~~ the primary source of air pollutants regionally and a major
1020 driver of climate change. ~~((=~~ through the policies ~~((and actions contained in this))~~ of the
1021 Comprehensive Plan.
1022

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1023 ~~The Washington State Clean Air Conformity Act establishes guidelines and directives for~~
1024 ~~implementing the federal Clean Air Act Amendments ((. It specifically)) and links air~~
1025 ~~quality conformity to growth management planning ((efforts at the local and regional~~
1026 ~~level)). The King County transportation system complies with the federal and state~~
1027 ~~Clean Air Acts by maintaining conformity with the Puget Sound Regional Council~~
1028 ~~((Transportation 2040 plan)) Regional Transportation Plan 2022-2050 and by following~~
1029 ~~the requirements of Chapter 173-420 of the Washington Administrative Code.~~

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1030
1031 ~~((Climate change is of significant local, national, and global concern. It is clear that~~
1032 ~~greenhouse gas emissions from transportation sources are a significant contributing~~
1033 ~~factor to climate change. In addition to meeting its regulatory requirements, King~~
1034 ~~County is committed to addressing climate change through its decisions and actions~~
1035 ~~and encouraging others to act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well. Climate~~
1036 ~~change is projected to increase the frequency of flood events in most of western~~
1037 ~~Washington's river basins. Increased flood frequency and intensity will increase public~~
1038 ~~investment needed to ensure public safety and mobility, particularly on the county road~~
1039 ~~system. Climate change will affect the county's road and transit infrastructure. More~~
1040 ~~storm events and increased temperatures will disrupt service, increase road~~
1041 ~~maintenance requirements, and adversely affect mobility. Changes in precipitation~~
1042 ~~patterns and sea levels may cause greater damage to roads, bridges and seawalls from~~
1043 ~~erosion, landslides, and flooding.~~

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1044
1045 ~~The goals and activities of King County departments and agencies that provide~~
1046 ~~transportation services in King County are integrally linked to the County's strategies~~
1047 ~~and activities for addressing climate change. This linkage was refined in the County's~~
1048 ~~2012 Strategic Climate Action Plan, with an entire chapter focused on the operational~~
1049 ~~and service targets related to transportation and land use. The Strategic Climate Action~~
1050 ~~Plan identifies clear performance targets (how much change is the County attempting to~~
1051 ~~achieve) and strategies and priority activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It~~
1052 ~~allows for the reporting of strategies, program activities, and performance measures~~
1053 ~~related to climate change in one location.~~

1054
1055 ~~The updated 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan provides a mechanism to evaluate~~
1056 ~~progress since the 2012 Strategic Climate Action Plan and refines strategies and~~
1057 ~~program activities to achieve the objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and~~
1058 ~~adapting to climate change impacts.))~~

1059
1060 ~~In addition to reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, King County~~
1061 ~~must also prepare County roads and transit infrastructure for climate change. More~~
1062 ~~extreme heat events, heavier rain events, and sea level rise increase the potential for~~
1063 ~~damage to roads, bridges, and sea walls, particularly as infrastructure ages. This can~~
1064 ~~result in higher maintenance costs, more service disruptions, and mobility impacts.~~
1065 ~~Increased flood impacts will require public investment to ensure public safety and~~
1066 ~~mobility, particularly on the County road system.~~

1067
1068 ~~King County transportation services are integral to implementing the Strategic Climate~~
1069 ~~Action Plan. The plan Strategic Climate Action Plan sets transportation-related~~
1070 ~~greenhouse gas reduction goals and guides the planning, development, prioritization,~~
1071 ~~implementation, and tracking of County actions, such as linking transportation and land~~
1072 ~~use, developing community-driven transit, and creating climate-resilient transit~~
1073 ~~infrastructure and services.~~

1074
1075 **~~((T-320)) I-129 Transportation improvements should be designed, built, and~~**
1076 **~~operated to minimize air, water, and noise pollution, greenhouse gas~~**
1077 **~~emissions, and the disruption of natural surface water drainage in~~**
1078 **~~compliance with provisions and requirements of applicable federal,~~**
1079 **~~state, and local environmental regulations. Natural and historic~~**

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resource protection should also be considered. Particular care should be taken to minimize impacts where the location of such facilities could increase the pressure for development in critical areas or the Rural Area(s) and Natural Resource Lands.

T-130 King County should proactively identify barriers to fish passage created by existing County roads and prioritize multiple benefit solutions that enhance high-priority habitats and address critical roadway maintenance and preservation needs.

~~((T-324)) I-131 ((Within new developments, King County supports designing and building roads, bicycle facilities, pedestrian ways and trails in ways that minimize pollution, provide opportunities for physical activity, promote energy conservation,)) King County, through its Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations, should support healthy community, road, and other transportation infrastructure designs that enable active transportation and public transit use, increase community cohesion, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and preserve natural ((flora and wildlife)) habitats.~~

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~~((T-322)) I-132~~ Through its own actions and through regional partnerships, King County ~~((will)) shall~~ promote ~~(()) shall pursue~~ strategies to reduce emissions from the transportation sector, including ~~((The ((c)) County ((will)) shall promote))~~ new vehicle technologies, the use of low-carbon fuels, ~~((and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including))~~ land use changes, investment in equitable transit-oriented development, provision of transit, promotion of ~~((nonmotorized travel))~~ active transportation, joint purchasing, pilot projects, and actions to reduce vehicle miles traveled.

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T-133 King County shall increase the share of its fleet that ~~is~~are electric vehicles, as guided by County policies ~~and the Strategic Climate Action Plan, or successor plans.~~

~~((T-323)) I-134~~ King County ~~((will)) shall~~ strive to become a world leader in the use of transportation fuels and technologies that reduce operational greenhouse gas emissions from its fleets and vessels. King County ~~((will)) shall~~ achieve this goal by:
a. ~~((b))~~Buying ~~((hybrid-electric,))~~ electric, zero-emission, and other clean transportation technologies when feasible to meet operational needs;
b. ~~((a))~~Using clean fuels in its fleets and vessels;
c. ~~((i))~~Implementing demonstration projects that use alternative fuels and technologies;
d. ~~((p))~~Purchasing locally~~((r))~~ produced energy sources when practical;
e. ~~((s))~~Seeking local and federal support to expand the use of low-carbon fuels and alternative, zero~~((-))~~-emission technologies; ~~((and))~~
f. ~~((p))~~Promoting best practices, innovations, ~~((trends))~~ and developments in transportation fuels and technologies~~((-))~~; and
g. ~~((The ((c)) County ((will)) shall also, s))~~Seeking to deploy and use its vehicles in an energy-efficient manner through vehicle routing, idling-reduction, and operator practices.

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~~((T-324))~~ King County ~~((will)) shall~~ incorporate climate change impacts information into ~~the~~ construction, operations, and maintenance of ~~transportation~~ infrastructure projects~~((The department will incorporate climate change)) and into its transportation planning and design documents ((and also)). The County shall develop and implement strategies to incorporate climate change response into the~~

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~~design and operations of its transportation structures and services, where feasible.))~~

~~((T-324a)) T-135 King County ((will)) shall reduce greenhouse gas emissions from its off-road vehicles and equipment by using low-carbon fuels and advanced technologies, and by partnering with other agencies to implement demonstration projects using these vehicle technologies.~~

~~((T-325) King County ((will develop methods to)) shall periodically evaluate ((the)) climate change impacts ((of its actions and)) related to transportation infrastructure and services and ((will)) implement climate ((sensitive)) change strategies and practices consistent with ((the)) its environmental sustainability goals and policies ((described in Chapter 5, Environment, as well as existing)) and state, regional, and local plans, laws, and regulations.))~~

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~~((T-326) To the extent practicable, future expansion or redevelopment of the county's road stormwater infrastructure should minimize pollutant discharges and flow alterations by mimicking the natural drainage system or preserving the ability to create such a system in the future.))~~

1. Electric vehicles

Transportation emissions - primarily from passenger cars and trucks - are the biggest source of carbon pollution in Washington, accounting for 39 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions in 2019. Supporting the transition of private cars and trucks to electric vehicles will lead to fewer climate-altering pollutants, improved air quality, lower maintenance and fueling costs for car owners, and reduced pollution exposure for communities along major transportation corridors.

~~King County and Washington State have taken steps to support electric vehicle adoption and charging availability, including the Washington State Motor Vehicle Emission Standards - Zero-Emission Vehicles law in 2020 (Revised Code of Washington 70A.30.010), Clean Fuels Program in 2022 (Chapter 173-424 Washington Administrative Code), and Climate Commitment Act 2022 (Chapter 173-446 Washington Administrative Code).~~ The Strategic Climate Action Plan supports efforts to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles while ensuring the equitable distribution of benefits of electric vehicles and promoting equitable access to mobility that prioritizes shared mobility solutions. The Strategic Climate Action Plan sets the following targets that for the share of new vehicles sold that are electric vehicles by 2035: are 100 percent of light-duty vehicles, 50 percent of medium-duty vehicles, and 28 percent of heavy-duty vehicles. King County and the State have adopted regulations requiring electric vehicle charging infrastructure be provided with new and substantial improvements to residential and nonresidential development. Washington State has also developed the Washington State Plan for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment and has set a target that all model year 2030 and later passenger and light-duty vehicles that are sold, purchased, or registered in Washington be zero-emission vehicles. The State also mandates that all new vehicles must be zero-emission vehicles from model year 2035 onward.

Challenges remain for equitable access to electric vehicles due to higher vehicle costs and access to charging infrastructure. On average, electric vehicles have a higher purchase price, though they are less expensive to own overall. Additionally, people who live in older multiunitfamily or rental housing face barriers to securing electric vehicle charging at home, as tenants do not have property control and property owners have few incentives to install charging equipment. Constricted charging supply is exacerbated by existing disparities, as historically underserved underinvested families

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1194 disproportionately rent. However, there are some state and federal financial incentives
1195 available.

1196
1197 **T-136** King County should support expansion of private electric vehicle use
1198 and the provision of necessary charging infrastructure, including
1199 opportunities to improve equitable access to the benefits of electric
1200 vehicles and geographically dispersed access to public vehicle
1201 charging at King County-owned facilities and at partner locations, by
1202 taking action such as convening partners and leading grant proposals,
1203 administering grants, and supporting regional planning for electric
1204 vehicle infrastructure.

1205
1206 **T-137** King County should support expansion of private electric vehicle
1207 freight use and the geographically dispersed charging infrastructure
1208 necessary to enable the emission-free movement of goods traveling
1209 throughout the county, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

1210 III. Multimodal Transportation ((Ensuring Effective
1211 Management and Efficient Operations))

1212 ~~((This section contains policy direction to guide the ongoing design, maintenance,
1213 operation, and management of the county transportation system to provide for safety,
1214 efficiency, and sustainability. ((It is consistent with the King County Strategic Plan, which,
1215 as a component of the county's Performance Management and Accountability System,
1216 provides the foundation for managing the performance of county services.)) The
1217 Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, Metro Service Guidelines, Metro Connects, and
1218 the Strategic Plan for Road Services((, as transportation functional plans,)) provide ((the))
1219 detailed guidance on operational issues and ((also)) address transportation
1220 performance measurement and reporting.))~~

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1221 A. Public Transportation System

1222 Metro ~~((and the Marine Division))~~ plays an important role in achieving the region's
1223 growth strategy by focusing public transportation services in the ~~((r))Urban ((g))Growth
1224 ((a))Area of King County and providing service to designated regional, countywide, and
1225 other centers and ((other)) areas of concentrated activity. Centers and other
1226 communities that are compact and ~~((friendly to pedestrians and bicycles))~~ designed to
1227 prioritize walking and biking are most easily served by transit. Such communities foster
1228 healthier, more active lifestyles while reducing ~~((auto))~~ vehicle dependency and
1229 associated road investments. By the same token, transit service can support and
1230 encourage development that is more compact. Metro's Service Guidelines describe the
1231 types of land uses that support different types of transit service. Metro's Strategic Plan
1232 for Public Transportation and Metro Connects direct Metro to support equitable,
1233 affordable, transit-oriented communities and development.~~

1234
1235 ~~((Metro and the Marine Division support municipal, agency and private development of
1236 transit-supportive, pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly communities through partnership,
1237 coordination and delivery of public transportation services. Metro also promotes
1238 partnerships to implement transit-supportive infrastructure to improve access to transit.
1239 Metro also partners with jurisdictions and the private sector to spur transit-oriented
1240 development through redevelopment opportunities at or adjacent to park-and-rides.~~

1241
1242 **T-204) T-201** King County should support local and regional growth plans and
1243 policies by focusing transit services on centers and other areas of
1244 concentrated activity.

1245

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1246 ~~((T-205))~~ **T-202** King County should support, encourage, and implement
1247 high-capacity transit facilities and services that are consistent with, and
1248 supportive of, the Comprehensive Plan, Metro’s Strategic Plan for
1249 Public Transportation, Metro’s ~~((Long Range Plan for Public~~
1250 ~~Transportation and the King County Ferry District 2014 Strategic Plan))~~
1251 **Service Guidelines, and Metro Connects, or successor plans.**

1252 **B. Public Transportation Policies and Service**
1253 **Guidelines**

1254 Metro is committed to ~~((using))~~ delivering a regional, innovative, and integrated mobility
1255 network that is safe, equitable, and sustainable. To do this, Metro must invest in line
1256 with its values and policies, use resources wisely, and ~~((increasing))~~ increase the
1257 efficiency of its operations. Consistent with its Strategic Plan and ~~((Long Range Plan))~~
1258 Metro Connects, Metro emphasizes planning and delivery of productive services and is
1259 committed to controlling costs. To help ensure efficiency and investments aligned with
1260 Metro’s values, Metro uses service guidelines and performance measures to manage
1261 the transit system. Performance monitoring helps Metro evaluate its progress, plan and
1262 budget for the future, and improve agency practices. Metro is also committed to
1263 improving its transparency and so makes performance reports readily available to
1264 internal and external audiences.

1265 Metro’s Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, Service Guidelines, and Metro
1266 Connects emphasize advancing equity and addressing climate change. The three
1267 documents strongly emphasize the need to invest upstream and where needs are
1268 greatest, including for priority populations: people who have low or no income; are
1269 Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color; are immigrants or refugees; have
1270 disabilities; or are linguistically diverse. For example, when considering where to add
1271 new service, Metro’s Service Guidelines now direct Metro to consider social equity first,
1272 and land use second.

1273 ~~((T-301))~~ **T-203** King County should provide reliable, safe, convenient, equitable,
1274 and accessible public transportation services that are responsive to the
1275 needs of people, businesses, and communities in King County -
1276 especially where needs are greatest.

1277 ~~((T-301a))~~ **T-204** ~~((The))~~ King County ~~((Marine Division))~~ should be a leader in
1278 regional mobility by providing ~~((passenger-only ferry))~~ service that
1279 benefits the community, helps reduce road congestion, can assist in
1280 emergency management needs, and supports the economic
1281 development and growth management needs of King County.

1282 ~~((T-301b))~~ **T-205** King County ~~((’s))~~ should provide ~~((passenger-only ferry))~~
1283 service ~~((should be))~~ that is efficient, safe, accessible, and reliable, ~~((and~~
1284 ~~provide))~~ in addition to providing excellent customer service while
1285 being responsive and accountable to the public.

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~~((T-302))~~ **T-206** ~~((The))~~ King County ~~((Marine Division))~~ should work with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Kitsap County, and other entities offering passenger ferry services ~~((;))~~ to ensure that service and capital plans for ferries are consistent with ~~((the King County Ferry District 2014 Strategic Plan))~~ Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, Service Guidelines, and Metro Connects, or successor plans.

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~~((I.))~~ ~~((Nonmotorized))~~ C. Active Transportation Program

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~~((Vision 2040,))~~ VISION is the region's long-range ~~((growth management, economic and transportation strategy, and))~~ plan for how and where development occurs and how the region supports efforts to manage growth. ~~((Transportation 2040))~~ VISION, the Regional Transportation Plan, the adopted Metropolitan Transportation Plan, ~~((and the associated Active Transportation Plan))~~ call for the development of a regional transportation system that offers a variety of travel choices while preserving environmental quality and open space. ~~((Nonmotorized))~~ Active transportation - such as walking, biking, using a wheelchair, and, in some parts of the county, equestrian travel - ~~((plays a key role in achieving these goals and))~~ is an essential component of King County's multimodal transportation system. ~~((Pedestrians, bicyclists and in some parts of the county, equestrians, are nonmotorized users of the transportation system.))~~ Regional trails serve a recreational function and also allow for uses such as transportation - ~~((enabling integration of the trail network with other active transportation networks.))~~

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~~((Biking and walking are))~~ Active transportation is an energy efficient, economical, and low~~((=))~~ impact ~~((mode(s))~~ of travel that ~~((;))~~ promotes health: ~~((and ((don't)) doesn't contribute to air or water pollution)).~~ By providing options for ~~((nonmotorized travel))~~ active transportation, King County helps to reduce ~~((automobile))~~ vehicle dependency and congestion, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create opportunities for individuals to integrate healthy exercise into everyday activities. The ability to safely ~~((bicycle and walk))~~ use active transportation can provide varying levels of accessibility and mobility to almost everyone, including people who are young, ~~((elderly))~~ who are aged 62 years and older, ~~((physically disabled, ((or)) who have physical disabilities, who with are part of a household at or below 80 percent of area median income, ((low((+)) incomes ((people and others)) or who may not drive for other reasons.))~~ Well-designed, strategically located ~~((bicycle and pedestrian))~~ active transportation facilities can also provide increased and safer access to transit for more people. ~~((Bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian t))~~ Trails are important ~~((community))~~ recreational amenities that foster vibrant communities and may help spur economic development. Equestrian travel is also an important aspect of the rural heritage and lifestyle of King County as well as a very popular recreational activity. ~~((;))~~

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In unincorporated King County, the Road Services Division is responsible for ~~((nonmotorized))~~ active transportation facilities such as bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or shoulders on ~~((C))~~ county roads. The ~~((d))~~ Division also provides crosswalks and specialized signals or signage that help facilitate safer ~~((nonmotorized travel))~~ active transportation. The King County Road Design and Construction Standards ~~((include accommodation for ((nonmotorized uses)) active transportation and))~~ specify bicycle lane, sidewalk, or road shoulder criteria for unincorporated ~~((urban and rural))~~ roads. Sidewalks are allowed in Rural Towns and, under certain circumstances, ~~((sidewalks))~~ are allowed in the Rural Area as a spot improvement to address an existing safety or high-use issue when other walkway alternatives would not be as effective ~~((, or))~~ and for safe routes to school. Road-related ~~((nonmotorized))~~ active transportation capital needs in the unincorporated area are included in the Transportation Needs Report and are programmed in the six-year Roads Capital Improvement Program as funding allows.

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1345 ~~((The HealthScape Transportation Programming Tool, along with other criteria, is used~~
1346 ~~in evaluating nonmotorized projects in the Transportation Needs Report.)) Road safety,~~
1347 ~~including consideration of vehicle speeds in roadway design, and strategic, capital, and~~
1348 ~~operational countermeasures to enhance safety are critical tools to provide for safe and~~
1349 ~~easy transportation options.~~

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1352 ~~((King County also ((plays a)) supports active transportation countywide ((role in~~
1353 ~~nonmotorized transportation)) through its Regional Trails ~~((System))~~ network and transit~~
1354 ~~services.)) The ((r))Regional ((t))Trails network ~~((discussed in Chapter 7, Parks, Open~~
1355 ~~Space, and Cultural Resources,)) is an integral component of the ((C))county's~~
1356 ~~recreational and transportation system. It includes facilities located both in cities and~~
1357 ~~the unincorporated area. ~~((The Regional ((t))Trail network functions as the spine of the~~~~
1358 ~~(((C))county's ((nonmotorized)) active transportation system ((in many areas)). Transit and~~
1359 ~~(((walking or biking)) active transportation are highly synergistic; transit use tends to be~~
1360 ~~highest in locations where ~~(((walking and biking are)) active transportation use is~~~~
1361 ~~prevalent, and vice versa. ((The)) Metro ((Transit Department)) supports~~
1362 ~~(((nonmotorized)) active transportation programs such as bicycle racks on transit buses~~
1363 ~~and passenger ferries, and bicycle lockers at park-and-ride lots, employment sites, ferry~~
1364 ~~terminals, and other locations.~~~~

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1366 ~~((F-230)) **I-207** King County shall consider the safety, needs, and abilities of~~
1367 ~~(((nonmotorized)) active transportation users ((of the transportation~~
1368 ~~system)) in the planning, design, construction, maintenance,~~
1369 ~~preservation, and operation of road infrastructure and other~~
1370 ~~transportation facilities ~~((to the extent feasible given available~~~~
1371 ~~funding)).~~

1372
1373 ~~((F-231)) **I-208** Consistent with the priorities defined in the County's ~~((functional))~~~~
1374 ~~transportation plans~~((;))~~ and the Regional Growth Strategy,~~
1375 ~~(((nonmotorized)) active transportation system investments should aim~~
1376 ~~to increase safety, accessibility, and mobility~~((; facilitating))~~; facilitate~~
1377 ~~mode integration and intermodal connections~~((;))~~; improve access to~~
1378 ~~centers, where appropriate~~((;))~~; and ~~((providing))~~ provide opportunities~~
1379 ~~for healthy activity and alternatives to driving for all populations.~~

1380
1381 ~~((F-232)) **I-209** King County shall evaluate ~~((and implement ((nonmotorized))~~~~
1382 ~~active transportation improvements in its road construction projects~~
1383 ~~and shall implement these improvements where appropriate and~~
1384 ~~feasible.~~

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1386 ~~((F-233)) **I-210** In unincorporated areas of King County, the following needs ~~((will))~~~~
1387 ~~shall be given the highest priority when identifying, planning, and~~
1388 ~~programming ~~(((nonmotorized)) active transportation improvements:~~~~
1389 ~~a. Addressing known collision locations;~~
1390 ~~b. Fostering safe ~~(((walking and bicycling)) active transportation~~~~
1391 ~~routes to schools and other areas where school-aged children~~
1392 ~~regularly assemble;~~
1393 ~~c. Filling gaps in, or enhancing connections to, the ~~(((r))Regional~~~~
1394 ~~(((t))Trails ~~(((system))~~ network;~~
1395 ~~d. Serving ~~(((t))~~ locations of high concentration of pedestrian and/or~~
1396 ~~bicycle traffic; and~~
1397 ~~e. Providing safe routes to transit.~~

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((T-234)) I-211 In urban areas, ((nonmotorized)) active transportation improvements should increase access to transit and urban centers while enhancing community connections to parks, local trails, shopping, libraries, healthcare, and other public and private services and facilities.

((T-235)) I-212 The King County Regional Trails ((System)) network ((is)) shall be the centerpiece of the ((nonmotorized-system)) network for active transportation in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. The ((c))County's efforts to enhance the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands ((nonmotorized)) active transportation network should include ((filling-in)) completing the Regional Trails ((System's)) network's ((missing-links)) gaps, coordinating road and trail projects whenever possible, considering access from roadways such as gateway (trailhead) parking, and enhancing access to transit, especially park((-)-and((-)-ride((s))) lots and transit centers.

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~~T-213~~ The Regional Trails network, and its use, shall be for both recreation and transportation purposes. Not all facilities are appropriate for all modes and may have restrictions on the use of any mode.

((T-236)) I-214 In the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands, ((nonmotorized)) active transportation improvements shall be ((consistent-with-providing)) provided at rural levels of service, ((preserving)) preserve rural character, and ((avoiding)) avoid impacts to the environment and significant historic properties.

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((T-237)) I-215 To increase equitable access to walking, bicycling, and transit mobility options, the ((c))County should actively seek grant funding to improve ((nonmotorized)) active transportation infrastructure that serves the needs of ((Black, Indigenous, and other ((p))People-of ((c))Color((:)); immigrants; refugees; and other intersectional populations, including ((low-income communities)) those who earn less than 80 percent of area median income, ((people with limited English-speaking proficiency, immigrant and refugee populations, and others who may have limited transportation options such as students, youth, seniors, and)) historically underinvested groups.) people with disabilities, people aged 62 years and over, and people with special transportation needs, seniors, LGBTQIA+ people, women, and others who may have limited transportation options such as students and youth.

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((T-238)) I-216 New school development should address safe ((walking and bicycling)) active transportation routes for students. If the existing transportation infrastructure within a one-mile radius, together with the school's road frontage improvements, cannot support safe ((walking or bicycling to school)) active transportation access, King County shall use its development review authority to require the school district and the new school to address the long-term transportation needs of students, including through the state-mandated Safe Routes to School program.

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((T-239)) I-217 New ((land-use)) binding site plans, commercial developments, and subdivisions shall seek to accommodate internal ((nonmotorized)) active transportation mobility and access to nearby shopping, parks, trails, schools, healthcare, community resources, and other public and private services and facilities, consistent with the different needs and service levels for urban ((and)) areas, the Rural Area((s)), and Natural Resource Lands.

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1458 ~~((T-240)) I-218~~ The specifications in the King County Road Design and
1459 Construction Standards shall support ~~((nonmotorized)) active~~
1460 transportation safety and accessibility, consistent with the County's
1461 adopted policies regarding appropriate urban and rural levels of
1462 service.

1463
1464 ~~((T-241)) I-219~~ In supporting equestrian travel in the Rural Area(s) and Natural
1465 Resource Lands, King County should emphasize safety and connection
1466 to ~~((the Regional Trail System and other))~~ established trail networks
1467 open to equestrian use.

1468
1469 ~~((T-242)) I-220~~ King County shall seek opportunities to acquire and develop
1470 ~~((nonmotorized)) active~~ transportation corridors. ~~((Evaluation of~~
1471 requests to vacate unused road rights-of-way ~~((will)) should~~ consider
1472 existing ~~((nonmotorized)) active transportation~~ uses and future
1473 development of such uses.)

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1475 ~~((T-243)) I-221~~ King County should coordinate with ~~((bicycling, pedestrian, and~~
1476 ~~equestrian stakeholders)) active transportation users~~ and advocacy
1477 organizations to ensure that their input is included early ~~((in)) and~~
1478 throughout in the planning and project design process for projects with
1479 ~~((nonmotorized)) active transportation~~ elements or that have the
1480 potential to affect ~~((nonmotorized)) these~~ users.

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1482 ~~((T-244)) I-222~~ King County should participate~~((d))~~ in the Puget Sound Regional
1483 Council's regional bicycle network planning efforts~~((;))~~ and consider
1484 related project needs within King County's jurisdiction ~~((should be~~
1485 ~~considered))~~ in the ~~((c))County's ((nonmotorized)) active transportation~~
1486 planning and project prioritization processes ~~((as financial resources~~
1487 ~~allow))~~.

1488 ~~((E)) D. Transportation Demand Management~~

1489 Transportation affects every aspect of the lives of King County residents, not only in
1490 terms of mobility but also in terms of health, equity, racial and social justice, economy,
1491 and environment. Transportation Demand Management consists of a broad range of
1492 strategies that provide for reduced reliance on single occupancy vehicle trips, reduced
1493 vehicle miles traveled, and increased efficiency of the whole transportation system.
1494 Transportation Demand Management results in lower greenhouse gas emissions and
1495 other pollutants, and equitable access to alternative mobility options.

1496
1497 ~~((King County, both as a government and as an employer, is a leader in implementing~~
1498 ~~transportation initiatives and encouraging land uses, policies, and development that~~
1499 ~~lead people and businesses to reduce single occupant vehicle trips and vehicle miles~~
1500 ~~traveled, while decreasing the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions from the~~
1501 ~~transportation sector. King County's ability to provide for the mobility needs of its~~
1502 ~~residents will increasingly depend on actively managing the existing transportation~~
1503 ~~system.))~~

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1504 Transportation Demand Management strategies include (but are not limited to):

- 1506 • Public education ~~((f))~~ information and incentive programs;
- 1507 • Public transportation ~~((i.e.))~~ bus, rail, passenger ferry, ~~((and))~~ vanpool, and
1508 carpool;
- 1509 • ~~((Nonmotorized travel))~~ Active transportation options;
- 1510 • State-mandated Commute Trip Reduction and Growth and Transportation
1511 Efficiency Centers;

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- 1512 • Roadway and lane management (such as ridesharing, intelligent traffic systems, and active traffic management);
- 1513
- 1514 • Congestion pricing strategies (such as high-occupancy toll((?)) lanes, express toll lanes, corridor tolling, cordon tolling, system-wide tolling, and vehicle miles traveled charges);
- 1515
- 1516
- 1517 • Joint use and intermodal transfer facilities (such as park((-))and((-))ride((s)) lots);
- 1518 • Parking management and pricing (such as connecting supply with mode split targets; mode split is the percentage of a specific mode's use from among all modes of travel);
- 1519
- 1520
- 1521 • Telecommunications substitutes for physical travel ((t)) such as ((telecommuting, e-government, and internet-based business-to-business activities)) remote work; and
- 1522
- 1523
- 1524 • Land use decisions (such as site design standards and concurrency).
- 1525
- 1526

~~((In its application of Transportation Demand Management strategies, King County fulfills many roles, including:~~

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- 1529 • The jurisdiction responsible for land use, transportation infrastructure, and permitting in unincorporated areas;
- 1530
- 1531 • The operator and manager of unincorporated area roadways and ~~((Metro T))~~ transit services;
- 1532
- 1533 • An advocate at the local, regional, and state~~((wide advocate))~~ levels for integrated transportation solutions, equitable access to mobility options, and climate change actions; and
- 1534
- 1535
- 1536 • A leading edge employer implementing progressive employee transportation programs;
- 1537
- 1538

~~T-245))~~ **I-223** King County shall implement policies and programs that support ~~((t))~~ **Transportation** ~~((d))~~ **Demand** ~~((m))~~ **Management**, ~~((nonmotorized travel))~~ **active transportation**, transit service improvements, and expansion of high-occupancy((-)) vehicle travel ~~((in order))~~ to increase the share of trips made by modes other than driving alone, and should partner with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Puget Sound Regional Council, local jurisdictions, employers, major institutions, and developers to implement programs that support, encourage, and raise awareness of alternatives to driving alone.

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~~((T-246~~ ~~((Where appropriate))~~ King County should support the use of Transportation Demand Management strategies, including ~~((variable tolling on state highways))~~ congestion pricing, to increase mobility options, promote travel efficiency, optimize the existing transportation system ~~((and))~~, support King County climate goals, and reduce the adverse environmental impacts of the transportation system.

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~~T-247))~~ **I-224** King County should consider Transportation Demand Management strategies, beyond those adopted as ~~((e))~~ County regulation, among a menu of measures to mitigate for traffic impacts of proposed development or major highway construction projects. ~~((Transportation Demand Management, as well as other mitigation requirements, may be imposed on new development as mandatory mitigation measures as necessary to meet the requirements for mitigation of impacts pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act and the State Subdivision Act.~~

~~T-248))~~ **I-225** King County should promote employee transportation programs, including those for its own employees, that encourage trip reduction,

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use of public transportation, walking, and bicycling. ((King County should demonstrate regional leadership by continuing to provide a model program for its own employees.))
~~((T-248a))~~ King County should actively participate in developing and implementing state-mandated Commute Trip Reduction programs.
~~T-249))~~ I-226 King County should participate in local, regional, and statewide efforts to implement and measure the results of Transportation Demand Management strategies, technologies, and systems, including policies developed through regional consensus and adopted by the ((c))County. To this end, the ((c))County shall identify funds to research, plan, implement, and measure the success of Transportation Demand Management strategies.
~~((T-250))~~ I-227 King County ((will)) shall work with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Washington State Transportation Commission, Puget Sound Regional Council, and cities to ((develop and)) implement ((applications of managed)) t)I transportation Ddemand Mmanagement ((facilities and congestion pricing)) strategies, such as congestion pricing, to support increased efficiency and reduce the need for ((on)) new ((and existing transportation)) facilities.
~~((T-254))~~ I-228 King County should support((s)) Transportation Demand Management strategies, including congestion pricing and other road usage pricing strategies, and should especially support more equitable and less-regressive approaches, as a means to optimize transportation system performance and efficiency, generate revenues, reduce vehicle miles traveled, and ((reduce greenhouse gas emissions)) support King County environmental and climate goals.
~~((T-252))~~ I-229 Revenue from congestion pricing and other road usage pricing should be used to improve, preserve, and operate the transportation system, including transit and other multimodal investments, as well as to help fund improvements that address the diversionary impacts on non-tolled facilities.
~~((T-253))~~ King County should partner with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Puget Sound Regional Council, local jurisdictions, employers, major institutions and developers to implement programs to encourage alternatives to commuting by single-occupant((+)) vehicles, and to improve travel options and awareness of those options.

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1611 ~~T-253a) I-230~~ King County shall provide culturally((-))_appropriate opportunities
1612 ~~to inform and participate in programs that increase access to effective~~
1613 ~~alternatives to driving alone for ((residents of low-income~~
1614 ~~communities)) households at or below 80 percent of area median~~
1615 ~~income, Black, Indigenous, and other ((p))People of ((c))Color((-));~~
1616 ~~people ((with limited English proficiency)) speaking a language(s) other~~
1617 ~~than English; ((and)) immigrants; and refugees ((populations to inform~~
1618 ~~and participate in programs to increase access to effective alternatives~~
1619 ~~to driving alone)).~~

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1620 ~~IV. Roads ((Financing Services and~~ 1621 ~~Facilities that Meet Local and~~ 1622 ~~Regional Goals))~~

1623 ~~A. Road System~~

1624 ~~((T-206)) I-301 ((Except as provided in T-209;))~~ King County shall not construct and
1625 shall oppose the construction by other agencies of any new arterials or
1626 highways in the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands.

1627
1628 ~~((T-207)) I-302~~ King County recognizes the importance to regional and local
1629 mobility of ~~existing~~ state highways that traverse the Rural Area and
1630 Natural Resource Lands and should advocate for state and federal
1631 agencies to improve ((performance)) ~~the safety, efficiency, and~~
1632 ~~resiliency of these facilities((-, consistent with the ((county's adopted))~~
1633 ~~Comprehensive Plan policies to)) where they prevent unplanned~~
1634 ~~development in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands and~~
1635 ~~preserve rural character.~~

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1637 ~~((T-208)) I-303~~ King County shall not ((add any new arterial)) ~~expand~~ capacity of
1638 ~~existing arterial roads~~ in the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands,
1639 except ~~for roads where as needed for safety, or and~~ for segments of
1640 rural regional corridors that pass through ~~the Rural Area(s) ((and)) or~~
1641 ~~Natural Resource Lands, or both,~~ to accommodate levels of traffic
1642 between urban areas. ~~Appropriate rural development regulations and~~
1643 ~~strong commitments to access management should be in place prior to~~
1644 ~~authorizing capacity expansion of rural regional corridors to prevent~~
1645 ~~unplanned growth in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.~~ Rural
1646 regional corridors shall be identified in the Transportation Needs
1647 Report (Appendix C1) and shall meet all of the following criteria:

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- 1648 a. Connects one urban area to another, or to a highway of statewide
1649 significance that provides such connection, by traversing the Rural
1650 Area and Natural Resource Lands;
- 1651 b. Classified as a principal arterial;
- 1652 c. Carries high traffic volumes (at least 15,000 average daily traffic);
1653 and
- 1654 d. At least half of ((P.M.)) ~~p.m.~~ peak trips on the corridor are traveling
1655 to cities or other counties.

1656
1657 ~~((T-209))~~ ~~King County shall avoid construction of major roads and capacity~~
1658 ~~expansion on existing roads in Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands.~~
1659 ~~Where increased roadway capacity is warranted to support safe and~~
1660 ~~efficient travel through Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands,~~
1661 ~~appropriate rural development regulations and strong commitments to~~
1662 ~~access management should be in place prior to authorizing such~~

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~~capacity expansion in order to prevent unplanned growth in these areas.~~

~~**T-210)) I-304** Any capacity increases to rural regional corridors shall be designed to accommodate levels of traffic between urban areas consistent with ~~((the county's adopted))~~ Comprehensive Plan policies regarding development in the surrounding Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands. The ~~((c))~~County shall seek to maximize the efficient use of existing roadway capacity before considering adding new capacity to rural regional corridors.~~

~~**((T-211)) I-305** Any segment of a ~~((c))~~County roadway that forms the boundary between the Urban Growth Area and the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands should be designated urban and all associated road right-of-way fully contained within the Urban Growth Area boundary. Such urban boundary roads shall be designed and constructed to urban roadway standards on both sides of the roadway segment.~~

~~**((T-212)) I-306** King County shall work with cities for the annexation of ~~((c))~~County~~(-)~~ roadways and/or street segments located in the urban area and within or between cities~~(, in order)~~ to provide for a consistent level of urban services on the affected roads and reduce the burden on unincorporated taxpayers that are supporting this urban infrastructure.~~

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B. Concurrency

~~((The Growth Management Act requires local jurisdictions to adopt and enforce ordinances that prohibit development approval if the development causes the Level of Service on identified ~~((c))~~County arterials to decline below the adopted Level of Service standards. King County's Transportation Concurrency Management program was developed to address the Growth Management Act's concurrency requirement.)) The Transportation Concurrency Management program requires that adequate transportation facilities must be available to carry the traffic of a proposed development at ~~((c))~~County ~~((L))~~level of ~~((S))~~service standards, or ~~that~~ construction for needed improvements ~~is~~ funded in the adopted Six-Year Roads Capital Improvement Program, or else the proposed development cannot be approved.~~

~~((The requirements of King County's Transportation Concurrency Management program may apply to transportation facilities designated by the Washington State Department of Transportation as "highways of statewide significance." The portions of certain highways of statewide significance that do not have limited access and function like county arterials may be included in the King County concurrency test.))~~

The Transportation Concurrency Management program has been designed to meet the following goals:

- Fulfill the requirements of state growth management legislation;
- Be simple to understand, easy to implement and administer, and transparent to those affected by its processes and regulations;
- Consider and encourage multimodal travel;
- Encourage growth in urban areas where provision of transportation infrastructure and services is most efficient and economical; and
- Efficiently integrate concurrency determination into the permit system process and database.

Transportation concurrency is a plan-level system that does not require testing of individual developments. Instead, concurrency status is determined by broad geographic areas ~~within unincorporated King County called ((travel sheds))~~ ~~travelsheds,~~

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1719 which were drawn to reflect where travel patterns share common characteristics. Trips
1720 associated with development within a particular ~~((travel shed)) travelshed~~ would likely
1721 use or be affected by traffic on arterials located within and bordering that ~~((travel shed))~~
1722 travelshed. A development proposal ~~((including both residential and nonresidential~~
1723 ~~proposals))~~ will be considered to meet the transportation concurrency standard if it is
1724 located in a ~~((travel shed)) travelshed~~ that meets ~~((T))~~ level of ~~((S))~~ service standards as
1725 depicted on the concurrency map in effect at the time of development application.
1726 Development proposals must still meet all applicable zoning and land use regulations.
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1728 ~~((T-219)) For the purposes of concurrency testing, a travel shed is a geographic~~
1729 ~~area within unincorporated King County where trips generated by~~
1730 ~~development within the travel shed would likely use or be affected by~~
1731 ~~traffic on arterials within the travel shed:~~

1732
1733 ~~T-220) The concurrency program shall include provision for mobility areas~~
1734 ~~within travel sheds as provided in T-217. Rural Mobility Areas shall be~~
1735 ~~defined as unincorporated Rural Towns as designated in the King~~
1736 ~~County Comprehensive Plan:~~

1737
1738 ~~T-224)) I-307 The concurrency map shall identify the ((travel sheds)) travelsheds~~
1739 ~~that meet or do not meet concurrency standards. Any proposed~~
1740 ~~development in ((travel sheds)) travelsheds that meet concurrency~~
1741 ~~standards ((with)) shall be deemed concurrent.~~

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1743 ~~((T-222)) I-308 The concurrency test shall be based on the ((T)) level of ((S)) service~~
1744 ~~on arterials in unincorporated King County using the ((c)) County's~~
1745 ~~adopted methodology. ((The test may be applied to designated~~
1746 ~~Highways of Statewide Significance:~~

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1748 ~~T-223)) I-309 The concurrency test may include provision of factors for safety,~~
1749 ~~pavement condition, and availability of multiple modes of~~
1750 ~~transportation.~~

1751
1752 ~~((T-224)) I-310 In the Rural Area, the concurrency test may include a provision that~~
1753 ~~allows the purchase of Transferable Development Rights ((in-order)) to~~
1754 ~~satisfy transportation concurrency requirements.~~

1755 C. Road Services Policies and Priorities

1756 Effective design, management, and operation of the road system are critical to mobility
1757 and quality of life. King County strives to make efficient use of the existing
1758 infrastructure, serve the broad needs of users, address safety issues, and design
1759 facilities that are appropriate for the surrounding communities. King County has a
1760 structural funding deficit that continues to severely impact the ~~((c))~~ County's ability to
1761 provide basic preservation and maintenance of its aging and declining road system.
1762 Therefore, as the revenue available to manage the road system fluctuates, so will the
1763 ~~((c))~~ County's ability to maintain and preserve its roads and bridges. If sufficient revenue
1764 is not available to sustain the road system, then infrastructure may be downgraded or
1765 closed. The ~~((c))~~ County's focus will remain on the priorities in the Strategic Plan for
1766 Road Services to guide these critical decisions. The Strategic Plan for Road Services
1767 also prioritizes funding of services and projects, including both the type of activities and
1768 the location of investments.

1769
1770 The Strategic Plan for Road Services lays out the priority for the Road Services Division
1771 funding decisions in the following order:

- 1772 1. Prevent and respond to immediate operational life safety and property damage
1773 hazards.

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- 1774 2. Meet regulatory requirements and standards in cooperation with regulatory
- 1775 agencies.
- 1776 3. Maintain and ((P))preserve the existing roadway facilities network.
- 1777 4. Enhance mobility (movement of people and goods) by facilitating more
- 1778 efficient use of the existing road system.
- 1779 5. Address roadway capacity when necessary to support growth targets in the
- 1780 urban area.

1781
 1782 Based on the Strategic Plan for Road Services, King County has implemented a
 1783 graduated service level decision framework that considers road function, traffic volume,
 1784 life-safety needs, network connectivity, and transit use. Priority will be given to keep the
 1785 most vital components of the road system operational for users. This approach guides
 1786 service provision under limited funding scenarios and also helps direct investments
 1787 toward the most critical needs when additional resources are available. Performance
 1788 measurement and reporting is also an important aspect of the Strategic Plan for Road
 1789 Services and a critical tool in managing the ((c))County's road system.

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1790
 1791 To improve efficiency and productivity, King County has implemented and continues to
 1792 enhance and refine a data-driven asset management approach that, combined with the
 1793 policy direction in this Comprehensive Plan and the Strategic Plan for Road Services, will
 1794 guide investment choices over the next biennium and beyond.

1795
 1796 The Road Services Division's Capital Improvement Program and Financial Plan must be
 1797 consistent with this Comprehensive Plan and consider the current performance of the
 1798 transportation system, concurrency needs of planned developments, priority projects,
 1799 phased implementation of improvements, and other related factors. Revenues from a
 1800 range of sources, including grants, are programmed to appropriate projects.

1801
 1802 While new streets are designed to balance the safety and mobility needs of all users,
 1803 including people walking and biking, much of the network was built many generations
 1804 ago using the standards of the time. Over time, as resources become available, the
 1805 County strives to improve the system to one that is designed and operated in a human-
 1806 centric manner to accommodate certain types and levels of human mistakes,
 1807 accommodates physical human vulnerabilities, proactively addresses safety, and
 1808 reduces risk through redundant measures. The responsibility for traffic safety outcomes
 1809 on the road network is shared between multiple actors, including the Road Services
 1810 Division as the road system manager, as well as public health organizations, law
 1811 enforcement agencies, emergency responders, road users, and others.

1812
 1813 Arterial Functional Classification, established in Appendix C, Transportation, is
 1814 implemented through the specifications provided in the King County Road Design and
 1815 Construction Standards. The Urban Growth Area boundary provides the distinction
 1816 between urban and rural arterials.

1817
 1818 Management of the Ccounty road network gives special consideration to its designated
 1819 Heritage Corridors, where travelers can still experience a sense of the county's rich
 1820 transportation history. These historic and scenic corridors include:

- 1821 • Cedarhurst Road/Westside Highway and Dockton Road on Vashon Maury
- 1822 Island;
- 1823 • Green Valley Road in the Auburn Black Diamond area;
- 1824 • Issaquah Fall City Road, West Snoqualmie River Road, and West Snoqualmie
- 1825 Valley Road/Carnation Farm Road in the Snoqualmie Valley;
- 1826 • Old Cascade Scenic Highway and Old Sunset Highway in Stevens Pass; and

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- 1827 • Osceola Loop in the Enumclaw Plateau.

1828 Likewise, travelers in King County also benefit from multiple scenic, historic, and
1829 recreational highways located within King County. Designated Washington Scenic and
1830 Recreational Highways include:
1831

- 1832 • I-90 (Mountains to Sound Greenway).
- 1833 • US 2 (Stevens Pass Greenway).
- 1834 • State Route 410 (Chinook Pass Scenic Byway), and
- 1835 • State Route 202 (Cascade Valleys Scenic Byway).

1836 ~~((Equity and Racial and Social Justice))~~

1837 Equity and ~~Racial~~ and ~~((S))social ((J))justice~~ principles receive significant consideration
1838 in decision-making processes. ~~The~~ Road Services~~((4))~~ Division's approach to integrating
1839 equity and ~~racial and~~ social justice into agency business operations and budgeting
1840 includes the following components:

- 1841 • Prioritize emergency snow and ice response along Metro's highest priority
1842 transit snow routes, since these may be the only source of transportation
1843 available to lower-income residents.
- 1844 • Promote equal access to, and availability of, information and services for all
1845 county residents by designing ~~((d))~~ Division communications and public
1846 engagement processes that are culturally relevant for diverse communities,
1847 including communities whose residents ~~((have limited English proficiency))~~
1848 ~~speaking a language(s) other than English.~~
- 1849 • Utilize partnerships with other King County or external agencies, community
1850 groups, and non~~((n))~~profit organizations to better understand community needs
1851 and obtain community input and involvement.
- 1852 • When available, grant-funded ~~((non-motorized))~~ active transportation
1853 improvements are directed to ~~((disadvantaged))~~ historically
1854 ~~underinvested/served~~ communities because they both help to support active,
1855 healthy lifestyles ~~((and also))~~ facilitate mobility for people with disabilities~~((;))~~
1856 and those who cannot drive or are unable to afford a car.
- 1857 • ~~((King County a))~~ Acknowledge ~~((s))~~ that ~~((there are significant concentrations of))~~
1858 Black, Indigenous, and other ~~((p))~~ People of ~~((c))~~ Color ~~((, low income~~
1859 ~~populations))~~; ~~people with low incomes/households at or below 80 percent of~~
1860 ~~area median income((;))~~; people ~~((with limited English proficiency))~~ speaking ~~a~~
1861 ~~language(s) other than English((, and))~~; immigrants, and refugees
1862 ~~((populations))~~ disproportionately reside in ~~((certain areas))~~ some King County
1863 neighborhoods. The ~~((c))~~ County also recognizes that these groups of people
1864 are ~~((disbursed))~~ dispersed across the county. ~~((Their mobility needs, as well as~~
1865 ~~the mobility needs of students, youth, seniors, and people with disabilities,~~
1866 ~~should be considered when evaluating division projects and programs.))~~

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1867 ~~((General Priorities~~

1868 ~~T-303))~~ **I-311** King County shall maintain and preserve the unincorporated area
1869 road system to keep it operating safely, protect mobility and
1870 infrastructure investments, and maximize the useful life of
1871 transportation assets to the extent feasible under available funding
1872 levels.

1873
1874 ~~((T-304))~~ **I-312** ~~((In order to))~~ To keep the most vital components of the road system
1875 operational for users, King County should use a decision framework
1876 that considers road function, life-safety needs, network connectivity,
1877 traffic volume, transit use, and other assessment criteria to both guide

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service provision and help direct investments toward((s)) the most critical needs when additional resources are available.

~~((T-305)) I-313 ((To ensure that the most vital components of the county's road system are kept operational;)) King County should fund safety, essential regulatory compliance, and maintenance and preservation needs of the existing road system ((should be funded)) prior to mobility and capacity improvements.~~

~~((T-306)) I-314. Maintenance and preservation of the unincorporated rural roadway system shall be emphasized in long-term planning and asset management in recognition of the fact that Rural Area and Natural Resource Land roads and bridges will remain the ((c))County's long-term responsibility after all annexations are complete.))~~

T-315 King County should contribute to achieving the state traffic safety goal of zero deaths and serious injuries using a safe systems approach, through which road system managers, public health organizations, law enforcement agencies, emergency responders, road users, and other parties collaborate to prioritize the elimination of crashes that result in death and serious injuries.

~~((T-306a)) I-316 Decisions on road closures and abandonments should be made based on public safety considerations, technical((/)) or engineering standards, and the policy guidance set forth in the Strategic Plan for Road Services. Impacts to residents, businesses, and other road users or ((stakeholders)) affected parties should be identified and communicated to them in a timely manner.~~

~~((T-307)) I-317 Roadway stormwater facilities are an integral component of a properly functioning transportation network and shall be maintained, preserved, and, when ((practicable)) feasible, upgraded ((in order)) to protect infrastructure, public health, and the natural environment, as well as meet federal, state, and local regulations.~~

~~((T-308)) I-318 Road projects and programs ((shall)) should be implemented in ways that avoid or minimize negative impacts to, as well as seek to provide positive benefits for. ~~((Black, Indigenous, and other ((p))People of ((c))Color((;)); immigrants; refugees; and other intersectional populations, including ((low-income communities)) those who earn less than 80 percent of the area median income, people with disabilities, seniors, people ((with limited English proficiency)) speaking a language(s) other than English, ((immigrant and refugee populations)) and others who may have limited transportation options, such as students((;)) and youth((, seniors, and)) historically underinvested groups, people with disabilities, people aged 62 years and over, and people with special transportation needs). ((Projects and programs shall seek to provide tangible, positive benefits:))~~~~

~~((T-309)) I-319 To facilitate the establishment of a safe and efficient traffic circulation network reflecting all transportation modes and to retain the availability of access to adjacent properties, the ((c))County shall review and comment on the appropriate placement of new or major modified facilities or physical barriers, such as buildings, utilities, and surface water management facilities in or adjacent to road rights-of-way.~~

~~((T-310)) I-320 ((State highway facilities and arterial roads are designed to accommodate higher traffic volumes, at higher speeds, than local roads. To protect residential neighborhoods from the impacts of pass through traffic;)) Whenever possible, King County should design and~~

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operate roads to direct ~~((such))~~ pass-through traffic away from local roads and encourage such traffic to use highways or arterials ~~((whenever possible)), which are designed to accommodate higher traffic volumes at higher speeds.~~

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~~((T-311))~~ The Department of Local Services has responsibility for development and maintenance of transportation facilities in County-owned road rights-of-way. Other right-of-way users must obtain approval from the department regarding projects, maintenance and other activities impacting the right-of-way.

~~T-312~~ Arterial Functional Classification, established in Appendix C of this plan, should be implemented through the specifications provided in the King County Road Design and Construction Standards. The Comprehensive Plan's Urban Growth Area boundary provides the distinction between urban and rural arterials.

~~T-313))~~ I-321 The King County~~((s))~~ ~~((r))~~ Road ~~((d))~~ Design and ~~((c))~~ Construction ~~((s))~~ Standards shall to the extent practical and allowed by law, incorporate complete streets infrastructure to promote safe, cost-effective roads that ~~((encourage multimodal use,))~~ to the extent practical and allowed by law, incorporate complete streets infrastructure to balance the health and safety needs of all road users and reflect the function of the road and the different needs of and service levels for the Urban Growth Area and Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.

~~((T-314))~~ I-322 King County should provide road services in a manner that is sensitive to the natural environment, historic~~((at))~~ properties, and archaeological resources, and to design new facilities that fit within the context of the built or natural environments in which they are located.

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~~((T-315))~~ I-323 King County should preserve its identified Heritage Corridors through context-sensitive design, planning, and maintenance, as exemplars of historic and scenic character. ~~((The corridors include: Cedarhurst Road/Westside Highway (Vashon Island), Dockton Road (Vashon-Maury Island), Green Valley Road (Auburn-Black Diamond), Issaquah-Fall City Road (Snoqualmie Valley), Old Cascade Scenic Highway (Stevens Pass), Osceola Loop (Enumclaw Plateau), Old Sunset Highway (Snoqualmie Pass), West Snoqualmie River Road (Snoqualmie Valley), and West Snoqualmie Valley Road/Carnation Farm Road (Snoqualmie Valley:))~~ In-kind replacement of road and roadside features and the use of materials that complement the character of each corridor should be utilized to the extent ~~((that is practicable))~~ feasible and meets safety needs. King County should encourage adjacent property owners, through outreach efforts, to similarly support the preservation of these corridors.

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~~((T-316))~~ I-324 King County shall support and encourage the preservation and enhancement of scenic, historic, and recreational resources along the designated Washington Scenic and Recreational Highways located in the county~~((, including I-90 (Mountains to Sound Greenway), US-2 (Stevens Pass Greenway), State Route 410 (Chinook Pass Scenic Byway), and State Route 202 (Cascade Valleys Scenic Byway)))~~. The corridor management plans established for these highways should be considered in the development and implementation of King County's plans, projects, and programs.

1995 V. Air Travel

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A. Airports

~~((T-213))~~ **T-401** King County should use its authority, including zoning, permitting, and development standards, to protect the ~~((public use airports of))~~ ~~Bandera ((near the town of North Bend)), Vashon, and Skykomish ((airport in King County))~~ public use airports and private airports from encroachment of non-compatible land uses. Compatible airport land uses are those that comply with ~~((generally accepted))~~ Federal Aviation Administration guidance on location, height, and activity that provide for safe aircraft movement, airport operations, including expansion, and community safety.

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B. Air Transportation

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~~((T-317))~~ **T-402** King County shall plan, design, and implement services, programs, and facilities for the King County International Airport ~~((in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration regulatory requirements))~~ to support a safe, secure, and efficient global aerospace system.

~~((T-317a))~~ **T-403** King County International Airport shall continue to provide and maintain safe and secure transportation services and facilities for the flying public and aviation community in support of a broad range of uses, including corporate general aviation, small general aviation, charter and commercial passenger services, military aircraft, air cargo, and aircraft manufacturing, maintenance, storage, and service, while improving mobility for people and freight to meet growing and evolving demand.

T-404 King County and King County International Airport planning efforts shall:
a. Promote coordinated planning and effective management to optimize the movement of people and goods in the region's aviation system in a manner that minimizes health, air quality, and noise impact to the community, especially frontline communities;
b. Consider demand management alternatives as future aviation growth needs are analyzed, recognizing capacity constraints at existing facilities and the time and resources necessary to build new ones; and
c. Support the ongoing process of development of a new commercial aviation facility in Washington State.

~~((in 2005,))~~ King County International Airport noise reduction efforts in communities surrounding Boeing field are guided by the Federal Aviation Administration approved ~~((a))~~ Part 150 Noise and Land Use Compatibility Plan ~~((to reduce noise impacts in communities surrounding Boeing Field. This is a significant event and represents a positive step in making))~~. The Plan supports King County International Airport efforts to be a "good neighbor" to affected residential areas ~~((The Part 150 plan))~~ and identifies many actions that ~~((are allowed to))~~ may be taken by King County International Airport, pilots, tenants, the Federal Aviation Administration, and others to reduce noise impacts on residential areas. ~~((The Part 150 noise mitigation program, including home insulation, was completed in 2015.~~

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~~**T-318)) T-405** Recognizing that certain noise reduction measures are contingent on ongoing and future Federal Aviation Administration funding, King County shall implement those actions(;) under its control and identified in the Part 150 Noise and Land Use Compatibility Plan. King County shall encourage other entities to implement those measures under their control and also identified in the Part 150 Noise and Land Use Compatibility Plan.~~

~~**((T-319)) T-406** King County shall ((encourage all airports located in the county, whether owned by a public or private entities, to be responsible neighbors and make all reasonable efforts to minimize noise impacts on sensitive land uses such as residences, hospitals, and schools)) work with airports, federal agencies that oversee flight operations, local jurisdictions, community-based partners, and others to advance health equity and racial and social justice by mitigating exposure to noise and other airport-related harm.~~

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VI. Coordination and Public Outreach

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~~((A)) The elements of the transportation system outlined in ((this)) the ((c)) Comprehensive ((p)) Plan ((update)) are planned and operated in coordination with the cities in and abutting King County, the adjoining counties, the Puget Sound Regional Council, the Port of Seattle, the transit agencies providing service in and connecting to King County, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. ((Agencies and the public were invited to review and comment on this plan.))~~

The following activities support the coordination process:

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- Review of plan updates by affected and interested parties, such as the transportation subarea boards(;
- ~~Review by))~~ and unincorporated area residents and organizations ((within the county's Community Service Areas));
- ((The u))Updates of King County functional, strategic, and other plans such as the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, ((and)) Metro Service Guidelines, Metro Connects, the Open Space Plan, and the Strategic Climate Action Plan;
- ~~((The development of the Long Range Plan for Public Transportation;))~~
- The statewide and countywide grant application process;
- The Transportation Needs Report and Capital Improvement Program coordination process;
- Participation in the Puget Sound Regional Council((, which enables King County to coordinate its transportation planning activities with other local and regional agencies for the four central Puget Sound counties));
- Review of information provided online by external agencies and organizations;
- ~~((Internet sites and other p))~~Public information ((provided in a variety of formats)); including online; and
- Public outreach and meetings.

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~~((As a countywide transportation service provider, King County provides Metro Transit's public transportation services and works with Sound Transit and other transit and transportation agencies to provide seamless, multimodal transit services. King County cooperates with other local governments and the Washington State Department of Transportation to improve freight mobility and carry out strategies to maintain the efficiency of freeways and arterials in the region. One such strategy would include active management, which is the ability to dynamically manage congestion based on prevailing traffic conditions. King County works with the PSRC and its members to ensure that the transportation needs of the region's residents and economy are addressed in a timely manner.))~~

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2099 **A. Regional Coordination**

2100 **T-501** King County should pursue regional coordination and partnership to
2101 address county((-))wide transportation challenges.

2103 **T-502** King County should promote a multi((-))jurisdictional, multimodal
2104 regional corridor approach to reducing congestion and improving
2105 efficiency on highways and arterial roads.

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2107 **T-503** King County should lead, partner in, and promote regional technology
2108 initiatives that help to improve mobility.

2110 **T-504** King County should work with state agencies, the Puget Sound
2111 Regional Council, and ~~((its members)) other jurisdictions~~ to ensure that
2112 any regional projected aviation capacity problems, and the air
2113 transportation needs of the region's residents and economy, are
2114 addressed in a ~~((timely))~~ manner that is timely and reflects the County's
2115 land use plans, transportation plans, and infrastructure capacity.

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2117 **T-505** King County shall support active management of state-owned freeways
2118 to optimize movement of people. High((-))Occupancy Vehicle, High((-)
2119)Occupancy Toll, or Express Toll lanes should be managed to prioritize
2120 reliable speed advantage for transit and vanpools, and maintain a
2121 reliable speed advantage for the other high((-))occupancy vehicles
2122 consistent with the State's High-Occupancy((-))Vehicle lane minimum
2123 performance standard.

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2125 **T-506** King County shall advocate that transit should be exempt from paying
2126 tolls as it is an essential element of the transportation system, and is
2127 critical to maintaining and increasing the person-carrying capacity of
2128 the highway and arterial network. Transit provides an alternative travel
2129 mode and improves mobility for all users of the system. Transit also
2130 increases the efficiency of transportation infrastructure, thereby
2131 reducing investments needed in roadway expansion and additional
2132 parking.

2134 **T-507** King County should collaborate with the Puget Sound Regional
2135 Council, cities, and other affected agencies to develop a regional
2136 parking strategy consistent with the parking pricing and management
2137 recommendations of ~~((Transportation—2040))~~ the Regional
2138 Transportation Plan, or successor plans.

2140 ~~((T-507a))~~ **T-508** King County should collaborate with the Puget Sound
2141 Regional Council, cities, and other agencies to improve
2142 interjurisdictional coordination on active transportation and Regional
2143 Trail infrastructure ~~((including bicycle/pedestrian facilities)).~~ The
2144 County should support efforts to maintain comprehensive information
2145 about existing and planned facilities, model plans and best practices,
2146 and grant opportunities.

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2148 The ~~((Eastside Rail Corridor))~~ development of the Eastrail corridor provides a ~~((rare and))~~
2149 unique opportunity to ~~((develop dual use (recreational trail and public transportation)~~
2150 ~~facilities supporting: mobility through transit, nonmotorized and active transportation,~~
2151 ~~including access to transit outside the corridor))~~ support active transportation and transit
2152 mobility, consistent with its federal railbanked status. The ((owners share other multiple
2153 ~~objectives for the corridor including))~~ County's goal for the corridor is to support
2154 economic opportunity for all King County residents by linking jobs and housing through
2155 multimodal connections between regional growth centers, urban communities, local
2156 and high-capacity transit, and other regional trails – while accommodating utilities,

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2157 parks, recreation, and cultural amenities(~~(, and encouraging equitable access to these~~
2158 ~~facilities, and housing and jobs, in support of economic opportunity for all King County~~
2159 ~~residents. Development of the corridor will provide multimodal facilities and~~
2160 ~~connections that link jobs and housing, and provide an opportunity to illustrate~~
2161 ~~innovative ways of connecting growing communities)).~~

2162
2163 ~~((T-507b)) I-509 King County ((shall support and participate in collaborative~~
2164 ~~planning efforts – both inter-departmentally and)), in coordination with~~
2165 ~~((other)) federal, state, and other local agencies ((-to)), shall develop~~
2166 ~~the ((Eastside Rail-C)) Eastrail corridor in ways that enhance multimodal~~
2167 ~~mobility and connectivity, with a commitment to dual use (recreational~~
2168 ~~trail and public transportation), consistent with federal railbanking.~~
2169 ~~Planning and development should consider opportunities for~~
2170 ~~integration of multimodal facilities, including regional trails, into the~~
2171 ~~greater transportation network.~~

2172 B. Freight Mobility

2173 Freight mobility is critical to King County’s economy and western Washington’s role as a
2174 major national and international trading region. King County supports efforts to plan
2175 and create a fast, reliable freight transportation system in the region. To maintain the
2176 region’s competitive edge, transportation infrastructure must provide for the efficient
2177 movement of goods and freight to and from ports, airports, and industrial areas
2178 balanced with the needs of general purpose and high((-)occupancy vehicle traffic.

2179 ~~((T-508)) I-510 The King County transportation system should support reliable and~~
2180 ~~efficient movement of goods throughout the county, while minimizing~~
2181 ~~the impacts of freight traffic on general purpose traffic and residential~~
2182 ~~neighborhoods. The ((c))County should participate in regional efforts~~
2183 ~~and partnerships to achieve these goals.~~

2184
2185 ~~((T-509)) I-511 King County should support regional freight mobility by~~
2186 ~~incorporating freight considerations into road planning, design,~~
2187 ~~construction, and maintenance.~~

2188
2189 ~~((T-510)) I-512 King County should coordinate with other jurisdictions, the public,~~
2190 ~~and the private sector to identify barriers to the effective and efficient~~
2191 ~~movement of freight and goods and develop proposals to improve~~
2192 ~~freight mobility on the arterial system.~~

2193
2194 New or expanded truck parking along the I-5 corridor within the Seattle, Tacoma, and
2195 Federal Way areas is needed. Improved and expanded truck parking facilities are also
2196 needed at the chain-up locations on both sides of Snoqualmie Pass. The lack of truck
2197 parking capacity not only causes safety problems, it also has a negative impact on
2198 communities in high((-)demand areas. For example, the city of North Bend is
2199 inundated with trucks parking on local roads when Snoqualmie Pass is closed in the
2200 winter.

2201
2202 ~~((The Federal Hours of Service rule changed effective July 1, 2013, exacerbating the~~
2203 ~~state’s truck parking problem as it shortened)) Federal law limits the number of hours
2204 that truck drivers may work. This ((rule change)) means that drivers must stop for rest
2205 ((more)) frequently and need ((increased)) access to safe, secure, and legal truck parking
2206 facilities. The shortage of truck parking can contribute to truck drivers driving while
2207 fatigued and parking illegally, creating a safety hazard on highways and greater
2208 community impacts.~~

2209
2210 Interstate commerce is a state and national priority and small communities located next
2211 to high-volume, long-haul truck corridors are not able to resolve multistate truck parking

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2213 issues by themselves. Washington State Department of Transportation Truck Parking
2214 Studies show that the state's greatest need for additional truck parking is along I-5, I-
2215 405, ~~((and))~~ State Route 167 in central Puget Sound, and ~~((on))~~ I-90 near North Bend.

2216
2217 ~~((T-510a))~~ **I-513** King County should work with regional ~~public and private~~ partners
2218 ~~((and stakeholders))~~ to plan for and develop adequate truck parking in
2219 high-demand locations along King County's Truck Freight Economic
2220 Corridors to improve safety and reduce negative impacts on local
2221 communities. Development of truck parking should be supportive of
2222 technologies that reduce greenhouse gases, such as electric charging,
2223 energy efficiency, and biodiesel.

2224 C. Public Involvement

2225 ~~((T-511))~~ **I-514** King County should provide ~~accessible,~~ culturally~~((r))~~, appropriate,
2226 timely, accurate, and consistent public information about
2227 transportation services, infrastructure, and funding issues, and ensure a
2228 wide range of opportunities for input and engagement with county
2229 residents, including ~~(((low income communities,)) Black, Indigenous,~~
2230 ~~and other ((p))~~ ~~People of ((c))~~ ~~Color((,); immigrants; refugees; and other~~
2231 ~~intersectional populations, including those who earn less than 80~~
2232 ~~percent of area median income, people with disabilities, seniors,~~
2233 ~~LGBTQIA+ people, women, people ((with limited English proficiency))~~
2234 ~~speaking a language(s) other than English, ((immigrant and refugee~~
2235 ~~populations)) and other ((stakeholders))~~ ~~historically underinvested~~
2236 ~~groups, people with disabilities, people aged 62 years and over, and~~
2237 ~~people with special transportation needs, and other affected~~
2238 ~~community members.~~

2239
2240 ~~((T-512))~~ **I-515** King County should actively engage the public and other
2241 appropriate ~~((stakeholders))~~ parties, such as the ~~(((c))~~ ~~Community~~
2242 ~~(((s))~~ ~~Service ((a))~~ ~~Areas constituencies, community groups, ((and subarea~~
2243 ~~transportation forums))~~ ~~elected officials, and jurisdictions throughout~~
2244 ~~the region,~~ in transportation planning processes and plan updates.

2245
2246 **T-516** ~~King County Metro Transit's engagement should follow guidance in~~
2247 ~~Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, Service Guidelines,~~
2248 ~~and Metro Connects, or successor plans, to prioritize equity, involve~~
2249 ~~communities in upstream decisions, and build lasting relationships with~~
2250 ~~community partners.~~

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CHAPTER 9

**SERVICES, FACILITIES,
AND UTILITIES**

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD

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CHAPTER 9

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SERVICES, FACILITIES AND UTILITIES

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The Growth Management Act requires coordinated planning so that the services required by new residents and their homes and businesses are available as growth occurs. Needed services include many that ~~Many of these services~~ are not provided ~~directly~~ by King County, such as water supply; local sanitary sewers; fire protection; schools; energy facilities; and telecommunications; ~~but the County is responsible for ensuring that service planning and provision are carried out consistent with adopted county plans; policies, and land use controls;~~

King County does provide ~~some~~ services such as regional wastewater treatment, regional solid waste management, and local stormwater management. ~~((The County also has a regional human services role, which is described in Chapter 4: Housing and Human Services.))~~ This chapter contains policies that guide service provision.

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€.) I. Identifying Needs for Facilities and Services

Public facilities and services are vital to protect public health, safety, and welfare and to protect and enhance community and environmental quality. Inadequate sewage disposal, for example, could directly threaten public health. Inadequate groundwater protection could result in unsafe drinking water and threaten stream flow. Deficiencies in ~~((other))~~ services, such as police protection or parks, might not raise severe obstacles to any single new development, but over time could cause general threats to public health, safety, and welfare and deterioration of community quality.

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King County government is responsible for ~~((assuring that))~~ ensuring adequate facilities and services are available or can be made available to support planned growth. This responsibility is carried out by identifying needs for facilities and services based on the planned amount and location of growth. The mechanism for identifying needs is capital improvement programming.

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The Growth Management Act requires the ~~((c))~~County to prepare a capital facility plan that includes an inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, a forecast of the future needs for capital facilities, including the proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new facilities, ~~((and))~~ a six-year plan that will finance the expanded or new facilities, and direction for reassessment of land use if funding is unavailable to meet existing and future needs. These requirements are addressed through:

- ~~Chapter 9, Services, Facilities, and Utilities, including policies such as F-405210, F-406210a, F-411213, F-413214, and F-306221;~~
- ~~Chapter 8, Transportation, including the "Revenue Shortfall" subsection of the "Financing Services and Facilities that Meet Local and Regional Goals Funding Priorities" section and policy T-405126; and~~
- ~~Appendix A, Capital Facilities and Utilities.~~

~~((The Capital Facility Plan Element for King County is comprised of the following four components:~~

- ~~1. Technical Appendix A is an executive summary of documents containing inventories of facilities and services provided by King County (health and human services and law, safety and justice, transportation, stormwater and regional wastewater treatment and reclamation) and those provided by other entities (drinking water supply, sanitary sewer collection and treatment, schools, fire protection, libraries, natural gas, telecommunications, and electricity).~~
- ~~2. Technical Appendix A is an executive summary of documents containing the forecast of future needs for capital facilities, including the proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new facilities:~~
- ~~3. Six-year plan that will finance the expanded or new facilities:
 - ~~a. Technical Appendix A is an executive summary of the finance plans for facilities and services provided by the county and other entities.~~
 - ~~b. Technical Appendix A references the Transportation Needs Report, which includes an analysis of funding capability to judge needs against probable funding resources, and a 20-year financial forecast report based on identified needs.~~~~

~~Current adopted King County Capital Improvement Program for facilities other than transportation:~~

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61 4. Requirement to reassess land use if funding is unavailable to meet existing and
62 future needs:

63 a. Policies of Chapter 9 Section II (Facilities and Services), subparts B through F.

64 b. Chapter 8: Transportation, Section IV.))

65

66 ~~((F-201)) All facilities and services should be provided in compliance with
67 provisions and requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the Clean
68 Water Act and the Growth Management Act.~~

70 ~~((F-202)) F-101 King County ((should seek to ((create quality communities))
71 support a high quality of life for county residents by ((defining)) shall
72 seek to identify)ing the needs and propose((ing)) strategies for a full
73 range of public facilities and services, including physical infrastructure
74 and health, human, and public safety services((. King County should
75 strive to provide an adequate and equitable supply ((and appropriate
76 level)) of public facilities)) necessary to support all communities at
77 appropriate urban and rural service levels.~~

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79 ~~((F-202a)) F-102 Results from ((the King County E)equity ((t))impact
80 ((R))reviews ((Foot-will)) shall be used as an important consideration in
81 evaluating funding, capital project, and service delivery decisions, and
82 the County's equity and racial and social justice principles should be
83 used to improve residents' access to the determinants of equity.~~

85 ~~((F-101a)) F-103 King County agencies ((will)) shall engage communities in
86 a culturally((-) and audience-appropriate manner, including language
87 access. King County agencies ((will)) shall also engage communities
88 ((that are)) most affected by proposed projects.~~

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90 ~~((F-101b)) King County shall adhere to the Executive Order on Written Language
91 Translation Process and other applicable policies for those with limited
92 English proficiency.~~

94 ~~F-108a)) F-104 King County ((should)) shall consider ((address ((historic)) historical
95 inequities and ((disadvantaged)) historically underserved
96 underinvested communities both in rural and unincorporated urban
97 areas in determining the priority areas for public funding of capital
98 facilities, services, and infrastructure.~~

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99 ~~II.((I.))~~ Regional Services

100 King County ((government)) is a regional and local service provider. ((Types of
101 r))Regional services provided by the County include transit, wastewater treatment,
102 human services, and solid waste management. ((local services provided to))
103 For residents of unincorporated urban areas, the Rural Area, and Natural Resource
104 Lands in King County, local services may include ((police, building permits,) sheriff,
105 development review, land use regulation, and the coordination of water, sewer, and
106 health service((s)) providers.

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108 ~~((As annexations and incorporations of unincorporated urban areas continue, King
109 County government will focus more on its role as the coordinator and provider of
110 regional services and protector of the county's Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.
111 As annexations of unincorporated urban areas continue, King County will transition out
112 of the role of coordinating with local service providers on how to best provide local
113 services to those areas, and transition to lead for that coordination role to the cities,
114 through collaboration with current service providers, as those former unincorporated~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

115 areas become part of city limits. The following policies direct King County's evolving
116 role as regional service provider. Provisions related to housing and human services are
117 found in Chapter 4, Housing and Human Services.

118
119
120 **F-103)) F-201** King County ~~((will)) shall~~ provide or manage ~~((countywide))~~
121 regional services and programs, which include but are not limited to:
122 a. Affordable housing;
123 b. Economic development;
124 c. Flood warning and flood hazard management;
125 d. Harborview Hospital;
126 e. Hazardous waste management;
127 f. Human services;
128 g. ~~((Protection and preservation of natural resource lands;~~
129 h.) Public health;
130 ~~((i.) h. ((Regional)) Law and criminal ((justice)) legal services;~~
131 ~~((j.) i. ((Regional p)) Park, trails, and open space systems;~~
132 ~~((k.) j. ((Regional w)) Wastewater collection ((and)) treatment,~~
133 ~~and ((reclamation)) resource recovery;~~
134 ~~((f.) k. Solid waste management, including recycling;~~
135 ~~((m.) Stormwater management;~~
136 ~~n.) l. Transit; and~~
137 ~~((o.) m. Water resource management.~~

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138
139 ~~((F-107)) King County will, in cooperation with special purpose districts or local~~
140 ~~service providers, continue to plan for and provide public services to~~
141 ~~the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, consistent with rural~~
142 ~~standards and needs.~~

143
144 **F-108)) F-202** ~~((To support the intent of the Growth Management Act;))~~ King
145 County should work with cities and other service providers to establish
146 priority areas for public funding of capital facilities, services, and
147 infrastructure.

148 III. Partnerships and Coordination

149 ~~((F-101)) King County, the cities, special purpose districts ((or)), and local service~~
150 ~~providers shall plan as partners. King County's planning ((will)) shall~~
151 ~~focus on unclaimed urban unincorporated areas and cities' Potential~~
152 ~~Annexation Areas.~~

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153
154 **F-102)) F-301** King County shall ~~((work)) plan as partners~~ with cities, special
155 purpose districts, other local service providers, and residents to
156 ~~((identify and distinguish)) provide local ((, countywide)) and regional~~
157 services. ~~((Over time;)) As cities ((will)) assume primary responsibility~~
158 ~~for coordinating the provision of local services delivery in urban areas ((-~~
159 ~~in general)), the ((c)) County ((will)) shall continue to provide local~~
160 services delivery within the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands,
161 consistent with rural standards and needs. Special purpose districts
162 may still provide services, where appropriate. The ((c)) County ((will))
163 shall also assume primary responsibility for coordinating the provision
164 of ~~((countywide)) regional~~ services, including ~~((countywide))~~ services
165 that must be delivered within city boundaries. The ((c)) County ((will))
166 shall also work with cities, special purpose districts, and other counties
167 to identify regional service and facility needs and develop strategies to
168 provide them.

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~~((H.))~~ Facilities and Services

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~~((A.))~~ Providing a Spectrum of Services

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~~King County and numerous service providers need to coordinate planning and funding activities to ensure that needed facilities and services are provided in the region.~~

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~~**F-203)) F-302** ((When service providers are planning and designing facilities,)) King County should ((encourage them to use sustainable development practices to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in new buildings by 2030)) work with service providers to implement incentives that encourage green building, such as financial and development incentives, and allow-help more people to access healthier buildings with reduced utility bills.~~

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~~((F-204~~ King County should work with the cities, special purpose districts and other service providers to define regional and local services and to determine the appropriate providers of those services.

183

184

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186

~~**F-205** King County shall work with its neighboring counties, the state, Puget Sound Regional Council, special purpose districts, ports and the cities to identify areas of shared need and adequate land supply for public facilities. The county's capital acquisition budget shall reflect the jointly agreed-upon priorities and time schedule.))~~

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~~**F-206)) F-303** Public and private community service providers should be encouraged((,as appropriate,)) to share or reuse facilities when appropriate to reduce costs, conserve land, and provide convenience, access, and amenity for the public, and to reduce the generation of greenhouse gas((s))es. Joint siting and shared use of facilities should be encouraged for schools, community centers, health facilities, cultural facilities, libraries, swimming pools, and other social and recreational facilities. Sharing of facilities may include providing meeting space that can be accessed by the community, as appropriate.~~

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~~((F-206a)) F-304~~ King County should make its public facilities and properties available for the following, when such use is compatible with the primary public use of the facility:

203

204

205

~~a. ((r))Renewable energy production, such as community solar programs, ((when such use is compatible with the primary use of and any regulations associated with the facility.)), with particular emphasis on benefits to King County ratepayers and communities, such as Community Solar programs; and~~

206

207

208

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210

~~b. Use as a P-patch or community garden.~~

211

212

~~((F-207)) F-305~~ King County should make its public facilities or properties available for use as a P-patch or community garden when such use is compatible with the primary public use of the facility.))

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~~((E.))~~ A. Addressing Service Deficiencies

217

~~((In the event that needed facilities and services are not available to support either existing development or growth, King County will work with other service providers, such as water, sewer or solid waste purveyors, to address the service deficiency.~~

218

219

220

~~**F-221)) F-306** ((King County shall consider the initiation of a subarea study, or other corrective action, with any)) If a service provider ((that)) declares, through their capital facilities plan, an inability to accommodate~~

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projected service needs inside their service area, King County and the service provider shall remedy the deficiency through a joint planning process addressing capital improvement programs, long-term funding strategies, or other appropriate corrective actions. If those actions cannot resolve the deficiency, King County shall not allow for expansion of the service provider's service area and shall consider regulations to mitigate the effect of the deficiency.

~~((F-221a) Results from the King County Equity Impact Review Tool will be used as an important consideration in evaluation funding and service delivery decisions when needed to address service deficiencies.~~

~~F-222)) F-307 King County ((and ((its)) the should coordinate with Indian tribes, cities, and hospital districts ((in King County should coordinate planning for)) on health and human service facilities and services. County investments in health and human service facilities should be targeted primarily to the designated Urban Centers and secondarily to other locations in the Urban Growth Area and Rural Towns.~~

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~~((F-223) If a service deficiency is identified in a service provider's existing service area, King County and the applicable service provider shall remedy the deficiency through a joint planning process addressing capital improvement programs and long-term funding strategies. If financing and level of service remedies cannot solve the deficiency, King County shall not allow for expansion of the service provider's service area and shall consider regulations to mitigate the effect of the deficiency.~~

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~~((F.))~~ B. Financing Strategies

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~~((King County, cities, and other service providers will work together to address the financing needs of facilities and services.~~

~~F-224)) F-308 As part of pre-annexation or annexation agreements, excluding Four-to-One Program-related agreements, King County shall work with the cities to create a financing partnership for areas of the Urban Growth Area that the cities will annex. This includes determining county/regional and city/municipal facilities and services and then committing to a shared financing strategy to build or provide these infrastructure improvements or services.~~

~~((F-225)) F-309 King County should, in cooperation with other jurisdictions, develop funding strategies for governmental infrastructure that take into account economic development goals and consider the costs to, and benefits for, the jurisdictions and the region.~~

~~((F-225a)) F-310 King County should ((consider)) identify, strengthen, and support equitable discount or low-rate service fees ((for)) to reduce cost burden on people aged 62 years and older, and households at or below 80 percent of area median income ((with low ((+)) income ((households)).~~

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~~((B.))~~ Urban and Rural IV. Facilities

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and Services

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~~((Although growth will be directed to Urban Areas, it is recognized that Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands have facility and service needs also.~~

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276 ~~F-208))~~ **F-401** Public spending to support growth should be directed to the Urban
277 Growth Area and to maintain existing ~~((unincorporated))~~ infrastructure
278 in the unincorporated area, and should be prioritized through the
279 Capital Facility Plan to comply with the concurrency requirements of
280 the Growth Management Act.

281
282 ~~((F-209))~~ **F-402** In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, services provided by
283 agencies ~~((should))~~ shall support a rural level of development and
284 support service that meets the needs of the community and not
285 facilitate urbanization.

286
287 ~~((F-209a))~~ **F-403** King County ~~((will))~~ shall provide or manage local services and
288 programs for unincorporated areas, which include but are not limited
289 to:
290 a. ~~((Building))~~ Development ~~(permits))~~ Permitting and code
291 enforcement;
292 b. District Court;
293 c. Economic Development;
294 d. Land use regulation;
295 e. Law enforcement;
296 f. Local parks;
297 g. Roads;
298 h. Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands protection, preservation,
299 and management ((assistance)); and
300 i. Surface water management.

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301
302 ~~((F-209b))~~ ~~King County's local economic development services are provided in~~
303 ~~Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands through the Rural Economic~~
304 ~~Strategies Plan and in unincorporated urban areas through joint~~
305 ~~partnerships with cities, including annexation and governance~~
306 ~~transition services.))~~

307
308 **F-404** King County shall encourage investment in improved infrastructure and
309 amenities in existing neighborhoods, particularly in communities at risk
310 of displacement.

311 ~~((D:))~~ **A. Capital Facility Planning**

312 ~~((King County and other service providers are required to prepare six-year capital facility~~
313 ~~plans that describe needs for the six-year facility and propose funding to meet those~~
314 ~~needs.~~

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316 ~~F-210))~~ **F-405** The capital facility plans and capital improvement programs
317 prepared by all other agencies that provide services to unincorporated
318 areas ~~((of the county))~~ should be consistent with the King County
319 Comprehensive Plan.

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321 ~~((F-210a))~~ **F-406** King County shall engage in ongoing facilities planning to
322 ensure that it has sufficient ~~((work space))~~ workspace to meet its
323 operational needs on a going-forward basis. Facilities planning shall
324 include an assessment of current facilities and future needs and shall
325 promote equity, economic and operational efficiencies, and
326 environmental sustainability. ~~((This f))~~ Facilities planning, decisions,
327 and implementation ((policy)) shall be ((implemented through)) guided
328 by the Real Property Asset Management Plan.((, which shall be updated
329 at least every four years, but may also be updated, in whole or in part,
330 when proposals with significant impacts on county facilities are made.

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332 ~~F-210b~~ ~~Consistent with K.C.C. 20.12.100, the Real Property Asset Management~~
333 ~~Plan shall consist of real property asset management policies, practices,~~
334 ~~and strategies, including planning policies, locations of county~~
335 ~~agencies and implementation plans, planned moves and references to~~
336 ~~King County space standards.)) The Real Property Asset Management~~
337 ~~Plan shall guide facility planning processes, decisions, and~~
338 ~~implementation.~~

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340 ~~F-210c)) F-407~~ King County shall take into account the equity and racial and social
341 justice opportunities for capital investments within a community when
342 siting a facility or changing locations to improve service delivery.

344 ~~((F-211)) F-408~~ To reduce overall public costs, noise, climate change impacts, and
345 disruption to the local area during construction, installation of new, or
346 maintenance of existing utility facilities, should be timed and
347 coordinated with other projects that utilize public rights-of-way and
348 easements, where possible.

350 ~~((F-212)) F-409~~ King County's capital facility plans ~~((should)) shall~~ identify
351 financing strategies to support ~~((its)) the land use assumptions in the~~
352 ~~Comprehensive Plan, including adopted ((20-year)) growth targets~~
353 ~~((and land use plan)) and allocated housing needs.~~

355 ~~((F-205)) F-410~~ King County shall work with ~~((its)) neighboring counties, the state,~~
356 ~~Puget Sound Regional Council, special purpose districts, ports, and~~
357 ~~((the)) cities to identify areas of shared need and adequate land supply~~
358 ~~for public facilities. The ((c))County's capital acquisition budget shall~~
359 ~~reflect the jointly agreed-upon priorities and ((time)) schedule.~~

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361 ~~((F-213)) F-411~~ King County's capital improvement program shall demonstrate that
362 projected needs for facilities and services can be met within the Urban
363 Growth Area and can be served in compliance with the concurrency
364 requirements of the Growth Management Act ~~((or, if)), If~~ that is not
365 possible, King County shall determine where and when deficits may
366 occur and how needed facilities and services might be phased in and
367 ~~((or)) or financed to serve such deficit areas. Alternative phasing and~~
368 ~~financing strategies must be identified and determined to be infeasible~~
369 ~~prior to triggering a land use and zoning reassessment ((under Policy~~
370 ~~((F-223)) F-221.~~

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372 ~~F-412~~ ~~King County shall work with the school districts and other special purpose~~
373 ~~districts to plan for growth in line with the county's housing and job~~
374 ~~growth targets.~~

376 ~~((F-214)) F-413~~ School districts that choose to have the ~~((c))County~~ collect impact
377 fees for them, and water and sewer utilities that provide their services
378 to unincorporated King County~~((;))~~ shall prepare capital facility plans
379 consistent with requirements of the Growth Management Act, the
380 Countywide Planning Policies, and King County Code.

382 ~~((F-215)) F-414~~ Provision of an adequate supply of kindergarten through ~~((twelfth))~~
383 ~~12th grade public schools and public school facilities is essential to~~
384 ~~avoid overcrowding and to enhance the educational opportunities for~~
385 ~~children. King County shall adopt regulations that are supportive of the~~
386 ~~permitting of kindergarten through ((twelfth)) 12th grade public~~
387 ~~schools and facilities in a manner consistent with the goals of the~~
388 ~~Growth Management Act and as provided in policies R-((326))324 and~~
389 ~~R-((327))325.~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

391 ~~F-215a King County should plan to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions~~
392 ~~associated with new residential and commercial buildings built in King~~
393 ~~County by ((2030)) 2031.~~

395 ~~((F-215b)) F-415 King County shall strive to provide services and build and operate~~
396 ~~public buildings and infrastructure that are ((carbon-neutral)) fossil fuel~~
397 ~~free and shall strive to eliminate fossil fuels in new construction.~~

398 B. Sustainable Capital Facilities

399 ~~((It is the goal of)) King County's goal is to work toward a model sustainable community~~
400 ~~to balance growth with natural resource protection while addressing climate change.~~
401 ~~Sustainable development seeks to achieve this goal by addressing the impacts of the~~
402 ~~built environment in which people live and work.~~

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403 Traditional development practices can contribute significantly to the adverse impacts
404 ~~((that)) of buildings and associated infrastructure ((have)) on the environment and~~
405 ~~people's health.~~ These impacts include heavy consumption of material resources,
406 energy, and water, large-scale production of wastes, water pollution, degradation of
407 habitats and other ecological resources, and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.
408 Implementing sustainable development includes incorporating green building practices
409 into policies through education, incentives, and regulations that help reduce negative
410 impacts.
411

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412 The elements of green building include:

- 414 • ~~((s))Siting the project ((f)) to take advantage of existing services, ((to)) retain~~
415 ~~existing landscaping and natural features, and ((to)) increase building energy~~
416 ~~performance ((?));~~
- 417 • ~~((r))Requiring energy efficiency ((f)) to reduce energy consumption, ((to))~~
418 ~~increase occupants' comfort, and ((to)) reduce greenhouse gas emissions((?));~~
- 419 • ~~((m))Managing building construction and demolition materials efficiently to~~
420 ~~reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ((to)) increase the life((r)) cycle of the~~
421 ~~building((?));~~
- 422 • ~~((i))Increasing water efficiency ((f)) to reduce water consumption and ((to~~
423 ~~reduce)) wastewater treatment((?)) and use of onsite non-potable water systems~~
424 ~~for appropriate commercial buildings to foster reuse of water (including~~
425 ~~blackwater, stormwater, and rainwater);~~
- 426 • ~~((i))Improving water management to reduce stormwater runoff and produce~~
427 ~~less pollution and damage to water bodies;~~
- 428 • ~~((t))Using sustainable materials to improve indoor air quality, minimize toxic~~
429 ~~materials, reduce material consumption, and foster sustainable manufacturing;~~
- 430 • ~~((a))Addressing equity and racial and social justice to ensure equitable access to~~
431 ~~sustainable development, services, and community amenities; and~~
- 432 • ~~((i))Implementing universal design to ensure potential for aging in place and to~~
433 ~~service diverse occupancy opportunities.~~

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434 The incorporation of sustainable practices into the design, construction, and operation
435 of King County capital improvement projects can reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
436 ~~((reduce)) pollution, ((reduce)) the use of natural resources, ((reduce)) energy, and other~~
437 ~~operating costs, and can enhance asset value, optimize performance, promote cultural~~
438 ~~sustainability by preserving historic resources, and create healthier and more appealing~~
439 ~~environments for the visiting public and for King County employees. ((The strategic~~
440 ~~energy management, efficiency, and conservation program called for in F-312, will~~
441 ~~enable King County to monitor the effectiveness of sustainable development practices~~
442 ~~in improving energy efficiency:))~~
443
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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

445 The LEED rating system is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for
446 developing high performance, sustainable buildings and ~~((to guide))~~ guiding project
447 design. The LEED rating system components include sustainable site design, water
448 efficiency, energy and atmosphere, indoor environmental quality, materials
449 and resources, innovation in design, and regional priorities. For those projects
450 that are not eligible for LEED certification, the County's Green Building Team,
451 comprised of representatives from the various County departments that have capital
452 projects, developed a Sustainable Infrastructure Scorecard and guidelines to help such
453 projects achieve measurable green building goals.

454
455 The Green Building and Sustainable Development Ordinance ~~((17709))~~ 19402, adopted
456 in ~~((2013))~~ 2022, requires that new County capital projects ~~((set a goal to))~~ **must**
457 achieve a platinum level certification using the Leadership in Energy and Environmental
458 Design (LEED) rating system ~~((of))~~ or the King County Sustainable Infrastructure
459 Scorecard, or the highest certification level using an approved alternative rating
460 system ~~((when the incremental costs do not exceed the maximums allowed by the King
461 County Code)).~~ Minimum performance requirements include: implementing energy
462 and emission reduction targets as instructed by the King County Strategic Climate
463 Action Plan; diverting ~~((80((%)~~ 85 percent of demolition and construction materials by
464 ~~((2016 and 85((%)~~ percent by 2025; and zero waste of resources by 2030; integrating
465 equity and racial and social justice efforts; and implementing the King County
466 ~~((Stormwater))~~ Surface Water Management Design Manual or more stringent guidelines
467 required by jurisdiction.

468
469 **~~((F-216)) F-416 King County capital facilities and County-funded projects
470 should be designed and constructed using sustainable development
471 practices, with consideration for long-term environmental and
472 economic sustainability.~~**

473
474 **~~((F-217)) F-417 All eligible King County new capital projects shall ~~((plan for and
475 should))~~ achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
476 (LEED) Platinum certification level using the LEED rating system or the
477 Sustainable Infrastructure Scorecard, or achieve the highest
478 certification level using an ~~((approved alternative rating system~~, and
479 apply minimum performance standards when the incremental cost
480 impacts do not exceed the maximums allowed by King County code))
481 **accepted alternative green building rating system.**~~**

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482
483 **~~((F-217a)) F-418 All eligible King County major remodels and renovations shall
484 ~~((plan for and should))~~ achieve LEED Gold certification level using the
485 LEED rating system or the Sustainable Infrastructure Scorecard, or
486 achieve a similar certification level using an ~~((approved))~~ **accepted**
487 **alternative green building** rating system ~~((and apply minimum
488 performance standards when the incremental cost impacts do not
489 exceed the maximums allowed by King County code)).~~~~**

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490
491 **~~((F-217b)) F-419 All King County-owned new construction capital projects should
492 achieve net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2030.~~**

493
494 **~~((F-217c)) F-420 All King County capital programs ~~((with))~~ shall evaluate their project
495 portfolio for opportunities to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas
496 emissions through ~~((programs))~~ **alternative green building rating
497 systems such as ~~((the))~~ LEED Zero Energy or Zero Carbon, Living
498 Building ~~((c))~~Challenge, Living Communities Challenge, Net Zero
499 Energy, ~~((Envision))~~ **Built Green Emerald Star**, or EcoDistrict.**~~**

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500
501 **~~((F-217d)) F-421 King County should build and operate public buildings and
502 infrastructure that result in regenerative and net positive benefits
503 related to energy, water, greenhouse gas emissions, and other~~**

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

504 resources ~~((and, for private development, guide development practices~~
505 ~~to achieve these same benefits))~~.

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507 ~~((F-217e)) F-422 King County ((will)) shall increase water efficiency. ((and)) improve~~
508 ~~conservation((,)) and ((reduce purchased water consumption)) minimize~~
509 ~~the purchasing of water in its facilities consumption through~~
510 ~~((appropriate and economically feasible)) methods such as reuse of~~
511 ~~wastewater effluent, recycled water, stormwater, and harvested~~
512 ~~rainwater.~~

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514 ~~((F-219)) F-423 King County should leverage its purchasing power related to~~
515 ~~capital improvement projects to help expand the markets for green~~
516 ~~building products, including recycled-content materials and clean,~~
517 ~~renewable energy technologies((, including)) such as zero-emission~~
518 ~~buses, and particularly for products and services that are locally~~
519 ~~produced.~~

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520 ~~((G.)) C. Essential Public Facilities~~

521 ~~((The region ((will)) works cooperatively to site essential public facilities in an equitable~~
522 ~~manner. Essential public facilities are defined in the Growth Management Act and~~
523 ~~include large, usually difficult to site facilities such as regional transit authority facilities,~~
524 ~~prisons, solid waste facilities, wastewater facilities, and airports.~~

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526 ~~F-226)) F-424 Proposed new or expansions to existing essential public facilities~~
527 ~~should be sited consistent with the King County Comprehensive Plan.~~
528 ~~((Listed e)) Existing essential public facilities should be preserved and~~
529 ~~maintained until alternatives or replacements for such facilities can be~~
530 ~~provided.~~

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532 ~~((F-227)) F-425 King County and neighboring counties((, if advantageous to both,))~~
533 ~~should share essential public facilities to increase efficiency of~~
534 ~~operation((, Efficiency of operation should take into account)),~~
535 ~~including consideration of the overall value of the essential public~~
536 ~~facility to the region and the county and ((the extent to which, if~~
537 ~~properly mitigated,)) whether expansion of an existing essential public~~
538 ~~facility ((located in the county)) might be more economical and~~
539 ~~environmentally sound.~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD

541 ((F-228)) F-426 King County ~~((should)) shall~~ strive to site essential public facilities
542 equitably so that:

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543 a. ~~((n))No~~ racial, cultural, or socio-economic group, or community, is
544 ~~((anduly)) disproportionately~~ impacted by, ~~nor~~ benefits from,
545 essential public facility siting or expansion decisions; ~~and~~

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546 b. No single community should absorb an inequitable share of these
547 facilities and their impacts. An assessment of existing facilities
548 should be conducted when siting new facilities. Siting ~~((with)) shall~~
549 consider equity~~(:);~~ environmental justice; and environmental,
550 economic, technical, and service area factors. Communities with a
551 disproportionate share of existing facilities ~~((should)) shall~~ be
552 actively engaged in the planning and siting process for new
553 facilities ~~or the expansion of an existing facility.~~

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554 F-427 King County should weigh ~~((F))~~ the net impact of siting new essential
555 public facilities ~~((should be weighed))~~ against the net impact of
556 expansion of existing essential public facilities, with appropriate
557 buffering and mitigation.

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558 F-428 King County shall discourage ~~((E))~~ essential public facilities that directly
559 serve the public beyond their general vicinity ~~((shall be discouraged))~~
560 from locating in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.

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561 ((F-229)) F-429 A facility shall be determined to be an essential public facility if it
562 has one or more of the following characteristics:

- 563 a. The facility meets the Growth Management Act definition of an
564 essential public facility;
- 565 b. The facility is on a state, county, or local community list of essential
566 public facilities;
- 567 c. The facility serves a significant portion of the county or
568 metropolitan region or is part of a countywide service system; or
- 569 d. The facility is the sole existing facility in the county for providing
570 that essential public service.

571 ((F-230)) F-430 King County's ~~((S))~~ siting analysis for proposed new or expansions
572 to existing essential public facilities shall consist of the following:

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- 573 a. An inventory of similar existing essential public facilities in King
574 County and neighboring counties, including their locations and
575 capacities;
- 576 b. A forecast of the future needs for the essential public facility;
- 577 c. An analysis of the ~~historical, current, and~~ potential social, equity,
578 health, and economic impacts and benefits ~~and burdens~~ to
579 ~~((jurisdictions and local))~~ communities receiving or surrounding the
580 facilities;
- 581 d. An analysis of the proposal's consistency with policies F-~~((226))424~~
582 through F-~~((229))429~~;
- 583 e. An analysis of alternatives to the facility, including
584 decentralization, conservation, demand management, and other
585 strategies;
- 586 f. An analysis of economic and environmental impacts, including
587 mitigation, of any existing essential public facility, as well as of any
588 new site(s) under consideration as an alternative to expansion of an
589 existing facility;
- 590 g. An analysis of potential climate change impacts on the essential
591 public facility, including consideration of sea level rise; and options
592 for reducing climate change impacts on the facility, including
593 locating the facility outside of the mapped 500-year floodplain
594 along the marine shoreline ~~(unless except for water-dependent~~
595 facilities, such as wastewater treatment facilities and associated
596 conveyance infrastructure); ~~h. ((Extensive public involvement,~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

601 ~~which strives to effectively engage a wide range of racial, ethnic,~~
602 ~~cultural, and socio-economic groups, including communities that~~
603 ~~are the most impacted;~~
604 ~~((h.)) i. Consideration of any applicable prior review conducted by~~
605 ~~a public agency, local government, or ((stakeholder group))~~
606 ~~interested parties; and))~~
607 ~~((f.)) jh. To the extent allowable under the Growth Management~~
608 ~~Act, the locational criteria in policies R-((326))324 and R-~~
609 ~~((327))325; and~~
610 ~~i. A cumulative impact analysis to include all other facilities, public or~~
611 ~~private, that may pose health risks, located near the proposed~~
612 ~~facility.~~

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613
614 **F-431** ~~When new or expanded essential public facilities are proposed, King~~
615 ~~County shall:~~
616 ~~a. Conduct extensive public involvement, which strives to effectively~~
617 ~~engage a wide range of racial, ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic~~
618 ~~groups, including the most-impacted communities; and~~
619 ~~b. Consider any applicable prior review conducted by a public agency,~~
620 ~~local government, or interested parties.~~

621
622 **F-432** ~~For existing essential public facilities, King County should consider~~
623 ~~potential impacts from climate change and identify and implement~~
624 ~~actions to improve resiliency and mitigate for impacts, including~~
625 ~~consideration of potential long-term relocation of facilities that are in~~
626 ~~the mapped 500-year floodplain along the marine shoreline (unless~~
627 ~~except for water-dependent facilities, such as wastewater treatment~~
628 ~~facilities and associated conveyance infrastructure).~~

629 ~~((J.)) D. Solid Waste~~

630 King County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, prepared by the Solid
631 Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, guides the
632 management of solid waste in the unincorporated county and for cities with which the
633 ~~((c)) County~~ has interlocal agreements. The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management
634 Plan presents policies, recommendations, and goals for the following elements of solid
635 waste management: system planning, ~~policy priorities~~, waste prevention, recovery and
636 recycling, solid waste collection and processing, the transfer system, landfill
637 management ~~((and))~~, solid waste disposal, and system financing. ~~The overall vision is for~~
638 ~~healthy, safe, and thriving communities in a zero-waste county, working in partnership~~
639 ~~with communities, businesses, local jurisdictions, and residents to create a more circular~~
640 ~~economy through programs like Re+.~~

641 ~~((F-265)) F-433~~ Regional solid waste planning should integrate the principles of
642 environmental stewardship, circular economy, equity and racial and
643 social justice, and sustainable development into all aspects of solid
644 waste management.

645 ~~((F-266)) F-434~~ Solid waste should be collected, handled, processed, and disposed
646 of in ways that reduce waste, conserve resources, and protect public
647 health and the environment.

648 ~~((F-267)) F-435~~ King County should achieve ~~((Z)) zero ((W)) waste of ((R)) resources~~
649 ~~by 2030 and an 85 percent construction and demolition diversion rate~~
650 ~~by 2025 by targeting areas of the waste stream that have the greatest~~
651 ~~potential for ((diversion)) prevention and reuse, product stewardship,~~
652 ~~recycling and composting, beneficial use, and recovery while~~
653 ~~regenerating natural systems.~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) ~~xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

658 ~~((F-268)) Solid waste management should be planned, and transfer and disposal~~
659 ~~capacity provided, on a regional basis.~~

660
661 ~~F-269)) F-436 King County shall plan for and~~ operate a regional transfer system
662 that is dispersed throughout the county to ensure access to safe,
663 reliable, efficient, and affordable solid waste services, and improves
664 recycling opportunities for residents and businesses. King County
665 should continue to provide facilities for self-haulers.

666
667 ~~((F-269a)) F-437 King County should ((consider demand management)) implement~~
668 strategies that ~~increase equitable participation from frontline~~
669 ~~communities and that~~ maximize the ~~safety and~~ efficiency of the transfer
670 system and encourage use of ~~, and equitable participation in,~~ solid
671 waste curbside collection services.

672
673 ~~((F-269b)) F-438 ((In order to support achieving a 70% recycling goals)) To minimize~~
674 ~~the disposal of useful materials with economic value,~~ King County
675 should work with partners and jurisdictions to encourage
676 implementation of frequency and separation policies for curbside
677 collection of garbage, recyclables, and organics throughout the county,
678 including in unincorporated areas.

679
680 ~~F-439 King County shall collaborate with cities to achieve a circular economy~~
681 ~~and preserve landfill space by implementing policies and hauler~~
682 ~~contract amendments that harmonize recycling and compost standards~~
683 ~~countywideregionally, such as through the Re+ Program zero waste of~~
684 ~~resources plan.~~

685
686 ~~((F-270)) F-440 King County should maximize the capacity and lifespan of the~~
687 ~~Cedar Hills Regional Landfill and plan for future disposal when Cedar~~
688 ~~Hills Landfill closes to ensure no gap in service, subject to~~
689 ~~environmental constraints, relative costs to operate, ((stakeholder))~~
690 ~~partner and public interests, and overall solid waste system~~
691 ~~optimization. A replacement landfill shall not be located in King~~
692 ~~County. The County shall not seek to site a replacement landfill in King~~
693 ~~County for the Cedar Hills regional landfill.~~

694
695 ~~((F-271)) F-441 King County shall:~~
696 ~~a. ((e)) Encourage sustainable development and development of~~
697 ~~markets for reusable and recyclable materials((r)); and~~
698 ~~b. ((p)) Provide consumer education in the public and private sectors~~
699 ~~regarding green building practices, product stewardship, extended~~
700 ~~producer responsibility, circular economy, recycling, purchasing,~~
701 ~~and consumption ((in order)) to reduce the amount of waste~~
702 ~~disposed.~~

703
704 ~~((F-271a)) F-442 King County should consider ((whether)) opportunities to~~
705 ~~increase energy recovery from select solid waste materials including~~
706 ~~organics, mixed plastics, and the non-recyclable portion of the waste~~
707 ~~stream ((are beneficial in terms of cost,)) by factoring in the financial,~~
708 ~~((natural environment)) environmental, greenhouse gas ((emissions)),~~
709 ~~and community impacts((, as well as whether any such energy recovery~~
710 ~~facilities might be more appropriately located outside King County)).~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

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~~((F-271b) Results from the King County Equity Impact Review Tool will be used as an important consideration to identify and assess the impacts of proposed service changes, and the county's Equity and Social Justice principles should be used to improve residents' access to the determinants of equity.~~

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718

~~t.) E. Public Sewers and On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems~~

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King County protects water quality and public health in the central Puget Sound region by providing ~~((high quality))~~ high-quality and effective treatment to wastewater collected from 34 local sewer utilities. The ~~((c))~~ County's Wastewater Treatment Division serves about ~~((1.6))~~ 1.9 million people within a ~~((420))~~ 424-square-mile service area, which includes most urban areas of King County and parts of south Snohomish County and northeast Pierce County. In addition to treating wastewater, King County also creates resources such as energy, recycled water, and biosolids from byproducts of the treatment process.

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The County's wastewater system includes:

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- ~~((t))~~ Three large regional wastewater treatment plants (the West Point Plant in the City of Seattle, the South Plant in the City of Renton, and the Brightwater Plant in unincorporated Snohomish County)~~((r))~~;
- ~~((e))~~ Two small wastewater treatment plants (one on Vashon-Maury Island and one in the City of Carnation)~~((r))~~;
- ~~((o))~~ One community septic system (Beulah Park and Cove on Vashon-Maury Island)~~((r))~~;
- ~~((four))~~ five combined sewer overflow treatment facilities (Alki, Carkeek, Georgetown, Henderson/Martin Luther King Jr. Way, and Mercer/Elliott West(~~(; and Henderson/Norfolk))~~--all in the City of Seattle)~~((r))~~;
- ~~((m))~~ More than ~~((350))~~ 390 miles of pipes~~((r))~~;
- ~~((19))~~ 25 regulator stations~~((r))~~;
- ~~((42))~~ 48 pump stations~~((r))~~; and
- ~~((38))~~ 39 combined sewer overflow outfalls,

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~~relocated from "Water Supply" section above with edits~~

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Recycled water is an important wastewater-management tool that can also be used as a beneficial resource. King County has been producing and distributing recycled water since 1997. Recycled water is used for treatment process water and on-site landscaping at the County's wastewater treatment plants. In addition, some of the recycled water from the South Treatment Plant is used off-site for irrigation purposes and public works uses, such as street sweeping and sewer flushing. Recycled water from the Carnation Treatment Plant is ~~((sent to the wetlands))~~ is used for wetland enhancement at the Chinook Bend Natural Area in accordance with the County's commitment to use the wetlands as its primary discharge location rather than the Snoqualmie River. The Brightwater Treatment Plant ~~((started distributing))~~ distributes recycled water to the Brightwater Education Center for irrigation and toilet and urinal flushing, as well as to the Sammamish Valley ~~((for irrigating golf courses, nurseries, farms and for commercial and industrial uses))~~ to irrigate turf and trees.

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~~((King County adopted the Regional Wastewater Services Plan in 1999 to make sure the regional wastewater system keeps pace with growth and meets permitting standards. The Regional Wastewater Services Plan includes a number of planned projects through~~

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD

762 2030 to protect public health, the environment and the economy for both present and
763 future wastewater customers, such as:

- 764 • building the Brightwater Treatment System to accommodate growth in the
- 765 northern portion of the wastewater service area;
- 766 • improvements to the county's regional conveyance system to meet the 20-year
- 767 peak storm design standard and accommodate increased wastewater flows;
- 768 • improvements to reduce existing and future levels of infiltration and inflow into
- 769 local collection systems; and
- 770 • improvements to control combined sewer overflows so that an average of no
- 771 more than one untreated discharge occurs per year at each combined sewer
- 772 overflow site by 2030.

- 773
- 774 • The adopted policies that guide implementation of the Regional Wastewater
- 775 Services Plan are in King County Code 28.86.010 through 28.86.180-))

776
777 The King County Regional Wastewater Services Plan establishes, or sets direction to
778 establish, a number of programs to guide long-term planning and investments in
779 wastewater infrastructure. The Regional Wastewater Services Plan guides
780 improvements to the regional wastewater system to ensure the continuation of
781 wastewater treatment services in the future to sustain a healthy environment and
782 economic development in the King County wastewater service area. Many of the major
783 projects outlined in the Regional Wastewater Services Plan have been completed, are
784 underway, or are planned to begin by 2030.

785
786 The Regional Wastewater Services Plan, codified in King County Code Chapter 28.86,
787 and component plans (such as the Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan)
788 serve as the most recent amendment to King County's general sewer plan until a new
789 plan is developed. The County is working on a wastewater planning effort that is
790 expected to result in a new plan that sets the direction beyond 2030.

791
792 In addition to King County's role as the regional wastewater treatment provider, Public
793 Health - Seattle & King County is the agency responsible for permitting on-site
794 wastewater treatment and disposal systems (septic systems). In addition, the Utilities
795 Technical Review Committee and the King County Council review and approve sewer
796 utility comprehensive plans.

797
798 **((F-255)) F-443 In the Urban Growth Area, all new development shall be served by**
799 **public sewers unless:**

- 800 a. **Application of this policy to a proposal for a single ~~((family))~~**
801 **detached residence on an individual lot would deny all reasonable**
802 **use of the property; or**
- 803 b. **Sewer service is not available for a proposed short subdivision of**
804 **urban property in a timely or reasonable manner as determined by**
805 **the Utilities Technical Review Committee. These on-site systems**
806 **shall be managed by one of the following entities, in order of**
807 **preference:**
 - 808 1. **The sewer utility whose service area encompasses the**
809 **proposed short subdivision; ((or))**
 - 810 2. **The provider most likely to serve the area; or(,;)**
 - 811 3. **An On-site Sewage System Maintainer certified by the Public**
812 **Health - Seattle & King County.**

813 **The on-site system shall meet all state and county approval**
814 **requirements. The approved short subdivision shall indicate how**
815 **additional lots to satisfy the minimum density requirements of the**
816 **zoning will be located on the subject property in case sewers become**
817 **available in the future. There shall be no further subdivision of lots**
818 **created under this policy unless served by public sewers.**

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~~((F-256)) F-444~~ In the Urban Growth Area, King County and sewer utilities should jointly prioritize the replacement of on-site systems that serve existing development with public sewers, based on the risk of potential failure. King County and sewer utilities should analyze public funding options for such conversion and should prepare conversion plans that will enable quick and cost-effective local response to health and pollution problems that may occur when many on-site systems fail in an area.

~~((F-257)) F-445~~ City-owned parks that are redesignated from Rural to Urban on or after September 20, 2004, to allow future annexation by a city, and that are subsequently served by public sewers, shall be tightlined. ~~((This policy applies to parks that were redesignated from Rural to Urban on or after September 20, 2004.~~

~~F-258)) F-446~~ The existing public sewer system in the Rural Towns of Vashon and Snoqualmie Pass shall not be expanded to serve land beyond the boundaries of the town, except as provided in Policy ~~((F-264)) F-452262a~~ and as consistent with Title 57 Revised Code of Washington. Subject to F-451262, ~~((⊖))~~ on-site systems, community on-site systems, or decentralized treatment systems may be used as appropriate for planned growth in the Rural Town ~~((s))~~ of Fall City ~~((and Snoqualmie Pass))~~.

~~((F-259)) F-447~~ Sewer facilities such as pump stations, force mains, and trunk lines that do not provide connections to the Rural Area may be located in the Rural Area only when they are identified in a King County-approved comprehensive sewage system plan and upon a finding by King County that it is technically necessary ~~((in providing))~~ to provide service to the Urban Growth Area.

~~((F-260)) F-448~~ On-site wastewater treatment systems in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands that serve the Rural Area ~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands should be designed, built, and operated as permanent methods of sewage disposal.

~~((F-264)) F-449~~ King County should monitor on-site wastewater systems that have shown evidence of failure or potential for failure. The data should be used to correct existing problems and prevent future problems. King County should analyze public funding options for correcting on-site wastewater system failures and only as a last resort in Rural and Natural Resource Lands, and as otherwise consistent with this plan, conversion to community sewage systems or installation of public sewers.

~~((F-282a)) F-450~~ King County should work with landowners, other jurisdictions, the state Department of Health, sewer districts, and the Puget Sound Partnership to develop effective strategies and additional resources for working with landowners to provide technical assistance and requested support regarding managing on-site septic systems, and proactively addressing failing septic systems in ~~((environmentally))~~ sensitive critical areas.

~~((F-262)) F-451~~ Developments using a ~~((Collective))~~ community on-site sewage system ~~((s))~~ or large on-site sewage system may be ~~((used))~~ permitted allowed only in the following circumstances in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands:

a. Existing on-site systems are failing within an area and ~~((the Seattle/King County Department of))~~ Public Health - Seattle & King County concurs that long-term individual on-site sewage system repairs are not feasible or water quality is threatened by the

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presence of or potential for health hazards resulting from inadequate on-site wastewater disposal methods;
b. An authorized public agency will manage the ((community)) system; ((and))
c. The ((community)) system is designed only to serve existing structures and lots. Modifications to existing uses and lots shall not be allowed if the modification triggers an expansion of sewage capacity above the original approval of the system; ((and))
d. The system cannot be used as a basis to ((increase)) exceed base density for the zone, ~~or applicable special district overlay(s), or p-suffix(es)~~ ((or to expand permitted nonresidential uses)). Substandard vacant lots must be combined to the extent feasible to meet rural density policies((Management of the community system must be by an authorized public agency.)) and regulations:
de. A system serving residentially developed lots cannot be used to: expand existing ~~permitted-allowed~~ nonresidential uses in size or scale; establish new ~~permitted-allowed~~ nonresidential uses; or serve commercially zoned properties; and
ef. For a system serving commercially developed lots: the system is used only to serve commercially zoned properties; property-specific development conditions are imposed that establish a range of allowed uses that can be adequately served by the system at the time of its construction; and the allowed uses are not more expansive than those allowed in the underlying zone.

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((F-264)) F-452 ((Except as otherwise provided for in this policy, p)) Public sewer service shall be prohibited in the Rural Area or on Natural Resource Lands((s)), except

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((a. Public sewer service may be expanded to the Rural Area or to Natural Resource Lands, only:

1. W)) where needed to address specific health and safety problems threatening the use of existing structures, and the use of septic or other on-site wastewater systems has been determined by King County to be not feasible; or

((2. F)) to serve a new school authorized to be located in the Rural Area by R-((327))325. An extension may only be approved if:

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((b. Public sewers may be extended, pursuant to this policy, only if they are)) a. It is tightlined; ((and only))

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b. ((a)) After a finding is made by King County determining that no reasonable alternative technologies are feasible((r)); and

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((c.)) ((Public sewers that are allowed in the Rural Area or on Natural Resource Lands pursuant to this policy shall not be used to)) It does not add pressure to convert Rural Area land or Natural Resource Lands to urban uses and densities or to expand

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((permitted)) nonresidential uses.

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((Greywater is residential wastewater generated from bathtubs, showers, bathroom sinks, washing machines, dishwashers, and kitchen sinks. It includes sewage from any source in a residence or structure that has not come into contact with toilet wastes. Greywater comprises 50-80% of residential wastewater.

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~~F-263) F-453 King County supports innovative technologies to process greywater for safe on-site use ((on-site)) in the Rural Area and on Natural Resource Lands.~~

~~((F-264 Except as otherwise provided for in this policy, public sewer service shall be prohibited in the Rural Area or on Natural Resource Lands:~~

- ~~a. Public sewer service may be expanded to the Rural Area or to Natural Resource Lands, only:~~
 - ~~1. Where needed to address specific health and safety problems threatening the use of existing structures and the use of septic or other onsite wastewater systems has been determined by King County to be not feasible; or~~
 - ~~2. To serve a new school authorized to be located in the Rural Area by R-327.~~
- ~~b. Public sewers may be extended, pursuant to this policy, only if they are tightlined and only after a finding is made by King County that no reasonable alternative technologies are feasible.~~
- ~~c. Public sewers that are allowed in the Rural Area or on Natural Resource Lands pursuant to this policy shall not be used to convert Rural Area land or Natural Resource Lands to urban uses and densities or to expand permitted nonresidential uses.~~

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~~((K)) F. Stormwater Management~~

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Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation runs off the landscape and picks up pollutants, including pesticides, fertilizers, pet wastes, oils, metals, and ~~((many))~~ other chemicals. These pollutants enter surface and ground waters, disrupt ecosystems, and threaten public health. Runoff can also cause erosion, create higher peak flows in streams and rivers in winter, and ~~((because of reduced infiltration,))~~ create lower flows in summer due to reduced infiltration.

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~~((Early King County stormwater management strategies primarily focused on reducing the risk of localized flooding, without concern for potential adverse impacts on receiving water bodies. Over time, experts recognized the harm stormwater runoff was having on receiving waters and regulations have been put into place to address those impacts. Current stormwater management programs and policies focus on protecting the quality and beneficial uses of surface and ground waters and are a requirement of the federal Clean Water Act.))~~

~~Prevention or mitigation of flooding, erosion, sedimentation, and water quality and habitat degradation is important for both the built and natural environments. Stormwater water management activities address the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff entering the natural environment as well as its quality. ((As described in Chapter 5: Environment, the management of stormwater runoff is generally driven by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit and the County's Stormwater Management Program plan, which can be found online at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/water-and-land/stormwater/pollution-discharge-permit/annual-reports.aspx>))~~

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Untreated stormwater runoff is the largest source of pollution to Puget Sound. The lack of stormwater flow controls in older developed areas is one of the most significant problems impacting receiving water bodies in King County and preventing Puget Sound recovery. Although King County has been developing and applying best available stormwater controls to new development since the late 1970s, the application of water quality controls and more effective flow controls did not occur until the early 1990s.

Consequently, nearly all development occurring prior to 1990 has little or no flow control and no water quality control. In unincorporated King County, over two-thirds of

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986 the developed land was created prior to 1990. This amounts to about 150 square miles
987 of land on which native forest was converted to impervious surfaces: ~~(such as roads,~~
988 ~~parking lots, and rooftops),~~ lawns, and landscape surfaces~~(, and pasture and crop land~~
989 ~~surfaces))~~ without stormwater controls to mitigate the increased runoff and pollution
990 generated by these surfaces.

991
992 The County ~~((is))~~ ~~((working to))~~ promotes site development that preserves natural
993 hydrologic processes by protecting and enhancing native vegetation and soils,
994 reducing impervious surfaces, and managing stormwater on-site. This approach,
995 termed ~~((t))low ((t))impact ((t))development,~~ is used to reduce impacts on aquatic
996 resources. In the King County Surface Water Design Manual, King County provides a
997 menu of ~~((t))low ((t))impact ((t))development~~ options for individuals planning new or
998 re~~((t))development~~ projects. King County ~~((with))~~ continues to help minimize new
999 impervious surfaces through code and incentive programs that keep lands in forest and
1000 agricultural uses. Implementing ~~((t))low ((t))impact ((t))development~~ satisfies
1001 requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, while
1002 helping to protect the region's streams, rivers, lakes, and Puget Sound from harmful
1003 pollutants.

1004
1005 The County has identified watershed-~~_-~~based management efforts as a strategy that
1006 simultaneously integrates floodplain connectivity, salmon recovery, habitat restoration,
1007 ~~stormwater flow control and water quality retrofits,~~ economic development, agricultural
1008 preservation, and principles of equity and racial and social justice. ~~One strategy that~~
1009 ~~holds promise for reducing pollutants and improving water quality while providing~~
1010 ~~access to new green space for communities is creating "stormwater parks." Stormwater~~
1011 ~~parks, if located strategically, could treat billions of gallons of stormwater a year,~~
1012 ~~significantly reducing stormwater pollution reaching receiving water bodies, which~~
1013 ~~would in turn improve salmon recovery and habitat.~~ The County will leverage alternative
1014 funding mechanisms, and engage in various partnerships with groups that include, but
1015 are not limited to, the existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
1016 permitted jurisdictions, Water Resource Inventory Areas, the Puget Sound Partnership,
1017 and Local Integrating Organizations to undertake a collaborative watershed-based
1018 approach to restoring aquatic ecosystems.

1019
1020 ~~((King County has been and will continue to be a leader in developing and~~
1021 ~~implementing state-of-the-art stormwater management strategies including education~~
1022 ~~and outreach, source control programs, basin or sub-basin planning for retrofitting in~~
1023 ~~built out areas with inadequate stormwater controls, and mapping and maintenance of~~
1024 ~~stormwater infrastructure. Strategies for managing stormwater runoff are continuing to~~
1025 ~~evolve. Development of regional, collaborative approaches, including the creation of~~
1026 ~~watershed basin plans across multiple disciplines, will be the next evolution of~~
1027 ~~stormwater management.~~

1028
1029 **F-272) F-454 To reduce flooding, erosion, and sedimentation, prevent and**
1030 **mitigate habitat loss, enhance groundwater recharge, and prevent**
1031 **groundwater and surface water quality degradation, consistent with**
1032 **the Growth Management Act, King County shall manage stormwater**
1033 **through plans, programs, and regulations developed by ((King)) the**
1034 **County in cooperation with affected jurisdictions and agencies**
1035 **whenever possible.**

1036
1037 **~~((F-273)) F-455 ((A)) King County shall take a watershed approach ((shall be taken))~~**
1038 **for stormwater management, with responsibility shared between King**
1039 **County and affected jurisdictions. This approach should emphasize**
1040 **prevention of surface water and groundwater degradation through**
1041 **education programs, retrofits of existing stormwater controls or the**
1042 **placement of new controls, and implementation of best management**
1043 **practices to reduce pollution entering the region's groundwater and**

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surface waters, including Puget Sound. This approach should also continue to support and build upon regional collaborative stormwater management planning including consideration of incentives for regional collaboration and identification of supplemental funding sources for collaborative stormwater management in the region and management approaches as outlined in Policy E-446.

((F-274)) F-456 ((In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, King County shall minimize the use of ((constructed facilities)) grey infrastructure for stormwater management and, through ((L))low ((I))impact ((D))development, maximize the use of natural systems, provided that the ecological functions of the natural systems are not harmed. The County should provide incentives to keep these natural systems intact. Low ((I))impact ((D))development is also preferred in the Urban Growth Area, but it is recognized that structural systems may be needed to realize urban growth and density goals in these areas.)) King County shall implement stormwater management that protects native vegetation and soils, restores disturbed soils, facilitates reuse of recycled or harvested water, maximizes the use of natural systems and protects the ecological function of natural systems by:
a. Minimizing grey infrastructure in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands;
b. Requiring low impact development to the maximum extent feasible, as a part of its strategy to mitigate impacts from new development;
c. Considering additional supportive strategies, such as in-lieu fee mechanisms to result in overall benefits to regional stormwater management and water quality;
d. Continuing to support innovative stormwater management programs, such as the RainScapes Green Stormwater Infrastructure Incentive program for private landowners; and
e. Incorporate innovative stormwater management techniques into the design, construction, and operation of all County facilities and County-funded projects to the maximum extent feasible.

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((F-275)) F-457 King County ((will)) shall plan and manage stormwater by basin or sub-basin consistent with Policies E-((463))403 and E-((464))401. To accomplish this goal, stormwater runoff should not be diverted from one basin or sub-basin into another, unless no other reasonable alternative is available for managing run((,))off within the same basin or and an analysis using best available evidenced-based science determines cross-basin diversion or mitigation actions for unavoidable impacts will have greater benefit to regional stormwater management. Where such diversions are ((permitted)) allowed, King County ((will)) shall require environmental analysis and mitigation adequate to protect surface water and groundwater resources from significant adverse impacts.

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((F-276)) F-458 In the Urban Growth Area, ((regional and)) shared surface water management facilities should be encouraged to support infill development to preclude the need for individual on-site facilities, provide development incentives, encourage efficient use of land, and reduce overall facility maintenance costs. These facilities should be planned and financed through public and private partnerships.

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((F-277)) F-459 Stormwater programs including public education, stormwater system mapping, construction of ((regional and)) shared stormwater facilities, retrofitting developed areas, and operation and maintenance programs should be funded through an adequate and equitable funding mechanism. Stormwater facilities required for new

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development, redevelopment, and retrofitting should be designed and built to improve regional water quantity and quality to the maximum extent possible, as well as for aesthetic value(, as well as for) and low-cost, long-term maintenance.

~~((F-278) King County shall continue to ((encourage, support and)) require the use of low impact development as a part of its strategy to mitigate stormwater impacts from new development to the maximum extent feasible and should consider additional supportive strategies, such as in-lieu fee mechanisms which are determined through analyses according to best available science to result in overall benefits to regional stormwater management and water quality.~~

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~~F-279 King County should incorporate state-of-the-art stormwater management techniques ((including)) and ((L))low ((H))impact ((D))development into the design, construction and operation of all ((c))County facilities and ((c))County-funded projects to the maximum extent feasible.))~~

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F-460 When scoping and designing flood risk reduction, fish passage, park, trails, and habitat restoration projects, the County should actively review and pursue opportunities to support stormwater retrofit projects.

~~((F-280)) F-461 King County shall continue to promote the preservation of native vegetation and soils and the restoration of disturbed soils on ((rural residential)) Rural Area-zoned parcels to the maximum extent feasible. Minimized impervious areas and the dispersion of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces into native vegetation in accordance with the Surface Water Design Manual are the preferred methods of stormwater management in the Rural Area.~~

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~~((F-281) King County should work with residential and commercial developers to incorporate state-of-the-art stormwater management techniques, such as ((L))ow ((H))impact ((D))development, that protect native vegetation and soils, restore disturbed soils by increasing the use of compost, facilitate reuse of resources such as recycled or harvested water, reduce the carbon footprint of the project, and minimize impervious surfaces.~~

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~~F-282 When King County provides technical assistance and incentives for the use of state-of-the-art stormwater management techniques, it shall be at no cost to any private sector development.))~~

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~~((F-282a) King County should work with landowners, other jurisdictions, the state Department of Health, sewer districts, and the Puget Sound Partnership to develop effective strategies and additional resources for working with landowners to provide technical assistance and requested support regarding managing onsite septic systems, and proactively addressing failing septic systems in environmentally sensitive areas.))~~

~~F-282a King County should continue to implement and support innovative stormwater management programs, such as the RainScapes Green Stormwater Infrastructure Incentive program for private landowners.~~

F-462 King County should work with regional partners to identify locations for stormwater parks, focusing first on communities with the most polluted water that lack easy access to green space.

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~~((F-283)) F-463 King County ((shall)) **should** identify and evaluate potential changes to land use development regulations and building codes to support and promote state-of-the art stormwater management techniques.~~

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~~((F-284) King County should work cooperatively with other jurisdictions to develop and implement plans and programs that address the appropriate recycling, reuse, reclamation and disposal of the materials generated from maintenance of stormwater infrastructure.~~

F-285)) F-464 King County shall work with jurisdictions to ensure that storm and surface water management facilities are transferred from King County to the local jurisdiction that annexes or incorporates that portion of King County.

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~~((L))~~ G. Floodplain Management

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~~((Six major river systems flow through King County - the South Fork Skykomish, Snoqualmie, Sammamish, Cedar, Green and White. These rivers, and their ((major)) tributaries, pass through lands ranging in use from forested to agricultural to urbanized cities. Each of these major river systems are unique in their geology and geomorphology as well as the extent in which the hydraulics of the rivers have been altered by dams, levees, and bank hardening. All of these rivers are used by federally listed endangered species of salmonid. Communities along the marine shorelines of King County, including Vashon-Maury Island and in the Lower Duwamish, also face flood risks from tidal flooding and storm surge.~~

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~~Within unincorporated King County over 61 ((%)) percent of the mapped floodplain is within land zoned for agriculture, forest or mining. Another 32((%)) percent is zoned as rural leaving just under seven percent within the urban area, mainly contained within Potential Annexation Areas around the City of Carnation. Consequently, much of the flood risk in unincorporated King County is to natural resource lands, primarily agriculture, and rural lands with a lower relative risk to residential and resource based commercial activities. Most of these rivers also pass through highly urbanized incorporated cities that are important economic centers for King County and the Puget Sound region. These river segments are often constrained by levee systems that provide varying level of flood risk reduction.)) More localized flooding from small tributary streams, lakes, and closed depressions can also cause flood damage to homes, roads, farmland, and public and private infrastructure.~~

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~~Both the Washington State Growth Management Act((,)) Chapter 36.70A)) and Title 86 of the Revised Code of Washington((,)) Flood Control)) require interlocal coordination for effective flood hazard management. Counties are directed to prepare comprehensive flood hazard management plans with participation of the cities. ((Once King County adopts the plan it is binding on all jurisdictions within the county.)) Flooding is a ((countywide)) regional issue impacting public safety, regional economic centers, Agricultural Production Districts, transportation corridors, and public and private properties. As such, King County is a regional service provider for floodplain management.~~

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~~((F-286)) F-465 King County shall participate with cities to prepare, update, and implement comprehensive flood hazard management plans that meet or exceed standards established by the National Flood Insurance Program and Washington State Flood Control statutes.~~

~~((F-287)) F-466 King County shall include equity and racial and social justice principles in ((planning)) updating and implementing the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan. ((to ((assure floodplain property~~

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~~owners and residents are given equitable access to flood risk reduction services. Outreach should consider vulnerable populations that may face barriers to accessing services and programs based on age, income, disability, English language proficiency, race and ethnicity, or other factors.) and when assessing flood risks, evaluating impacts of risk reduction actions, and working in partnership with the most impacted communities to develop and prioritize future actions.~~

~~((In 2011 King County celebrated the 50th anniversary of the King County Flood Warning Program, which is responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of flood data and forecasts to individuals and organizations and for coordinating the response to flooding.~~

~~**F-288)) F-467 King County shall maintain a regional flood warning program in King County.**~~

~~((There is now evidence that climate change is resulting in significant changes in temperatures, sea level rise, and timing and magnitude of stream and river flows, resulting in impacts on plant and animal species, water supply and humans. King County's ability to adapt to these changing conditions will likely depend on the policy decisions made today. King County can expect to see more frequent and severe flooding and a shifting of when storm events occur during the winter months.~~

~~**F-289)) F-468 King County should continue to assess and revise current flood warning phases based on the most current data on hydrology and climate change ((predictions)) projections and modify the King County Flood Warning Program, as needed, to reflect these revised flood phases.**~~

~~**((F-290)) F-469 King County should assess the most appropriate level of service for flood risk reduction along river segments based on existing and predicted development density, land use, and hydrologic conditions, inclusive of climate change impacts.**~~

~~**((F-291)) F-470 King County ((will)) shall review available information on the potential impacts of climate change and other natural hazards on ((winter floods)) flooding conditions and other natural hazards that may affect flooding, and consider those potential impacts when updating the flood risk reduction policies and capital improvement projects for the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.**~~

King County works with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct and maintain flood levees along the Lower Green River. Under Public Law 84-99, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is authorized to provide emergency assistance to cost share and construct levee repairs following a flood disaster. However, eligibility for this cost-sharing program requires that levee sponsors (often local jurisdictions) comply with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Law 84-99 program standards as outlined in the Rehabilitation and Inspection Program.

An Interim Policy for Determining Eligibility Status of Flood Risk Management Projects was issued in 2014 and its primary effect was that vegetation no longer served as a criterion for determining a levee's eligibility for the Public Law 84-99 program. So long as vegetation in the vicinity of Public Law 84-99 levees is maintained by local sponsors to support levee inspections, the national levee vegetation standards for risk reduction no longer affect the eligibility of King County's levees.

The Green River System Wide Improvement Framework Vegetation Plan provides recommendations for vegetation planting and maintenance practices, in the vicinity of

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1277 levees and floodwalls enrolled within the Public Law 84-99 program. These
1278 recommendations acknowledge that, while vegetation may pose a risk in some
1279 situations, King County has found through many years of experience that vegetation can
1280 be incorporated into levee designs and, when properly maintained, contribute to the
1281 resiliency of the levee system. King County believes that bioengineered techniques
1282 provide a stronger, more sustainable levee and revetment system that will reduce
1283 long-term maintenance and repair and contribute toward the recovery of endangered
1284 species.

1285
1286 ~~((F-293) King County shall continue to work with the U.S. Army Corps of
1287 Engineers, the Puget Sound Partnership, and other regional partners to
1288 develop a science-based vegetation management framework that
1289 provides for safe and effective levees, functional riparian habitat, and
1290 cost-effective use of limited resources.~~

1291
1292 ~~The September 2008 National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion on the
1293 Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program raises
1294 specific concerns about the application of the Corps vegetation management standards
1295 in the Puget Sound region. The Biological Opinion directs the Federal Emergency
1296 Management Agency to recognize only those vegetation standards that "enable the
1297 riparian vegetation to function in support of salmon habitat forming processes."~~

1298
1299 ~~**F-294)) F-471 King County ((will)) shall ((assess participation)) participate in the
1300 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Law 84-99 Program ((to ensure))
1301 on a case-by-case basis, provided that compliance with the National
1302 Marine Fisheries Services Biological Opinion on the Federal Emergency
1303 Management Agency National Flood Insurance Program standards for
1304 levee vegetation, ((as well as)) and cost-effective maintenance and
1305 repair of levees, is achieved.**~~

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1307 ~~((The Biological Opinion for the National Flood Insurance Program established
1308 "reasonable and prudent alternatives" that may be taken to reduce the adverse effects of
1309 development with the 100-year floodplain. Compliance with the Biological Opinion is
1310 required in order to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program.~~

1311
1312 ~~**F-295)) F-472 King County ((will)) shall maintain compliance with the National
1313 Flood Insurance Program by:
1314 a. Assessing the projects and programmatic actions recommended in
1315 the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan for compliance with
1316 the Biological Opinion prepared for the Program; and
1317 b. Making necessary amendments to the Plan and its implementing
1318 development regulations.**~~

1319
1320 ~~((In 2007 King County established the King County Flood Control District to protect
1321 public health and safety, regional economic centers, public and private properties and
1322 transportation corridors. The Flood Control District adopted the 2006 King County
1323 Flood Hazard Management Plan as its comprehensive plan. A private firm,
1324 ECOnorthwest, was hired to study the economic benefits of implementing the plan.
1325 This report, the "Economic Connections Between the King County Floodplains and the
1326 Greater King County Economy," estimated that a one-day shutdown of economic activity
1327 in the King County floodplain areas would result in at least \$49 million in forgone
1328 economic output in the region (2007 dollars). The study also found that, 52,000 people
1329 in King County commute into or out of the 100-year floodplain for work.))~~

1330
1331 ~~((Implementation of the ((2006)) King County Flood Hazard Management Plan has
1332 played a significant role in protecting King County's economic base.)) ((The 2006 Flood
1333 Hazard Management Plan was updated in 2013.~~

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1335 ~~F-296)) F-473~~ King County ~~((with)) shall work cooperatively with Indian tribes, the~~
1336 ~~King County Flood Control District, cities, and other ((stakeholders))~~
1337 ~~partners to implement the integrated approaches to floodplain~~
1338 ~~management outlined in the Flood Hazard Management Plan, or~~
1339 ~~successor plans, to protect public safety, prevent property damage, and~~
1340 ~~help protect the greater King County economy, consistent with the~~
1341 ~~Growth Management Act. Actions should advance King County's~~
1342 ~~equity and racial and social justice goals, promote resiliency to the~~
1343 ~~potential impacts of climate change, and provide multiple benefits for~~
1344 ~~the residents of King County.~~

1346 ~~((F-297)) F-474~~ Consistent with guidance from ~~the~~ Federal Emergency
1347 ~~Management Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, King~~
1348 ~~County's flood risk reduction strategies should focus first on risk~~
1349 ~~avoidance, followed by actions intended to reduce vulnerability in at-~~
1350 ~~risk areas. New levees and other flood facilities should be the last~~
1351 ~~rather than the first line of defense.~~

1353 ~~((F-298)) F-475~~ King County shall continue to ~~((promote)) encourage~~ the purchase
1354 ~~of flood insurance to ((businesses)) owners and tenants of properties~~
1355 ~~located within ((the floodplain)) flood hazard areas, including those~~
1356 ~~((businesses)) properties located behind accredited levees, to protect~~
1357 ~~the ((economic)) value of the ((business)) properties, and to reduce the~~
1358 ~~economic vulnerability ((to the region's economic activity from a larger~~
1359 ~~but less frequent)) from flood events, and shall, where feasible,~~
1360 ~~participate in programs that keep flood insurance rates as low as~~
1361 ~~possible for community members.~~

1363 ~~((F-299)) F-476~~ King County should continue to discourage new~~((, at-risk))~~
1364 ~~development in mapped flood hazard areas, and coordinate with~~
1365 ~~partners to avoid this in other jurisdictions.~~

1367 ~~((F-299a)) F-477~~ King County should seek to site new critical public facilities
1368 ~~outside of the 500-year floodplain (except for water-dependent~~
1369 ~~facilities, such as wastewater treatment facilities and associated~~
1370 ~~conveyance infrastructure).~~

1372 Levee setbacks (moving levees away from the river channel) can provide a higher level
1373 of risk reduction, reduce future maintenance costs, enhance habitat, and provide open
1374 space benefits. However, levee setbacks require purchase of additional right-of-way
1375 and, in some cases, relocation of homes and businesses, which is more costly in urban
1376 areas. The ~~((c))~~County has purchased homes and relocated ~~((homes))~~ residents from
1377 high-hazard residential areas along the Tolt, Raging, Snoqualmie, Middle Green, and
1378 Cedar Rivers. ~~((Levee setbacks can be more challenging in urban areas with higher land~~
1379 ~~costs, well established businesses, and more extensive relocation needs.~~

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F-299b)) F-478 King County should work with cities, businesses, and landowners to evaluate the alternatives for levee setbacks that would provide a higher level of risk reduction, reduce long-term maintenance costs, and enhance habitat while promoting long-term economic resilience and vitality.

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~~((F-231 King County supports coordination of regional water supply planning, sales of excess water supplies among municipalities in the region, water quality programs and water conservation, reuse and recycled water programs. This regional planning should support King County's goals of focusing growth in the Urban Growth Area and ensuring water availability for resource lands.~~

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H.)) Water Supply

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King County is not a water utility that provides potable water to residents and businesses in the region. ~~((However, it plays an important)) The County serves a role in the coordination ((or linking)) of water resources and growth and regional protection and management of water resources. This ((regional protection and management)) includes protection of the quantity and quality of groundwater((, stormwater management, flood hazard management, protection of fish and wildlife habitat,)) and commitment to regional water strategies through such efforts as ((the Puget Sound Partnership,)) regional water supply planning((, ((salmon recovery planning, and multiple groups engaged on)) and climate change mitigation and adaptation. It carries out this role through ((its responsibilities for)) planning, permit issuance, and regulatory oversight. ((The King County Comprehensive Plan must demonstrate that projected needs for facilities and service can be met within the Urban Growth Area and can be served in compliance with the concurrency requirements of the Growth Management Act. Within Rural Areas and Natural Resource Lands, the Comprehensive Plan must provide for rural services, including domestic water service, needed to serve permitted densities and uses.))~~

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The Utilities Technical Review Committee~~((, as authorized in King County Code ((c))Chapter 13.24,)) assures)) ensures that water system and water supply planning by water utilities in King County meet the requirements of the Growth Management Act and other applicable statutory requirements, ((as well as determining)) and determines consistency with the King County Comprehensive Plan. ((The Utilities Technical Review Committee is responsible for identifying the elements and provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations, adopted by the ((c))County under the Growth Management Act, with which water system plans must be consistent, as prescribed in Revised Code of Washington 43.20.260. The Utilities Technical Review Committee is also responsible for ensuring that the purposes of ((c))Chapter 13.24, as provided in King County Code 13.24.005, are carried out. Water system plans are ultimately approved by ordinance by the King County Council and King County Executive.~~

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~~((King County has been working with water utility representatives for the last several years on refinements to the Utilities Technical Review Committee review process. The intent of the refinements has been to clarify the County's interests in reviewing water systems plans, create more transparency in the review process, provide clarity on what the County does with the information it gets from water purveyors and reduce overall processing time. King County will continue coordinating with water utilities to help ensure successful implementation of the Utilities Technical Review Committee review process refinements.))~~
Water utility service areas in King County are described in Coordinated Water System Plans developed under the Public Water System Coordination Act (((e))Chapter 70.116 Revised Code of Washington) and individual water system plans developed under State

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1435 Board of Health rules adopted under ~~((c))~~Chapter 43.20 Revised Code of Washington.
1436 Coordinated Water System Plans describe future service areas for water utilities within
1437 which they are provided the exclusive right to serve future customers~~((r))~~ and are to
1438 include the means for meeting those needs in the most efficient manner possible.
1439 Other service providers may serve within the future service area of a designated water
1440 utility if the designated water utility is unable to provide service in a timely and
1441 reasonable manner.

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1443 ~~((Individual water system plans must include the water utility's retail service area, which
1444 includes existing customers and areas where the utility plans future service. Under state
1445 law (Revised Code of Washington 43.20.260), the water utility is required to provide
1446 service within its retail service area, provided it can meet the conditions prescribed in
1447 state law, including the ability to deliver such service in a timely and reasonable manner.
1448 The planned provision of service must be consistent with local government
1449 comprehensive plans, land use plans, and development regulations.))~~

1450
1451 Washington State laws encourage the development and use of recycled water, require
1452 consideration of recycled water in wastewater planning, and recognize the importance
1453 of recycled water as a strategy for water resource management statewide (Chapters
1454 90.46, 90.48, and 90.82 Revised Code of Washington)~~((t))~~. Recycled water is an
1455 important mechanism for improving water quality and reducing discharge of treated
1456 wastewater into Puget Sound and other sensitive areas. Safely re-using non-potable
1457 water within a building requires sufficient plan review and system inspection capacity.
1458 ~~((Recycled water is an important wastewater management tool that can also be used as
1459 a beneficial resource. King County has been producing and distributing recycled water
1460 since 1997. Recycled water is used for treatment process water and onsite landscaping
1461 at the County's wastewater treatment plants. In addition, some of the recycled water
1462 from the South Treatment Plant is used off-site for irrigation purposes and public works
1463 uses, such as street sweeping and sewer flushing. Recycled water from the Carnation
1464 Treatment Plant is sent to the wetlands at the Chinook Bend Natural Area in accordance
1465 with the County's commitment to use the wetlands as its primary discharge location
1466 rather than the Snoqualmie River. The Brightwater Treatment Plant started distributing
1467 recycled water to the Sammamish Valley for irrigating golf courses, nurseries, farms and
1468 for commercial and industrial uses.))~~

1469 1.((2.)) Regional Water Supply Planning

1470 ~~((In recent years King County worked cooperatively with many of the larger water
1471 utilities in the region to gather information about regional water demand and supply. As
1472 a result of potential impacts from climate change on water demand and supply, this
1473 effort will become increasingly important in future years. King County would like to use
1474 this information to help develop a regional water supply plan.~~

1475
1476 **F-234)) F-479 King County should support ~~((s))~~ coordination of regional water
1477 supply planning, sale ~~((s))~~ of excess water supplies among
1478 municipalities in the region, water quality programs, and water
1479 conservation, reuse, and recycled water programs. This regional
1480 planning should support King County's goals of focusing growth in the
1481 Urban Growth Area and ensuring water availability for resource lands.**

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~~((F-242)) F-480 King County **should** support((s)) initiation of a water planning process for the development of a regional or subregional water plan. ((The planning process should at a minimum cover all of King County, but may include a broader geographic area.)) The County ((will)) **shall** work in concert with **Indian tribes**, water utilities, state agencies, **Indian tribes**; and other((s that participate)) **key partners**. ((Key components of this planning process should include:~~

- ~~a. **Involvement, oversight and support of elected officials in the region;**~~
- ~~b. **Meaningful public participation including the involvement of the state and federally recognized tribes; and**~~
- ~~c. **Recognition of, and making appropriate linkages with, other state, regional, or local planning processes.**~~

~~F-243)) F-481 King County recognizes that a regional water planning process ((will)) **should** be a collaborative process. King County's objectives for the process and a resulting plan are that it:~~

- ~~a. **Be consistent with, and support, growth management objectives and decisions made by local and regional jurisdictions under the Growth Management Act;**~~
- ~~b. **Address the need for sufficient **in-stream** flows to achieve salmon recovery objectives of the approved regional recovery plan for species listed under the Endangered Species Act, and recognize **Indian** tribal water rights;**~~
- ~~c. **Be consistent with and support the approved water quality and quantity strategies adopted by the region, local governments, and other responsible entities (such as water utilities) in compliance with federal requirements under the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and other authorities relevant to water quantity and quality;**~~
- ~~d. **Include provisions for the efficient use of water, including recycled water;**~~
- ~~e. **Consider the impacts of climate change on water demand and supply;**~~
- ~~f. **Address the water needs of other specific sectors of the local economy, including agriculture and other industries with significant water uses;**~~
- ~~g. **Include, to the extent possible, assigned accountability for implementing conservation and developing new supplies and related infrastructure; and**~~
- ~~h. **Identify, and develop a strategy for, any legislative changes necessary or desirable to implement the plan.**~~

~~((F-243a) **Results from the King County Equity Impact Review Tool will be used as an important consideration to identify and assess the impacts of proposed service changes, and the county's Equity and Social Justice principles should be used to improve residents' access to the determinants of equity.**~~

~~F-244) **King County shall participate in the development of a regional water supply plan or plans addressing potable water supply service by multiple water purveyors to ensure that uses of recycled water intended to augment or replace potable water supplies will be considered in the development of any such plans, and for such other purposes as are authorized in the underlying authority for such a plan. King County's participation in the development of such plans shall be carried out in accordance with Revised Code of Washington 90.46.120, and pursuant to processes provided in the underlying planning authority.**~~

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~~**F-245** Prior to initiation of any process to develop a regional water plan as described in Policy F-243, King County shall work with utilities to conduct a joint assessment of the state of water planning and coordination in the region. Such an assessment should identify where current planning and coordination efforts by and among water utilities address County interests and where there are gaps. The assessment should be used to guide any efforts related to development of a regional water plan.~~

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~~1-)~~ 2. Potable Water Systems

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Potable water is provided by Group A public water systems having 15 or more connections, Group B public water systems having ~~((three))~~ two to 15 connections, and individual private wells serving one connection. The type of water system required for new development will depend upon whether a proposed development is ~~((or is not located within the Urban Growth Area, is or is not))~~ within an approved service area of an existing public water system, and is or is not able to provide an adequate water supply as required under Revised Code of Washington 19.27.097 and 58.17.110. Exempt wells refer to wells that do not require obtaining a water right permit from the state for withdrawal of water. These exempt wells are subject to all other rules and regulations of the water code other than the requirement to get a permit from the state to withdraw water. ~~((Water withdrawn from an exempt well for individual or group domestic water supply cannot exceed 5,000 gallons per day, nor may the water be used to irrigate more than a half-acre of lawn or noncommercial garden.))~~ Issuance of a building permit or subdivision approval that is interconnected with a permit-exempt well requires the following measures: (a) a fee of five hundred dollars; (b) maximum average withdrawal of groundwater in an amount not exceeding 950 gallons per day per connection and not exceeding 5,000 gallons per day per well; (c) curtailment of withdrawal of groundwater to an amount not exceeding 350 gallons per day per connection for indoor use only upon issuance of a drought emergency order; (d) outdoor use limited to watering of a lawn or noncommercial garden not exceeding one-half acre in area; and (e) management of stormwater runoff on-site to the extent ~~practicable~~ feasible to maximize infiltration, including use of low impact development techniques.

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~~((F-232))~~ **F-481** Water utilities that obtain water from, or distribute water in unincorporated King County, and water utilities formed as special purpose districts under Title 57 Revised Code of Washington are required to submit water system plans to the ~~((c))~~ County for review and approval and shall describe in their plans how they intend to meet their duty to provide service within their retail service areas, and generally how they plan to meet water service needs in their future service.

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~~((F-233))~~ **F-482** In both the Urban Growth Area and Rural Area ~~((s))~~ of King County, all new construction and all new subdivisions shall be served by an existing Group A public water system ~~((s))~~, except in the circumstance when no Group A public water system can provide service in a timely and reasonable manner per Revised Code of Washington 70.116.060 and 43.20.260 or when no existing system is willing and able to provide safe and reliable potable water with reasonable economy and efficiency per Revised Code of Washington 19.27.097.

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~~((F-234))~~ **F-483** In the Urban Growth Area, individual private wells for single detached residences are not ~~((permitted))~~ allowed unless ((application of Policy F-233 to a proposal for a single ~~((family residence))~~ detached home on an individual lot)) requiring connection would deny all reasonable use of the property. In that case, the well would be allowed only as an interim facility until service by a public water system can be

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provided. ~~((The individual well must meet the criteria of the King County Board of Health Code Title 13.))~~

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~~((F-235)) F-484 ((In the Urban Growth Area, i)) if an existing Group A water provider cannot provide direct or indirect service to new development under Policy F-~~((233))482, a new public water system may be established if it is owned or operated by the following, in order of preference:~~~~

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a. By a satellite management agency approved by the State Department of Health under contract with the Group A system in whose service area the system is located, provided that the existing Group A water system remains responsible for meeting the duty to serve the new system under Revised Code of Washington 43.20.260; ~~((or))~~

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b. ~~((By a satellite management agency)) if approved by both the State Department of Health and King County.:~~

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~~i. In the urban area, by a satellite management agency; or~~

~~ii. In the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands, by a satellite management agency or an existing Group B system; then~~

~~c. In the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands, by the owners of the lots, which are provided water by a new Group A or B system if not within the service area of an existing Group A system or not within the area covered by a satellite management agency. Approval for any such system shall be conditioned for future ownership or management by a satellite management agency, when such service becomes available, and for periodic review of system operations, as required by Revised Code of Washington 70.119A.060.~~

F-485 All new public water systems ~~((formed in the Urban Growth Area))~~ shall connect to the Group A water system in whose service area the new system is located when direct service becomes available. Such a connection shall be made by the homeowner or association in a timely and reasonable manner.

~~((F-236)) F-486 ((In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, King County land use and water service decisions should support the long-term integrity of Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands ecosystems. ((Within the Rural Area, individual private wells, rainwater catchment, Group B water systems, and Group A water systems are all allowed.)) if an existing Group A water provider cannot provide direct or indirect service to new development per the exceptions in Policy F-233, a new public water system ((or private well)) may be established if it is owned or operated by the following, in order of preference:~~

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a. By a satellite management agency approved by the state Department of Health under contract with the Group A system in whose service area the system is located, provided that the existing Group A water system remains responsible for meeting the duty to serve the new system under Revised Code of Washington 43.20.260; ~~((and))~~

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b. By a satellite management agency or an existing Group B system approved by both the State Department of Health and King County; ~~or~~

~~c. By the owners of the lots, which are provided water by a new Group A or B system if not within the service area of an existing Group A system or not within the area covered by a satellite management agency. Approval for any such system shall be conditioned for future ownership or management by a satellite management agency, when such service becomes available, and for periodic review of system operations, as required by Revised Code of Washington 70.119A.060(2).~~

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~~((If service cannot be obtained by means of the above stated options, then water service may be obtained by creation of a new system, use of private wells or rainwater catchment. All new public water systems formed in the Rural Area shall connect to the Group A water system in whose service area the new system is located when direct service becomes available.))~~

~~**F-487** In the Rural Area or Natural Resource Lands, if water service cannot be obtained by the options provided in F-235486, then use of private wells or rainwater catchment may be allowed.~~

~~((F-237 New public water systems established in the Rural Area shall be owned and operated by the following, in order of preference:~~

~~a. By the Group A public water system in whose service area the system is located, by direct service or satellite management by the Group A system;~~

~~b. By a satellite management agency approved by the State Department of Health and providing service within the county and under contract with the Group A system if it is located in a Group A system service area; or~~

~~c. By the owners of the lots, which are provided water by a new Group A or B system if not within the service area of an existing Group A system or not within the area covered by a satellite management agency. Approval for any such system shall be conditioned for future ownership or management by a satellite management agency, when such service becomes available, and for periodic review of system operations, as required by Revised Code of Washington 70.119A.060(2).))~~

The State Department of Ecology has determined that the rivers and streams in the major river basins in King County have no water available for further consumptive appropriation without harmfully impacting instream values. ~~((For that reason, it has by regulation))~~ The State has closed those basins to the issuance of new water rights~~((;))~~ and has directed that the natural interrelationships between surface and ground waters should be considered in future water allocation decisions ~~((in order))~~ to avoid adverse impacts to instream flows. The installation and use of wells that are exempt from the Department of ~~((e))~~ Ecology's water rights permitting process may further harm those rivers and streams when the wells are withdrawing groundwater that is directly connected to the water in the stream. The installation of new exempt wells may also create health and safety problems by interfering with the water supplied by existing wells, and by creating more holes in the ground that can lead to contamination of entire aquifers.

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~~((Under King County Code ((c))Chapter 9.14, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks is to act as lead agency in coordinating the activities of the Department of Local Services - Permitting Division and Public Health - Seattle & King County ((in order)) to ensure that groundwater quality and quantity are protected, and facilitate implementation of the plans that have been developed to protect groundwater in five groundwater management areas within King County. In accordance with new water law requirements, King County has an established a hierarchy of water service that restricts the creation of new permit-exempt wells in closed basins, except in very limited circumstances, and as consistent with state law and the in-stream flow rules applicable to permit-exempt wells.~~

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~~**F-230)) F-488** New subdivisions with more than six single~~((family))~~ detached residential lots on Vashon-Maury Island and in basins with closed streams in the Rural Area (as defined in ~~Chapters 173-507, 173-508, 173-509, 173-510, and 173-515~~the Washington Administrative Code~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

1717 ~~((173-507, 508, 509, 510, and 515))~~ may not be served by a potable
1718 water system using an exempt well, or a combination of multiple
1719 exempt wells. Exempt wells are allowed only in the Rural Area and
1720 only under the following circumstances:

1721 a. ~~((New subdivisions or short subdivisions with six or fewer lots;~~
1722 ~~b.))~~ Except as otherwise provided in subsection ~~((c.))~~ b. of this policy
1723 only ~~((o))~~ One exempt well per subdivision or short subdivision ~~((will))~~
1724 ~~may be permitted unless more than one exempt well is))~~ or the
1725 ~~minimum number~~ needed to meet the water flow requirements for the
1726 subdivision or short subdivision;

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1727 ~~((c.))~~ b. Individual private wells ~~((may be))~~ used in a subdivision or
1728 short subdivision when all lots in the subdivision or short subdivision
1729 are twenty acres in area or larger; and

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1730 ~~((d.))~~ c. New developments in the Rural Area served by one or
1731 more exempt wells shall not exceed one-half acre of irrigation of land
1732 area.

1733 ~~((F-239))~~ F-489 King County shall work with water service providers, the State
1734 Department of Ecology, and the State Department of Health to ~~((track~~
1735 ~~and measure))~~ ensure groundwater use and to meet the County's
1736 obligation to protect groundwater quality and quantity in the Rural
1737 Area ~~((s.))~~, while supporting uses of groundwater that meet public
1738 health, resource protection, land use planning, and fish recovery
1739 objectives and obligations.

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1740 ~~((F-240))~~ King County shall require any new or expanding Group B water system
1741 to have a totalizing source meter and make information from the meter
1742 available upon request of King County.)

1743 ~~((F-241))~~ F-490 King County shall encourage the adoption of state or local laws and
1744 codes to limit the construction of new exempt wells, as well as and shall
1745 encourage abandoning existing exempt wells, within ~~((existing))~~ water
1746 utility service areas and promote the safe and timely decommissioning
1747 of wells no longer in service.

1748 ~~((3.))~~ Utility System Interties

1749 Water utilities obtain water supplies from many varying sources. Some water utilities
1750 receive the vast majority of their water supply from wells. Others receive substantial
1751 portions from municipal watersheds and reservoirs. The varying water supply sources
1752 can differ substantially in terms of dependability of output, so that while one water utility
1753 may have excess capacity, a neighboring water utility could be experiencing severe
1754 shortages and be unable to adequately serve their customers.

1755 ~~F-246~~ King County supports interties that allow the transfer of water
1756 resources among water utilities to meet the projected demands for
1757 growth where such interties meet the requirements of Revised Code of
1758 Washington 90.03.383 and are also consistent with any applicable
1759 locally adopted comprehensive plans, regional water supply plans,
1760 adopted groundwater management plans, watershed plans, approved
1761 Coordinated Water System Plans, Endangered Species Act response
1762 requirements and Clean Water Act requirements.

1768 ~~F-247 King County supports the development of appropriate regional water~~
1769 ~~intertie capital projects, subject to approval from appropriate local,~~
1770 ~~state, and federal agencies and consistent with Policy F-246.~~

1771 ~~4-))~~ 3. Water Use Efficiency, Planning, and Management

1772 ~~((Water is becoming an increasingly scarce resource, which calls for commitments to~~
1773 ~~improved planning, more efficient water use, and better water management. The~~
1774 ~~impacts of climate change on water demand and supply adds to the need to make~~
1775 ~~efficient use of this scarce resource. As part of its resource management and land use~~
1776 ~~planning responsibilities, the King County Utilities Technical Review Committee reviews~~
1777 ~~water utility plans for those w))Water utilities serving unincorporated King County or~~
1778 ~~otherwise subject to the planning requirements of King County Code ((c))Chapter 13.24~~
1779 ~~((and ensures the inclusion of)) are required to include elements related to recycled~~
1780 ~~water, water use efficiency, and water conservation in the plans as may be called for~~
1781 ~~under state law, the King County Code, or the King County Comprehensive Plan. ((As~~
1782 ~~part of its evaluation process, the Utilities Technical Review Committee also encourages~~
1783 ~~w))Water purveyors are encouraged to include conservation and reuse measures, where~~
1784 ~~applicable, as well as development of new sources to support planned land use with~~
1785 ~~reliable service at a reasonable cost.~~

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1787 The Reclaimed Water Act of Washington State (Revised Code of Washington 90.46)
1788 recognizes the value of recycled water in the process to better manage, protect, and
1789 conserve water resources. In addition, measures to increase water conservation and
1790 expand the use of recycled water for non-potable uses throughout the county are
1791 important elements in preparing for potential climate change impacts~~((,))~~ and ~~((to))~~
1792 ~~addressing~~ water as a recognized limiting factor for Puget Sound and salmon recovery
1793 efforts. The King County Code also directs ~~((c))~~County programs to act as a
1794 clearinghouse for data related to groundwater quality and quantity ~~((in order))~~ to
1795 facilitate implementation by King County and others of the groundwater management
1796 plans that have been developed for major portions of King County.

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1797 Under Revised Code of Washington 43.20.310, larger water systems that serve more
1798 than 1,000 connections will be required to address the impacts of climate change in
1799 future water system plans. These large Wwater systems that serve more than 1,000
1800 connections will be required to include a climate resilience element in plans initiated
1801 after June 30, 2025. This new plan element must 1) determine the types of extreme
1802 weather events that would significantly challenge the system and build scenarios to
1803 identify potential impact, 2) identify critical assets and steps necessary to protect the
1804 system from the weather events on the systems operations, and 3) describe the costs
1805 and benefits of system's risk reduction strategies and capital project needs.

1807 ~~((6.))~~ 5. Water Availability and ~~((New))~~ State Laws

1808 ~~Water rights are generally regulated by the State of Washington. As part of project~~
1809 ~~review, King County's has historically reviewed whether sufficient water was physically~~
1810 ~~available. As a result of some litigation, ((t))in January 2018, the Washington State~~
1811 ~~Legislature approved Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 6091, now codified in~~
1812 ~~((c))Chapters 19.27, 58.17, 90.03, and 90.94 Revised Code of Washington~~((The~~
1813 ~~adopted statutes)) clarify the steps building permit and subdivision applicants must take~~
1814 ~~to establish that water is "legally available" when proposing to obtain water from a new~~
1815 ~~permit-exempt well.~~~~

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1817 In King County, the ~~((new)) state water law)) requirements most directly affect~~
1818 ~~development in the Rural Area and on Natural Resource Lands where new development~~
1819 ~~may not be served by public water systems, and applicants are proposing to use permit-~~
1820 ~~exempt wells for a source of water supply. King County has a prioritization for water use~~
1821 ~~that intends to limit permit-exempt wells and require~~s new development to be

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

1822 connected to Group A water systems. Consistent with the ((new)) water law
1823 requirements, King County permitting processes ensure that the hierarchy of water
1824 service is fully implemented with the Comprehensive Plan policies and the King County
1825 Code. Additionally, ~~((consistent with ((new water law)) ESSB 6091, King County ((will
1826 participate)) has participated~~ in the Washington State Department of Ecology's
1827 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee process ~~((, which may lead to the
1828 identification of new water planning provisions in future Comprehensive Plan updates)).~~

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1829
1830 ~~((F-248)) F-491 King County shall partner with utilities to publicize water
1831 conservation and encourage best management practices that conserve
1832 potable water supply through measures that include use of alternative
1833 supplies such as recycled water.~~

1834
1835 ~~((F-249)) F-492 ((Utilities with more than one thousand service connections
1836 required to submit water system plans for approval to King County
1837 shall include an evaluation of recycled water use opportunities by
1838 completing King County's Water Reclamation Evaluation Checklist.))
1839 Water system plans for large purveyors shall include an evaluation of
1840 recycled water use opportunities.~~

1841
1842 ~~((F-250)) F-493 King County shall ((encourage)) allow local developers with new
1843 projects in unincorporated King County to ((explore the possibility of
1844 using)) use recycled water for non-potable purposes when ((a plan for)
1845 recycled water ((has been approved for the area)) is available for use.~~

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1846
1847 ~~((F-251)) F-494 ((In its review of water system plans, the Utilities Technical Review
1848 Committee shall consider the criteria provided in King County Code
1849 13.24.010, 13.24.060, and 13.24.070, and determine the plan's
1850 consistency with the following:
1851 a. Applicable provisions of the King County Comprehensive Plan,
1852 land use plans, and development regulations adopted under the
1853 Growth Management Act;
1854 b. Approved or adopted regional water resource plans, such as basin
1855 plans, groundwater plans, watershed-based conservation and
1856 recovery plans developed under Endangered Species Act, salmon
1857 recovery plans developed under chapter 77.85 Revised Code of
1858 Washington, water resource plans developed under chapter 90.54
1859 Revised Code of Washington, watershed plans developed under
1860 chapter 90.82 Revised Code of Washington, and a regional water
1861 supply plan or water resource management plan;
1862 c. The county's Regional Wastewater Services Plan; and
1863 d. Other applicable provisions of countywide plans managed by King
1864 County, as specified in Utilities Technical Review Committee
1865 guidance or checklists.))~~

1866
1867 ~~The Utilities Technical Review Committee shall work with state
1868 agencies, water utilities, and other parties to develop any necessary
1869 rules, policies, or checklists to provide clear information and guidance
1870 as to the county's expectations for its reviews. ((For each plan
1871 submitted to the county for review, the Utilities Technical Review
1872 Committee should have the goal of providing an initial response and
1873 comments to the water utility within the same timeframes as the state
1874 Department of Health under Revised Code of Washington 43.20.250.~~

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1876 **F-252) F-495** In reviewing proposals for modified and expanded service area
1877 boundaries for municipal water suppliers, as defined under Chapter
1878 **90.03 Revised Code of Washington**, the Utilities Technical Review
1879 Committee shall consider(~~(, in addition to Policy F-254)~~):
1880 a. Compliance by the water system with its water system
1881 comprehensive plan, including water conservation elements;
1882 b. Whether it can meet its duty to provide service within its service
1883 area, as required under ((c))Chapter 43.20 Revised Code of
1884 Washington; and
1885 c. Consistency with the service provisions of any applicable
1886 Coordinated Water System Plan, as adopted in King County Code
1887 Chapter 13.28.
1888

1889 **F-496** ~~((The ((c)) King County shall not approve a water system plan with a
1890 proposed retail service area where the water system is unable to
1891 provide timely and reasonable service for one or more of the reasons
1892 identified in Revised Code of Washington 43.20.260. King County
1893 accepts and encourages timely and reasonable service by a water utility
1894 within its service area through the provision of satellite or remote
1895 ownership or management of facilities that are not physically
1896 connected with the water utility's other facilities. This does not
1897 preclude a modified or expanded service area boundary for the water
1898 system ((in order)) to correct problems and provide reliable potable
1899 water service to existing water users within the proposed modified
1900 service area. The Utilities Technical Review Committee is responsible
1901 for making determinations of timely and reasonable service, as
1902 provided for under Chapter 70A.100 Revised Code of Washington
1903 ((70.116;)) and ((K.C.C.)) King County Code Chapters 13.24 and 13.28.~~

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1904 ~~((5-))4.~~ Resource Management and Protection

1905 Water system reservoirs and watersheds often serve a number of functions(~~(, These
1906 functions can include)) including open space, recreation, forestry, and resource
1907 management. ((However, each function must be weighed against t))The primary
1908 purpose of ((such)) reservoirs and watersheds(~~(, which))~~ is to provide and protect
1909 supplies of potable drinking water.~~

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1911 ~~((F-253)) F-497~~ ~~((Consistent with Countywide Planning Policies, p))Public drinking
1912 water system surface water reservoirs and their watersheds should:
1913 a. ~~((b))Be managed primarily for the protection of drinking water((;
1914 but should))~~; and
1915 b. ~~((a))Allow for multiple uses, including recreation, when such uses
1916 do not jeopardize drinking water quality standards((,-P)) and
1917 public watersheds ((must be)) are managed to protect downstream
1918 fish and agriculture resources.~~~~

1920 ~~((F-254)) F-498~~ Groundwater-based public water supplies should be protected by
1921 preventing land uses that may adversely affect groundwater quality or
1922 quantity to the extent that the supply might be jeopardized. The
1923 ~~((c))County shall protect the quality and quantity of groundwater used
1924 as water supplies through implementation of Policies E-~~((493))445~~
1925 through E-~~((497))451~~ where applicable.~~

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1926 ~~I.(((H.)))~~ Energy ~~((and Telecommunications))~~

1927 King County's economy and quality of life depend on readily available, affordable,
1928 ~~((and)) clean energy ((and telecommunications)) resources. Energy ((and electronic
1929 communications)) systems provide important public services, and their implementation
1930 must be coordinated with land use planning. The sustainable development and~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

1931 efficient use of energy resources can ensure their continued availability while minimizing
1932 long-term costs, risks, and impacts to public health and safety, air and water quality, and
1933 essential public infrastructure and services.

1934
1935 ~~((in order to))~~ To help mitigate global climate impacts resulting from human energy use,
1936 King County is planning its energy uses in ways that will improve energy efficiency;
1937 increase production and use of renewable energy; reduce risk to public health, safety,
1938 critical services, and the environment; and reduce the release of greenhouse gases and
1939 emissions. This includes rigorous and transparent review and regulation of fossil fuel
1940 facilities.

1941
1942 ~~((The 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan provides targets for reducing energy usage in
1943 operations and increasing the amount of renewable energy that the County produces or
1944 uses. These targets are measured for the County government as a whole; divisions are
1945 directed to make policies and plans consistent with the King County Strategic Climate
1946 Action Plan and implement those as practical, considering the Plan and their other
1947 service priorities. Some divisions may exceed the targets, while others may not meet
1948 them in given years – but all divisions will use the Strategic Climate Action Plan as the
1949 basis for strategic energy planning and direction:~~

1950
1951 ~~King County divisions are taking steps to translate countywide energy targets into
1952 agency specific plans and action. Agency specific plans are important steps that support
1953 progress towards countywide targets.~~

1954
1955 ~~The Strategic Climate Action Plan sets the County's long term goal of reducing its
1956 greenhouse gas emissions from government operations, compared to a 2007 baseline,
1957 by at least at least 80% by 2050. In order to accomplish this goal, the County is
1958 dedicated to reducing its energy use, which is the most cost-effective approach to
1959 reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Energy reduction goals are included in the
1960 Strategic Climate Action Plan. In its government operations, the County set buildings
1961 and facilities normalized energy use reduction goals of five percent reduction by 2020
1962 and 10% by 2025, as measured against a 2014 baseline. In its vehicle operations, the
1963 County set a reduction goal of at least 10% of its normalized net energy use by 2020,
1964 again measured against a 2014 baseline:))~~

1965
1966 Various local, state, and federal agencies regulate ~~((retail))~~ energy providers in King
1967 County. Gas and electric utility resource and conservation plans are approved by the
1968 utilities and other agencies through a public process. The Washington Utilities and
1969 Transportation Commission reviews and accepts plans of investor-owned electric and
1970 gas utilities, the Seattle City Council approves the plans of Seattle City Light, and
1971 Snohomish Public Utility District is governed by a utility board. Electric and gas utilities
1972 operate in King County under franchises with the ~~((e))~~ County for use of the public right-
1973 of-way. The Utilities and Transportation Commission also defines the costs that investor-
1974 owned utilities can recover, approves rates, sets service standards, and resolves
1975 customer complaints.

1976 ~~((A.))~~ Energy

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1977 ~~1.((1.))~~ Consistency with Land Use Plans

1978 ~~((State law mandates that electric and gas public service companies provide the same
1979 level of service on a uniform basis, regardless of location((:)) (Revised Code of
1980 Washington 80.20.110). Policies in this chapter encourage the utilities to prioritize
1981 capital improvements in a manner consistent with land use:~~

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1983 ~~F-301)) F-499 King County should work to ensure that ((E))energy providers'
1984 resource and facility plans ((should)) be consistent with the King County~~

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Comprehensive Plan and ~~((should))~~ provide for a reliable source of energy in the event of natural disaster or other potential threats of disruption to service.

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~~((Disruption of traffic due to public and private road projects frequently occurs in King County. Policies in this chapter support existing programs to notify utilities of upcoming projects to build, expand, or maintain county roads so utility and road construction can be coordinated. Distribution systems for gas, electric and telecommunications installation in new construction now have separate permits. Permit consolidation is desirable as a means to expedite review while protecting the environment.~~

F-302)) F-500 King County should coordinate public road construction and maintenance projects with utility construction and maintenance.

~~((Appropriate planning, such as increased housing density, transit-oriented development and walk-to-work housing can significantly reduce regional energy use over time. Similarly, land use regulation can support increased availability and use of renewable energy. For example, consideration of solar access in land use codes and building siting can increase the potential for solar energy use. Policies in this chapter encourage such energy-conscious development.~~

F-303)) F-501 King County ~~((should))~~ shall encourage land uses and development that will ~~reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the improvement of energy efficiency, and~~ should support the expansion of renewable energy resources through development regulations~~((, prudent variances))~~ and active incentive programs when the benefits of doing so outweigh the costs.

Environmental justice

~~The siting of hazardous utility infrastructure can have disproportionately negative impacts on communities already experiencing other existing and historical social, environmental, and economic inequities. King County's permit review process creates an opportunity to advance more equitable outcomes.~~

F-502 Results from an equity impact review shall be used as an important consideration to identify impacts and opportunities of ~~adding, expanding, or upgrading new, modified, or expanded~~ transmission and distribution lines, ~~siting new gas or hazardous liquid transmission pipelines, or new modified, or expanded~~ fossil fuel facilities, ~~hydroelectric generation facilities, and nonhydroelectric generation facilities~~. The County's equity and racial and social justice principles should be used to improve residents' access to the determinants of equity.

2028
2029

~~((2.))~~ Energy Efficiency, Conservation, and Alternative Energy Sources

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~~((King County Countywide Planning Policy CO-6 states that "aggressive conservation efforts shall be implemented to address the need for adequate supply for electrical energy and water resources, protect natural resources, and achieve improved air quality.")) King County has a continued commitment to energy efficiency, conservation, use and production of renewable resources, and quality enforcement of the energy code. ~~((Recent recognition of climate change and other negative impacts of energy infrastructure have brought the need to improve the ((c))County's energy use patterns and supplies into the forefront of policy discussions.))~~ King County's current energy use patterns and energy supplies could be modified and improved to reduce air pollution ~~((including))~~ and greenhouse gas emissions~~((,))~~, conserve non-renewable resources important to future generations, and ~~((help to))~~ limit the growth in energy costs.~~

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~~((F-304)) F-503 All King County departments and divisions shall use the Strategic Climate Action Plan, or successor plans, as the basis for strategic energy planning and direction, including development and adoption of strategic energy management, efficiency, and conservation programs in their operations.~~

~~((The Strategic Climate Action Plan sets the ((c))County's long term goal of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions from government operations, compared to a 2007 baseline, by at least at least 80((%)) percent by ((2050)) 2030. ((In order t))To accomplish this goal, the ((c))County is dedicated to reducing its energy use, which most heavily contributes to its greenhouse gas emissions. Included in the Strategic Climate Action Plan ((were)) are short term goals for energy reduction. ((For 2015, i))In its government operations for buildings and facilities, the county set a reduction goal of ((15%)) 25 percent by 2030 and 45 percent by 2050 for normalized net energy use as measured against the ((2015)) 2017 baseline. In its vehicle operations, the county set a ((reduction goal of at least 10% of its normalized net energy use, again measured against a 2007 baseline)) goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent by 2025 and 70 percent by 2030, compared to a 2017 baseline:~~

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To measure its progress in reducing facility energy consumption, the county uses the process of "normalizing" energy use, which provides a measure of the energy use per unit of service value delivered (units of energy / units of service delivered). Application of this methodology is typically adjusted for weather, with the Wastewater Treatment Division making adjustments according to weather and wastewater flow. Normalization is intended to reflect actual energy use reductions given varying weather conditions compared to the baseline:

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~~King County is a large producer of methane gas associated with landfills and wastewater treatment facilities it owns and operates. Because such gas can serve as a greenhouse gas-reducing substitute for fossil fuel natural gas, and become a feedstock for aviation fuels, maritime fuels, the generation of green hydrogen and for other beneficial purposes to help de-carbonize various industries, several of the energy policies in this subsection relate to this energy source:~~

~~((Reaching the specified energy reduction targets directly reduces the county's greenhouse gas emissions:~~

~~F-305)) F-504 King County shall plan for further reduction in its energy use from government operations by setting near- and long-term energy use and fossil fuel use reduction targets, consistent with its long-term goals of working to continuously reduce operating costs and environmental impacts, maximizing energy efficiency and minimizing waste.~~

~~((F-306)) F-505 King County shall maximize the ((production)) capture, use and marketing of renewable energy at its wastewater treatment plants and Cedar Hills Landfill, to the extent feasible and consistent with other County goals, and pursue other renewable energy generation projects where cost-effective.~~

~~((F-307)) F-506 King County ((should)) shall provide leadership in, and foster the development and increased use of, clean, renewable, and alternative fuel and energy technologies, such as anaerobic digestion and co-digestion of organic material to create energy sources that result in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use, with a particular emphasis on creating renewable natural gas.~~

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((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD

2098 ((F-308) King County shall:

- 2099 a. ~~Continue to increase the energy efficiency of county buses and~~
- 2100 ~~vehicles, through adoption and promotion of innovative~~
- 2101 ~~technology vehicles and greenhouse gas reducing fuels with a~~
- 2102 ~~focus on electric vehicles, all-electric battery buses and associated~~
- 2103 ~~infrastructure, where appropriate; and~~
- 2104 b. ~~Consistent with policy E-203, collaborate with other local~~
- 2105 ~~governments regionally, nationally and internationally to develop a~~
- 2106 ~~common approach to accounting for the greenhouse gas emissions~~
- 2107 ~~resulting from the operation of its public transportation system, for~~
- 2108 ~~offering carbon offsets or other environmental attributes for~~
- 2109 ~~purchase and for claiming rights to any greenhouse gas emissions~~
- 2110 ~~reduction attributes associated with its operation.~~

2111

2112 **F-308a) F-507** Consistent with Ordinance ((17974)) 18106, King County Metro

2113 Transit ((should implement a strategy to sell transit carbon offsets and

2114 other environmental attributes to)) shall make carbon offsets or

2115 environmental attributes available for purchase by individuals, public

2116 entities, and private entities, if doing so is likely to be financially

2117 beneficial to the department. ((To reduce their greenhouse gas

2118 emissions, the King County wastewater treatment division and solid

2119 waste division should consider purchasing transit carbon offsets from

2120 King County Metro Transit.)) Revenue from the sale of carbon offsets or

2121 environmental attributed attributes shall be used by the department

2122 solely for the purposes of reducing greenhouse gas emissions through

2123 mobility services or investments that reduce greenhouse emissions

2124 from transit operations.

2125

2126 ((In support of its environmental, long-term sustainability and energy security goals,

2127 King County will provide leadership by shifting to the use of renewable resources.

2128 Renewable resources include those sources listed in Revised Code of Washington

2129 19.285.030(20), now and as may be amended, as well as "service by-products", such as

2130 including methane gas generated from the operation of the county's landfill and

2131 wastewater treatment plants. Although renewable energy sources can be more

2132 expensive than traditional power sources on a per unit basis, careful choices of

2133 technology and expanded economic considerations including "triple bottom line"

2134 life-cycle cost analyses show that in proper applications the benefits of some renewable

2135 energy technologies already exceed their costs.

2136

2137 Additionally, subsidies and grants are available for some renewable power systems. For

2138 example, solar electric power is cost effective in some applications at county facilities

2139 and rapid cost changes in this technology will require regular reconsideration of its use

2140 as an addition or alternative to traditionally produced electricity.

2141

2142 **F-309) F-508** King County shall **prioritize efficient energy consumption and**

2143 **conservation and; maximize ((practical applications)) production and**

2144 **use of renewable natural gas (such as from wastewater or landfill gas),**

2145 **renewable electricity, and renewable heat, while ((production ((from**

2146 **renewable resources)) ensuring that land use decisions regarding siting**

2147 **of renewable energy facilities consider potential impacts to open**

2148 **space, agriculture, and housing needs.**

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2150 **((F-310) F-509** King County shall support the conversion of renewable resources

2151 and service by-products to energy for beneficial use ((consistent with

2152 E-208)). King County shall claim and/or generate economic benefit for

2153 any and all renewable energy and greenhouse gas reduction attributes

2154 resulting from renewable energy generation.

2155

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2156 ~~((King County, working with its utility partners, has a long and successful history of~~
2157 ~~energy efficiency and conservation projects. The combination of generally increasing~~
2158 ~~energy costs and climate change mitigation goals will require that the county~~
2159 ~~continuously increase its energy efficiency for many years to come.~~

2160
2161 **F-311) F-510** King County should encourage its energy utilities to provide
2162 **energy efficiency services ((and)), renewable energy options, and fossil**
2163 **fuel use reduction strategies** to all their customers. Additionally, the
2164 **County should encourage the state and energy utilities to mitigate the**
2165 **environmental and greenhouse gas emissions impacts of energy and,**
2166 **as conservation and ((alternative energy)) no- and low-carbon sources**
2167 **demonstrate capacity to address energy needs, phase out existing coal**
2168 **and other fossil fuel-based power plants, and replace such facilities**
2169 **with resource efficiency and renewable generation sources.**

2170
2171 ~~((To achieve energy goals already set and more aggressive goals expected in the future,~~
2172 ~~a coordinated, strategic approach to energy management and investment in energy~~
2173 ~~efficiency is being implemented in the county.))~~

2174
2175 ~~**((F-312** King County shall develop and adopt strategic energy management,~~
2176 ~~efficiency, and conservation programs in its own operations, including:~~
2177 **a. Consolidated energy accounting of ((c))County facilities to**
2178 **establish baseline energy performance for the ((c))County,**
2179 **benchmarking of facilities against comparable best practices where**
2180 **possible, setting goals for facility efficiency improvements, and**
2181 **measuring and reporting progress toward ((c))County energy**
2182 **goals;**
2183 **b. Fossil fuel elimination action plans;**
2184 **c. Purchase of 100 percent greenhouse gas neutral electricity for**
2185 **operations;**
2186 **d. Energy efficiency audits of all ((c))County facilities over 20,000**
2187 **square feet and the creation of action plans for reducing energy**
2188 **use at such facilities;**
2189 **((c))e. Energy management plans for energy-intensive or**
2190 **special-purpose ((c))County facilities such as wastewater treatment**
2191 **plants, correctional facilities, and transit bases that focus on**
2192 **least-cost management and that include specific approaches for**
2193 **each facility's use, as well as the production and sale of energy**
2194 **where appropriate;**
2195 **f. Capital portfolios managed to maximize greenhouse gas emissions**
2196 **reductions, including no new natural gas or fossil fuel powered**
2197 **equipment installed, with minor exceptions allowed;**
2198 **((d))g. Mandatory energy efficiency and resource use guidelines**
2199 **for operation and maintenance of all ((c))County-occupied facilities,**
2200 **while recognizing the unique operating requirements of specialty**
2201 **facilities;**
2202 **((e))h. Programs to encourage employees to implement energy-**
2203 **conserving measures at work; and**
2204 **((f))i. Incentives, including retaining a portion of energy cost**
2205 **savings, to ((c))County agencies and departments for achieving**
2206 **energy efficiency;**

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2207
2208 **F-313) F-511** King County should benchmark all applicable ((c))County buildings
2209 **as a basis for measuring energy efficiency improvements, using the**
2210 **Environmental Protection Agency Portfolio Manager Tool, where**
2211 **applicable.**

2212
2213 ~~**((F-314)) F-512** King County should purchase only certified energy-efficient~~
2214 ~~appliances and office equipment (such as ENERGY-STAR labeled~~
2215 ~~equipment) when available for specific equipment and shall require~~

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2216 consideration of energy efficiency and life-cycle costs in all
2217 procurement decisions as an element of determining the lowest
2218 responsive bids.
2219

2220 ~~((Meeting the County's energy goals will require a commitment to pursuing multiple
2221 funding strategies. Grants, loans, and utility rebates provide essential seed money for
2222 up-front investments in energy efficiency projects, and the County should seek them
2223 aggressively. County departments should use the county's Fund to Reduce Energy
2224 Demand loan program to fund cost effective energy and water efficiency projects that
2225 cannot otherwise be funded.
2226~~

2227 **F-315)) F-513 King County shall use its Resource Life Cycle Cost Assessment
2228 calculator to evaluate ~~((energy projects))~~ all capital projects that involve
2229 equipment that use energy to determine if the operations and
2230 maintenance cost savings over the life of ~~((an energy))~~ the project's
2231 assets exceed the implementation costs, taking into account all
2232 identified costs associated with energy efficiency and renewable
2233 energy ~~((projects)).~~**

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2234 ~~**((F-316** Efficient energy consumption, conservation, the use of renewable
2235 technologies, and energy responsible land use decisions should be a
2236 priority in King County. King County promotes the maximum use of
2237 energy conservation and renewable energy resources now, while
2238 leaving options for increasing conservation and renewable
2239 technologies in the future.))~~

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2240 District energy systems provide space and water heating and/or cooling to multiple
2241 buildings, through pipes originating from a central heating or cooling source - generally
2242 a central energy plant. ~~((King County government is unique in that it also has the ability
2243 to serve as a district heat supplier through the potential for buildings to utilize the
2244 energy value of the warmer-than-ambient water in the County's almost 400 miles of
2245 wastewater conveyance.)) Centralizing the generation of heat and/or cooling through a
2246 district plant and/or delivering energy content to multiple facilities through a
2247 distribution network can eliminate the need for equipment in each individual building.
2248~~

2249 District heating and cooling plants can be constructed with energy efficiency in mind.
2250 Central plants that provide combined heat and power can offer increases in energy
2251 efficiency compared to on-site heat generation in individual buildings, by sharing
2252 heating and cooling resources, and can be an effective method of cutting carbon
2253 emissions.
2254

2255 ~~((The)) Technologies used to generate energy from wastewater are emerging, and offer
2256 the potential to achieve environmental and economic benefits through the recovery of
2257 resources from wastewater. King County government is unique in that it also has the
2258 ability to serve as a district heat supplier through the potential for buildings to utilize the
2259 energy value of the warmer-than-ambient water in the County's almost 400 miles of
2260 wastewater conveyance.
2261~~

2262 ~~**((F-317)) F-514 King County should pursue district energy opportunities, such as
2263 combined heat and power and wastewater heat extraction, to
2264 maximize resource recovery efforts, in ways that can offer economic
2265 and environmental benefits to the ((c))County and community at large.
2266 ~~((This ((will)) shall be done by pursuing opportunities such as
2267 encouraging the use of wastewater for heat extraction and other forms
2268 of energy generation in the ((c))County's wastewater conveyance
2269 system.~~**~~

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2273 ~~F-318~~ ~~King County should pursue combined heat and power district energy~~
2274 ~~opportunities in its own facilities, as well as in partnership with other~~
2275 ~~public and private entities, that result in reduced energy consumption,~~
2276 ~~greenhouse gas reductions, and financial savings to the ((c))County.~~
2277

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2278 ~~((F-319~~ ~~To implement the Countywide Planning Policy of aggressive~~
2279 ~~conservation and promotion of regional air quality, King County~~
2280 ~~should:~~
2281 ~~a. Effectively enforce the energy code as part of the general permit~~
2282 ~~process;~~
2283 ~~b. Provide density incentives through the zoning code for~~
2284 ~~energy-efficient developments;~~
2285 ~~c. Continue to improve the fuel efficiency and emissions of the~~
2286 ~~county-owned fleet of motor vehicles;~~
2287 ~~d. Work with utilities to become a model of energy efficiency in~~
2288 ~~facilities owned or operated by Metropolitan King County; and~~
2289 ~~e. Seek cost-effective ways to capture energy from county operations~~
2290 ~~which other-wise would be lost, such as methane gas from landfills~~
2291 ~~and sewage treatment.~~
2292

2293 Methane generated from sewage treatment plants and landfills is a potential source of
2294 energy. In addition, methane is a potent greenhouse gas emissions. As a result,
2295 capturing methane from these facilities and putting it to a productive use provides a
2296 dual benefit:))
2297

2298 ~~F-515~~ ~~King County should support new energy resources and technologies~~
2299 ~~that reduce energy use, support a resilient electrical grid, decarbonize~~
2300 ~~energy sources, and electrify energy use in the building and~~
2301 ~~transportation sectors. In supporting these efforts, King County~~
2302 ~~should:~~
2303 ~~a. Allow for siting of green energy and distributed energy resources,~~
2304 ~~while considering appropriate use of land and associated impacts,~~
2305 ~~including protection of designated Natural Resource Lands and~~
2306 ~~open spaces;~~
2307 ~~b. Accommodate the use of green energy and distributed energy~~
2308 ~~resources, such as microgrids, in new and redeveloped properties;~~
2309 ~~c. Reduce barriers to new and upgraded substations, transmission~~
2310 ~~facilities, and the distribution system, for infrastructure that is~~
2311 ~~needed to achieve County greenhouse gas reductions targets;~~
2312 ~~d. Encourage and support the integration of new technologies and~~
2313 ~~fuel sources;~~
2314 ~~e. Minimize negative impacts on and maximize benefits for frontline~~
2315 ~~communities resulting from related projects;~~
2316 ~~f. Support equitable engagement strategies during project planning~~
2317 ~~to actively solicit public participation and input from impacted~~
2318 ~~frontline communities;~~
2319 ~~g. Support equitable opportunities for frontline communities to~~
2320 ~~participate in distributed energy resources;~~
2321 ~~h. Focus especially on areas that are subject to frequent power~~
2322 ~~outages;~~
2323 ~~i. Partner with first responders to ensure adequate safety measures~~
2324 ~~are in place for people and the environment;~~
2325 ~~j. Support efforts by utilities and other entities to advance these~~
2326 ~~outcomes; and~~
2327 ~~ki. Review and update development regulations periodically to ensure~~
2328 ~~that they appropriately support new energy resources and~~
2329 ~~technologies and mitigate for associated impacts.~~
2330

2331 The moderate climate of the Puget Sound region provides an opportunity for significant
2332 use of solar energy. Relatively low heating and cooling needs in much of the county

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2333 allow for the potential for passive and active solar technologies to meet heating and
2334 cooling needs with proper building design. Similarly, the mild climate and available
2335 solar energy allows for growing ~~((some))~~ of food year~~((r))~~-round, potentially decreasing
2336 the use of fossil fuels for a portion of residents' food needs. This opportunity for local
2337 investments in passive and active solar design and ~~((in))~~ local food production can only
2338 be realized if building and neighborhood site design provides for solar orientation and
2339 through the development of regulations to protect solar access.
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2341 ~~((Although permit staff attempt to accommodate solar design, c))~~Current regulations do
2342 not typically take into account solar orientation or solar access protection from
2343 development on neighboring properties. ~~((In addition, regulations, such as b))~~Building
2344 height and building setback allowances, road access requirements, and protections for
2345 critical areas, stormwater, and native vegetation, may limit suitable locations for
2346 providing solar access. Requirements to create and maintain view corridors may or may
2347 not provide solar gain. ~~((In order t))~~To protect solar access, landowners or developers
2348 enter into voluntary solar easements. As an alternative, some municipalities have
2349 incorporated measures to protect solar access in their comprehensive plans and
2350 development regulations. King County ~~((should study these measures and))~~ continues
2351 to evaluate and implement best practices in this area in support of the ~~((c))~~County's
2352 larger sustainability goals.
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~~((F-321)) F-516 King County should encourage~~((s))~~ the:~~

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- 2355 a. ~~((the u))~~Use of solar energy;
- 2356 b. ~~((the s))~~Siting of roads, lots, landscaping and buildings for improved solar orientation;
- 2357 c. ~~((the u))~~Use of passive solar design and active solar technologies;
- 2358 ~~((and))~~
- 2359 d. ~~((the p))~~Protection of solar access; and
- 2360 e. ~~The p~~Pursuit and allocation of outside funding to support access to solar energy for frontline communities.

~~((F-322)) F-517 King County should consider passive and active solar energy collection systems in all new facility designs and major rehabilitations. Solar electric generation systems interconnected with local utilities should be employed where cost-benefit analysis shows net benefits, considering emergency power potential and capitalizing on utility net~~((r))~~ metering and power production credit programs.~~

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2371 ~~((Gas and electric utilities offer low-income energy assistance programs. All feasible actions to increase the availability of conservation measures to ((low-income residents)) frontline communities should be pursued, such as public-private cooperation and combining existing rehabilitation efforts with installation of energy efficiency measures:))~~

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~~F-323 King County should expand the availability of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and fossil fuel use reduction and transition measures to ((low-income residents)) frontline communities most likely to be disproportionately impacted by climate change:))~~

~~((3.7)) Electric Utilities~~

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2381 The four-state ~~((Seventh Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Plan (also called the 6th Power Plan) produced in 2016))~~ 2021 Northwest Power Plan by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council provides a blueprint for the development of electricity resources in the region. Bonneville Power Administration and other federal agencies, the region's utilities, state and local government, private businesses, and the people of the Northwest all participate in implementing the council's goals. Electric utilities serving unincorporated King County include Bonneville Power Administration~~((, Seattle~~

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2388 City Light, Snohomish Public Utility District)) and Tanner Electric Cooperative. Puget
2389 Sound Energy provides both electricity and natural gas service.

2390
2391 A number of significant events in the past years have influenced the electric power
2392 business in King County's power markets. These include:

2393 1) Ongoing very large expenditures by hydropower utilities (notably Bonneville Power
2394 Administration) to mitigate salmon habitat losses caused by dams;

2395 2) The recognition of human-caused climate change, driven mostly by carbon dioxide
2396 release – a significant portion of which can be attributed to electric power
2397 generation; and

2398 3) The passage of ~~((State Initiative 937 codified at))~~ the Energy Independence Act in
2399 Chapter 19.285 Revised Code of Washington ~~((chapter 19.285)),~~ requiring utilities
2400 to acquire an increasing portion of their electric supplies from qualified renewable
2401 resources (a ~~((so-called))~~ renewable resource portfolio standard).

2402
2403 Hydropower is the largest single source of ~~((the))~~ existing electrical power, with the
2404 county's major electric resources located outside King County. These include the Grand
2405 Coulee, North Bonneville, and Ross Dams. No new large-dam sites are available in the
2406 region, making hydropower a very small part of ~~((projected))~~ any new regional power-
2407 generating resources.

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2408
2409 ~~((Existing hydropower facilities in King County include Snoqualmie Falls, Cedar Falls,
2410 Twin Falls, Weeks Falls, and Black Creek. Proposed projects include new facilities at
2411 Hancock Creek and Calligan Creek (both are tributaries of the North Fork Snoqualmie),
2412 Martin Creek near Stevens Pass, and Black Canyon on the North Fork Snoqualmie. Few
2413 if any additional projects beyond these listed are expected to be built in King County,
2414 and some of those listed above, although licensed, may not be built.))~~

2415
2416 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licenses such projects, but in doing so must
2417 consider existing plans and policies of public and private jurisdictions. While power
2418 generation benefits the public, care must be taken to ensure that small hydroelectric
2419 projects are constructed in an environmentally sound manner, directing new, small
2420 hydropower facilities, for example, to streams that do not have anadromous fish.
2421 Construction and operation must also be consistent with the intended functions and
2422 uses of forestlands, where most small hydroelectric projects are located.

2423
2424 The ~~((Northwest Power and Conservation Council's ((seventh plan))~~ 2021 Northwest
2425 Power Plan indicates no significant addition of hydropower resources is projected. The
2426 Northwest Power and Conservation Council plan also identifies Protected Areas ~~((to))~~
2427 that protect some streams and wildlife habitats from hydroelectric development where
2428 such development would have major negative impacts that could not be reversed. In
2429 these areas, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council finds that mitigation
2430 techniques cannot assure that all adverse impacts of hydroelectric development on
2431 these fish and wildlife populations will be mitigated; that even small hydroelectric
2432 projects may have unacceptable individual and cumulative impacts on these resources;
2433 and protecting these resources and habitats from hydroelectric development is
2434 consistent with an adequate, efficient, economical, and reliable power supply.

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2435
2436 Electrical utilities supplying King County are required by Washington State law to plan
2437 for their electric power resources in an integrated resource planning process very
2438 similar to the process ~~((that the Northwest Power and Conservation Council))~~ used for
2439 ~~((its ((6th))~~ the 2021 Northwest Power Plan. ~~((County suppliers Puget Sound Energy,
2440 Seattle City Light and Snohomish County Public Utility District))~~ These are required by
2441 state law to regularly assess their power needs, supply strategies, and impacts using
2442 Integrated Resource Plans.

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~~((The passage of the 1937 renewable resource portfolio standard has increased the demand (and attendant value of) qualified renewable resources. 1937, codified as the Energy Independence Act under 19.285 Revised Code of Washington, specifically excludes new freshwater hydroelectric projects from the definition of renewable for purposes of qualifying energy credits, with the exception of incremental efficiency improvements to certain existing facilities.~~

~~**F-324)) F-518 To address the cumulative effects of multiple energy facilities, King County should continue to participate in the state and federal processes for licensing, authorizing, or certifying, and any such renewals, of existing and proposed power generation projects within King County. King County’s review of individual projects in the state and federal processes should consider consistency with designated land uses and environmental protection goals. Specifically, power generation projects should:**~~

- ~~a. Have climate change impacts considered and mitigated to the greatest extent practical;~~
- ~~b. Be consistent with, and preferably directly incorporated in, utility integrated Resource Plans;~~
- ~~c. Use renewable resources to the greatest extent practical;~~
- ~~d. Include public engagement;~~
- ~~e. Not significantly interfere with commercial forestry operations;~~
- ~~f. Be located and operated in a manner such that impacts to salmonid fish and wildlife are minimized;~~
- ~~g. Avoid unstable and erosion-prone areas;~~
- ~~h. Include performance bonding to fund erosion control;~~
- ~~i. Provide full mitigation for construction and operation impacts;~~
- ~~j. Avoid, to the extent ((practicable)) feasible, diminishing scenic values;~~
- ~~k. Incorporate adequate public safety measures; and~~
- ~~l. In the case of hydropower, not be located within a Protected Area as designated by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.~~

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~~**((F-325)) F-519 King County ((and the)) should work with utilities ((should)) to identify and preserve corridors, consistent with the Growth Management Act goal of focusing growth within the Urban Growth Area, to accommodate future electric power transmission and distribution lines. Corridor designation should include:**~~

- ~~a. Identification of appropriate shared uses and recognition of the values provided by nonutility uses, such as recreation;~~
- ~~b. Recognition of county roads as utility corridors; and~~
- ~~c. Evaluation of proposed facility plans on a system-wide basis, rather than project-by-project.~~

~~**((F-325a) Results from the King County Equity Impact Review Tool will be used as an important consideration to identify and assess impacts and opportunities of adding, expanding or upgrading transmission and distribution lines and the county’s Equity and Social Justice principles should be used to improve residents’ access to the determinants of equity.**~~

~~**F-326)) F-520 When new, expanded, or upgraded transmission is required, use of existing corridors that have above-ground utilities should be evaluated first. King County should facilitate appropriate corridor sharing among different utility types and owners.**~~

~~**((F-327)) F-521 New electrical distribution lines should be installed underground where reasonably feasible and not a health or safety concern. ((The**~~

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~~county should encourage underground placement of existing distribution lines through such tools as local improvement districts.))~~

~~((Public concern exists over the potential health effects of electrical power lines. The concern focuses on the effects of extremely low level electromagnetic fields. Seattle-King County Department of Public Health currently responds to inquiries from residents about extremely low level electromagnetic fields and keeps abreast of current research. The following policy recognizes the inconclusive nature of the data concerning extremely low level electromagnetic fields and the need to have an informed citizenry through public disclosure of available research about the potential health risks. Scientific evidence to-date does not support firm conclusions about the existence of adverse health effects related to extremely low level electromagnetic fields.~~

~~**F-328** King County will monitor scientific research on potential human health effects of extremely low frequency electric and magnetic fields. If federal or state agencies promulgate rules to reduce exposure to extremely low level electric and magnetic fields through changes in the use of appliances, construction practices, the location of electrical infrastructure or other activities the county shall inform its residents, in adherence with the Executive Order and other applicable policies on written language and translation processes, and take appropriate actions.))~~

~~4.)) Natural Gas~~

~~((Generally, the most thermally efficient use of natural gas is in "direct applications." The choice of fuel shall be based on market conditions and the prudently weighted greenhouse gas emissions impacts of using natural gas as compared with alternatives, with the customer comparing various fuels.)) King County works to reduce fossil fuel natural gas use in the built environment through a combination of energy use reduction, the use of renewable natural gas, and conversion to high-efficiency heating systems (such as heat pumps) that use electricity. Many homes and businesses in King County do not have the choice of natural gas, ~~((however,))~~ even within the Urban Growth Area.~~

King County has by far the largest resource of biologically produced methane in the region, from its wastewater treatment facilities and its solid waste landfills. King County should continue to develop and promote the development of biologically~~((r))~~ derived sources of fuel gas ~~((i.e.))~~ renewable natural gas, research technologies and opportunities to utilize low methane concentration gas from closed landfills for beneficial uses, and support the efficient marketing and use of such gas. Any renewable energy production associated with methane or biologically derived materials should consider other potential uses of relevant resources, such as the use of edible food to reduce hunger.

King County is a large producer of methane gas associated with landfills and wastewater treatment facilities it owns and operates. Because such methane gas can serve as a greenhouse gas-reducing substitute for fossil fuel natural gas, and become a feedstock for aviation fuels, maritime fuels, the generation of green hydrogen and for other beneficial purposes to help de-carbonize various industries, several of the energy policies in this subsection relate to this energy source.

~~((F-329)) F-522 King County should work to remove barriers to the availability and efficient use of renewable natural gas.~~

~~((F-330) King County ~~((will)) shall~~ provide leadership in and promotion of the use of renewable natural gas to minimize climate change impacts, including that from its own sources, as a substitute for fossil-sourced~~

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~~natural gas where practical, while discouraging the use of human food feedstocks for the creation of renewable natural gas.))~~

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~~5.((6.))~~ Natural Gas Distribution Systems

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Natural gas pipelines fall into two major categories: gas transmission lines that transport natural gas from production fields to ~~((local))~~ distribution companies, and distribution systems that deliver natural gas from transmission pipelines to retail customers. ~~((The federal government may define certain parts of the natural gas distribution system that serve large volume gas users as part of the transmission system.))~~ Distribution systems for transporting natural gas are fundamentally different from transmission gas pipelines~~((,))~~ and should be regulated based on their design, use, and location.

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Gas distribution systems ~~((are owned and operated by ((local)) distribution utilities. Such systems))~~ consist of the pipelines that deliver natural gas to end users together with intermediate supply lines. The distribution system is constructed incrementally, with ~~the~~ addition of new segments and ~~the~~ upgrading of existing lines ~~occurring~~ in numerous small projects. The distribution system is a network that is primarily located in road rights-of-way, where service is available. ~~((local))~~ Distribution companies are subject to the comprehensive safety regulations administered by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission under state law and regulations and by the ~~((federal))~~ United States Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety under federal law and regulations. The rates and services of investor-owned utilities also are subject to comprehensive regulation by the Utilities and Transportation Commission under state law and regulations.

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~~((F-341)) F-523 King County ((recognizes that the)) shall use the franchise agreements process to require gas distribution ((system is primarily located in road rights-of-way)) utilities comply with county, state, and federal safety and health regulations.~~

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~~((F-342)) F-524 In the interest of safety and reliability of the natural gas distribution pipeline systems, the ((c)) County should take steps to protect and preserve the signs that mark pipelines.~~

2591
2592
2593
2594
2595

~~((F-343)) F-525 Structures designed for human occupancy ((shall)) should not be located within gas distribution pipeline rights-of-way and should be set back from the pipeline to protect public health, safety, and property. No structures shall be located over the pipeline.~~

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~~((F-344) Permit requirements shall require excavators to ensure adequate protection of any facilities that are encountered during their work. This shall include but not be limited to adhering to the foreign facility owners requirements for separation and backfill, developing joint plans when drilling or boring parallel to foreign facilities, and potholing all facilities that will be crossed by drilling or boring.))~~

2603

~~6.((5.))~~ Hazardous Liquid and Gas Transmission Pipelines

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2611

Part of the fossil fuel system is the movement of hazardous liquid and gas by transmission pipelines. Hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines, as defined by Revised Code of Washington 81.88.010 and Washington Administrative Code 480-93-005, respectively, provide a vital service of transporting hazardous materials from one location to another. Long-distance transmission pipelines move a variety of hazardous materials, including crude oil, petroleum products, natural gas, and hazardous liquids~~((,))~~ such as anhydrous ammonia. Pipeline rupture or failure can result in release of these materials, which are highly flammable, explosive, or toxic. The policies in this

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

2612 chapter identify public values and goals to ~~((assure))~~ ensure that the transmission of
2613 hazardous materials by pipeline address public health and safety.

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2614
2615 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regulates the location, construction, and
2616 operational conditions of interstate natural gas pipelines through its certification
2617 process. The state and federal government regulate the location, construction, and
2618 operational conditions of hazardous liquid and intrastate gas pipelines through the
2619 Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. In its review of pipeline applications, however,
2620 the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council must determine whether the pipelines are
2621 consistent with ~~((c))~~ County land use plans and zoning codes. Thus, King County's
2622 authority to regulate the location of pipelines is through the comprehensive plan and
2623 development regulations.

2624
2625 ~~((F-334)) F-526 King County recognizes that federal and state regulatory programs
2626 govern the design, construction, and operation of hazardous liquid and
2627 gas transmission pipelines. King County's land use designations,
2628 zoning classifications, and development regulations should be focused
2629 on increasing safety and reducing environmental impacts of
2630 transmission pipelines regulated by the federal and state government.
2631 King County shall actively engage in federal and state review processes
2632 to identify local impacts and risks and advocate for safety and
2633 environmental protections.~~

2634
2635 ~~((F-332)) F-527 Any new, modified, or expanded hazardous liquid and gas
2636 transmission pipelines proposed for construction in King County shall
2637 meet the County's development regulations, including but not limited
2638 to, King County's zoning code, building code, grading code, and
2639 shoreline management code. Proposals for modifications, such as
2640 regular maintenance or changes required to address hazards or comply
2641 with federal or state safety requirements, shall be clearly distinguished
2642 from proposals to modify or expand facility capacity or uses.~~

2643
2644 King County anticipates that few new hazardous liquid or gas transmission pipelines will
2645 be constructed in the near future. However, as existing pipelines age and the
2646 relationship between resources, refineries, and markets changes over time, new
2647 pipelines will need to be constructed. Hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines
2648 are best constructed away from locations where large numbers of people assemble.
2649 King County recognizes ~~((however,))~~ that under some circumstances ~~((,))~~ new gas
2650 transmission pipelines may need to locate in densely populated areas as the only
2651 practical alternative to meet the demand for service.

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2652
2653 ~~((F-332a)) Results from the King County Equity Impact Review Tool will be used as
2654 an important consideration to identify impacts and opportunities of
2655 siting new gas or hazardous liquid transmission pipelines and the
2656 county's Equity and Social Justice principles should be used to improve
2657 residents' access to the determinants of equity.~~

2658
2659 ~~F-333)) F-528 New hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines should be
2660 located away from high-density residential zones, ~~((Urban))~~
2661 unincorporated ~~((A))~~ activity centers, neighborhood business centers,
2662 community ~~((and B))~~ business ~~((C))~~ centers, ~~((O))~~ office ~~((P))~~ parks, sports
2663 fields, schools and day care centers, or other land uses where large
2664 numbers of people would assemble.~~

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2665
2666 ~~((F-334)) When new, expanded or upgraded hazardous liquid or gas
2667 transmission pipelines are required, use of existing corridors should be
2668 evaluated first. King County should facilitate appropriate corridor
2669 sharing among different utility types and owners.~~

2670

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

2671 **F-335)) F-529** Hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines should not be
2672 located in areas susceptible to soil disturbance or liquefaction or in
2673 aquifer recharge areas. When it is impractical to avoid such areas,
2674 special engineering precautions should be taken to protect public
2675 health, safety, and welfare.
2676

2677 ~~((It is essential to map the location of existing hazardous liquid and gas transmission
2678 pipelines within King County so that developers know where they are and who to call for
2679 information before construction begins. Accurate maps will assist King County in
2680 reviewing land use applications for land uses located near pipelines.))~~

2681 ~~**F-336** King County should map the location of existing and new hazardous
2682 liquid and gas transmission pipelines. Maps shall not substitute the
2683 one-call locating system and shall not be used for any construction or
2684 maintenance activity.~~

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2685 ~~((Risks to life and property can be minimized by keeping land uses a safe distance from
2686 hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines. Pipelines transport a variety of
2687 materials, some of which flow under the force of gravity. While standard setbacks do
2688 not assure protection from materials that have the ability to migrate, setbacks may
2689 protect life and property from hazardous materials that are highly flammable, explosive
2690 or toxic. Limiting the allowable uses within pipeline rights-of-way can further reduce
2691 risks to life and property.~~

2692 ~~**F-337)) F-530** Structures designed for human occupancy ~~((shall))~~ should not be
2693 located within hazardous liquid or gas transmission pipeline rights-of-
2694 way and should be set back from the pipeline to protect public health,
2695 safety and property. No structures shall be located over the pipeline.
2696 Land uses shall be restricted within hazardous liquid and gas
2697 transmission pipeline rights-of-way. Passive recreational uses, such as
2698 hiking trails, may be allowed if the risk to life and property is assessed
2699 and determined to be minimal.~~

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2700 ~~**((F-338** Land uses shall be restricted within hazardous liquid and gas
2701 transmission pipeline rights-of-way. Passive recreational uses, such as
2702 hiking trails, may be allowed if the risk to life and property is assessed
2703 and determined to be minimal.~~

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2704 ~~((Pipeline failure can result from damage caused by excavation near existing pipelines.
2705 Many existing pipelines initially were constructed in less-populated areas with little
2706 development. As demand for land grows, the risk of conflict between existing pipelines
2707 and land development increases.~~

2708 ~~**F-339** King County should promote the safety and reliability of the hazardous
2709 liquid and natural gas transmission pipeline systems by requiring
2710 developers, contractors, and excavators to notify the state, pipeline
2711 operators and utilities through the one-number locator service, before
2712 beginning excavation or construction.~~

2713 ~~**F-340)) F-531** In the interest of safety and reliability of the hazardous liquid and
2714 natural gas interstate transmission pipeline systems, the ~~((c))~~County
2715 should take steps to protect and preserve the signs that mark pipelines.~~

2716 **7.) Crude Oil Transport by Rail, Truck and Vessel**

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2717 Part of the fossil fuel system is the transport of crude oil by rail, truck, and vessel. King
2718 County and local governments across the United States are facing rapid and significant
2719 increases in train traffic carrying crude oil. ~~((According to the Washington State~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

2727 Department of Ecology's 2014 Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study, the volume of
2728 crude oil transported by rail across the US increased 42-fold from 2008 to 2013:
2729

2730 In Washington State, shipments increased from zero in 2011 to approximately 19 unit
2731 trains a week in 2014, each carrying as much as 3 million gallons of Bakken crude,
2732 mostly destined to refineries in Washington and California. If the proposed facilities and
2733 refinery expansions to accommodate rail imports are permitted and fully built over the
2734 next few years, the weekly unit train number could jump to 137 or more. Congress's
2735 repeal of the export ban on U.S.-produced oil in 2015 has the potential to further
2736 increase transportation of Bakken crude through our state.))
2737

2738))Oil trains travel through densely populated areas of King County and pass through a
2739 century-old tunnel under downtown Seattle. Many of the trains carry highly volatile
2740 Bakken ((E))crude oil, creating risks for catastrophic explosions and loss of life and
2741 property in the event of a derailment. The passage of mile-long unit trains delay traffic
2742 and emergency vehicle access at numerous at-grade crossing.
2743

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2744 Oil train routes cross numerous rivers, streams, and aquifers and trace the Puget Sound
2745 shoreline, putting aquatic resources and Endangered Species Act-listed salmon at risk.
2746 Despite facing impacts and risks from oil transport by rail((r)) and burdens for
2747 emergency planning and response, local governments like King County have almost no
2748 authority to require disclosure of hazards, establish safety standards for trains passing
2749 through their jurisdiction, or require railroads and shipper to pay for mitigation of
2750 impacts.
2751

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2752 King County Office of Emergency Management acts as a regional convener of public
2753 and private emergency management entities to plan for, mitigate, and respond to oil
2754 train spills and explosions. Additionally, King County convenes and leads a coalition of
2755 ((more than 160 elected)) ~~Indian tribal, state, and local; state, and Indian tribal~~ leaders
2756 known as the Safe Energy Leadership Alliance to advocate for assessment of the full
2757 costs and risks of oil and coal transport and coal export on our regional, local and Indian
2758 tribal economies, environment, health, and cultural resources.
2759

2760 **~~((F-344a)) F-532 King County ((Office of Emergency Management)) shall convene~~**
2761 **~~local emergency managers, first responders, railroads, and others to~~**
2762 **~~prepare for and mitigate the increasing risk of oil spills, fire, and~~**
2763 **~~explosions posed by oil transport by rail, truck, and vessel. This work~~**
2764 **~~should consider potential risks from related fossil fuel facilities.~~**
2765

2766 **~~((F-344b)) F-533~~** **King County should advocate for environmental reviews of**
2767 **proposed oil terminals and other related fossil fuel facilities in**
2768 **Washington State to assess and mitigate for area-wide, cumulative risks**
2769 **and impacts to public safety, infrastructure, traffic, health, water**
2770 **supplies, and aquatic resources from increased oil transport by rail,**
2771 **truck, and vessel.**
2772

2773 **~~((F-344c)) F-534 King County should collaborate with ((local and)) Indian tribal and~~**
2774 **~~local~~ governments to jointly advocate for stronger federal and state**
2775 **disclosure requirements for hazardous materials being transported by**
2776 **rail, safety requirements and speed limits for tank cars, minimum**
2777 **liability coverage for railroads and oil shippers, and financial support**
2778 **for increased local emergency planning and response to oil spills, fires,**
2779 **and explosions.**
2780

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2781 **~~((F-344d)) F-535 King County land use policies, development regulations, and~~**
2782 **~~permitting and environmental review processes related to fossil fuel~~**
2783 **~~facilities shall be designed to:~~**
2784 **~~a. ((p))Protect public health, safety, and welfare;~~**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

- 2785 b. ~~((m))~~Mitigate and prepare for disasters;
- 2786 c. ~~((p))~~Protect and preserve natural systems;
- 2787 d. ~~((m))~~Manage impacts on public services and infrastructure; and
- 2788 e. ~~((r))~~Reduce impacts of climate change.

~~((F-344e)) King County shall thoroughly review the full scope of potential impacts of proposals for new, modified, or expanded fossil fuel facilities. Fossil fuel facilities include commercial facilities used primarily to receive, store, refine, process, transfer, wholesale trade, or transport fossil fuels, such as, but not limited to bulk terminals, bulk storage facilities, bulk refining, and bulk handling facilities.~~

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~~F-344f)) F-536~~ When reviewing proposals for new, modified or expanded fossil fuel facilities, King County shall require comprehensive environmental assessment, and early and continuous public notice and comment opportunities. King County shall only approve proposals for new, modified, or expanded facilities when:

- a. The proposed facility can confine or mitigate all operational impacts;
- b. The facility can adequately mitigate conflicts with adjacent land uses;
- c. The full scope of environmental impacts, including life cycle greenhouse gas emissions and public health, have been evaluated and appropriately conditioned or mitigated as necessary, consistent with the County's substantive State Environmental Policy Act authority;
- d. The applicant ~~((must comply))~~ ~~has complied~~can comply with applicable federal and state regulations, including the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered Species Act;
- e. The applicant has demonstrated early, meaningful, and robust consultation with ~~Indian tribes,~~ the public, ~~and surrounding property owners~~~~((, and with Indian tribes))~~ to assess impacts to ~~Indian tribal treaty-protected cultural and fisheries resources; and~~
- f. Risks to public health and public safety can be mitigated.

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~~((F-344g)) Results from the King County Equity Impact Review Tool shall be used as an important consideration to identify and mitigate impacts of new, modified, or expanded fossil fuel facilities. The Equity Impact Review should take into consideration the potential effects of a new, modified or expanded fossil fuel facility on the health of a population, and how those effects may be different within a population.}}~~

~~F-344h)) King County shall ~~((establish))~~ implement a periodic review process for fossil fuel facilities. The periodic review shall be a part of King County's ongoing enforcement and inspections of fossil fuel facilities, and to assure compliance with applicable conditions, mitigations, and the most up-to-date safety and public health standards. The periodic review process should, subject to applicable law:~~

- a. Provide opportunities for public review and comment;
- b. Evaluate whether the facility is in compliance with current federal, state, and County regulations and implementation of industry-standard best management practices; and
- c. Allow King County to modify, add, or remove permit conditions to address new circumstances and/or unanticipated fossil fuel facility-generated impacts.

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~~F-344i)) F-537~~ King County shall require ~~((L))~~local distribution companies that convey fossil fuels in King County ~~((shall))~~ to prepare and submit a greenhouse gas impact analysis when applying for a new utility

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

2844 franchise agreement or an extension or renewal of an existing utility
2845 franchise agreement.

2846 ~~((B.))~~J. Telecommunications

2847 ~~((1.))~~ Telecommunications))

2848 Various companies provide telecommunications services throughout unincorporated
2849 King County, including voice, data, and video on various mediums such as wire, fiber
2850 optic, or radio wave. Effective telecommunications services promote and enhance
2851 individual information exchange, contribute to a robust regional economy, and afford
2852 numerous public services, including delivery of emergency services, education, and
2853 opportunities for community involvement.

2854
2855 Telecommunication networks are privately owned, publicly regulated entities that are
2856 driven by market forces more than statutory requirements. The County has limited
2857 regulatory control of telecommunication service providers, ~~except .~~ However, its
2858 regulation of in rights-of-way and associated franchise agreements with those
2859 companies that help ensure technical quality, protect customer rights, and support
2860 public services.

2861
2862 Telecommunications systems will need to grow to continue to support government,
2863 business, resident, education, health, service sector, and mobile communication needs,
2864 as well as to respond to new technologies. Telecommunication technologies ~~((are
2865 changing))~~ change rapidly and will continue to change during the horizon of this plan.
2866 The future telecommunication system ~~((may make little distinction between cable,
2867 telephone and cellular))~~ will build off of the existing telecommunication infrastructure,
2868 while utilizing an expanded range of radio frequencies transmitted through antennas to
2869 improve capacity and access. ~~((Telecommunication services include voice, data, video
2870 and other communication services on various mediums including, but not limited to,
2871 wire, fiber optic or radio wave. Effective telecommunications services are critical to
2872 residents in several ways. They promote and enhance individual information exchange,
2873 contribute to a robust regional economy, and afford numerous public services,
2874 including delivery of emergency services, education and opportunities for community
2875 involvement.))~~

2876
2877 Telecommunications services are regulated by several entities, including the Federal
2878 Communications Commission and the Washington Utilities and Transportation
2879 Commission. King County has some regulatory authority over telecommunications
2880 services through franchises and the development approval process.

2881 ~~King County's 2020 Broadband Access Study states that, for "many in the region, King
2882 County is a great place to live, learn, work and play. Yet the region has deep, persistent,
2883 and widening inequities - most visible by race and place - that threaten the collective
2884 prosperity, where everyone's basic needs are met, and everyone has access to
2885 economic opportunity. This holds true for Digital Equity, in which everyone has the
2886 technological access and knowledge needed for full participation in our society,
2887 democracy and economy. Digital Equity is increasingly necessary for civic and cultural
2888 participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services. Regional
2889 collaboration on digital equity solutions with public, private, and civic partners offers an
2890 opportunity for change." Consistent with King County's equity and racial and social
2891 justice goals, the County is working to advance Digital Equity, such as increasing
2892 internet access as discussed later in this section;~~

2893

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

2894 ~~((F-345)) F-538 King County shall encourage ((F))telecommunication services ((are~~
2895 ~~to)) shall be encouraged ((as a means)) to mitigate the transportation~~
2896 ~~impact of development and growth, including ((G))greenhouse ((G))gas~~
2897 ~~((E))emissions.~~

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2898
2899 ~~((F-346)) F-539 King County should encourage((s-the)) telecommunication service~~
2900 ~~providers to engage in long-term planning for telecommunications~~
2901 ~~construction, reconstruction, and facility upgrades, including provisions~~
2902 ~~to ensure that the system's capacity, design, and equipment will allow~~
2903 ~~users to take advantage of innovative uses, services, and technology.~~

2904
2905 ~~((F-347)) F-540 Telecommunication companies and the ((c))County should~~
2906 ~~coordinate activities when facilities are being installed or road~~
2907 ~~construction projects are scheduled.~~

2908
2909 ~~((F-348)) F-541 ((Long-term-planning-for-telecommunications-systems-by-the)) King~~
2910 ~~County regulations should encourage telecommunication service~~
2911 ~~providers ((should-allow)) to plan and provide for uninterrupted service~~
2912 ~~during natural disasters.~~

2913
2914 ~~((F-349)) F-542 ((Co-location)) Collocation of telecommunication facilities is~~
2915 ~~encouraged to reduce the unnecessary proliferation of individual,~~
2916 ~~single-user towers. ((Co-location)) Collocation shall be required unless~~
2917 ~~an applicant can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the ((c))County that~~
2918 ~~collocation on an existing tower is not feasible and not consistent with~~
2919 ~~service quality and access.~~

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2920
2921 ~~((F-350)) F-543 Although visual impacts are always an important consideration in~~
2922 ~~the decision to approve or deny a proposal, King County shall give~~
2923 ~~greater weight to the visual impacts of telecommunication facilities~~
2924 ~~proposed to be located on residentially((r))zoned lands or in the Rural~~
2925 ~~Area or Natural Resource Lands. In addition, the visual impacts of~~
2926 ~~proposals for an individual tower with a single user shall be given~~
2927 ~~greater weight than proposals to collocate facilities.~~

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2928
2929 ~~((F-351)) F-544 King County considers the placement of telecommunication~~
2930 ~~facilities within street rights-of-way as the preferred alternative to the~~
2931 ~~construction of facilities on private property. Regulatory standards~~
2932 ~~shall require placement in street rights-of-way, especially within~~
2933 ~~residential neighborhoods and the Rural Area((s)), unless such a~~
2934 ~~location is not feasible or not consistent with service quality and access.~~

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2935 ~~((2-))1. Cable Services~~

2936 ~~((King County Ordinance 10159 dictates current policy for cable services. It states in~~
2937 ~~part: "it is the County's policy to promote the widespread availability of cable service~~
2938 ~~and diverse information to County residents and to encourage the development of~~
2939 ~~cable systems and cable technology as a means of communication between and among~~
2940 ~~members of the public and public institutions." The county's cable-related needs are~~
2941 ~~expressed in the following policies:)) King County Code Chapter 6.27A establishes~~
2942 ~~regulationsregulates for companies using County rights-of-way to for providinge cable~~
2943 ~~television services to customers in unincorporated areas via franchise agreements. As~~
2944 ~~of 2023, King County has franchise agreements with two cable companies, Comcast and~~
2945 ~~WAVE Broadband.~~

2946
2947 ~~((F-352)) Long-term planning for cable systems should include service to all~~
2948 ~~areas of the county ((which)) that meets the minimum density~~
2949 ~~established in the cable company's franchise agreement and ((the~~

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~~county's Cable Television Ordinance)) King County Code Chapter 6.27A:~~

~~F-353)) F-545~~ Cable companies should provide services that meet the cable-related needs and interests of all segments of the community, taking into account the cost of meeting such needs and interests.

~~((F-354)) F-546~~ King County should encourage ~~((€))~~ cable companies ~~((should))~~ to take proactive steps to ensure that there is widespread availability of and equitable access to cable service. Cable companies should ensure information is culturally~~((r))~~ appropriate and made available to ~~((residents of the county, especially low-income and limited-English proficient communities))~~ county residents, especially households at or below 80 percent of area median income those with low incomes and/or that speak ~~a language(s)~~ other than English.

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~~((F-355)) F-547~~ ~~((The goal of))~~ Long-term cable planning should ~~((be))~~ support:
a. ~~((a))~~ A high-capacity, state-of-the-art system~~((:));~~
b. ~~Installation and activation of ((F))~~ two-way capacity ~~((should be installed and activated:))~~
c. ~~Interconnection of ((€))~~ cable systems ~~((should be interconnected))~~ to other communications systems~~((They should be designed to be)); and~~
d. ~~((open, that is, the systems should be))~~ Open systems, usable by many, for a variety of purposes.

~~((F-356)) F-548~~ Public uses of the cable system should be expanded as the system is upgraded.

~~((3:))~~ 2. Internet Access

Increased high-speed (or broadband) internet access and ~~((R))~~ rapidly changing technologies ~~((are providing))~~ provide opportunities for alternative work environments and lifestyles ~~((as more people transmit and receive information through the internet)).~~ ~~((Although there is a growing interest in the use of computer technologies, few new developments are including high-speed internet access lines or home cabling. King County encourages private partnering between developers, builders and communication providers to expand the opportunities for access to the internet.))~~ In King County and nationwide, people without broadband internet service are at a growing disadvantage when it comes to education, health care, access to government services, the job market, and civic and cultural engagement. Equal access to technology can help improve the quality of everyone's life.

In 2020, the King County Broadband Access Study was completed, which evaluated the availability and accessibility of broadband internet services for King County residents. The study:

1. Assessed the broadband infrastructure and services available and accessible to the community;
2. Identified unserved locations (a location that does not have a broadband connection available) and underserved populations (residents who have broadband service available to them, but they cannot afford to buy it, or they have some other barrier to using broadband, such as lack of digital literacy or lack of access to broadband-enabled devices); and
3. Included data collection, analysis, findings, and recommended solutions across multiple demographics.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

3004 King County is exploring and implementing actions to enable expansion of internet and
3005 broadband access to more county residents. For example, King County's Institutional
3006 Network (I-Net) provides broadband to eligible government agencies such as schools,
3007 libraries, courts, public safety groups, and public health facilities. King County's
3008 Institutional Network (I-Net) has over 2,000 miles of fiber installed, connecting to
3009 approximately 300 public facilities. I-Net is expanding access to broadband to ensure
3010 all nonprofits, community, and educational organizations have the information
3011 technology capacity needed to deliver government services to effectively serve all
3012 communities so they can have full participation in society, democracy, and the
3013 economy. Focusing on advancing Best Start for Kids and healthier communities, I-Net
3014 also continues working with nonprofits, government, and educational institutions to
3015 bring "last mile" connectivity, which typically refers to the final leg of infrastructure
3016 connecting the provider's network to a home or building and which continues to be a
3017 barrier to broader broadband access.

3018
3019 In addition, the County understands the importance of state and other local
3020 organizations and their initiatives to expand broadband access within King County. The
3021 County is creating partnerships with these entities to help make high-speed broadband
3022 a reality for everyone in King County.

3023
3024 ~~**F-357** Developers should collaborate with major employers to create
3025 developments that facilitate and encourage telecommuting by
3026 installing high-speed internet lines during construction of the project.~~

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3027
3028 ~~**F-358** Builders and architects should work with the telecommunication
3029 industry to design and retrofit state-of-the-art cable-ready homes and
3030 offices ((and)), as well as community centers, social service agencies,
3031 community health clinics, and other buildings that serve low-income
3032 residents.))~~

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3033
3034 **F-549** King County ~~should explore~~shall support opportunities to increase
3035 access to broadband internet services ~~to underserved and unserved~~
3036 ~~areas~~where needs are greatest, prioritizing areas where there are
3037 educational and economic needs. Examples of these opportunities may
3038 include, such as expanding the I-Net network, pursuing grant funding
3039 to support infrastructure investments, partnering with service providers
3040 to expand coverage, ~~supporting~~considering fiber optic cable
3041 installation in ~~the East~~trail corridors, and marketing to underserved
3042 communities.

3043
3044 ((Wireless internet connections, also referred to as "hotspots," first conceived in 1993,
3045 now number over 300,000 nationally. A hotspot is a location (park, coffee shop, airport,
3046 office building, etc.) that offers Wi-Fi access. Hotspots allow the public to use laptop
3047 computers, Wi-Fi phones or other suitable portable devices to access the Internet.
3048 Ninety percent of the hotspots in the nation are free. Of the estimated 150 million
3049 laptops and 14 million personal digital assistants sold annually, most include Wi-Fi
3050 capability.))

3051
3052 **F-550** King County should increase wireless capabilities at County-owned
3053 facilities and sites, such as County parks, for public access, ~~where~~
3054 ~~appropriate.~~

3055
3056 ~~**F-359**~~ **F-551** King County ~~should~~encourage~~((s))~~ public and private organizations
3057 to create wireless internet ~~((connections where))~~ access for the public
3058 ~~((can access the internet)),~~ including in community centers, social
3059 service agencies, community health clinics, libraries, schools, and other
3060 buildings that serve ~~((low-income))~~residents ~~))~~ households at or below
3061 80 percent of area median income~~with low incomes.~~

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CHAPTER 10

ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

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CHAPTER 10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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~~((The foundation for a vibrant and sustainable economy starts with providing livable communities and a high quality of life; these are among the principles that guide the Comprehensive Plan. Other elements of that foundation include, but are not limited to a favorable business climate with consistent and predictable regulations, an educated and trained workforce, adequate public infrastructure, land supply, research and advancing technology, affordable housing, available capital, recreational and cultural opportunities, a healthy natural environment and greater equity and opportunity for all.)) King County aims to be a welcoming community where every person can thrive. Residents cannot thrive without~~

The policies in this chapter are designed to continue King County's long-term commitment to a ~~((prosperous,))~~ diverse, equitable, prosperous, resilient, and sustainable economy, contribute to a strong and stable tax base, and create a desirable quality of life for all residents. They do so by promoting public programs and actions that ~~((support a successful economy, one in which the))~~ that are both managed internally and leverage private, nonprofit, and public sector ~~((s))~~ partnerships ~~((can thrive and create jobs, is compatible with the environment, and contributes to a strong and stable tax base and a high quality of life for all residents)).~~ The policies also recognize businesses and the workforce as customers of an

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~~equitable access to high-quality jobs and wealth building opportunities, which are supported by a robust and inclusive economy. To be successful in creating that access and opportunity, businesses and organizations need a competitive business climate with consistent and predictable regulations, an educated and skilled workforce, adequate public infrastructure, research and development tools, affordable workforce housing, reliable transportation, low-cost childcare, and a safe and healthy environment. These are among the principles that guide the economic development element of the Comprehensive Plan.~~

~~economic development system, and they support actions and programs that promote the strength and health of both groups.))~~

9
10

11 ~~((I.))~~ ~~Overview~~ Introduction

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12 ~~((A.))~~ The State of the Economy

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13 King County's labor market and economy ((is)) are the largest((;)) and most diverse((;
14 and most significant ~~economy~~) ~~economy~~ in Washington State. ~~Industries Sectors~~ with
15 the highest employment ~~concentration~~ in King County include agriculture;
16 manufacturing; construction; retail; trade and; transportation; ~~and~~ utilities; professional
17 and business services; information education, and health services; and leisure and
18 hospitality. ((In 2014, King County's economic base included:

- 19 • ~~1,285,000 nonagricultural jobs. This represents 67% of the Central Puget~~
20 ~~Sound Region's (King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties) 1,923,000~~
21 ~~nonagricultural jobs and 42% of the state's 3,070,400 nonagricultural jobs;~~
- 22 • ~~An \$87.4 billion payroll. This represents 74% of the region's \$118.5 billion~~
23 ~~payroll and 52% of the state's \$167.4 billion payroll; and~~
- 24 • ~~79,500 business firms, excluding sole proprietorships. This represents 63% of~~
25 ~~the region's 125,000 firms and 36.4% of the state's 219,000 firms.~~

26
27 The last fifteen years have been characterized by two major recessions and three
28 periods of recovery and growth. Nonagricultural employment in King County peaked in
29 2000 at 1,187,000 jobs, but as the dot-com recession took hold, declined 7% to
30 1,109,000 jobs in 2003. Employment began to rise again in 2004, and by the job peak
31 in 2008, employment had exceeded 2000 levels, growing to a total of 1,216,000 jobs.
32 During the Great Recession, employment decreased by 7% again to 1,134,000 jobs in
33 2010, 4% below levels of a decade before. However, as the Great Recession ended
34 employment began to grow again reaching more than 1,285,000 in 2014, a 13%
35 increase over 2010 levels.

36
37 King County employment in 2014 was comprised of the following sectors:

- 38 • ~~Trade, Transportation and Utilities was the largest sector, with 238,000~~
39 ~~employees primarily in retail trade, wholesale trade, and transportation~~
40 ~~services;~~
- 41 • ~~Professional and Business Services was the second-largest sector with 211,000~~
42 ~~jobs. This sector includes legal services, engineering services, computer~~
43 ~~software design, company management and administration;~~
- 44 • ~~Two sectors each had about 166,000 employees: Government at all levels~~
45 ~~including public education, and Health Services/Private Educational Services.~~
46 ~~Another sector, Leisure and Hospitality, which includes hotels and restaurants,~~
47 ~~had 129,000 employees.~~
- 48 • ~~Four other sectors are smaller but vital in terms of bolstering the county's~~
49 ~~economic base with substantial payroll. They include Manufacturing (108,000~~
50 ~~jobs); Information (software publishing and tele-communications, 88,000 jobs);~~
51 ~~Financial Activities (banks, insurance, real estate, 71,000 jobs); and Construction~~
52 ~~with 62,000 jobs;~~
- 53 • ~~Other Services had the remaining 47,000 jobs, in repair and maintenance,~~
54 ~~personal services, religious, professional and civic organizations.~~

55
56 In 2014, unincorporated King County had 252,000 residents and about 38,000 jobs.))
57 Within the unincorporated jurisdiction are ((two)) ~~three~~ broad ((geographic types))
58 ~~geographies~~, designated by King County under the Growth Management Act and the
59 Comprehensive Plan:
60

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- 61 • Urban unincorporated ~~((King County, within the Urban Growth Area))~~ areas;
- 62 • The Rural Area~~((s));~~ and
- 63 • Natural Resource Lands ~~((outside the Urban Growth Area)).~~

64
65 Covering only 45 square miles, urban unincorporated King County contains ~~((a number of residential communities and a small number of business centers with))~~ about half of
66 the unincorporated population ~~((, 127,000 people))~~ with a number of residential
67 communities and a small number of business centers. ~~((Major c))~~ Communities within
68 ~~((this urban jurisdiction))~~ the urban unincorporated area include North Highline, Skyway-
69 West Hill, Fairwood, East Renton, and Lakeland South/East Federal Way. ~~((The urban~~
70 ~~unincorporated communities together had about 17,600 jobs in 2014.))~~

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71
72
73 The largest job sector within the urban unincorporated geography is services, ~~((with~~
74 ~~about 6,000 jobs throughout urban unincorporated King County.))~~ followed by
75 ~~((E))~~ education and government. ~~((is the second largest sector with 5,000 jobs.†))~~

76
77 Other large job sectors within the urban unincorporated geography include
78 construction and resources, wholesale-transportation, retail, and manufacturing. ~~((in~~
79 ~~addition to its jobs ((= i.e.)) people working in urban unincorporated job centers ((=))~~))
80 While much of the urban unincorporated area is residential, however, its residents and
81 the people working in the urban unincorporated job centers ~~((and includes))~~ make up a
82 skilled labor force. ~~((About 70,000 urban unincorporated residents are in King County's~~
83 ~~labor force, and approximately 63,000 were employed in 2014, contributing~~
84 ~~significantly to the county's economy.))~~

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85
86 The Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands ~~((portions of the county's economic base~~
87 ~~plays))~~ play a significant role in helping the county maintain a diversity of economic
88 sectors, thus contributing to the county's overall economic health. Evaluation and
89 discussion of the rural economy includes the Rural Area, Natural Resource Lands, and
90 the Cities in the Rural Area, ~~((which include))~~ Black Diamond, Carnation, Duvall,
91 Enumclaw, North Bend, Snoqualmie, and Skykomish.

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92
93 ~~((Information on the rural economy is as follows:~~

- 94 • ~~In 2014, about 8.3% (168,000) of the county's total population of 2,017,300 lived in~~
95 ~~the Rural Area, Resource Lands, and Cities in the Rural Area.~~
- 96 • ~~However, only 2.7% (34,200) of the total 1.2 million jobs in the county are located~~
97 ~~within the Rural Area, Resource Lands, and Cities in the Rural Area (2014 data).~~
- 98 • ~~About sixty percent of the rural jobs (20,400) are located in the rural unincorporated~~
99 ~~area, with the remainder located in the Cities in the Rural Area, especially in~~
100 ~~Enumclaw, North Bend and Snoqualmie.~~
- 101 • ~~The Service Sector, which caters to both rural households and businesses,~~
102 ~~comprises 34% of rural employment.~~
- 103 • ~~The Construction and Resources sector, including agriculture, forestry, fishing,~~
104 ~~hunting, and mining, accounts for 16% of rural jobs.~~
- 105 • ~~Farming in King County is changing in response to increased demand by urban~~
106 ~~residents to purchase locally grown foods. Farms are becoming smaller with~~

~~((† This 2014 data does not reflect that Klahanie was annexed to Sammamish in 2016. Updated figures are not currently available.))~~

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- 107 increased crop diversity. In 2012 there were 1,037 farms in the county, with an
- 108 average farm size of 25 acres. According to the 2012 United States Agricultural
- 109 Census, farm acreage decreased slightly from 49,000 acres in 2007 to 48,000 acres
- 110 in 2012. Farm product sales totaled nearly \$120 million in 2012.
- 111 • Sales at county farmers markets in 2014 generated over \$35 million in direct sales
- 112 for Washington farmers.
- 113 • The timber industry experienced wide fluctuations in timber harvest volumes
- 114 between 2004 and 2014 in response to economic conditions. During that period
- 115 King County saw an overall 23% decline in timber harvest volume on private and
- 116 public lands from 138 million board feet to 106 million board feet, while the value
- 117 of that timber rose 11% from \$34 million in 2004 to \$37.8 million in 2014, according
- 118 to the Washington State Department of Revenue.
- 119 • The equestrian industry plays a role in the rural economy. In 2005, there were
- 120 about 3,200 persons directly employed in the equestrian industry and 945 persons
- 121 employed in jobs related to the industry countywide. Additionally, equestrian
- 122 industry sales totaled \$227 million based on 2005 numbers, which included direct,
- 123 indirect, and induced sales.))

124 ~~B.)) General ((Economic Development)) Policies~~

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125 King County provides infrastructure, business ~~development~~, and workforce

126 development services as part of its regional responsibilities. King County also partners

127 with ~~((businesses;)) business; economic development, workforce development,~~

128 ~~community-based, industry trade, and labor organizations((;)); boards and commissions;~~

129 and other jurisdictions ~~((in efforts)) to support and grow the regional economy ((to~~

130 ensure the elements for a prosperous and successful economy are provided. The

131 county also provides infrastructure, business, and workforce development products and

132 services as part of its regional responsibilities; and it makes many other contributions to

133 sustain the quality of life that makes the region a desirable place to live and work.

134 General King County economic development policies include:)),

135

136 According to the United States Department of Labor, in 2021, women, on average, are

137 paid 84 percent of what men are paid for working full-time, year-round. This wage gap

138 persists across races and ethnicities. This gap is worsened when considering "job

139 segregation," or overrepresentation or underrepresentation of women and people of

140 color in certain occupations and sectors of the economy. The Department of Labor

141 further reports that:

- 142 • Women must complete at least one additional educational degree to earn as
- 143 much as men with less education;
- 144 • The wage gap is larger for mothers and results in employment-related losses of
- 145 more than \$295,000 over a lifetime; and
- 146 • Discrimination remains a likely leading cause of the gender wage gap. The
- 147 federal government has recovered over \$20 million in monetary relief for
- 148 women who have experienced pay discrimination in the workplace just
- 149 between 2022 and 2024.

152 **ED-101 King County ~~((has a long-term commitment to)) ~~should~~ shall support~~**

153 **sustainable, inclusive, and equitable economic development**

154 **throughout the county.**

155

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156 ((ED-101a)) ED-102 King County ((is committed to promoting)) should
157 promotes shall prioritize diversity, equity and racial and social justice;
158 ((and equality of opportunity)) in all economic development policies
159 and programs ((, and to ((integrating)) prioritize these ((as)) factors
160 in ((to)) decision and policy-making efforts).

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162 ED-103 King County shall engage with the public to inform County economic
163 development plans, policies, and programs. This includes fostering
164 opportunities for the public, especially communities with limited access
165 to economic opportunity and those with the highest needs, to be
166 involved in associated decision-making.

168 ((ED-102)) ED-104 ((The)) King County shall focus ((for)) significant economic
169 growth ((will)) shall remain within in the Urban Growth Area,
170 concentrated in cities and in a network of regionally designated growth
171 centers. ((while within)) in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands,
172 ((the focus will)) and shall focus rural economic development shall
173 ((be)) focused on sustaining and enhancing prosperous and successful
174 rural and resource-based businesses, ((as well as)) and on encouraging
175 innovation and new businesses that support and are compatible with
176 the rural economy ((ic clusters)), particularly in Rural Towns.

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178 ((ED-103)) ED-105 King County policies, programs, and strategies shall recognize
179 the importance of ((:)) and ((place special emphasis)) focus on ((:))
180 growing new businesses, such as start-up companies and small local
181 businesses, ((as well as retaining)) and expanding ((homegrown firms
182 in basic)) existing businesses in industries that ((bring income into the
183 county and increase the standard of living of the County's residents))
184 create jobs that pay family wages middle-wage jobs and share the
185 County's values of racial equity, environmental sustainability, and
186 workers' rights.

188 ED-106 King County's plans, policies, programs, and strategies shall recognize
189 the role and importance of small businesses and locally owned
190 businesses in fostering community stability and creating opportunity
191 for Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color; immigrants; refugees;
192 the LGBTQIA+ community; women; and other in historically
193 underrepresented groups and underinvested communities.

196 ((ED-104)) ED-107 King County ((policies, programs, and strategies shall recognize
197 the importance of a)) shall take actions that support a diversified
198 employment opportunities ((economic base to provide)) toward
199 providing a continuum of skills ((training opportunities to meet the skill
200 level needs of industry)) and shall in support of middle-wage jobs.
201 King County should shall direct resources in ways that to reduce
202 inequities and build economic resiliency for those communities most
203 negatively impacted by asset poverty, beyond income or wages.

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205 ((ED-105)) ED-108 King County ((recognizes)) shall protect the natural environment
206 as a key economic ((value that must be protected)) asset and should
207 support businesses that can be developed in environmentally
208 sustainable and climate-resilient ways.

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210 ~~((ED-106)) ED-109 King County shall protect and prevent displacement of cultural~~
211 ~~resources and promote expanded cultural opportunities for its~~
212 ~~residents and visitors ((in order)) to enhance the region's quality of life~~
213 ~~and economic vitality.~~

214
215 ~~((King County's role in economic development is implemented at several levels. At all~~
216 ~~levels, King County seeks to coordinate, partner, and engage with private and public~~
217 ~~organizations to pursue ((mutually beneficial outcomes)) shared goals.~~

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218
219 ~~ED-107)) ED-110 ((At the multicounty level,)) King County should partner with other~~
220 ~~counties, regional entities, and the state((, as appropriate,)) to devise~~
221 ~~and implement economic development policies, programs, and~~
222 ~~strategies to ((provide for)) achieve sustainable, inclusive, and~~
223 ~~equitable growth throughout the Puget Sound region.~~

224
225 ~~((ED-108)) ED-111 ((At the countywide level,)) King County should partner with~~
226 ~~other jurisdictions, economic development organizations, chambers of~~
227 ~~commerce, the Port of Seattle, and others((, as appropriate)), to~~
228 ~~develop and implement policies, programs, and strategies that set the~~
229 ~~general framework for economic development within the county.~~

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230
231 ~~((ED-109)) ED-112 Within the unincorporated areas, King County should partner~~
232 ~~and engage with Indian tribes, ((local)) businesses, chambers, farms,~~
233 ~~the Agriculture and Rural Forest Commissions, ((community service~~
234 ~~areas, adjacent)) cities, ((other organizations)), and residents((, as~~
235 ~~appropriate)), to develop and implement policies, programs, and~~
236 ~~strategies that promote ((compatible)) sustainable, inclusive, and~~
237 ~~equitable local economic development.~~

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238
239 ~~ED-113 King County shall explore programs to encourage tourism and~~
240 ~~economic development associated with scenic, historic, and~~
241 ~~recreational resources along the designated Washington Scenic and~~
242 ~~Recreational Highways.~~

243
244 ~~ED-114 King County shall prioritize funding for community and economic~~
245 ~~development projects that:~~
246 ~~a. Benefit households at or below 80 percent area median income;~~
247 ~~b. Create equitable opportunities for economic prosperity, good~~
248 ~~health, safety, and connection to community;~~
249 ~~c. Reflect an equitable regional countywide distribution of funding;~~
250 ~~and~~
251 ~~d. Meet the needs of historically underserved-underinvested~~
252 ~~communities facing economic pressures and disparate health and~~
253 ~~economic outcomes.~~

254 ~~((II.))~~ **Business Development**

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255 ~~((King County has long supported a growing and diversified economy, one that~~
256 ~~provides business development opportunities throughout the county.)) To support~~
257 ~~business development, King County's policies, plans, ((and)) programs, and strategies~~
258 ~~should support a ((positive and healthy)) business-friendly climate that ((enables all local~~
259 ~~firms to stay globally competitive, quality-oriented, technologically advanced, and able~~
260 ~~to pay good wages)) is conducive to the domestic and global competitive competitive~~
261 ~~environment.~~

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263 Homegrown businesses are those that started in the region. ~~((Local and national research over the last 25 years has concluded that h))~~ Homegrown, small to medium-size
264 businesses create the majority of new jobs in a local economy. ~~((Industries and firms))~~
265 Businesses that export their products and services outside King County bring income
266 into the county ~~((and are considered basic, in economic terms. Jobs in basic industry))~~
267 and generally pay better than ~~((non-basic))~~ jobs ~~that are dependent on the local~~
268 economy. ~~((and))~~ These exporting sectors businesses can help support the ~~((non-basic~~
269 ~~or secondary))~~ local part of the county's local economy. ~~((As of 2012, 37% of the jobs~~
270 ~~in King County are basic and support the 63% non-basic jobs, such as retail and~~
271 ~~personal services. Roughly one of every four jobs in the Puget Sound region is~~
272 ~~dependent on international trade.))~~

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273
274
275 The county's leading export sectors are:

- 276 • Information ~~((5))~~services, ~~((with 16.4% of all export jobs. Software Publishing is~~
277 ~~the principal factor in this sector, accounting for over 50% of the sector's basic~~
278 ~~jobs and 9.3% of total basic employment))~~ led by the software development
279 industry.
- 280 • Manufacturing, ~~((with 14% of all basic employment,))~~ led by the aerospace
281 industry. ~~((with 9% of total basic jobs)).~~
- 282 • Business ~~((5))~~services, such as banking, insurance, accounting, legal,
283 architectural, engineering, research and development, and computer services
284 industries. ~~((with 13.8% of export jobs)).~~

285
286 King County has also identified the creative sector as a critical segment of the regional
287 economy that requires additional support and renewed focus. King County's local
288 creative economy sector includes, but is not limited to, the film, music, arts and culture,
289 festival, and events industries, videogaming, and fashion and more industries. These
290 industries are predominantly driven by small businesses, entrepreneurs, and gig
291 workers. Supporting creative sector development that is compatible with surrounding
292 land uses contributes to the region's regional reputation, drives tourism, and creates a
293 desirable environment for business development of other sectors.

294
295 King County's targeted industries support for business development also includes
296 those identified in the Puget Sound Regional Council's Regional Economic Strategy
297 and the King County Local Food Initiative, and King County 30-Year Forest Plan.

298 A. Working Collaboratively in the Region

299 King County partners with several organizations to grow and sustain regional economic
300 vitality and global competitiveness, such as the Puget Sound Regional Council's Central
301 Puget Sound Economic Development District Board: ~~((serving King, Kitsap, Pierce, and~~
302 ~~Snohomish Counties))~~ ~~((adopted a "Regional Economic Strategy for the Central Puget~~
303 ~~Sound Region" in 2005, updated it in 2012, and then adopted an updated version~~
304 ~~entitled "Amazing Place: Growing Jobs and Opportunity in the Central Puget Sound~~
305 ~~Region" in 2017. Amazing Place was developed by the Puget Sound Regional Council~~
306 ~~to sustain economic vitality and global competitiveness.))~~; Greater Seattle Partners; King
307 County Associate Development Organization; Workforce Development Council of
308 Seattle-King County; and other subregional economic development organizations and
309 local jurisdictions in the region, to grow and sustain regional economic vitality and
310 global competitiveness.

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312 ((In order to accomplish this, Amazing Place identifies 14 industrial clusters that, based
313 on regional economic analysis, offer the best opportunities for business growth and job
314 creation in the Central Puget Sound region for the next several years.

315
316 Clusters are concentrations of industries that export goods and services that drive job
317 creation and import wealth into the region. An industry cluster differs from the classic
318 definition of an industry sector because it represents the entire horizontal and vertical
319 value-added linkages from suppliers to end producers, including support services,
320 specialized infrastructure, regional universities' research and development, and other
321 resources. Clusters are supported by the economic foundations such as workforce
322 training, infrastructure, quality education, a stable and progressive business climate, and
323 more. The clusters are Aerospace, Architecture and Engineering, Business Services,
324 Clean Technology, Food and Beverage, Information and Communication Technology,
325 Life Sciences and Global Health, Maritime, Materials Manufacturing, Military and
326 Defense, Recreational Gear, Tourism, Transportation and Logistics, and Wood Products.
327 Amazing Place identifies specific strategies and actions to help support the growth of
328 each cluster.

329
330 The County is also working with several other regional business development efforts
331 such as the Trade Development Alliance, Workforce Councils, Chambers of Commerce,
332 and other partners to create opportunities for new business development, help retain
333 and expand existing companies, and recruit new firms into the county.))

334
335 **ED-201 King County shall partner with Indian tribes, federal, state, and ((local))
336 city governments, economic development organizations, schools,
337 educational and research institutions ((and)), the private sector, and
338 other organizations to foster ((an)) innovative and ((entrepreneurial
339 environment and support programs and strategies that promote)
340 sustainable business development and job creation((Programs that
341 provide technical and financial assistance to businesses include, but are
342 not limited to:
343 a. Financial, marketing, expansion, and general operations
344 assistance for small businesses to help them become competitive
345 in the private sector;
346 b. Technological, efficiency, and managerial assessments to help
347 manufacturers reduce costs and use smaller footprints for existing
348 or expanded production; and
349 c. Assessment and/or remediation of contaminated property
350 (Brownfields) in order to continue or expand operations to help
351 individual small businesses or jurisdictions impacted by
352 Brownfields)).**

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353
354 **ED-202 King County shall ((emphasize continued)) prioritize support for the
355 aerospace, green ~~energy~~economy, creative economy, and information
356 technology ((industrial)) clusters; agriculture and forestry clusters; ((as
357 well as industrial clusters offering)) and emerging sectors that offer the
358 best opportunities for business development, job creation, and
359 economic growth ((including those identified in the Puget Sound
360 Regional Council's Regional Economic Strategy, the Local Food
361 Initiative and the King County Rural Economic Strategies Plan)).**

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362
363 **ED-203 King County shall proactively support and participate in programs and
364 strategies that help create, retain, expand, and attract businesses that
365 export their products and services. ((Exports bring income into the
366 county that increases the standard of living of residents.))**

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368 **ED-204** King County shall encourage redevelopment of and reinvestment in
369 industrial and manufacturing properties by collaborating with other
370 jurisdictions and the private sector to remove, revise, or streamline
371 regulatory or other redevelopment barriers without compromising
372 environmental standards or quality. This includes assessment and/or
373 remediation of contaminated properties.
374

375 ~~((ED-205)) King County shall support programs and strategies to promote and~~
376 ~~market Foreign Direct Investment opportunities in the county.~~
377

378 ~~ED-206))~~ **ED-205** King County shall promote and help position small and mid-size
379 businesses to gain greater participation in the supply chains of large
380 ~~((companies))~~ **businesses** and the military located in the region.

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381
382 ~~((ED-207))~~ **ED-206** King County shall provide opportunities for small businesses to
383 compete for and obtain contracts on ~~((c))~~ County-funded construction,
384 consulting, and goods and services projects. King County shall also
385 collaborate with other jurisdictions to promote public-contracting
386 opportunities for small businesses and to develop and maintain
387 common standards, a common application, and a common directory for
388 small contractors and suppliers seeking contracts on publicly-funded
389 projects.
390

391 ~~((ED-208))~~ **ED-207** King County shall assist businesses, property owners, and other
392 jurisdictions in preserving and enhancing historic properties, including
393 historic business districts, through incentives and economic
394 development measures. County programs and incentives for land and
395 resource preservation and economic development shall support and be
396 coordinated with preservation of historic properties.
397

398 ~~((ED-209))~~ **ED-208** King County shall foster the development and use of
399 public/private partnerships to implement economic development
400 projects and programs. At a minimum, these projects ~~((must))~~ **shall**
401 demonstrate that they:

- 402 a. Cannot be accomplished solely by either sector **and would be**
403 **greatly enhanced by working together;**
404 b. Have an experienced and proven private partner(s);
405 c. Do not unduly enrich the private partner(s);
406 d. Provide tangible and measurable public benefits in terms of tax
407 and other revenue, construction and permanent jobs, livable wages
408 with benefits and a wage-progression strategy, and public
409 amenities; and
410 e. ~~((Will use the King County Jobs Initiative, or other entities with~~
411 ~~similar programs, as their first source of referral for training and~~
412 ~~employing low-income, low-skill residents in entry-level and~~
413 ~~semi-skilled jobs))~~ **Share decision-making power with and spread**
414 **benefits to community groups.**
415

416 ~~((ED-210))~~ **ED-209** King County should support programs and strategies to expand
417 international trade, including those that:

- 418 a. Promote, market, and position the county for increased export~~((,))~~
419 and import, and foreign investment opportunities;
420 b. Promote the health and viability of the region's export and import
421 gateways through active collaboration with the Northwest Seaport
422 Alliance and the Port of Seattle;
423 c. Provide technical assistance, training, and opportunities for local
424 firms wishing to export; ~~((and))~~

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d. Partner with regional trade groups to promote assistance, opportunities and partnerships to connect current and potential exporters with international markets. ~~and~~

ED-210 ~~King County shall seek to support business programs and strategies that e. contribute to a more circular economy that to reduce demand for materials; keep materials in use as long as possible; regenerate natural systems by reusing waste products, materials, or byproducts of manufacturing; promotes recycling supporting export of recyclable materials; or otherwise improves processes to be more efficient.~~

ED-211 King County should support programs and strategies to preserve and plan for an adequate supply of industrial and commercial land capacity, including but not limited to:

a. ~~((Complying with the ((State of Washington)) Growth Management Act ((Buildable Lands)) Review and Evaluation Program - Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.215 - and, in cooperation with the cities, inventorying and monitoring the use of industrial, commercial, and residential lands every five years;~~

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~~b. Partnering with other jurisdictions and the private sector, to advocate for development and maintenance of a regional Geographic Information System ((to track the supply of land)) Participating in the Puget Sound Regional Council's Industrial Lands Analysis;~~

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~~((c)) b. Actively applying for federal, state, and other resources to help defray the costs of assessment, remediation, and redevelopment of private and/or public ((B)) brownfields;~~

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~~((d)) c. Selling ((c)) County-owned surplus industrial and commercial lands for development by the private sector;~~

~~((e)) cd. Promoting the redevelopment and infill of industrial and commercial areas and exploring the feasibility of using incentives to achieve this goal; and~~

~~((f)) de. Preventing the encroachment of non((r)) industrial uses on industrially((r)) zoned land and the rezoning of industrial land to other uses.~~

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ED-212 King County shall encourage and support community((-)-)based and community((-)-)led efforts to ((support)) develop and retain existing small and local businesses ~~and resilient communities~~. These efforts may include:

a. ~~Priority hire programs that create middle-wage employment in implementing the Contracting Opportunities Program in historically underserved and historically underrepresented/underinvested communities;~~

b. Ensuring public investment decisions protect culturally significant economic assets and community anchors; and

c. Engaging communities directly affected by economic development activities in planning, decision making, and implementation.

ED-213 ~~King County should help stabilize and prevent the displacement of small or culturally or ethnically diverse businesses and business clusters during periods of growth, contraction, and redevelopment.~~

ED-214 ~~King County shall perform outreach about the existing King County priority hire program to increase residents' connections to economic opportunities and to aid in anti-displacement efforts.~~

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~~((ED-213)) ED-215 King County shall coordinate with a broad range of partners, organizations, businesses, and public sector agencies to support the development of business innovation districts and ((related)) other community stabilization initiatives ((in)) to help prevent the displacement of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color; immigrants; refugees; LGBTQIA+ people; and households at or below 80 percent of area median income - ((lower income communities ((, with an emphasis on food innovation districts, in particular)).~~

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~~((III.))~~ Workforce Development

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King County provides programs and participates in partnerships to address the new and ongoing regional workforce opportunities and challenges ((of the Puget Sound region and within the county)). The current ((economic climate)) economy has created more opportunity, and yet there is an ((ever greater)) increasing divide between those who are benefitting from a strong economy and those who are not. For this reason, King County has an even greater need to ensure ((access by)) all residents have access to information about local workforce development programs and opportunities, especially for those residents ((of the County)) who are not benefitting equitably from the strong economy.

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~~((While many low-income people in isolated communities may have difficulties gaining access to quality education, training, and support services to ((help them)) secure living wage jobs, many displaced workers also need access to re-((training opportunities to obtain employment.)) Meeting these challenges successfully ((with)) requires the ((e))County to continue and to strengthen strategies and working relationships across sectors and ((between)) among business, government, labor, communities, advocacy organizations, education and training institutions, and human services providers.~~

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~~((Jobs that pay wages sufficient to support families are vital to ((the)) a high quality of life. However, training, education, and skill levels ((, and abilities)) vary from person to person. As such, it is important for King County to support accessible job training programs and ensure that all residents have equal access to job opportunities ((for all residents)) at a range of entry levels so that all people have the opportunity to be self-reliant.))~~

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King County's Green Jobs Strategy emphasizes connecting frontline communities to living-middle wage employment opportunities to build a skilled and diverse workforce across the career spectrum. The County utilizes its resource network to promote and meaningfully connect local workers to living-middle-wage positions jobs by developing high-quality workforce partnerships to diversify and add climate-informed skills building into existing sectors such as construction, transportation, manufacturing, and professional services and technology, while preparing for the clean energy future. The Strategy emphasizes integrating workforce development into County climate and clean energy initiatives, while collaborating with regional partners to grow green jobs through sectors essential to clean energy deployment. The Strategy outlines the recipe for high-road workforce partnerships based on building trusted relationships with job seekers, connecting to partners providing skills training and industry-recognized credentials, and clear employment on-ramps developed with employers and labor partners.

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ED-301 King County should support workforce development programs that are integrated with the ((c))County's overall economic strategies, including but not limited to:

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- a. Apprenticeship opportunities, such as priority hire, on ((c))County public works projects to ensure a continual pipeline of skilled, local construction trades workers and to encourage ~~((family)) middle-wage job opportunities(-); and~~
- b. ~~((Development and growth of clean technology “green” jobs linked to the preservation and sustainability of the natural environment, including jobs in pollution prevention, Brownfields cleanup, energy efficiency, renewable energy industries, natural resource management, and other technologies that address climate change.))~~ identified partnerships prioritizing pProviding frontline communities (including middle skill workers and youth) accessible pathways and training and skills building for jobs that support a middle wage, particularly for green jobs and toward positions providing a family sustaining middle wages within identified local high growth sectors while supporting reduced energy use and reduced greenhouse gas emissions including manufacturing, construction, transportation, and professional services; and
~~((c. Training ((in)) prioritizing in-demand skills ((job clusters) that apply to and are in demand)) across ((multiple)) identified high-growth industry ((clusters)) sectors)).~~

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ED-302

~~((King County should support the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County ((, authorized by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, and composed of high-level representatives from business, local government, labor, education and training institutions, advocacy organizations, and human service providers. The purpose of the Workforce Development Council is)) to coordinate and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs to meet the needs of workers and employers.))~~ King County ~~((will))~~ should work with the Workforce Development Council to ~~))~~ shall emphasize the needs ((in and highlight)) and opportunities for communities ((that have)) with the highest unemployment rates in the region, including the potential for development of training opportunities in these areas. King County should support the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County to coordinate and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs to meet the needs of workers and employers.

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ED-303

King County policies, programs, strategies, and partnerships shall recognize the importance of worker training and retraining, especially for ~~((low-income and low-skilled residents,))~~ workers in low-wage and low-barrier industries and communities with the highest unemployment rates, to provide the skilled workers needed by local businesses and industry. King County shall support and partner with other jurisdictions, educational institutions, and industry to promote programs that align with community needs, such as:

- a. Programs that retrain dislocated workers for jobs in growing industries;
- b. Training for jobs in growing industries that require post-technical or post-secondary training and credentials and provide a career pathway to self-sufficiency;
- c. Programs that facilitate employer involvement in hiring workers with limited experience and skills and provide successful strategies for skills training, job placement, and worker retention;
- d. Programs that reduce recidivism by helping residents exiting the criminal ~~((justice))~~ legal system gain access to training and employment services;

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- e. Alignment of ((homeless)) housing and employment systems to ((assure)) ensure people who are experiencing homelessness have access to both housing and employment opportunities;
- f. Food-related, creative economy, and green technology workforce development activities and opportunities;
- g. School-to-work programs and effective alternatives for out-of-school youth to provide a clear pathway to self-sufficiency through career options and applied learning opportunities;
- h. Summer youth employment programs for ((at-risk)) historically underserved youth;
- i. Access to alternative modes of transportation by providing transportation information, ((financial—assistance—programs)) income-based discount programs such as ORCA LIFT, and services to jobseekers and workers; ((and))
- j. Access to childcare by increasing the availability and affordability of quality childcare for low-income families; and
- k. Initiatives aimed at facilitating skills training and on-ramps to living middle-wage employment for frontline communities connected to identified high growth industry sectors as outlined in King County's Green Jobs Strategy; and
- l. Connecting veterans with targeted programs and resources to achieve and sustain their career goals or transition into the civilian workforce.

~~((ED-304)) King County shall continue to increase equity in jobs and career opportunities for youth through programs such as the Education Engagement Strategy launched by Public Health in 2013, and others. These efforts may include:~~

- ~~a. Partnering with private businesses, community organizations and educational institutions to provide job shadowing, internship and summer job opportunities for King County youth; and~~
- ~~b. Partnering with Maritime and Manufacturing industry businesses, and other business sectors, to engage high school students in vocational programs that offer training for living wage industry jobs, and working with these businesses to engage schools in promoting regional opportunities for apprenticeships and internships for high school students.~~

~~ED-305))~~ ED-304 King County shall help promote and develop opportunities for ((limited-English proficiency populations)) communities that speak a language(s) other than English, including:

- a. Partnering and investing in community organizations that represent ((limited-English-proficiency-populations)) linguistically diverse populations;
- b. Improving translation and interpretation services;
- c. Partnering with ((private-business)) employers to promote the hiring of ((limited-English-proficiency-populations)) people that speak a language(s) other than English; and
- d. Partnering with regional educational institutions to develop methods for recertification for limited English proficiency professionals with credentials from other countries, and partnering with community organizations to promote and increase access to recertification programs.

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647 ~~((ED-306))~~ **ED-305** King County shall work with regional workforce development
648 organizations and regional educational institutions, especially
649 community colleges, to promote greater alignment between
650 educational programs and workforce needs.

651
652 ~~((H-159))~~ **ED-306** King County should support programs and projects that provide
653 apprenticeship and employment training in the building trades through
654 affordable housing development. King County should explore ways to
655 partner with non((=))profit housing developers in offering
656 pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, and employment training
657 opportunities.

658 ~~((IV.))~~ Infrastructure Development

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659 Adequate and well-maintained public infrastructure is crucial to a strong economy and
660 to attract attracting new industry and economic development. Basic public services that
661 maintain a high quality of life in an area support employment growth and increased
662 productivity, and influence business location decisions.

663
664 **ED-401** ~~((King County recognizes that adequate infrastructure is essential to~~
665 ~~support existing economic activity and to attract new industry and~~
666 ~~development. The county therefore))~~ **King County shall support((s))**
667 **and partner((s)) on programs and strategies to maintain existing**
668 **infrastructure and construct new infrastructure and facilities (including,**
669 **but not limited to, transportation, utilities, schools, information,**
670 **communications, ((including)) and an adequate supply of housing),**
671 **prioritizing historically underinvested areas, and as necessary to**
672 **accommodate current and future economic demand, in locations and at**
673 **a size and scale that is consistent with other policies in the**
674 **Comprehensive Plan.**

675
676 **ED-402** King County ~~((with))~~ shall support programs, ~~((and))~~ partnerships, and
677 electric vehicle infrastructure to facilitate the efficient movement of
678 freight and to promote global competitiveness for business and
679 industry.

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681 **ED-403** King County shall partner, where feasible, with Indian tribes, cities,
682 ((jurisdictions and other ((stakeholders)) and organizations to develop
683 ((subarea)) locally-specific targeted economic development strategies
684 to promote development and redevelopment in areas that can
685 accommodate growth.

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687 **ED-404** ~~((Through local subarea planning and partnerships with other agencies~~
688 ~~and organizations;))~~ King County should use planning initiatives,
689 zoning, incentives, partnerships, or other measures to capitalize on the
690 economic benefit of infrastructure projects in locations and at a size
691 and scale that is consistent with other policies in the Comprehensive
692 Plan.

694 ED-405 King County should support programs and partnerships to facilitate the
695 development of adequate technology infrastructure, to meet growing
696 technological demand, and to ensure high-quality infrastructure for the
697 regional economy.

698 ~~((V.)) Sustainable Economic~~
699 ~~Development ((in the Private Sector))~~

700 ((It is the goal of)) King County ((to work toward becoming)) seeks to become a model
701 sustainable community ((where ((both)) the public and private sectors ((seek to)) that
702 balances urban growth with natural resource protection while addressing climate
703 change. Sustainable economic development ((seeks)) aims to achieve this goal by
704 addressing the environmental impacts of the built environment in which people live and
705 work. Sustainable economic development is implemented through planning, design,
706 and construction methods, including green building and ((t))low ((t))impact
707 ((t))development that promotes environmental quality, economic vitality, and healthy
708 communities.
709

710 ((King County also works to increase the sustainability awareness of its residents. The
711 county offers a Localize Sustainability tool, which help residents track and develop
712 strategies for increasing their own sustainability profile. Transportation is also key
713 element of sustainability.)) Public transportation ((will)) plays an important role in
714 protecting the environment by reducing emissions and supporting more compact land
715 use patterns.)) King County seeks to foster innovative design and development
716 techniques in the private sector that reduce the negative impacts of site development
717 and building construction while maintaining ((affordability and economic development))
718 a favorable business climate.
719

720 ED-501 King County should encourage, support, and promote the application
721 of sustainable economic development practices in all private sector
722 development within the county, through adopting development codes
723 that support green building and partnering with other cities and the
724 private sector to foster sustainable development. ((This may be
725 accomplished through working with residential and commercial
726 developers to use Low Impact Development principles and practices,
727 including minimized impervious surface areas, protect ground and
728 surface water within a watershed, ensure that habitat protection needs
729 are incorporated into development proposals to the extent possible,
730 incorporate greater use of green building materials, eliminate, to the
731 extent possible, the use of materials that pose health hazards, and
732 utilize systems that conserve or reuse resources, including those that
733 use energy more efficiently. When King County provides technical
734 assistance and incentives for the use of sustainable development
735 practices, it shall be at no cost to any private sector development. King
736 County shall collaborate with the private sector on potential future
737 regulatory tools.))
738

739 ED-501a King County shall ((strive to)) promote green building and smart
740 building practices throughout private, public, and residential uses and
741 shall support programs that foster this type of development through
742 collaboration with jurisdictions and other sectors.
743

744 ~~((ED-502 In the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, King County shall
745 provide assistance through development of customized stewardship~~

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~~plans for individual properties, to help property owners understand their properties' characteristics and the potential impacts of their actions, and to make sustainable land management choices that protect natural resources.))~~

~~ED-503 King County shall identify and evaluate potential changes to land use development regulations and building codes, in collaboration with the private sector, to support and promote sustainable development.~~

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~~((ED-504 King County should participate in the development and use of national standards for measuring sustainability at the community scale and the breadth and effectiveness of county policies and practices that improve community-scale sustainability.))~~

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VI.)) The Rural Economy

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~~((King County values its entire Rural Area and the Natural Resources Lands and recognizes the traditional economic activities that support rural communities and a rural lifestyle. A healthy and sustainable rural economy is necessary to ensure rural residents can continue to both live and work throughout the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. The farm, livestock, and forestry operations, the many entrepreneurial home-based businesses, the Rural Towns, Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, and the Cities in the Rural Area all provide rural residents with goods, services, and employment.))~~

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Within unincorporated rural King County, economic activities include, but are not limited to, farming, livestock raising, equestrian uses, forestry, resource value-added businesses, and home-based businesses. The Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center(~~s are designed to~~) land use designation provides for a limited array of goods and services to local rural residents on a small scale. ~~((The))~~ Rural Towns provide a wider range of goods, services, and jobs for rural residents, including retail, restaurants, and services. ~~((The designated))~~ Natural Resource Lands support the long-term commercial aspects of agriculture and forestry and potential resource value(~~d~~)-added products.

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The County also recognizes that the land areas, economies, and natural beauty of the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands ~~((designations))~~ benefit all county residents. The agriculture sector provides a ~~((safe))~~ high-quality and reliable local food source(~~= keeping costs low and quality high=~~) to restaurants, ~~((and households, the majority of which are in urban areas, and regionally to farmers markets and specialty stores))~~ institutions, farmers markets, and direct-to-individual consumers. The Rural ~~((King County))~~ Area and Natural Resource Lands provide(~~s~~) many diverse recreation and tourism opportunities, including scenic vistas; trails for hiking, bicycling, off-road, and equestrian use; ~~((harvest festivals;))~~ open space and wildlife habitat; and working farms and forest lands, all within a short distance from ~~((the))~~ urban centers.

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A vibrant and sustainable rural economy depends on several factors, including, but not limited to, preserving and enhancing the businesses within traditional rural economic ~~((clusters))~~ sectors, ensuring that new commercial enterprises are of a size and scale that is consistent with and retains the rural character of the surrounding area, and changes in regulations to reflect and respond to the differing needs and emerging trends of rural economic activity while protecting the natural environment.

~~((In 2004, the King County Comprehensive Plan was amended to include a policy that directed the county to develop and implement a rural economic development strategy.~~

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798 To comply with this policy, the county developed an annual Rural Economic Strategies
799 Report in 2005 and began implementing the identified strategies and actions in 2006.
800 Annual reporting occurred through 2008. Ordinance 17485, which adopted the 2012
801 Comprehensive Plan, called for an update to the Rural Economic Strategies to build
802 upon the work done previously. In response to this, a Rural Economic Strategies Plan
803 was adopted in 2014 via Ordinance 17956.
804

805 The mission of the Rural Economic Strategies Plan is to advance the long-term economic
806 viability of the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, with an emphasis on farming,
807 forestry, and other rural businesses consistent with the unique character of rural King
808 County. The mission is accomplished by initiating and implementing specific strategies
809 and actions to support and enhance rural economic viability. Rural businesses generally
810 fall into six rural economic clusters and each cluster is supported by specific strategies
811 and actions to strengthen and/or enhance it. The clusters are: Agriculture, Forestry,
812 Equestrian, Home-Based Businesses (i.e., those home occupations that are allowed on
813 lands designated Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Area), Recreation and Tourism,
814 Commercial and Industrial Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, Rural Towns, and
815 Cities in the Rural Area. Consistent with CP-539, found in Chapter 11, Community
816 Service Area Subarea Planning, no expansion of industrial land use or zoning is allowed
817 within the Rural Town of Fall City.
818

819 The specific strategies and actions are intended to be flexible in order to respond to
820 evolving rural business needs and changes within any of the economic clusters.
821 Periodically, the county evaluates the actions accomplished to date, introduces new
822 actions to be initiated, and discusses proposed actions for the following year. This
823 ensures the process stays flexible and is current with evolving trends in the rural
824 economy. It is anticipated that this procedure will become part of the Annual Work
825 Plans developed for each of the Community Service Areas.))
826

827 ~~The rural economic policies are designed to establish and maintain a long-term
828 commitment to a sustainable and vibrant rural economy. They support
829 ((implementation of the Rural Economic Strategies Plan,)) continued evaluation of
830 ((c)) county codes to support the evolving agriculture, forestry, and other rural economic
831 clusters ((; and support for)), as well as programs and strategies that foster a diversified
832 rural economy, compatible with existing rural character, while maintaining the natural
833 environment.))~~
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835 The ability to bring rural, agricultural, forestry, and value-added products into the urban
836 area and the ability of urban residents to utilize the Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource
837 Lands for education, open space, scenic vistas, and a diversity of out((-))door recreation
838 options encourage((s)) the urban/rural interdependence and linkage, thus enhancing
839 the county's ((economic base)) economy.
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841 **ED-601 King County is committed to a sustainable and vibrant rural economy
842 that allows rural residents to live and work throughout the Rural Area
843 and Natural Resource Lands. County policy, regulations, and programs
844 should be reviewed and developed in partnership with cities, chambers
845 of commerce, rural businesses, the Agriculture and Rural Forest
846 Commissions, ((the Community Service Area)) community groups, and
847 others to support the preservation and enhancement of traditional rural
848 economic activities and lifestyles, while supporting evolving
849 compatible commercial uses and job opportunities.**

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851 **ED-602 King County should identify and implement ((the Rural Economic
852 Strategies Plan to guide future)) rural economic development ((and will
853 modify and add)) strategies ((as needed to)) that reflect the evolving**

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- nature of the rural economy, while protecting the traditional rural economic clusters.
- a. King County recognizes the value of the agriculture and forestry clusters for both their economic contribution and for their natural, educational, and recreational benefits to the county as a whole. The ~~((c))~~County ~~((will))~~ shall work with the Agriculture Commission, Rural Forest Commission, and other related organizations on strategies and programs to strengthen and enhance the economic viability of these clusters and the evolving value-added industry that helps sustain the county's legacy of raising crops and livestock and managing and harvesting forestlands.
 - b. King County recognizes the value of home-based business, recreation and tourism, and commercial and industrial clusters for their ability to provide job opportunities in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands, and help sustain the rural economic base. The ~~((c))~~County ~~((will))~~ shall continue to work with chambers of commerce and other organizations that support these rural businesses to help ensure the continued viability and economic health of new and existing businesses in these clusters.
 - c. King County recognizes the importance of the equestrian cluster for its diversity of business and recreation-related operations ~~((which)) that combine to provide jobs and income opportunities within the rural economy.~~ The ~~((c))~~County ~~((will))~~ shall continue to work with equestrian-related organizations on business and recreation aspects of the equestrian cluster and with organizations that represent the various trail user groups to help ensure the continued viability and economic health of equestrian and related recreation businesses.
 - d. As a means and in support of protecting rural character and Natural Resource Lands, King County recognizes the value of the partnership with Cities in the Rural Area to act as local urban centers for employment and centers of commerce that provides goods and services for the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands. The ~~((c))~~County ~~((will))~~ shall work with the cities and other organizations to support economic development for Cities in the Rural Area, at a size and scale consistent with the Growth Management Act.
 - e. King County is committed to ensuring that all economic development, including the provision of infrastructure, within the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands shall be compatible with the surrounding rural character, be of an appropriate size and scale, and protect the natural environment.
 - f. King County ~~((will))~~ shall continue to support and partner on programs and incentives to ensure the economic vitality of rural historic resources to help maintain the character of the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands.
 - g. King County ~~((will))~~ shall explore opportunities to support agricultural tourism and value-added program(s) related to the production of food, flowers, and specialty beverages (including beer, distilled beverages, and wine) in the county. Partnership venues should be educational and include information on the diversity of products available in the county and the importance of buying local, should seek to unify regional tourism efforts, and should encourage development of new markets for agricultural products and value-added goods.
 - h. King County ~~((will))~~ shall continue to review existing and proposed regulations to ensure they are relevant and effective in

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- 911 accommodating the differing needs and emerging trends of the
- 912 compatible businesses that comprise the rural economy.
- 913 i. King County should continue to identify the infrastructure needs of
- 914 the rural economic clusters, including transportation, drainage, and
- 915 information technology needs, and provide support for these
- 916 needs, including identification of other funding sources.
- 917 j. King County should continue to identify and encourage businesses
- 918 that take advantage of incentives and technical assistance programs
- 919 that promote economic viability of existing and new businesses in
- 920 the Rural Area and Natural Resources Lands, particularly in the
- 921 Agricultural and Forest Production Districts.
- 922

923 ~~((ED-603) King County should partner with other Puget Sound counties and~~
 924 ~~businesses to analyze the need and possible sites for regional~~
 925 ~~agricultural (such as beef and poultry) and forest product processing.~~
 926 ~~King County recognizes the importance of food and forest processing~~
 927 ~~for the regional economy and should partner with regional~~
 928 ~~communities, governments and residents to ensure that the challenges~~
 929 ~~and opportunities within this industry are analyzed and addressed as~~
 930 ~~needed:~~

931
 932 ~~ED-604)) ED-603~~ King County ~~((will continue to)) shall continue to~~ partner
 933 with organizations that support programs and strategies that
 934 strengthen the interdependence and linkage between the rural,
 935 resource-based, and urban economies~~((, such as the Regional Food~~
 936 ~~Policy Council and Puget Sound Fresh)).~~

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937
 938 ~~((ED-605) King County recognizes the value of open and green space in~~
 939 ~~promoting social and economic health and wellness throughout the~~
 940 ~~county. The county will continue to invest in public lands and partner~~
 941 ~~with organizations that support and strengthen the linkages between~~
 942 ~~rural, resource and urban communities' use and maintenance of these~~
 943 ~~open spaces:~~

944
 945 ~~ED-606)) ED-604~~ King County ~~((will)) shall~~ encourage ~~((economic analysis~~
 946 ~~and)) economic development of the local food system ~~((as called for in~~
 947 ~~the Local Food Initiative)).~~ The County shall seek funding to analyze
 948 barriers to growing the local food economy; make food system
 949 infrastructure improvements, including related to commercial kitchens,
 950 storage, aggregation and packing, and meat processing; and increase
 951 access to farmland.~~

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CHAPTER 11

SUBAREA PLANNING

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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CHAPTER 11

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5

COMMUNITY SERVICE AREA

6

SUBAREA PLANNING

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~~Prior to adoption of the Growth Management Act in 1990, King County had a robust community planning program ((that occurred in two distinct periods=1973 through 1984 to implement the 1964 Comprehensive Plan, and 1985 through 1994 to implement the 1984 Comprehensive Plan. Since then, there have only been minor updates to community plans that were processed through updates to the Comprehensive Plan.)) to implement the Comprehensive Plan. Under the Growth Management Act, community planning became optional.~~

After nearly two decades of aging plans and significant growth)) In 2014, in response to significant growth and aging plans, King County leadership renewed its interest in ((more)) detailed long-range planning for unincorporated rural and urban communities ((in 2014 by providing funding to re-initiate a subarea planning program. The policies in this chapter are based on these historical adopted Community Plans and will be updated as part of the community planning process in

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

~~and the County generally stopped updating its community plans.~~

~~coming years. Subarea plans help identify policies and implementation measures for a specific geographical region. They are done at a more granular level of planning, which more focused community engagement. They are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, and they allow the County to review local policies and development regulations on a planned cycle. Since then, three community service area subarea plans have been adopted. Additional subarea plans are scheduled to be completed in the coming years.~~

10
11

12 A.) I. Subarea Planning Framework
13 ~~((and Geography))~~

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14 A. Introduction

15 ~~((Beginning with the 2016 Comprehensive Plan t))~~The geographical boundaries of the
16 County's seven Community Service Areas ~~((will be))~~ is used as the framework for
17 creation and amendment of subarea plans ~~((created and amended from that point
18 forward))~~. Subarea plans will be developed for the six rural Community Service Areas,
19 and for the five remaining large urban unincorporated ~~((p))~~Potential ~~((a))~~Annexation
20 ~~((a))~~Areas. The focus of subarea plans will be on locally ~~((r))~~specific issues in these
21 subarea geographies.

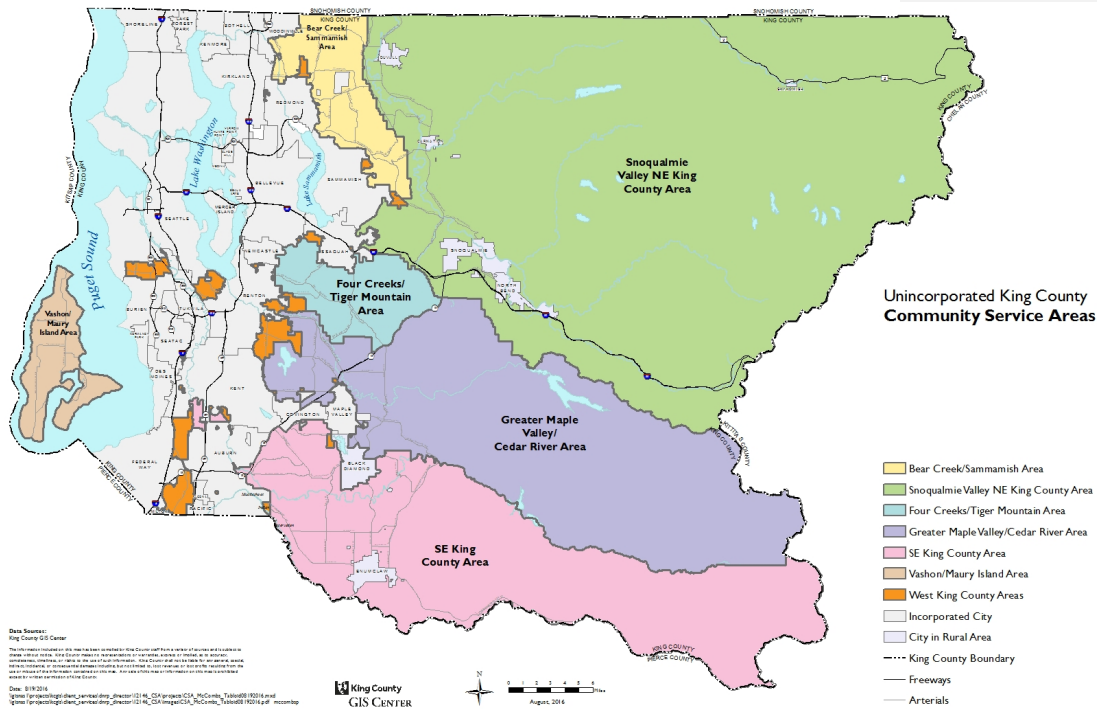
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22
23 ~~((There are a number of key benefits to defining subarea planning boundaries to be
24 coterminous with the Community Service Area boundaries. This structure organizes the
25 County's unincorporated planning area into fewer and more manageable territories so
26 that updates of the plans can occur within a shorter time horizon. Using the Community
27 Service Area boundaries also aligns land use planning with other county services and
28 programs thereby increasing consistency between planning and public service delivery.
29 Finally, since the last round of subarea planning in 1994 there have been numerous
30 major annexations and incorporations which mean some subareas are now largely
31 within the jurisdiction of cities and thus the County now has just a regional, rather than
32 local, planning role in those areas.~~

33
34 **Figure: Community Service Areas Map)**

35

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)



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37

38 While there are differences among the Community Service Areas in terms of their
 39 boundaries, range of land uses, annexation issues, and more, using ~~((this accepted
 40 geography will))~~ these geographies ensures the entire unincorporated portion of the
 41 County receives ~~((some level of))~~ locally focused planning on a regular cycle. This
 42 includes development of each ~~((Community Service Area's))~~ subarea plan. Each plan
 43 will establish ~~((goals;))~~ a community vision statement, guiding principles, and policies~~(;
 44 and))~~ focused on addressing each community's needs and priorities. The plans will be
 45 developed using information such as population changes, employment targets, and
 46 similar demographic and socioeconomic indicators. ~~((To address the unique issues in
 47 each geography, Community Service Area subarea plans may also have more refined
 48 focuses on rural town centers, urban neighborhoods, business districts, or corridor
 49 approaches;))~~ Each plan will also establish performance measures to monitor the
 50 implementation of the plan.

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51
 52 The high-level review along with more detailed land use planning will be guided by a
 53 series of considerations such as community interest, ~~((social equity;))~~ funding, and new
 54 development. Equity and racial and social justice principles will also play a particularly
 55 key role during subarea plan development and public engagement activities. The
 56 County will use the tools and resources developed by the Office of Equity and Racial
 57 and Social Justice to develop the scope of work and the plans so that Black, Indigenous,
 58 and other ~~((p))~~ People of ~~((c))~~ Color~~((;))~~; ~~((low-income;))~~ residents households at or below
 59 80 percent of area median income with low incomes~~((;))~~; and ~~((populations with limited
 60 English proficiency will be informed and))~~ people speaking a language~~(s)~~ other than

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61 ~~English are~~ offered equitable and culturally ~~((c))~~appropriate opportunities to ~~((participate~~
62 ~~in its))~~ work with the County throughout the planning process.

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63
64 ~~((To the extent practicable, s))~~Subarea plans ~~((in unincorporated King County should~~
65 ~~be))~~ are developed in close coordination between the community and ~~((c))~~County staff
66 ~~((that may have a lead or partial role in implementing the plans))~~ to ensure clearer
67 expectations on how and whether community recommendations in a subarea plan are
68 feasible for implementation and within what type of time ~~frame~~. This type of
69 coordination, supported by the financial analysis noted in the following policy, is critical
70 to all subarea ~~((and functional))~~ plans ~~((in order))~~ to evaluate the resources required and
71 the time ~~((-))~~frame necessary for full implementation. Plan alternatives and costs should
72 be clearly understood and plans should be financially achievable.

73 ~~Narrative moved from Chapter 1 Regional Growth Management Planning, with~~
74 ~~edits shown~~

75

76 ~~((RP-115)) CP-100a ((Subarea plans, including area zoning studies, provide~~
77 ~~detailed land use plans for local geographic areas.))~~ Subarea plans
78 implement and shall be elements of the King County Comprehensive
79 Plan and shall be consistent with the Plan's policies, development
80 regulations, and Land Use Map. ~~((The s))~~Subarea plans should be
81 consistent with functional plans' facility and service standards. ~~((The~~
82 ~~s))~~Subarea plans ~~((may))~~ should include, but are not limited to:

- 83 a. Identification of policies in the Comprehensive Plan that apply to
84 the subarea;
- 85 b. Review and update of applicable ~~((c))~~Community ~~Service Area~~
86 ~~Subarea~~ ~~((p))~~Plan policies;
- 87 c. Specific land uses and implementing zoning, consistent with the
88 Comprehensive Plan;
- 89 d. Identification of the boundaries of Unincorporated Activity Centers,
90 countywide centers, and Rural Towns;
- 91 e. Recommendations for the establishment of new Unincorporated
92 Activity Centers ~~((:))~~ and ~~Regional~~ Community and Neighborhood
93 Business Centers, if appropriate;
- 94 f. Recommendations for additional Open Space designations and
95 park sites;
- 96 g. Recommendations for capital improvements ~~((, the means and~~
97 ~~schedule for providing them and amendments to functional plans))~~
98 to support planned land uses and community priorities;
- 99 h. Resolution of land use and service issues in Potential Annexation
100 Areas;
- 101 i. Identification of new issues that need resolution at a countywide
102 level;
- 103 j. Identification of ~~((all necessary))~~ known implementing measures
104 ~~((needed to carry out))~~ related to the subarea plan;
- 105 k. Specific land uses and zoning that encourage healthy, livable
106 communities by promoting physical activity of walking and
107 bicycling; and
- 108 l. Identification of locations and conditions for ~~property specific~~
109 ~~development conditions, including P-suffix, special overlay~~
110 ~~districts, and demonstration projects.~~

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111
112 ~~CP-100b~~ King County shall ~~continue to~~ implement a ~~((Community Service Area))~~
113 subarea planning program. This program shall include ~~((s))~~ the
114 following components for the development and implementation of
115 each subarea plan:

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- a. A subarea plan ~~((shall be))~~ **developed and adopted** consistent with the schedule established in the Comprehensive Plan and King County Code Title 20 for each of the six rural Community Service Areas and five large urban Potential Annexation Areas ~~((consistent with the schedule established in the Comprehensive Plan and King County Code Title 20. Each subarea plan shall be)),~~ streamlined to be focused on locally ~~((r))~~ specific policies that address long-range community needs ~~((:))~~, and including consideration of land use tools to help plan for and accommodate housing needs for all income levels;
- b. A consideration of the financial costs and public benefits of the proposed subarea plan prior to adoption to ensure that implementation can be appropriately prioritized;
- c. ~~((The County shall adopt and update on an ongoing basis, a))~~ **A** list of services, programs, facilities, and capital improvements, updated on an ongoing basis, that are identified by the community for each geography, known as a community needs list, to implement the vision and policies in the subarea plan and other County plans and to build on the strengths and assets of the community ~~((:))~~;
- ~~((c))~~ **d.** ~~((The County should dedicate))~~ **Dedicated** resources toward implementation of the subarea plans and community needs lists in coordination with each community so the highest priorities are addressed where the needs are greatest ~~((:))~~;
- ~~((d))~~ **e.** Implementation of each subarea plan and community needs list ~~((shall be))~~ monitored on an ongoing basis via established performance metrics ~~((:))~~;
- ~~((e))~~ **f.** Community engagement for development, review, amendment, adoption, and implementation of each subarea plan ~~((shall use))~~ using the Office of Equity and **Racial and Social Justice's** equity toolkit and centering engagement with historically underrepresented groups ~~((:))~~; and
- ~~((f))~~ **g.** The King County Council shall have an established role in the ~~((Community Service Area))~~ subarea planning process, including in the development, review, amendment, adoption, and monitoring the implementation of each subarea plan and community needs list.

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~~((B.))~~ Planning Schedule

Below is the schedule for subarea planning using the Community Service Area geography ~~((: R))~~ for reviewing all six rural Community Service Area subareas and five large urban Potential Annexation Areas ~~((over the next decade at both the broad, policy level and at the local, community level with detailed planning will facilitate a more equitable planning process. The plan sequencing was determined by subarea plans already underway, the ability to partner with other jurisdictions, anticipated community needs within a Community Service Area, and striving for a countywide geographic balance in alternating years.))~~ The anticipated duration of each subarea planning process will be three years, which includes time for community engagement, plan development, and Council review and adoption.

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((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)

165 **Schedule of ((Community Service Area (CSA))) Subarea Plans**

Planning	Transmittal	Adoption	Geography	Other Planning
((2021-2023*))	December 2023	December 2024	Snoqualmie Valley/NE King CSA	((Eight)) 10-Year Update
((2023-2025)) 2024-2026	June ((2025)) 2026	June ((2026)) 2027	Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River CSA	
((2024-2026)) 2025-2027	June ((2026)) 2027	June ((2027)) 2028	Fairwood Potential Annexation Area (PAA)	
2026-2028	June 2028	June 2029		Potential Midpoint Comprehensive Plan Update
((2025-2027)) 2028-2030	June ((2027)) 2030	June ((2028)) 2031	Bear Creek/Sammamish CSA	Potential updated for "Implementation Progress Report Work Plan"
((2026-2028)) 2029-2031	June ((2028)) 2031	June ((2029)) 2032	Southeast King County CSA	((Potential Midpoint Update))
2031-2033	June 2033	June 2034		10-year Comprehensive Plan Update
((2027-2029)) 2033-2035	June ((2029)) 2035	June ((2030)) 2036	Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain CSA	
((2028-2030)) 2034-2036	June ((2030)) 2036	June ((2031)) 2037	East Renton PAA	
((2029-2031)) 2035-2037	June ((2031)) 2037	June ((2032)) 2038	Federal Way PAA	((Eight-Year Update))
2036-2038	June 2038	June 2039		Potential Midpoint Comprehensive Plan Update
TBD ((?))		TBD	Vashon-Maury Island CSA	
TBD ((?))		TBD	Skyway-West Hill PAA	
TBD ((?))		TBD	North Highline PAA	
TBD		TBD	<u>Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King CSA</u>	

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166 Note: Planning for each geography is anticipated to take two years, beginning in July of the first
 167 year and ending in June two years later. Council adoption anticipated to occur in June of the
 168 following year.
 169

170 1. ~~The Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County subarea planning process began~~
 171 ~~later in 2021 than anticipated. Therefore, the schedule was adjusted to provide~~
 172 ~~necessary time for community engagement and plan development.~~
 173 ~~2.) The Vashon-Maury Island, Skyway-West Hill, ((and)) North Highline, and Snoqualmie~~
 174 ~~Valley/Northeast King County subarea plans have been adopted and will be updated~~
 175 ~~following completion of the other ((Community Service Area)) Subarea Plans. The~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

176 timeliness for these updates will be determined in future updates to the King County
177 Comprehensive Plan.

178
179 ~~((For ((each of)) the ((Community Service Area)) subarea planning processes specified~~
180 ~~below, the subarea plans and their scope_s of work shall also include:~~
181

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((Study in Motion 14351)) Legislative Direction	Community Service Area (CSA)
((Snoqualmie Pass Subarea Plan: Initiate a subarea plan for Snoqualmie Pass rural town and ski area. The subarea plan should be developed in collaboration with Kittitas County, evaluate and address the current and future housing and economic development needs of this growing community, and include outreach with the local community in its development.	Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County CSA)
((Cedar Hills/Maple Valley Subarea Plan: Initiate a subarea plan for the "Cedar Hills/Maple Valley" area.) Review land use designations and implementing zoning on parcels 2823069007, 2923069019, 2923069080, 2923069082, 2923069083, 2923069084, 3223069001, 3223069003, 3223069068, 3323069027, 3323069030, and 3323069042 and the surrounding area, which has long-standing industrial and resource material processing uses. Study and make recommendations on the potential long-term land uses for this area, including coordination with the County's planning on future closure of the adjacent Cedar Hills landfill. Include evaluation of options for land uses other than mining, including residential uses, non-residential uses; whether a four-to-one proposal is appropriate for this area, and outreach with the local community in its development.)	Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain CSA
((Snoqualmie Interchange: Initiate a land use and zoning study for the Snoqualmie Interchange, and area north of I-90 impacted by the new Interstate 90/Highway 18 interchange. The study should include, at a minimum, review and recommendation of the appropriate zoning for properties abutting the urban growth area boundary. The study should include the properties west of Snoqualmie Way along SE 99th that could have access to urban services, should recognize and protect the forested visual character of the Mountains to	Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County CSA)

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~~((Motion 14351))~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

~~((Study in Motion 14351))
Legislative Direction~~

~~Community Service Area (CSA)~~

~~Sound National Scenic byway on Interstate 90 as well as provide appropriate conservation mitigation for any newly allowed development. The area land use and zoning study, subarea plan and land use designations and zoning classifications should focus on solutions for the northwest corner while planning a vision for the properties on the northeast portions abutting the urban growth area. The plan should also ensure potential trail connections for regional trails and adhere to current King County policies. The Executive should collaborate with the City of Snoqualmie, affected Tribes, Washington state DOT, DNR, property owners, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, regional partners and the community.~~

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182
183 The schedule above ensures that subarea plan goals and objectives are up-to-date and
184 relevant based on current and future needs. Within this larger structure, if a property
185 owner has an interest in a land use change outside of this planning cycle, they are able
186 to use the existing land use processes. Property owners can submit for a Site Specific
187 Land Use Amendment or Zone Reclassification, per King County Code 20.18.050 and
188 Chapter 20.20, respectively. ~~((If a significant land use issue arises in a Community
189 Service Area outside of the planning cycle, the cycle may be adjusted.))~~

190
191 ~~((In consideration of the restructure of the subarea planning program adopted in 2018
192 and 2020, the County will evaluate initiating a performance audit of the program once
193 the restructure has been implemented, by adding a requirement to the King County
194 Auditor's work plan during the 2023-2024 biennium. Additionally, f)) Following the
195 completion of the first subarea planning cycle, the subarea planning schedule for
196 developing and adopting updates to the subarea plans moving forward will be
197 reviewed as part of the ((2032 eight)) 2034 next midpoint or 10-year Comprehensive
198 Plan update. This review will include evaluation of whether the subarea plan update
199 schedule and process can be condensed from its current planning cycle.~~

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200 ~~((C.))((Background)) Subarea Planning History~~

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201 Between 1973 and 1994 King County prepared community plans for 12 ~~((subareas))
202 areas of unincorporated King County. The first generation of community plans,
203 ~~((substantially completed by)) from 1973 to 1984, were used to implement the
204 ((c))County's 1964 Comprehensive Plan, and consisted of detailed land use policies,
205 area zoning, and lists of capital projects (primarily roads and parks) for each planning
206 area. The second generation of community plans, from 1985 to 1994, implemented
207 many concepts of the 1985 King County Comprehensive Plan (for example low-density
208 zoning for the Rural Area ~~((s)), Natural Resource Lands and ((environmentally sensitive))
209 areas with critical areas, higher urban residential densities, and development guidelines
210 for major urban activity centers such as Kenmore) that were carried over to the 1994
211 King County Comprehensive Plan.~~~~~~

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213 Under King County's pre-Growth Management Act planning system, if a community
214 plan conflicted with the comprehensive plan, the community plan governed. Under the

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

215 Growth Management Act, ~~((the comprehensive plan prevails over))~~ subarea~~((s))~~ plans
 216 ~~((Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.080((2))))~~ ~~are required to be consistent with the~~
 217 ~~comprehensive plan.~~ The 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan spelled out the
 218 relationship between the comprehensive plan and community plans and directed the
 219 ~~((c))~~ County to review community plans and repeal or revise them to eliminate conflicts.
 220 The ~~((c))~~ County ~~((has))~~ reviewed the community plans adopted between 1973 and 1994
 221 and determined that, while most community plans' policies are redundant (or, in a few
 222 cases, in conflict with the 1994 Comprehensive Plan), some are area-specific or issue
 223 specific and should be readopted as part of the ~~((c))~~ Comprehensive ~~((p))~~ Plan.
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225 The following table illustrates how the Community Service Area geography aligns with
 226 the former Community Planning Area geography; this is provided to identify how the
 227 existing policies are re-assigned into the current geographic structure.

Community Service Area	Includes parts of the following former Community Planning Areas
Bear Creek / Sammamish Area	Bear Creek, Northshore, East Sammamish
Four Creeks / Tiger Mountain Area	Tahoma Raven Heights, Snoqualmie
Greater Maple Valley / Cedar River Area	Tahoma Raven Heights, Soos Creek, East King County, Snoqualmie
Southeast King County Area	Enumclaw, Tahoma Raven Heights, East King County, Soos Creek
Snoqualmie Valley / NE King County Area	Snoqualmie, East King County, East Sammamish
Vashon - Maury Island	Vashon
West King County Areas (unincorp. urban)	Portions of 10 Community Planning Areas

228 Although ~~((the majority))~~ none of the community plans are ~~((no longer))~~ still in effect ~~((as~~
 229 ~~separately adopted plans))~~, in many cases the published plan documents contain
 230 valuable historical information about King County's communities and other information
 231 that provides background for the policies listed below and for the portions of the local
 232 pre-Growth Management Act area zoning that remain in effect. ~~((The only separately~~
 233 ~~adopted community plan from these previous planning efforts currently in effect is the~~
 234 ~~Fall City Subarea Plan.))~~
 235

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236 The following sections of this chapter will be updated~~((, as appropriate,))~~ to reflect the
 237 ~~((new Community Service Area))~~ subarea plans as they are adopted. The subarea plans
 238 that have been adopted under the new subarea planning framework include: the
 239 Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan, the Skyway-West Hill
 240 Community Service Area Subarea Plan, ~~((and))~~ the North Highline Community Service
 241 Area Subarea Plan, ~~and the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan.~~
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~~((I.))~~ II. Bear Creek / Sammamish ~~((Area))~~

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244 The Bear Creek/Sammamish Community Service Area consists of portions of the
245 following former Community Planning Areas: Bear Creek, Northshore and East
246 Sammamish. Large sections of this area have been annexed into the cities of Bothell
247 and Redmond and have incorporated into the cities of Kenmore, Sammamish and
248 Woodinville. The Urban Planned Developments east of the City of Redmond were
249 controlled through development agreements; however, those agreements were
250 expiring and, in 2020, King County established land use and zoning for these areas.
251 King County will not permit additional similar urban-scale development outside the
252 Urban Growth Area. The policies listed below pertain to areas within the Community
253 Service Area that are still within unincorporated King County.
254

255 In 2014, the estimated population in the Bear Creek/Sammamish CSA was 44,000. Of
256 this total, 9,000 people were estimated to live in the Redmond Ridge Urban Planned
257 Development and 34,900 people were estimated to live in the CSA rural portion. In
258 2010, there were a total of 15,850 housing units in the CSA. Of this total, 3,540 were in
259 the Redmond Ridge Urban Planned Development and 12,300 were in the CSA rural
260 portion.

261 A. Background

262 **Bear Creek.** The Bear Creek Community Plan became effective in February 1989, and
263 directed most forecast growth into a concentrated area near the City of Redmond
264 Watershed, first referred to as the "Novelty Hill Master Planned Developments." The
265 rest of the Bear Creek Plateau was designated for a mixture of suburban and rural
266 residential development. The 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan redesignated
267 most of the planning area as Rural Area. In 1995, some of the Bear Creek Community
268 Plan's policies relating to the Novelty Hill Master Planned Developments (MPDs) were
269 amended by Ordinance 11954. Also, the 1994 Comprehensive Plan refers to MPDs as
270 Urban Planned Developments.
271

272 After the 1994 Comprehensive Plan's urban designation of the Urban Planned
273 Developments sites was appealed and remanded to the county, the sites in question
274 were redesignated for Fully Contained Communities as defined in the Growth
275 Management Act, as well as Urban Planned Developments ~~((See policy U-170))~~. The
276 readopted policies for the most part address Novelty Hill and some area-specific
277 transportation and trail issues.
278

279 **East Sammamish.** The East Sammamish Community Plan was adopted in December
280 1992. The East Sammamish Community Plan Update became effective in June 1993.
281 Most of the planning area was designated for urban development, but important Rural
282 Areas included Happy Valley, Grand Ridge and the eastern edge of the Sammamish
283 Plateau. For the most part, the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan reaffirmed the
284 land use designations of the East Sammamish Community Plan Update. The major
285 changes from the community plan occasioned by the 1994 Comprehensive Plan were
286 replacement of the "urban reserve" approach to growth phasing with the service and
287 finance strategy outlined in the 1994 Comprehensive Plan and the designation of a
288 portion of Grand Ridge for urban growth.
289

290 **Northshore.** The first "Northshore Communities Development Plan" began in 1972-
291 1973 and was adopted in August 1977. Almost immediately the Northshore

292 Community Plan Revision Committee was established, and the "Revised Northshore
293 Community Plan" was adopted in 1981.

294
295 The latest Northshore Community Plan Update began in July 1988 and was adopted in
296 February 1993. During 1993, the newly incorporated City of Woodinville assumed
297 jurisdiction within its territory. Portions of the planning area have been annexed by
298 Bothell, Kirkland and Redmond. Kenmore, a significant unincorporated activity center,
299 became a city in August 1998.

300 B. Bear Creek Policies

301 **CP-101 To provide a range of housing opportunities and accommodate a fair**
302 **share of growth in Bear Creek, the Novelty Hill subarea should be**
303 **designated an urban planned development (UPD) and fully contained**
304 **community (FCC). This designation will be implemented by urban**
305 **planned development. (BC-3)**
306

307 **CP-102 Urban planned development will be permitted in the Novelty Hill**
308 **subarea only when the following planning policies are met:**

- 309 a. **To protect existing wetlands, streams and wildlife habitat, urban**
310 **planned development shall be consistent with the intent of King**
311 **County ordinances, King County Comprehensive Plan policies, and**
312 **sensitive areas regulations. The design of the proposed**
313 **development shall protect and preserve existing wetlands, streams**
314 **and wildlife habitat by several methods including (but not limited**
315 **to) minimizing alterations to the natural drainage features,**
316 **maintaining water quality, preserving storage capacity, providing**
317 **undisturbed unique/outstanding wetlands and undisturbed or**
318 **enhanced buffers, restricting the number of stream crossings, and**
319 **minimizing erosion and sedimentation. To achieve the intent of**
320 **this policy it may be necessary to exceed the requirements of the**
321 **King County wetland guidelines.**
322 b. **A master drainage plan for the Novelty Hill subarea shall be**
323 **approved by King County.**
324 c. **New development adjacent to a unique/outstanding or significant**
325 **wetland should preserve or enhance the wetland and provide an**
326 **undisturbed buffer around the wetland adequate to protect its**
327 **natural functions. Encroachments into significant wetlands may be**
328 **allowed when no feasible alternative exists and enhancements are**
329 **provided to replace the lost wetland functions; and**
330 d. **Groundwater recharge areas should be identified and protected to**
331 **ensure that groundwater resources are protected from potential**
332 **pollution.**
333 e. **To ensure that the existing road system in both King County and**
334 **Redmond is not adversely affected, on-site and off-site traffic**
335 **impacts shall be mitigated consistent with the Integrated**
336 **Transportation Program (K.C.C. chapter 14.65).**
337 f. **A project environmental impact statement (EIS) shall be required**
338 **for all property proposed for urban planned development within**
339 **the Urban Planned Development area. The project EIS shall**
340 **address the full range of public services necessary to serve urban**
341 **development on Novelty Hill. The EIS shall include the cost of**
342 **these services, the financial responsibility of the developer(s) and**
343 **affected jurisdictions, and the method of phasing development to**
344 **coincide with availability of these public services.**

- 345 g. Since the remainder of residential land in Bear Creek will either be
- 346 recognized as existing one-acre neighborhoods or designated as
- 347 Rural Areas, all improvements to public facilities, including but not
- 348 limited to road construction and sewers, shall be financed by the
- 349 Urban Planned Development developers provided the impacts are
- 350 the result of UPD developments or according to a fair-share formula
- 351 agreed to by affected parties.
- 352 h. A full range of housing densities, types and prices including
- 353 housing for low-, moderate-, and medium-income groups shall be
- 354 included in the Urban Planned Development. The mix of single-
- 355 family and multifamily housing in the Urban Planned
- 356 Developments shall approximate the existing county housing stock
- 357 mix.
- 358 i. Urban planned development shall maintain and keep open for
- 359 public use identified major equestrian and hiking trails.
- 360 j. Urban planned development shall provide active recreation
- 361 facilities that adequately serve the needs of future residents and
- 362 employees.
- 363 k. Urban planned development shall provide a minimum of 25% open
- 364 space in addition to the preservation of all surveyed wetlands.
- 365 l. The Novelty Hill urban planned development area shall contain an
- 366 urban activity center, which includes a commercial center to
- 367 provide for the everyday shopping needs of the planned Urban
- 368 Planned Development population.
- 369 m. The activity center shall also contain a business park of sufficient
- 370 size to provide a diversity of employment opportunities and a
- 371 balance of jobs and households for the Urban Planned
- 372 Development area.
- 373 n. In order to preserve opportunities for a variety of employment
- 374 types in the business park areas, retail development in
- 375 freestanding buildings should be excluded. Up to 10% of gross
- 376 floor area in business park buildings may be planned for retail uses,
- 377 such as restaurants and business services, to serve business park
- 378 employees.
- 379 o. Development conditions for the shopping and business park areas
- 380 should encourage high quality development and site design.
- 381
- 382 • The area will revert to rural if UPD development is denied or not
- 383 pursued. If the UPD area reverts to rural, the zoning shall be RA-5.
- 384 (BC-4)
- 385
- 386 **CP-103** Sewer facilities necessary to serve urban planned development on
- 387 Novelty Hill are planned, designed and constructed to serve only such
- 388 development and are prohibited from serving nearby surrounding low-
- 389 density urban and Rural Areas. Proposals to extend sewer service or
- 390 expand urban development outside the Novelty Hill subarea are not
- 391 appropriate and are inconsistent with the purpose of the King County
- 392 Comprehensive Plan. (BC-5)
- 393
- 394 **CP-104** The Novelty Hill urban planned development or fully contained
- 395 community shall contain a commercial area of sufficient size to serve
- 396 the future residents and employees. (BC-17)
- 397
- 398 **CP-105** The natural drainage systems of Bear, Evans, and Patterson Creeks
- 399 should be restored, maintained, and enhanced to protect water quality,
- 400 preserve existing aquatic habitat, reduce public costs, and prevent

- 401 environmental degradation. Public improvements and private
402 developments should not alter natural drainage systems without
403 mitigating measures which eliminate increased risk of flooding and
404 erosion, negative impacts on water quality, and loss on aquatic or
405 riparian habitat. (BC-32)
406
- 407 **CP-106** An undisturbed corridor wide enough to maintain the natural biological
408 and hydrological functions of streams should be preserved in all new
409 development in the Bear Creek Planning Area. (BC-34)
410
- 411 **CP-107** Bear, Evans, and Patterson Creeks and their tributaries should be
412 protected from grazing animal access in order to: 1) reduce water
413 quality degradation from animal wastes, 2) reduce bank collapse due to
414 trampling, and 3) allow shading vegetation to reestablish along stream
415 banks. (BC-35)
416
- 417 **CP-108** Streams channeled in the Bear, Evans, and Patterson Creek drainages
418 should not be placed in culverts unless absolutely necessary for
419 property access. To reduce disruption to streams and their banks,
420 bridges should be used for stream crossings, and crossings should
421 serve several properties. When culverts are required, oversized
422 culverts with gravel bottoms that maintain the channels' width and
423 grade should be used. (BC-38)
424
- 425 **CP-109** New development should rehabilitate degraded stream channels and
426 banks in the Bear, Evans, and Patterson Creek drainages to prevent
427 further erosion and water quality problems. Where conditions permit,
428 the banks and channels should be restored to a natural state. (BC-39)
429
- 430 **CP-110** Unique or significant wildlife should be identified and preserved.
431 Development plans should identify significant wildlife habitat and
432 should locate buildings, roads, and other features on less sensitive
433 portions of the site. These considerations may result in a reduction in
434 density from that otherwise allowed by zoning. (BC-40)
435
- 436 **CP-111** The Bear and Evans Creeks' watersheds have been designated as
437 critical areas for protection of the aquatic resources and human health.
438 The following surface water management activities should be
439 promoted.
- 440 a. Appropriate and reasoned changes in land use policies and
 - 441 regulations may be evaluated during the preparation of the
 - 442 Bear/Evans Creeks Basin Plan.
 - 443 b. Ensure adequate field inspection of land development activities.
 - 444 c. Implement a public information program to promote water
 - 445 resources and stream channel protection.
 - 446 d. The Bear and Evans Creeks Basin Plan shall develop
 - 447 recommendations for water quality monitoring and recommended
 - 448 methods for citizen input and evaluation to assess the success of
 - 449 the county's policies and regulations pertaining to this planning
 - 450 area. (BC-41)
 - 451

- 452 CP-112 Mitigation of traffic impacts to the City of Redmond arterial system will
453 be accomplished through the interlocal agreement process. The
454 Avondale arterial corridor study recommendations shall be used as a
455 basis for traffic mitigation requirements for both city and county
456 development affecting the corridor.
457 a. Mitigation shall preserve the operational integrity of the corridor
458 and maintain existing local access. The primary arterial corridor
459 between the Novelty Hill urban area and SR-520 should be located
460 and designed to encourage transit and ride-sharing alternatives to
461 single-occupant vehicle travel.
462 b. Transportation planning of new facilities and management of the
463 transportation system should be coordinated with current and
464 forecast needs of the East Sammamish and Northshore planning
465 areas, adjacent areas of Snohomish County, and with the cities of
466 Redmond and Kirkland, and should be a cooperative effort of the
467 affected jurisdictions. Phasing of Bear Creek and Redmond
468 development should be strongly linked to the provision of
469 adequate transportation facilities and travel demand management
470 programs. (BC-45A)
471
- 472 CP-113 Establishment of new rights-of-way and acquisition of additional right-
473 of-way in existing corridors should emphasize protection of natural
474 systems and adequate buffering of existing and potential residential
475 development. (BC-47)
476
- 477 CP-114 Road improvements in Cottage Lake, Ring Hill, Ames Lake, Union Hill,
478 and the Rural Areas should incorporate design features such as grass
479 lined swales to minimize surface water disruption and to protect and
480 enhance water quality. (BC-49)
481
- 482 CP-115 196th Avenue Northeast ("Red Brick Road") between Union Hill Road
483 and Redmond-Fall City Road (SR-202) is a historic road and should be
484 preserved by restoring its brick surface, limiting vehicular loads and
485 speeds, and prohibiting access to commercially-zoned properties to the
486 west. Access to these properties should be provided by other existing
487 roads and by a new north-south road connecting Union Hill Road and
488 185th/187th Avenues Northeast. (BC-50)
489
- 490 CP-116 Park-and-ride and park-and-pool lots should be developed in
491 Redmond, Cottage Lake, Ring Hill, Ames Lake, and Union Hill to
492 provide focal points for transit and ride sharing. Park-and-pool lots
493 should be located in Rural Areas along major commuting corridors such
494 as SR-202, Redmond-Fall City Road, Novelty Hill Road, and Woodinville
495 Duvall Road. (BC-52)
496
- 497 CP-117 The Northwest Gas Pipeline and Puget Sound Power Line should be
498 established as regional trails in Bear Creek to tie in with other planning
499 areas and to connect with the King County Tolt Pipeline Trail and the
500 Snoqualmie Valley Trail. (BC-61)
501
- 502 CP-118 When the development of property occurs in Bear Creek, adequate
503 rights-of-way should be provided for trail use. Trails should connect to
504 existing and proposed schools, parks, riding stables, and recreation
505 areas. (BC-62)
506

507 C. East Sammamish Policies

508 CP-119 For all new development, increased standards for retention/detention,
509 water quality facilities, and monitoring shall be considered, adopted
510 and implemented as appropriate within the areas identified in surface
511 water management basin planning and reconnaissance study areas.
512 (NE-1)

513
514 CP-120 As new roads are built and existing roads widened, special
515 consideration shall be taken to create or retain the aesthetic character
516 of the area through the use of vegetated buffers that utilize native
517 vegetation. (NE-3)

518
519 CP-121 Control mechanisms equal to or more effective than those adopted by
520 Ordinance 9365 limiting or removing phosphorus and other non-point
521 source pollutants from water bodies should be established and
522 implemented as special requirements in area-specific basins plans to
523 provide added protection to streams, lakes, wetlands. The Lake
524 Sammamish Water Quality Management Project Report and, upon their
525 adoption, the Issaquah Creek and East Lake Sammamish Basin and
526 Non-point Source Control Plan, the Pine Lake Management Plan and
527 the Beaver Lake Management Plan recommendations should be
528 implemented to protect water bodies from non-point source pollution.
529 (NE-7)

530
531 CP-122 Development shall protect wildlife through site design and
532 landscaping. New development within or adjacent to the wildlife
533 habitat network should incorporate design techniques that protect and
534 enhance wildlife habitat values. (NE-10)

535
536 CP-123 All golf course proposals shall be carefully evaluated for their impacts
537 on surface and groundwater quality, sensitive areas, and fish and
538 wildlife resources and habitat. (NE-11)

539
540 CP-124 Water used for irrigating golf courses should come from nonpotable
541 water sources wherever possible. Use of natural surface water sources,
542 such as streams, should be avoided due to impacts on fish and other
543 wildlife habitat. A water conservation plan shall be submitted with golf
544 course applications which should address measures such as the use of
545 drought-tolerant plant species. (NE-12)

546
547 CP-125 The Patterson Creek Basin currently provides highly-productive aquatic
548 habitat. Urban development within this basin should be conditioned to
549 protect this resource by minimizing site disturbance, impervious
550 surfaces and disturbances of wetlands and streams. (No Community
551 Plan Policy Number)

552

- 553 CP-126 The Northwest Pipeline office and maintenance shop is an existing use
554 and is recognized by this plan as providing a needed service to the
555 area. This 6.5 acre site may redevelop for pipeline utility and/or school
556 bus base uses exclusive of major maintenance functions that are
557 compatible with the surrounding rural development and agricultural
558 uses. Redesignation of additional properties in the immediate vicinity
559 of Northwest Pipeline for manufacturing park uses or other urban uses
560 shall not be permitted. (CI-13)
561
- 562 CP-127 New developments should be designed and constructed with an
563 internal road system which includes a Neighborhood Collector linking
564 with existing or planned adjacent developments, creating a complete
565 Neighborhood Collector circulation system and such linkage should be
566 designed to ensure safety of local streets. Through traffic on local
567 access streets should be discouraged. (T-9)
568
- 569 CP-128 Metropolitan King County Government should establish park-and-ride
570 facilities in the East Sammamish Community Planning area. Park-and-
571 ride facilities should be built along 228th Avenue and/or adjacent to I-
572 90 and SR-202. The park-and-ride lots should be sited adjacent to and
573 connect with existing or proposed community or neighborhood centers
574 or within the employment center located around the intersection of E.
575 Lake Sammamish Parkway and SE 56th Street. Establishment of a site
576 near, but to the north of, I-90 should be high priority response to
577 current and anticipated I-90 access problems. (T-13)
578
- 579 CP-129 Consistent with the King County Open Space Plan, the county shall
580 encourage establishment of an open space system in East Sammamish
581 and give priority to protecting recreational, cultural and natural and
582 sensitive areas such as shorelines, aquifer recharge areas, wildlife
583 habitat, historic properties, archaeological sites, scenic vistas and
584 community separators or greenbelts. The county may require lot
585 clustering within or adjacent to open space areas; linkages between
586 open spaces and may provide density bonuses or incentives to
587 developers who preserve significant open space or establish trails
588 beyond usually applied mitigation. (P-11)
589
- 590 CP-130 Urban separators should be established to provide visual relief from
591 continuous development, provide important linkages for wildlife
592 habitat, and maintain a visual separation between distinct
593 communities. (P-17)
594
- 595 CP-131 There are areas within the urban separators that are especially suitable
596 for trail connections for recreational use by present and anticipated
597 population. King County should develop a trail and/or parks system
598 utilizing the preserved open space within the urban separators. (P-18)
599
- 600 CP-132 When the development of properties occurs in the East Sammamish
601 planning area, public access or easements should be required to
602 complete the development of a local trail system for those areas where
603 existing trails have historically been used by the public, or where the
604 King County Open Space Plan identifies proposed trail alignment for
605 regional and local trails. The Parks Division shall review the application
606 during the development review process. (P-23)
607

608 **D. Northshore Policies**

609 **CP-133** The north and east slopes of Norway Hill have an established
610 neighborhood character and limited future development potential.
611 They are, therefore, designated low density urban, 1 home per acre.
612 King County recognizes that extensive steep slopes and erosive soils at
613 the top of Norway Hill (above the 300-foot elevation mark) warrant
614 lower residential densities. (E-10)

615
616 **CP-134** The undeveloped area to the south of Metro's Brickyard Park and Ride
617 lot should retain its office-only designation in recognition of its
618 proximity to a major transportation corridor and the need for increased
619 employment opportunity in proximity to planned high-density
620 residential areas. (E-13)

621
622 **CP-135** King County, Snohomish County, the City of Bothell, and the City of
623 Woodinville should work on specific areas of mutual concern, such as
624 the Swamp Creek and Daniels Creek drainage basins, the SR-527
625 transportation corridor, the proposed regional facilities of the
626 University of Washington, and the future expansion of the City of
627 Bothell. (E-25)

628
629 **CP-136** Significant vegetation is a diminishing resource in the Northshore
630 community. Significant vegetation contributes significantly to
631 environmental quality, neighborhood character, and the quality of life
632 in Northshore. All new residential development shall retain significant
633 existing vegetation. Native vegetation should be utilized wherever
634 possible. (R-17)

635
636 **CP-137** New development must provide pedestrian connections to off-site
637 facilities such as existing trails, walkways, community facilities and
638 services, transit, schools and surrounding residential neighborhoods.
639 Pedestrian links should be provided internally in all new residential
640 development. Bicycle and equestrian links should be provided where
641 possible. (R-19)

642
643 **CP-138** King County recognizes the importance of existing mobile home parks
644 in providing affordable housing options. Mobile home parks outside of
645 the Woodinville and Kenmore commercial core areas are designated
646 for mobile home park uses, and shall be zoned appropriately.
647 • a. King County shall continue to examine the feasibility of
648 funding and developing a replacement mobile home park in north
649 King County for displaced mobile homes on county-owned or
650 privately owned sites.
651 • b. King County should develop interlocal agreements with
652 the cities of Bothell, Redmond, Kirkland, Woodinville and Kenmore
653 for joint development of replacement parks to accommodate
654 mobile home owners if they are displaced from mobile home parks
655 within cities. (R-21)

656
657 **CP-139** Roadway improvements addressing the transportation needs in the
658 Sammamish Valley from the South Woodinville bypass to Northeast
659 124th Street should carefully preserve the rural character of the valley
660 as indicated by this and other adopted land use plans. Incorporating
661 roadway design characteristics, such as tree windbreaks and shoulders

- 662 instead of curb and gutter, will enhance this rural atmosphere. Access
- 663 from adjacent properties to the proposed Willows Road extension shall
- 664 be discouraged. Where access is necessary from adjacent properties,
- 665 access shall be consolidated. (T-11)
- 666
- 667 **CP-140** Transportation projects in Northshore should incorporate bicycle
- 668 friendly design, utilizing a variety of design techniques appropriate to
- 669 the particular project and right-of-way characteristics, including, but
- 670 not limited to, bicycle lanes, wide outside travel lanes, paved
- 671 shoulders, bicycle sensitive signal detectors, and appropriate signing.
- 672 Existing bicycle facilities should be preserved or enhanced when
- 673 general road improvements are made. Secure parking for bicycles
- 674 should be provided at activity centers throughout Northshore. (T-33)
- 675
- 676 **CP-141** Pedestrian and bicycle linkages are encouraged and should be
- 677 planned. There should also be a link for equestrian uses from
- 678 Hollywood Hill and NE 171st Street to the Sammamish River trail in the
- 679 vicinity of the South Woodinville CBD bypass. (W-14)
- 680
- 681 **CP-142** Protection of natural vegetation coverage at levels sufficient to
- 682 moderate surface water runoff and erosion and to protect the integrity
- 683 of stream channels should be required through special zoning
- 684 requirements, critical drainage basin requirements, or countywide
- 685 ordinance. When revegetation is required, appropriate native
- 686 vegetation should be used. (NR-4)
- 687
- 688 **CP-143** Unique geologic conditions in Northshore have resulted in hillsides that
- 689 have a high risk of large scale erosion. Increased on-site
- 690 retention/detention requirements in areas drainage over steep and
- 691 erosive slopes should be adopted and implemented as special zoning
- 692 requirements. (NR-9)
- 693
- 694 **CP-144** A community-wide trail system for pedestrians, equestrians, and
- 695 bicyclists should be developed. This trail system should connect
- 696 regional trails with local trails and walkways. (P-6)
- 697
- 698 **CP-145** When the development of properties occurs in the Northshore Planning
- 699 Area, public access or easements should be required to complete the
- 700 development of a local trail system. Adequate right-of-way should be
- 701 provided for trail use. To ensure that the provision of trail corridor
- 702 right-of-way does not result in a reduction in the number of permitted
- 703 building lots, the area within the trail right-of-way, not otherwise
- 704 credited as part of a road right-of-way dedication, should also be
- 705 credited toward the lot area of any proposed development. Trails
- 706 should connect to existing and proposed schools, parks, riding stables,
- 707 recreation areas and neighborhoods. (P9)
- 708
- 709 **CP146** King County should work closely with other jurisdictions and public
- 710 agencies to seek appropriate trail links between elements of the open
- 711 space system including, but not limited to the Burke-Gilman trail,
- 712 Sammamish River trail, and the Tolt Pipeline Trail. (P10)
- 713

714 **CP-147 Existing public access points to the Sammamish River should be**
715 **maintained and additional access points acquired and developed to**
716 **ensure the use of this river as trail corridor and fishing area. (P-11)**

717 ~~((H.))~~ **III. Four Creeks / Tiger Mountain**
718 ~~((Area))~~

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719 **A. Background**

720 The Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain Community Service Area consists of portions of the
721 following former Community Planning Areas: Newcastle, Tahoma Raven Heights, East
722 Sammamish and Snoqualmie. A large portion of the area incorporated as the City of
723 Newcastle and annexed in to the City of Issaquah. The Klahanie Annexation expanded
724 the City of Sammamish in 2016.

725
726 In 2014, the estimated population in the Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain CSA was
727 approximately 13,000. In 2010, there were 4,870 housing units in the CSA.

728
729 The Newcastle Community Plan commenced in 1978 and was adopted in May 1983.
730 The final adopted plan designated three sites for Master Planned Developments
731 (MPDs), but stipulated that only two MPDs could occur without an update of the
732 community plan. One MPD was approved by the county in the late 1980s. Bellevue
733 annexed Factoria and Newport Hills in 1993 and the City of Newcastle was incorporated
734 in 1994, so the noncity portion of the planning area's population fell 13 percent
735 between 1990 and 1994 even though the whole planning area was forecasted to grow
736 almost 18 percent between 1994 and 2010. The planning area also included some
737 areas designated Rural Area by either the 1985 or 1994 King County Comprehensive
738 Plans.
739

740 **B. Newcastle Policies**

741 **CP-201 King County supports the nomination of the Odd Fellows Cemetery and**
742 **counterbalance right-of-way to the National and State Registers of**
743 **Historic Places. (N-33)**

744
745 **CP-202 Limit grazing animal access to May Creek and its tributaries in order to**
746 **1) reduce water quality degradation from animal wastes, 2) reduce**
747 **bank collapse due to animals' hooves, and 3) allow shading vegetation**
748 **to reestablish along stream banks. (N-41)**
749

750 **CP-203** **May Creek is acknowledged as a regional asset and should be**
751 **protected. Thus, King County shall not increase zoning density on**
752 **lands that drain into May Creek (i.e. the May Valley Basin) without first**
753 **determining and implementing stormwater runoff mitigation necessary**
754 **to control flooding and siltation in May Creek.**

755 ~~((III.))~~ IV. Greater Maple Valley / Cedar
756 River ~~((Area))~~

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757 The Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River Community Service Area encompasses portions
758 of the following former Community Planning Areas: Soos Creek, Tahoma Raven
759 Heights, Snoqualmie and East King County.

760
761 In 2014, the estimated population in the Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River CSA was
762 approximately 17,000. In 2010, there were 6,700 housing units in the CSA.

763 A. Background

764 The first Soos Creek Plateau Communities Plan (SCCP) commenced during the fall of
765 1975, and was adopted in November 1979. The process was controversial, partly
766 because Soos Creek served as a laboratory for several emerging planning concepts,
767 including a Rural Area land use designation implemented with zoning limiting
768 residential density to one home per five acres.

769
770 The Soos Creek Community Plan Update commenced in March 1988 and was adopted
771 in December 1991. In 1995 the City of Kent initiated annexation of a very large area
772 between it and Lake Meridian, intended to encompass most of its Potential Annexation
773 Area (PAA) within the planning area. The cities of Maple Valley and Covington have
774 commenced operating and assumed jurisdiction within their territories. The Panther
775 Lake annexation to the City of Kent occurred in 2010.

776
777 The Tahoma/Raven Heights Communities Plan (T/RH) commenced in August 1979 and
778 was adopted in October 1984. T/RH continued to apply the Growth Reserve and Rural
779 Area designations and zoning that emerged during the Soos Creek planning process.
780 The planning area is mostly unincorporated Rural Area or Forest Production District. In
781 the years prior to the Growth Management Act (GMA) the City of Black Diamond
782 completed one large annexation. A final Urban Growth Area for Black Diamond was
783 adopted as part of amendments following the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan.

784
785 The planning area was affected by the incorporation of the City of Maple Valley in 1997.
786 The city includes most of the Urban Growth Area in the planning area.

787
788 In response to data and recommendations emerging while the Soos Creek Basin Plan
789 was being prepared, interim five acre zoning was applied to portions of the Jenkins and
790 Covington Creek watersheds in July 1989. An update to the plan covering about one-
791 fifth of the planning area was initiated in March 1991, and adopted in December 1991.
792 The area zoning was changed in some cases, but this action was based on the 1985
793 King County Comprehensive Plan and applicable basin plan policies, and did not result
794 in any changes to the 1984 plan's policies.

795 **B. Soos Creek Policies**

- 796 **CP-301** The continued viability and health of the Soos Creek planning area's
797 stream systems and the fisheries resources dependent upon them
798 should be assured through zoning, special zoning conditions and
799 development regulations. The intent of this policy is to control
800 densities along stream corridors identified by the Soos Creek Basin
801 Plan. This policy will be implemented through the Area Zoning by
802 placing rural and urban densities within 1/4-mile of significant stream
803 systems identified as Types 1, 2, and 3 waters according to the
804 Sensitive Areas Ordinance. (NR-1)
805
- 806 **CP-302** Lot coverage limitations for building shall be applied in all stream
807 corridors in urban designated areas of the Soos Creek basin and
808 classified R-1, urban stream protection special district overlay. Total
809 impervious surface should not exceed 8%, and total clearing of
810 forested vegetation should not exceed 30%. Reforestation to achieve
811 sites that are 70% forested should be required. (NR-1A)
812
- 813 **CP-303** New development should rehabilitate degraded wetlands and stream
814 channels and banks in the Soos Creek planning area's drainage's to
815 prevent further erosion and water quality problems. These areas
816 include, but are not limited to, May Creek, Garrison Creek, Molasses
817 Creek and Olsen Creek. Where conditions permit, the banks and
818 channels should be restored to a natural state. Where it has been
819 determined that additional standards may be appropriate to control
820 volume, these should be required for new development. (NR-3)
821
- 822 **CP-304** Within the Soos Creek basin, bare ground associated with clearing,
823 grading, utility installation, building construction, and other
824 development activity should be covered or revegetated between
825 October 1 and March 31 each year. Earth-moving and land-clearing
826 activity should not occur during this period within the Soos Creek basin
827 except for regular maintenance of public facilities and public agency
828 response to emergencies that threaten the public health, safety and
829 welfare. Landscaping of single-family residences, existing permitted
830 commercial forestry and mining activities and development sites with
831 approved and constructed drainage facilities that infiltrate 100 percent
832 of stormwater runoff should be exempt from these restrictions. (NR-8)
833
- 834 **CP-305** For new subdivisions in the Soos Creek basin Rural Area, a minimum of
835 20% of the property should be retained as a separate tract of
836 undisturbed indigenous vegetation. (NR-9)
837
- 838 **CP-306** All development within 660 feet of the top of the Cedar River Valley
839 and the Green River Valley walls, particularly along the bluffs south and
840 west of the Lea Hill plateau and within the Lake Heights area, should be
841 conditioned to avoid adverse impacts on the environment and risks to
842 life and property. (NR-14)
843
- 844 **CP-307** The Soos Creek Community Plan recognizes the importance of existing
845 mobile home parks in providing affordable housing options. Mobile
846 home parks in the urban areas of Soos Creek are designated for mobile
847 home park uses, and should be zoned appropriately. King County
848 should continue to examine the feasibility of funding and developing a
849 replacement mobile home park in south King County for displaced

- 850 mobile homes on county-owned or privately-owned sites. King County
- 851 should develop intergovernmental agreements with the cities of
- 852 Renton, Kent and Auburn for joint development of replacement parks
- 853 to accommodate mobile home owners if they are displaced from
- 854 mobile home parks within cities. (R-23)
- 855
- 856 **CP-308 Significant vegetation is a diminishing resource in the Soos Creek**
- 857 **community. Significant vegetation contributes significantly to**
- 858 **environmental quality, neighborhood character, and the quality of life**
- 859 **in Soos Creek. All new residential development shall retain significant**
- 860 **existing vegetation. Native vegetation should be utilized wherever**
- 861 **possible. (R-33)**
- 862
- 863 **CP-309 Multifamily zoned land should not be converted to institutional and**
- 864 **commercial/office uses within the Soos Creek Planning Area. (C-5)**
- 865
- 866 **CP-310 Equestrian crossings of arterials should be permitted only where they**
- 867 **do not greatly disrupt traffic. Where possible, these crossings should**
- 868 **be combined with pedestrian and bicycle crossings. There should be**
- 869 **no at grade equestrian crossings of SR-516, except at Lake Meridian.**
- 870 **(T-29)**
- 871
- 872 **CP-311 Crest Airpark is an important local facility and should continue**
- 873 **operation at current levels of use. (F-15)**
- 874
- 875 **CP-312 Because of noise and public safety concerns, low-density, single-family**
- 876 **development should be the primary land use allowed within Crest**
- 877 **Airpark's north flight path within 1/2-mile of the airport runway. (F-16)**
- 878
- 879 **CP-313 All new subdivisions within 1/4-mile of Crest Airpark should include a**
- 880 **covenant. The covenant should state that the property owner and/or**
- 881 **resident recognize the existence of Crest Airpark, its value to the**
- 882 **community, and the noise and public safety aspects of living in**
- 883 **proximity to the airpark. (F-17)**
- 884
- 885 **CP-314 The operation of Pacific Raceway is expected to continue indefinitely.**
- 886 **The area authorized for racetrack use shall be confined to maximize**
- 887 **protection of Soosette Creek and its riparian area. Any future**
- 888 **consideration of permits for its operation should be consistent with the**
- 889 **spirit and intent of the 1991 rules and conditions which regulate**
- 890 **operation of the facility. (F-18)**
- 891
- 892 **CP-315 King County should give high priority to expanding the Big Soos Creek**
- 893 **trail by linking the City of Covington to the south and Fairwood Center**
- 894 **to the north to the existing trail system. (P-15)**
- 895
- 896 **CP-316 King County should give high priority to linking the Green River and**
- 897 **Cedar River corridors. (P-16)**
- 898

899 CP-317 King County should coordinate with the City of Seattle, WSDOT, and
900 other jurisdictions to link major elements of the open space system
901 including the Cedar River, Lake Desire, Big Soos Creek, SR-18 and the
902 Green River trail systems. (P-18a)

903 C. Tahoma/Raven Heights Policies

904 CP-318 Resource activities should be encouraged in areas where such activities
905 are not inconsistent with a rural atmosphere. In order to ensure
906 continued development of natural resources prior to the development
907 of the land for other purposes, extractive industries should be allowed
908 to locate in areas known to have deposits of minerals. Premature
909 urban/ suburban development should not be approved which
910 forecloses the opportunity to use the resources. (T/RH-28)

911 CP-319 The demand from surrounding land uses and densities should not
912 exceed the capacity of the area's groundwater resources nor otherwise
913 cause deterioration of its quality. (T/RH-45)

914 CP-320 Existing businesses which qualify as legal uses located at Highway 169
915 and Cedar Grove Road should be given the same land use map
916 designation as surrounding Rural Area or Natural Resource Land
917 properties, but recognized as Rural Businesses with neighborhood-
918 scale business zoning. Any such development should not be expanded
919 beyond the limits of the existing zoning of the specific parcel on which
920 it is currently located, and if the use is abandoned the zoning should be
921 redesignated to a Rural Area zone consistent with that applied to
922 surrounding properties.

923 CP-321 King County supports annexation of the lands within the City of Black
924 Diamond's Urban Growth Area subject to the requirements of the Black
925 Diamond Urban Growth Area Agreement as adopted by Ordinance
926 12534. If the agreement is terminated, the affected lands under King
927 County jurisdiction shall be treated as follows:
928 a. Land within the designated Urban Growth Area shall be
929 redesignated to Rural and reclassified to the rural zoning in place
930 prior to the effective date of Ordinance 12534. This zoning shall
931 continue for a period of at least five years from the date of
932 reclassification.
933 b. The areas identified in the agreement as county open space shall
934 be maintained at the rural zoning in place prior to the effective
935 date of Ordinance 12534. This zoning shall continue for a period of
936 at least five years after the date of termination of the agreement.

937 CP-322 King County supports expansion of the network of regional trails and
938 conservation of natural resource lands and environmentally sensitive
939 areas through community efforts such as the Rock Creek Valley
940 Conservation Plan and the Friends of Rock Creek.

946 **CP-323 King County supports efforts to protect and enhance open space and**
947 **ensure long-term habitat health and passive recreation opportunities in**
948 **the Middle Green River through community efforts such as the Middle**
949 **Green River Coalition.**

950 ~~((+))V.)) Southeast King County ((Area))~~

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951 **A. Background**

952 The ~~((SE)) Southeast~~ King County Community Service Area consists of the former
953 Enumclaw Community Planning Area and portions of the former Tahoma Raven
954 Heights, East King County and Soos Creek Community Planning Areas. The City of
955 Enumclaw is located within this CSA and the City of Black Diamond is surrounded by it
956 on three sides. The majority of this CSA is Rural Area and forested resource lands.
957

958 In 2014, the estimated population in the SE King County CSA was approximately
959 29,000. Of this total, 300 people were estimated to live in the Lower Green River area
960 and 28,000 people were estimated to live in the main CSA area. In 2010, there were a
961 total of 11,020 housing units in the CSA. Of this total, 102 were in the Lower Green
962 River area and 10,918 were in the main CSA area.
963

964 The Enumclaw Community Plan and Area Zoning were commenced in 1986-87 and
965 adopted in June 1990. The community plan refined boundaries between the Enumclaw
966 Plateau's Agricultural Production District and abutting Rural Areas and Forest
967 Production District, and designated the Urban Growth Area agreed to by King County
968 and the City of Enumclaw. The 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan reaffirmed the
969 Enumclaw Community Plan's land use designations.

970 **B. Enumclaw Policies**

971 **CP-401 All development within 660 feet of the top of the Green River valley**
972 **walls should be conditioned to avoid adverse impacts on the**
973 **environment and risks to life and property. (EN-12)**

974 **CP-402 King County should work with landowners on either side of SR-410**
975 **east of the City of Enumclaw to protect the scenic qualities of this**
976 **highway corridor. (EN-22)**

977 **CP-403 King County should work with Washington State Parks and Recreation**
978 **Commission and landowners on either side of the Green River Gorge to**
979 **protect the scenic qualities of the Green River Gorge conservation area.**
980 **(EN-23)**

981 Enumclaw's expansion area, like that of other Cities in the Rural Area, is shown on the
982 ~~((King County Comprehensive Plan))~~ Land Use Map.

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983
984 **CP-404 King County should work with the City of Enumclaw to establish an**
985 **agreement guiding future annexations, including but not limited to the**
986 **following elements:**
987 **a. Commitment from the city to extend and maintain public services**
988 **to the area, including police, fire, transportation, sewer, water,**
989 **storm water management and general government services.**
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991
992

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- b. Commitment from the city to provide a variety of residential development at an overall density for unconstrained land of at least four to eight units per acre.
- c. Commitment from the city that the extension of public services to meet the needs of future residents will maintain service levels to existing city residents.
- d. Commitment that the city will continue environmental protection for sensitive areas, (including but not limited to flood plains, steep slopes, wetlands, seismic and landslide hazard areas) at or above King County standards.
- e. Commitment from the city to use measures to buffer or protect abutting forest or agriculture resource lands.
- f. Commitment that the city will provide protection of historic sites and areas equal to the county's Historic Preservation Ordinance.
- g. Commitment by King County to consult with the city on public improvement standards, such as local road standards, drainage control requirements and transportation standards that will apply to development in expansion areas.
- h. Commitment by King County to notify the city of development proposals in the expansion area and to consult with the city to condition development approvals to mitigate adverse impacts on city services and to implement city plans, policies and standards.
- i. Commitment by King County to notify the city of development proposals in an impact area, which includes all lands within a one-mile radius of the expansion area, and to consult with the city where applicable to condition development approvals to mitigate adverse impacts on city services.
- j. Agreement on which jurisdiction will have responsibility for parks, roads, storm water or other public facilities after annexation. (EN-40)
- CP-405** Access to state park lands should be designed to minimize adverse traffic impacts on the Southeast Green Valley Road. (EN-56)
- CP-406** Any expansion of aircraft runway or hangar capacity in the Enumclaw planning area should be concentrated on or near the existing Enumclaw airport. Existing legally approved landing strips associated with low-density residential developments, such as Evergreen Sky Ranch, shall not be expanded. (EN-60)
- CP-407** Redevelopment of the Enumclaw landfill site should be subject to studies to assure public health and safety. If these studies determine that there is no threat to public health and safety the site's Rural Area designation may be changed to accommodate a public use such as a park or other facility without an amendment to the King County Comprehensive Plan. (EN-71)

1039 ~~((V.))~~ Snoqualmie Valley ~~((+))~~ Northeast

1040 King County ~~((Area))~~

1041 ~~((The Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County Community Service Area includes the~~

1042 ~~Snoqualmie Community Planning Area as well as portions of the East Sammamish,~~

1043 ~~Tahoma-Raven Heights and East King County Community Planning Areas. It surrounds~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1044 the Cities of Snoqualmie, North Bend, Carnation, Duvall and Skykomish and their
1045 Potential Annexation Areas. These cities are within Urban Growth Boundaries while the
1046 vast majority of the CSA is Rural Area, Natural Resource Lands and unincorporated
1047 areas. Fall City is a Rural Town within this CSA.

1048
1049 In 2014, the estimated population in the Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County CSA was
1050 approximately 26,000. In 2010, there were 11,050 housing units in the CSA. East
1051 Sammamish policies are included in ~~((Section I.)) the Bear Creek/Sammamish Area ((in))~~
1052 ~~section of~~ this chapter.

1053 ~~Background~~

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1054 The Snoqualmie Valley Community Plan was initiated in April 1984, and adopted in
1055 August 1987. The process resulted in designation of the Snoqualmie Ridge Urban
1056 Growth Area for the City of Snoqualmie. The area was annexed by the City of
1057 Snoqualmie, and development is proceeding under an interlocal agreement as directed
1058 by the community plan. The 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan largely reaffirmed
1059 the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands land use map designations of the
1060 community plan. Additionally, in this area, the Fall City Town Plan was updated in 2012
1061 through a planning process that involved members of the Fall City community.

1062 ~~Snoqualmie Policies~~

1063 ~~**CP-501** King County, in cooperation with the Valley cities, and state and federal~~
1064 ~~agencies, should conduct a study of baseline conditions and cumulative~~
1065 ~~impacts of development on the Snoqualmie River's water quality, and~~
1066 ~~identify methods of equitably controlling these impacts. (SQP-1~~
1067 ~~through SQP-6)~~

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1069 ~~**CP-502** Wildlife populations in the Snoqualmie Valley planning area are~~
1070 ~~recognized as a regionally important resource and an important~~
1071 ~~characteristic of the area's rural character. Special studies should be~~
1072 ~~undertaken, in cooperation with the Washington State Department of~~
1073 ~~Wildlife, to identify wildlife populations at risk due to the land uses~~
1074 ~~allowed by the King County Comprehensive Plan and to develop~~
1075 ~~mitigation measures to protect the continued viability of the area's~~
1076 ~~wildlife populations. Should these studies indicate unmitigatable~~
1077 ~~impact affecting wildlife populations due to the land uses allowed by~~
1078 ~~the plan, a comprehensive plan amendment study will be undertaken~~
1079 ~~to provide for the continued existence of this valuable resource.~~
1080 ~~(SQP-17)~~

1082 ~~**CP-503** Properties in erosion-prone drainage basins are subject to special~~
1083 ~~development conditions applied to protect the safety and property of~~
1084 ~~county residents through reducing or eliminating the occurrence of~~
1085 ~~gully formation and sever erosion. These conditions may include:~~
1086 ~~a. A drainage control plan;~~
1087 ~~b. Installation of drainage control features prior to any land~~
1088 ~~clearing, vegetation removal, site grading, road construction, or~~
1089 ~~utility installation; and~~
1090 ~~c. Runoff control requirements. (SQP-21)~~

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1091
1092 ~~**CP-504** King County will oppose annexations to Snoqualmie Valley cities that~~
1093 ~~currently contain designated floodplain lands until interlocal~~
~~((Community Service Area)) Subarea Planning - Page 11-27~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1094 ~~agreements have been enacted to advance the policies and standards~~
1095 ~~set forth in the comprehensive plan. (SQP-27)~~

1096
1097 ~~CP-505 The Shoreline Environment designations of the King County Shoreline~~
1098 ~~Management Program should be consistent with comprehensive plan~~
1099 ~~land use map designations and zoning. King County should initiate the~~
1100 ~~shoreline redesignation process consistent with K.C.C. 25.32.130.~~
1101 ~~(SQP-32)~~

1102
1103 ~~CP-506 Until expansion areas are annexed, zoning for the expansion areas shall~~
1104 ~~be urban reserve at five acre densities with the exception of the~~
1105 ~~existing commercial/industrial area in the SE North Bend Way~~
1106 ~~expansion area, and the existing industrial area in the Snoqualmie~~
1107 ~~expansion area. (SQP-57)~~

1108
1109 ~~Community plan policies SQP 58 to 61 referred to "expansion areas one and two,"~~
1110 ~~reflecting the Snoqualmie Community Plan's attempt to phase growth of the valley~~
1111 ~~cities. These phasing approaches were embodied in the interlocal agreement the~~
1112 ~~county signed with the City of Snoqualmie; they may be reflected in the cities'~~
1113 ~~comprehensive plans. The King County Comprehensive Plan simplifies the designations~~
1114 ~~into one expansion area for each city.~~

1115
1116 ~~CP-507 King County will support development within the Snoqualmie Valley~~
1117 ~~cities of Duvall, Carnation, Snoqualmie and North Bend and annexation~~
1118 ~~and development of lands within their expansion areas, when each city~~
1119 ~~demonstrates that its wastewater and storm water treatment systems~~
1120 ~~for the existing and proposed city jurisdiction will not degrade the~~
1121 ~~water quality of the Snoqualmie River and its tributaries. (SQP-58)~~

1122
1123 ~~CP-508 King County will not support Snoqualmie Valley cities' annexations into~~
1124 ~~expansion areas until each city has adopted mechanisms to reduce~~
1125 ~~flood and channel migration hazards within its jurisdiction. (SQP-59)~~

1126
1127 ~~CP-509 King County shall initiate an amendment to the King County~~
1128 ~~Comprehensive Plan if the cumulative impact of development of the~~
1129 ~~cities' expansion areas will reduce the quality of the Snoqualmie River~~
1130 ~~and its tributaries below the current "A and AA" standards. (SQP-61)~~

1131
1132 ~~CP-510 King County shall support annexation of the expansion area only when~~
1133 ~~Carnation implements a long-term, nonstructural program to reduce~~
1134 ~~flood damages on floodplains land within its jurisdiction. (SQP-68)~~

1135
1136 ~~CP-511 Achieving a long-term solution to flood damages within the City of~~
1137 ~~Snoqualmie is one of King County's highest priorities for this planning~~
1138 ~~area. (SQP-70)~~

1139
1140 ~~CP-512 King County intends to assist the City of Snoqualmie to develop a~~
1141 ~~long-term solution and an implementation program which will reduce~~
1142 ~~the risk from flooding and channel migration in the city. (SQP-73)~~

1143
1144 ~~CP-513 If the long-term solution to reducing the risk from flooding in the City~~
1145 ~~of Snoqualmie is determined to have basin-wide impacts, these impacts~~
1146 ~~shall be reviewed by the King County River and Floodplain~~
1147 ~~Management Program or its equivalent to identify any additional~~
1148 ~~mitigations that may be required. If the long-term solution to reducing~~

- 1149 ~~the risk from flooding is demonstrated to not have basin-wide impacts,~~
- 1150 ~~it should be implemented as soon as possible and would not require a~~
- 1151 ~~second, basin-wide, review of impacts and mitigations. (SQP-74)~~
- 1152
- 1153 ~~CP-514 — King County urges a public/private resource commitment to implement~~
- 1154 ~~a long-term solution to flooding in the City of Snoqualmie. (SQP-75)~~
- 1155
- 1156 Policies SQP 76 through 78 have been and continue to be implemented through an
- 1157 interlocal agreement. Most of the annexations referenced have taken place and are
- 1158 reflected in the expansion area boundaries for the City of Snoqualmie adopted in the
- 1159 King County Comprehensive Plan's Land Use Map.
- 1160
- 1161 ~~CP-515 — Until a long-term solution to preventing flood damages in the City of~~
- 1162 ~~Snoqualmie is agreed to by King County and the City of Snoqualmie,~~
- 1163 ~~King County will support annexations in expansion areas when~~
- 1164 ~~consistent with all appropriate policies herein and when higher~~
- 1165 ~~residential densities can be achieved, municipal services can be~~
- 1166 ~~provided, and river water quality will not be degraded. (SQP-77)~~
- 1167
- 1168 ~~CP-516 — Annexations of lands within the Phase 1 and Phase 2 additions to the~~
- 1169 ~~City of Snoqualmie's Urban Growth Area shall not occur until~~
- 1170 ~~completion of detailed planning, preparation and review of~~
- 1171 ~~project-level Environmental Impact Statement(s), and a determination~~
- 1172 ~~of required mitigations and amenities. The range of land uses to be~~
- 1173 ~~allowed and the mitigations and amenities to be required shall be~~
- 1174 ~~embodied in a binding Development Agreement between the City of~~
- 1175 ~~Snoqualmie and the owners of proposed annexation lands.~~
- 1176
- 1177 ~~CP-517 — The project-level Environmental Impact Statement(s) for lands within~~
- 1178 ~~the Phase 1 and Phase 2 additions to the City of Snoqualmie's Urban~~
- 1179 ~~Growth Area shall address aquifer recharge issues, and potential~~
- 1180 ~~impacts to the water quality and quantity of Lake Alice, private wells in~~
- 1181 ~~the Lake Alice and Snoqualmie Hills neighborhoods, and all streams~~
- 1182 ~~that flow off-site.~~
- 1183
- 1184 ~~CP-518 — Based on the findings of the Environmental Impact Statement(s), the~~
- 1185 ~~Development Agreement between the City of Snoqualmie and the~~
- 1186 ~~owners of proposed annexation lands in the Phase 1 and Phase 2~~
- 1187 ~~additions to the City of Snoqualmie's Urban Growth Area shall establish~~
- 1188 ~~a program for long-term monitoring of the water quality and quantity~~
- 1189 ~~of Lake Alice and the private wells in the Lake Alice and Snoqualmie~~
- 1190 ~~Hills neighborhoods, and of all streams flowing off-site.~~
- 1191
- 1192 ~~CP-519 — The Development Agreement shall also outline the remedies necessary~~
- 1193 ~~if the monitoring program leads to findings that development activities~~
- 1194 ~~on the annexation lands are the cause for adverse impacts to the water~~
- 1195 ~~quality and/or quantity of Lake Alice and the private wells in the Lake~~
- 1196 ~~Alice and Snoqualmie Hills neighborhoods, and of streams flowing~~
- 1197 ~~off-site. The owners of the annexation lands shall be responsible for~~
- 1198 ~~the monitoring program and correction of any impacts determined to~~
- 1199 ~~have been caused by their development activities. Remedies may~~
- 1200 ~~include connection to the public water system, or construction of~~
- 1201 ~~alternative wells.~~
- 1202

- 1203 ~~CP-520 — The project-level Environmental Impact Statement(s) for lands within~~
- 1204 ~~the Phase 1 and Phase 2 additions to the City of Snoqualmie's Urban~~
- 1205 ~~Growth Area shall address traffic safety issues, with a focus on safety~~
- 1206 ~~concerns for rural homeowners dependent upon the southern stretch of~~
- 1207 ~~the Snoqualmie Parkway for access to their homes. A range of~~
- 1208 ~~alternatives to improve safety at the intersection of the Snoqualmie~~
- 1209 ~~Parkway and SE 96th Street, including signalization, road widening and~~
- 1210 ~~turn lanes shall be explored.~~
- 1211
- 1212 ~~CP-521 — Annexations of lands within the Phase 1 and Phase 2 additions to the~~
- 1213 ~~City of Snoqualmie's Urban Growth Area shall be subject to updated~~
- 1214 ~~Comprehensive Water and Sanitary Sewer Plans to determine the full~~
- 1215 ~~range of improvements landowners within the annexation will be~~
- 1216 ~~required to provide.~~
- 1217
- 1218 ~~CP-522 — A Drainage Master Plan shall be required for any new development of~~
- 1219 ~~lands within the Phase 1 and Phase 2 additions to the City of~~
- 1220 ~~Snoqualmie's Urban Growth Area. Stormwater facility design shall~~
- 1221 ~~adhere to the standards in the most recent update of the King County~~
- 1222 ~~Design Manual, or of the Snoqualmie Storm Drainage Plan, whichever~~
- 1223 ~~is the most stringent.~~
- 1224
- 1225 ~~CP-523 — There shall be no road connections between the Phase 1 addition to the~~
- 1226 ~~City of Snoqualmie's Urban Growth Area and 356th SE in the~~
- 1227 ~~Snoqualmie Hills Planning Area, unless future analysis determines a~~
- 1228 ~~restricted emergency access is necessary for safety purposes.~~
- 1229
- 1230 ~~CP-524 — There shall be no road connections between the Phase 2 addition to the~~
- 1231 ~~City of Snoqualmie's Urban Growth Area and Lake Alice Road, unless~~
- 1232 ~~future analysis determines a restricted emergency access for Lake Alice~~
- 1233 ~~residents is necessary for safety purposes.~~
- 1234
- 1235 ~~CP-525 — To protect the rural character of the neighborhoods surrounding the~~
- 1236 ~~Phase 1 and Phase 2 additions to the City of Snoqualmie's Urban~~
- 1237 ~~Growth Area, the Phase 1 and Phase 2 areas shall include buffers to all~~
- 1238 ~~rural lands along their perimeter. The size and structure of each buffer~~
- 1239 ~~area shall be determined based on the characteristics of the land and~~
- 1240 ~~existing vegetation, and its ability to perform the following functions:~~
- 1241 ~~visual screening; noise reduction; and minimization of blow down.~~
- 1242 ~~Buffers may include constructed berms and new plantings if deemed~~
- 1243 ~~necessary and appropriate to perform the required functions.~~
- 1244
- 1245 ~~CP-526 — King County supports the continued industrial use of Weyerhaeuser's~~
- 1246 ~~Snoqualmie Mill site and its annexation to the City of Snoqualmie.~~
- 1247 ~~(SQP-79)~~
- 1248
- 1249 ~~CP-527 — King County will support annexations of land in North Bend's~~
- 1250 ~~expansion area when higher residential densities can be achieved,~~
- 1251 ~~municipal services can be provided, and river water quality will not be~~
- 1252 ~~degraded. (SQP-81)~~
- 1253
- 1254 ~~CP-528 — Commercial and light industrial land uses are appropriate along SE~~
- 1255 ~~North Bend Way subject to special development conditions to mitigate~~
- 1256 ~~impacts. (SQP-82)~~
- 1257

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1258 A map is included in Appendix A to Ordinance 12824 (p-suffix conversion ordinance)
1259 showing the application of p-suffix conditions to commercial and industrial properties
1260 on SE North Bend Way.

1261 ~~CP-529 — Commercial and industrial zoned land (including potential commercial~~
1262 ~~or potential industrial zoned land) within the City of North Bend's~~
1263 ~~Urban Growth Area (UGA) are planned for nonretail, resource-based~~
1264 ~~and highway-oriented uses. These uses shall be served by public~~
1265 ~~sewers.~~
1266

1267 ~~CP-530 — The area between Tanner and the Edgewick Interchange, south of SE~~
1268 ~~140th and north of I-90, is appropriate for nonretail commercial and~~
1269 ~~light industrial land uses. Commercial and light industrial uses shall be~~
1270 ~~limited to uses that do not impact ground water and are related to~~
1271 ~~resource-based shipping, distributing and trucking-related industrial~~
1272 ~~development. (SQP-84)~~
1273

1274 ~~CP-531 — Land uses adjacent to the Edgewick Interchange shall be limited to~~
1275 ~~highway-oriented commercial uses that do not impact ground water,~~
1276 ~~and serve the traveling public. (SQP-85)~~
1277

1278 ~~CP-532 — The area north of the Edgewick Interchange is appropriate for~~
1279 ~~resource-based, shipping, distributing and trucking related industrial~~
1280 ~~uses that do not impact ground water. (SQP-86)~~
1281

1282 The Fall City policies in this section were revised through a subarea planning process
1283 involving members of the Fall City community in 1998 and 1999. Through this planning
1284 process, the Citizens Advisory Committee identified the following elements that local
1285 residents value about their town:
1286

- 1287 • It is surrounded by agricultural and forest lands that are entirely rural;
- 1288 • It has a pattern of development that has evolved over more than a century,
- 1289 which includes historic buildings and landmarks, an open spacing of streets and
- 1290 buildings, and locally owned businesses in a small-scale downtown;
- 1291 • It is located in a unique geographic area formed by the confluence of two
- 1292 important salmon-bearing rivers, the Raging River and the Snoqualmie River, in
- 1293 an agricultural valley containing a number of other salmonid streams that are
- 1294 also important to the ecology of King County;
- 1295 • It includes compatible home occupations and small-scale animal husbandry in
- 1296 harmony with residential neighborhoods;
- 1297 • It provides rural-level street improvement (e.g., no traffic lights, no sidewalks
- 1298 outside the business district, and no street lights except as needed for public
- 1299 safety);
- 1300 • It offers scenic vistas, open space, and rural and resource uses surrounding Fall
- 1301 City; and
- 1302 • It has a small rural town identity.

1303 ~~CP-533 — Fall City is an unincorporated rural town which shall have overall~~
1304 ~~residential densities of one to four dwelling units per acre.~~
1305

1306 ~~CP-534 — All property within the downtown Fall City business district is zoned~~
1307 ~~Community Business (CB) and is included within a designated Special~~
1308 ~~District Overlay (SDO). Development within the SDO is permitted~~
1309 ~~using an on-site septic system approved by the Seattle-King County~~
1310 ~~Health Department. Development is also permitted using either an~~
1311

1312 ~~alternative wastewater disposal system approved by the Seattle-King~~
1313 ~~County Health Department (such as a community drainfield) or a~~
1314 ~~self-contained sewage conveyance and treatment system approved by~~
1315 ~~the Department of Ecology, provided that:~~
1316 ~~a. The selected system shall be designed and constructed to serve~~
1317 ~~only properties located within the designated SDO;~~
1318 ~~b. The business and commercial property owners in the SDO are~~
1319 ~~responsible for the operation and maintenance of the selected system;~~
1320 ~~c. The County's role should be to provide technical assistance in the~~
1321 ~~development and implementation of the selected system;~~
1322 ~~d. If the selected system fails, and to prevent a potential health~~
1323 ~~hazard, requires connection to the King County regional wastewater~~
1324 ~~system, any such sewer conveyance shall be tight-lined and shall under~~
1325 ~~no circumstance be used to provide sewage disposal service to~~
1326 ~~residential properties in Fall City, except as provided by policy R-508;~~
1327 ~~and~~
1328 ~~e. No costs to implement the selected system or to connect to the~~
1329 ~~County's regional wastewater system shall be borne by properties~~
1330 ~~outside the SDO. Funding from grants, loans and other outside sources~~
1331 ~~may be used to help fund the system, and the County may assist in the~~
1332 ~~pursuit of this additional funding.~~

1333

1334 ~~CP-535 — The zoning for Fall City adopted in the 1999 Fall City Subarea Plan~~
1335 ~~reflects the community's strong commitment to its rural character,~~
1336 ~~recognizes existing uses, provides for limited future commercial~~
1337 ~~development, and respects natural features. Additionally, it recognizes~~
1338 ~~the current and long-term foreseeable rural level of utilities and other~~
1339 ~~public services for the area. The land use implications of a major~~
1340 ~~change in the water supply or a public health requirement for~~
1341 ~~community-wide wastewater collection and treatment may be~~
1342 ~~evaluated in a new community-based planning process; however this~~
1343 ~~does not mean that zoning will change to allow more intense~~
1344 ~~development beyond that adopted in the 1999 Fall City Subarea Plan.~~
1345 ~~The rural character of Fall City should be preserved.~~

1346

1347 ~~CP-536 — Within the residential area of Fall City, compatible home occupations~~
1348 ~~and small-scale agricultural pursuits or similar rural land uses can~~
1349 ~~continue.~~

1350

1351 ~~CP-537 — King County should work with the State of Washington and the Fall City~~
1352 ~~community to continue to make transportation improvements in Fall~~
1353 ~~City that will favor safe and pleasant pedestrian and other~~
1354 ~~nonmotorized links between downtown businesses, the residential~~
1355 ~~areas, and nearby King County Parks, and safe walkways to schools,~~
1356 ~~rather than rapid through traffic.~~

1357

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- 1358 ~~CP-538~~ King County should expand the soft surface pedestrian, equestrian and
1359 bicycle trail opportunities serving the Fall City area. Trail route options
1360 serving the community shall be reviewed to include a route along the
1361 left bank levee easement directly adjacent to the Raging River,
1362 historically used by the public as a pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle
1363 trail. This historically used trail generally follows the "wildlife corridor"
1364 along the bank of the Raging River from 328th Way SE approximately
1365 NE to the Preston Fall City Road. The selected trail system for the Fall
1366 City area shall be identified in the King County Parks and Recreation
1367 trail system plan.
- 1368
- 1369 ~~CP-539~~ Zoning for the existing industrial and office areas adopted in the 1999
1370 Fall City Subarea Plan should be maintained but not expanded.
- 1371
- 1372 ~~CP-540~~ Land uses at freeway interchanges without existing commercial or
1373 industrial development, and outside rural neighborhoods and Cities in
1374 the Rural Area, are designated rural residential to support development
1375 in rural neighborhoods and Cities in the Rural Area, and to preserve the
1376 scenic nature of the corridor. (SQP-98)
- 1377
- 1378 ~~CP-541~~ New development at the Exit 22 Interchange shall not expand beyond
1379 the area designated in this plan and shall not adversely impact
1380 surrounding rural residential areas. All uses should be planned and
1381 sited to use long-term onsite waste disposal systems. (SQP-99)
- 1382
- 1383 ~~CP-542~~ The existing two acres of land currently zoned for commercial use at
1384 Preston (Exit 22) is recognized, but no additional land for commercial
1385 uses is designated. (SQP-100)
- 1386
- 1387 ~~CP-543~~ The presence of the Snoqualmie Tribe in the planning area has
1388 important historic and cultural significance for the Puget Sound region.
1389 The following places, recognized by the tribe as historically, culturally
1390 and archeologically important, should be considered for inclusion in
1391 the King County historic sites survey, and designation to local and/or
1392 national register of historic places. The tribe recognizes the following
1393 areas as culturally significant:
- 1394 a. Snoqualmie Falls;
- 1395 b. The banks of the Snoqualmie River between the falls and the three
1396 forks confluence area;
- 1397 c. Fall City Indian Cemetery;
- 1398 d. Banks at the confluence of Snoqualmie and Raging Rivers;
- 1399 e. Banks at the confluence of Snoqualmie and Tolt Rivers;
- 1400 f. Fall City Park (site of John Sanawa's Council House and the first
1401 white school);
- 1402 g. Mt. Si; and
- 1403 h. Granite outcropping used as a quarry between North Bend and the
1404 City of Snoqualmie on SR-202. (SQP-122)
- 1405
- 1406 ~~CP-544~~ King County recognizes the spiritual, historic, cultural and recreational
1407 value of the Snoqualmie Falls. Any development adjacent to
1408 Snoqualmie Falls shall be designed and sited to protect these values.
1409 (SQP-123)
- 1410
- 1411 ~~CP-545~~ Because of the spiritual significance of the area at the base of the falls
1412 to the various tribes in the Puget Sound region, this area of the falls

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- 1413 ~~should remain free of development and open for public access.~~
- 1414 ~~(SQP-124)~~
- 1415
- 1416 **CP-546** ~~The community of Preston is a significant cultural and historic reminder~~
- 1417 ~~of the planning area's roots in the logging industry. The existing land~~
- 1418 ~~use designation shall be maintained, and new development should~~
- 1419 ~~respect the existing character of the community. (SQP-125)~~
- 1420
- 1421 **CP-547** ~~The industrial area adjacent to the Rural Neighborhood of Preston shall~~
- 1422 ~~be recognized with appropriate zoning for industrial uses. This area is~~
- 1423 ~~designated for industrial uses to recognize existing industrial use and~~
- 1424 ~~vested applications for new industrial development.~~
- 1425
- 1426 ~~The boundaries of this industrial area are permanent. No expansion of~~
- 1427 ~~the designated industrial area will be permitted, and any effort to~~
- 1428 ~~expand its boundaries is recognized as contrary to the Growth~~
- 1429 ~~Management Act, including the 1997 amendments.~~
- 1430
- 1431 ~~Any industrial development or redevelopment in the designated~~
- 1432 ~~industrial area (excluding reconstruction in the event of accidental~~
- 1433 ~~damage or destruction, or tenant improvements entirely within the~~
- 1434 ~~building structures) shall be conditioned and scaled to maintain and~~
- 1435 ~~protect the rural character of the area as defined in RCW~~
- 1436 ~~36.70A.030(14) and to protect sensitive natural features.~~
- 1437
- 1438 ~~New industrial development or redevelopment (excluding structures~~
- 1439 ~~and site improvements that existed or are vested by applications as of~~
- 1440 ~~May 24, 1996, or tenant improvements entirely within building~~
- 1441 ~~structures), on lots not subject to restrictions and conditions consistent~~
- 1442 ~~with those reflected in Recording No. 9708190805 must be dependent~~
- 1443 ~~upon being in the Rural Area and must be compatible with the~~
- 1444 ~~functional and visual character of rural uses in the immediate vicinity~~
- 1445 ~~and must not encourage or facilitate conversion or redesignation of~~
- 1446 ~~nearby Rural and Rural Neighborhood lands to commercial, industrial~~
- 1447 ~~or urban uses.~~
- 1448
- 1449 ~~The boundaries of this industrial area shall be those properties within~~
- 1450 ~~the Preston Industrial Water System, as set by King County Ordinance~~
- 1451 ~~5948, with the exception of parcel #2924079054.~~
- 1452
- 1453 **CP-548** ~~King County supports efforts of the community of Preston to achieve~~
- 1454 ~~recognition of its historical and cultural significance. Its historic~~
- 1455 ~~character should be maintained through designation as an historic area.~~
- 1456 ~~(SQP-126)~~
- 1457
- 1458 **CP-549** ~~The King County Historic Sites Survey should be updated to include~~
- 1459 ~~additional sites identified by the Preston Heritage Committee.~~
- 1460 ~~(SQP-127)~~
- 1461
- 1462 **CP-550** ~~The development of a regional railroad museum in the Snoqualmie area~~
- 1463 ~~is encouraged to promote understanding of the regional significance of~~
- 1464 ~~railroads in the settlement and development pattern of Washington~~
- 1465 ~~State. (SQP-128)~~
- 1466

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- 1467 ~~CP-551 King County shall put high priority on the acquisition and development~~
- 1468 ~~of a regional trail system linking the Snoqualmie Valley planning area~~
- 1469 ~~to other parts of the county. (SQP-143)~~
- 1470
- 1471 ~~CP-552 King County supports designation of the Middle Fork of the~~
- 1472 ~~Snoqualmie River under either the national or state Wild and Scenic~~
- 1473 ~~River program. (SQP-151)~~
- 1474
- 1475 ~~CP-553 King County supports evaluation of the North Fork of the Snoqualmie~~
- 1476 ~~River and the main stem of the Tolt River under either the national or~~
- 1477 ~~state Wild and Scenic River program. (SQP-152)~~
- 1478
- 1479 ~~CP-554 King County shall assist the City of North Bend, when requested, to~~
- 1480 ~~develop a long-term solution and an implementation program which~~
- 1481 ~~will reduce the risk from flooding and channel migration in the city.))~~
- 1482

1483 A. Plan History

1484 The history of prior plans for Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County is as follows:

- 1485
- 1486 • Snoqualmie Valley Community Plan (1989). The Snoqualmie Valley Community
- 1487 Plan, initiated in April 1984 and adopted in August 1989, was developed with the
- 1488 assistance of an advisory committee composed of local residents and property
- 1489 owners, in addition to representatives of the cities of Duvall, Carnation, Snoqualmie,
- 1490 and North Bend.² The Snoqualmie Valley planning area covered 400 square miles
- 1491 (south of Snohomish County, east of Bear Creek and East Sammamish areas, north
- 1492 of Tiger Mountain and Rattlesnake Ridge, and west of the Cascade Mountains). The
- 1493 plan was rescinded almost a decade later, in 1998, due to the passage of the
- 1494 Washington State Growth Management Act in the early 1990s.³ At that time, some
- 1495 key policies from the 1989 plan that were consistent with the Growth Management
- 1496 Act were incorporated into the King County Comprehensive Plan. These policies
- 1497 remained in this chapter of the Comprehensive Plan through 2024 but, with the
- 1498 adoption of the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan, they have
- 1499 since been removed from the chapter.
- 1500
- 1501 • Fall City Subarea Plan (1999). From August of 1998 through March of 1999, an
- 1502 eleven-member advisory committee of community members helped develop
- 1503 recommendations for the Fall City Subarea Plan, which was adopted by the County
- 1504 in 1999.⁴ The Fall City Subarea Plan revisited land use designations, town
- 1505 boundaries, and Comprehensive Plan policies regarding Fall City that grew out of
- 1506 the 1989 Snoqualmie Valley Community Plan, which included Fall City.
- 1507
- 1508 • Amendments to the Fall City Subarea Plan (2012). The 1999 Fall City Subarea
- 1509 Plan was updated in 2012⁵ through a planning process that involved members of
- 1510 the Fall City community. The Fall City Subarea Plan was repealed in 2024 and

² Ordinance 9118

³ Ordinance 13273

⁴ Ordinance 13875

⁵ Ordinance 17485

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1511 replaced by the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County Subarea Plan, which
1512 includes the Fall City community.
1513
1514 In December 2024, the County adopted the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County
1515 Subarea Plan, which replaces the policies in the 1999 Fall City Subarea Plan. The 2024
1516 subarea plan (bound as a separate document) is adopted as an element of the King
1517 County Comprehensive Plan.

1518 **B. Vision & Guiding Principles**

1519 *Community Vision Statement*

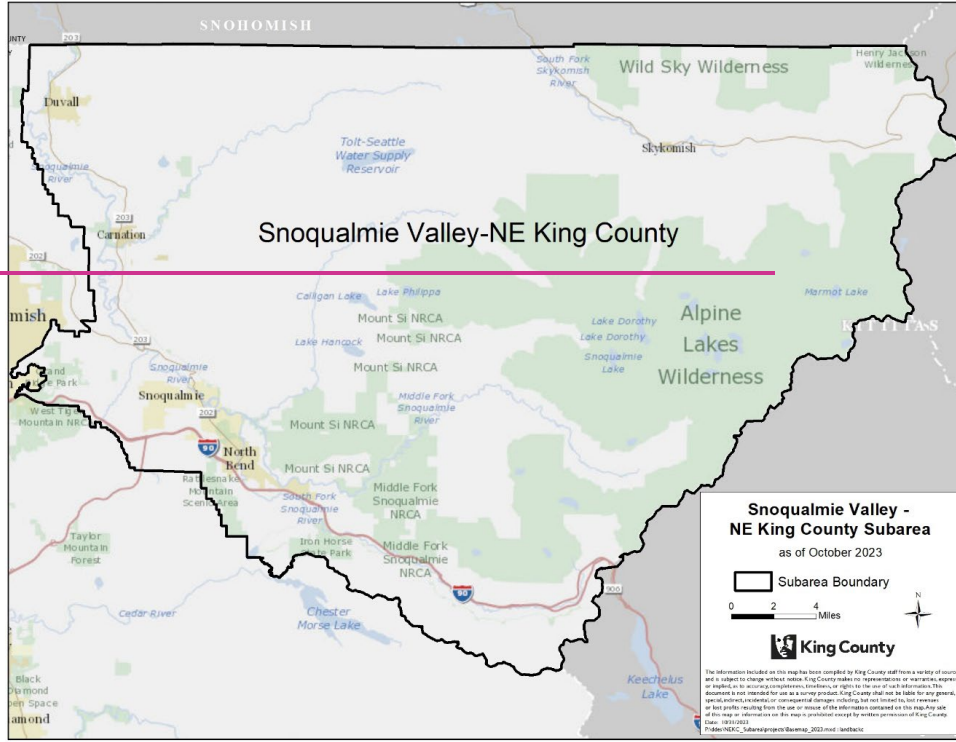
1520 Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County are characterized by strong rural
1521 communities with distinct cultures and histories, where people and businesses are
1522 thriving, the natural environment and agricultural lands are conserved and protected,
1523 farms are preserved, the community is resilient to climate change, and services and
1524 programs are accessible to residents in a way that preserves each community's unique
1525 rural character.

1526 *Guiding Principles*

1527 The following guiding principles support the community vision and were used by the
1528 County to inform and direct the development of the Subarea Plan. These guiding
1529 principles express the community's sentiments around a range of community issues
1530 discussed during the planning process.

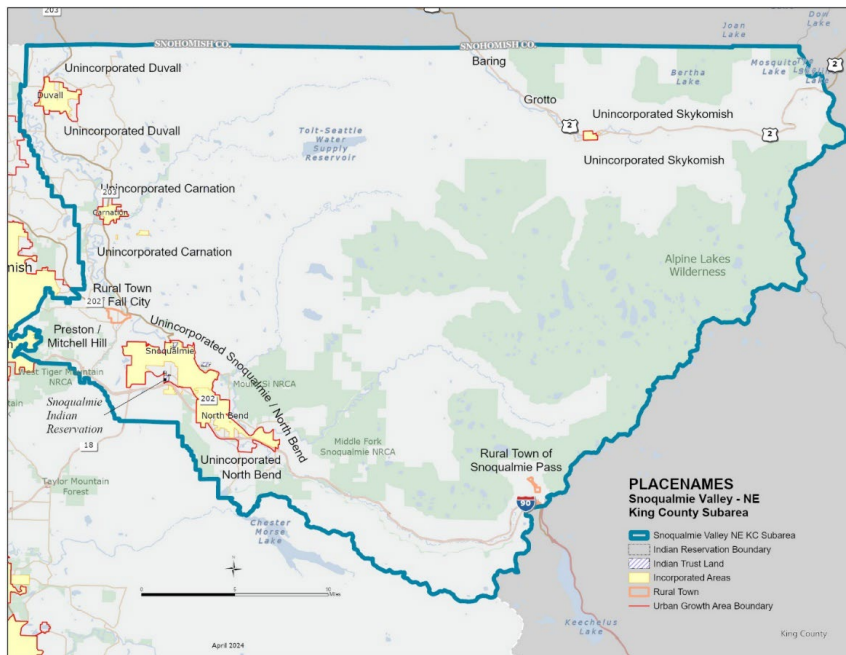
- 1531 a. Conserve and protect forests, rivers, lakes, and open spaces.
- 1532 b. Conserve and protect the subarea's working farmlands by protecting
- 1533 agricultural lands and supporting local farmers, farmworkers ranchers, and
- 1534 growers.
- 1535 c. Encourage and protect a range of housing choices for all.
- 1536 d. Promote economically and environmentally sustainable local businesses
- 1537 and organizations across the subarea and support the business districts of
- 1538 the Fall City and Snoqualmie Pass Rural Towns.
- 1539 e. Preserve cultural and historic resources and landmarks.
- 1540 f. Enhance the relationship between King County and the Tribes by centering
- 1541 Tribal needs, land stewardship, and treaty rights.
- 1542 g. Preserve the unique rural character across the subarea in commercial areas
- 1543 and residential communities in a manner that increases quality of life for
- 1544 residents
- 1545 h. Support transit and transportation options, including active transportation
- 1546 and recreation, consistent with rural levels of service.
- 1547 i. Support programs, organizations, and services for youths, people aged 62
- 1548 years and older, veterans, and others to build community connections.
- 1549 j. Promote communities that are resilient to natural hazards and climate
- 1550 change, and support communities affected by related disasters.
- 1551

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1552

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1553

1554 ~~VII. ((VI.))~~ Vashon-Maury Island

1555 ~~((Community Service Area))~~

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1556 **A. Plan History**

1557 In 2016, the Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan was initiated as
1558 King County's first plan developed under its reconfigured subarea planning program.
1559 The recent history of prior Vashon-Maury Island community plans is as follows:

- 1561 • **1986 Vashon Community Plan.** This Island-wide plan was adopted in 1986,⁶ but
1562 was then rescinded over a decade later, in 1998,⁷ due to the passage of the
1563 Washington State Growth Management Act in the early 1990s. At that time, some
1564 key policies from the 1986 plan that were consistent with the Growth Management
1565 Act were incorporated into the King County Comprehensive Plan. These policies
1566 remained in this chapter of the Comprehensive Plan through 2016 but, with the
1567 adoption of the 2017 Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan,
1568 they have since been removed from the chapter.
1569

⁶ Ordinance 7837
⁷ Ordinance 13273

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- 1570 • **1996 Vashon Town Plan.**⁸ This plan focused on a smaller geography, the Rural
1571 Town, and was developed consistent with the Growth Management Act. The 1996
1572 Town Plan remained active through 2017 but, with the adoption of the 2017
1573 subarea plan, it has since been repealed.

1574
1575 The Island-wide 2017 Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan
1576 updates these prior policies and consolidates them into a single document that aims to
1577 retain community priorities while eliminating outdated and/or accomplished items.
1578 Policies and actions that are carried forward are re-assessed and re-prioritized for
1579 implementation. The 2017 subarea plan (bound as a separate document) is adopted as
1580 an element of the King County Comprehensive Plan.

1581 **B. Vision & Guiding Principles**

1582 *Vashon-Maury Island Vision*

1583 The Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan envisions a healthy,
1584 rural environment and reflects the following values identified by the community during
1585 plan development:

- 1586 • Independence and self-sufficiency
- 1587 • Natural environment
- 1588 • Equity and diversity
- 1589 • Island history
- 1590 • Creativity and self-expression
- 1591 • Sustainable local employment
- 1592 • Community collaboration

1593
1594 These values are exhibited and sustained through ten guiding principles:

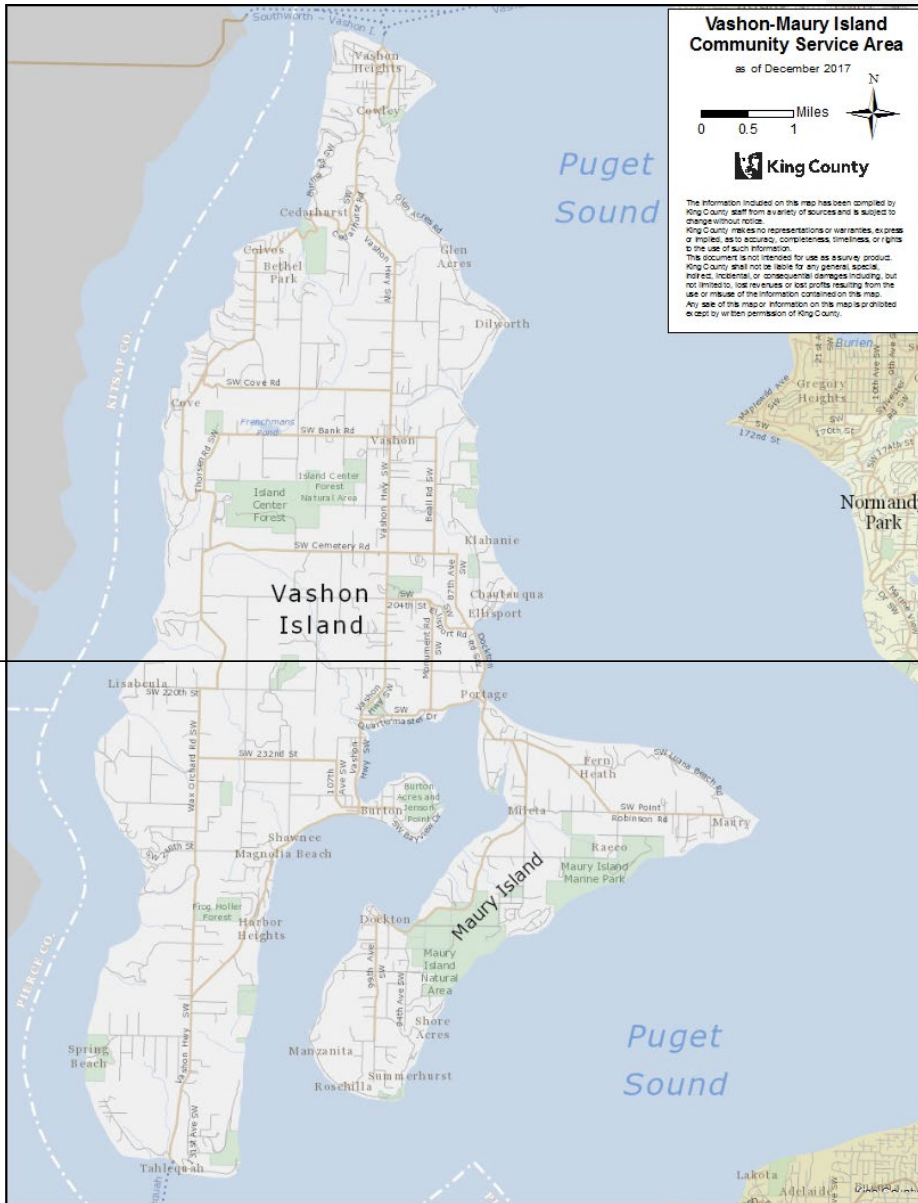
- 1595 • Maintain the rural character of Vashon-Maury Island
- 1596 • Encourage and protect the diversity of neighborhoods and affordable housing
1597 choices for all
- 1598 • Guide limited growth on Vashon-Maury Island and ensure development does
1599 not over-extend basic services, public safety, and infrastructure
- 1600 • Plan the Rural Town of Vashon as the mixed-use and vibrant center of the
1601 community
- 1602 • Preserve and protect native habitats, groundwater, shorelines, open space and
1603 sensitive areas for present and future generations
- 1604 • Protect agricultural lands and support Island farmers and growers
- 1605 • Provide a balanced and integrated multimodal transportation system that
1606 reflects environmental, economic, and social considerations
- 1607 • Preserve historic, archeological, and cultural resources

⁸ Ordinance 12395

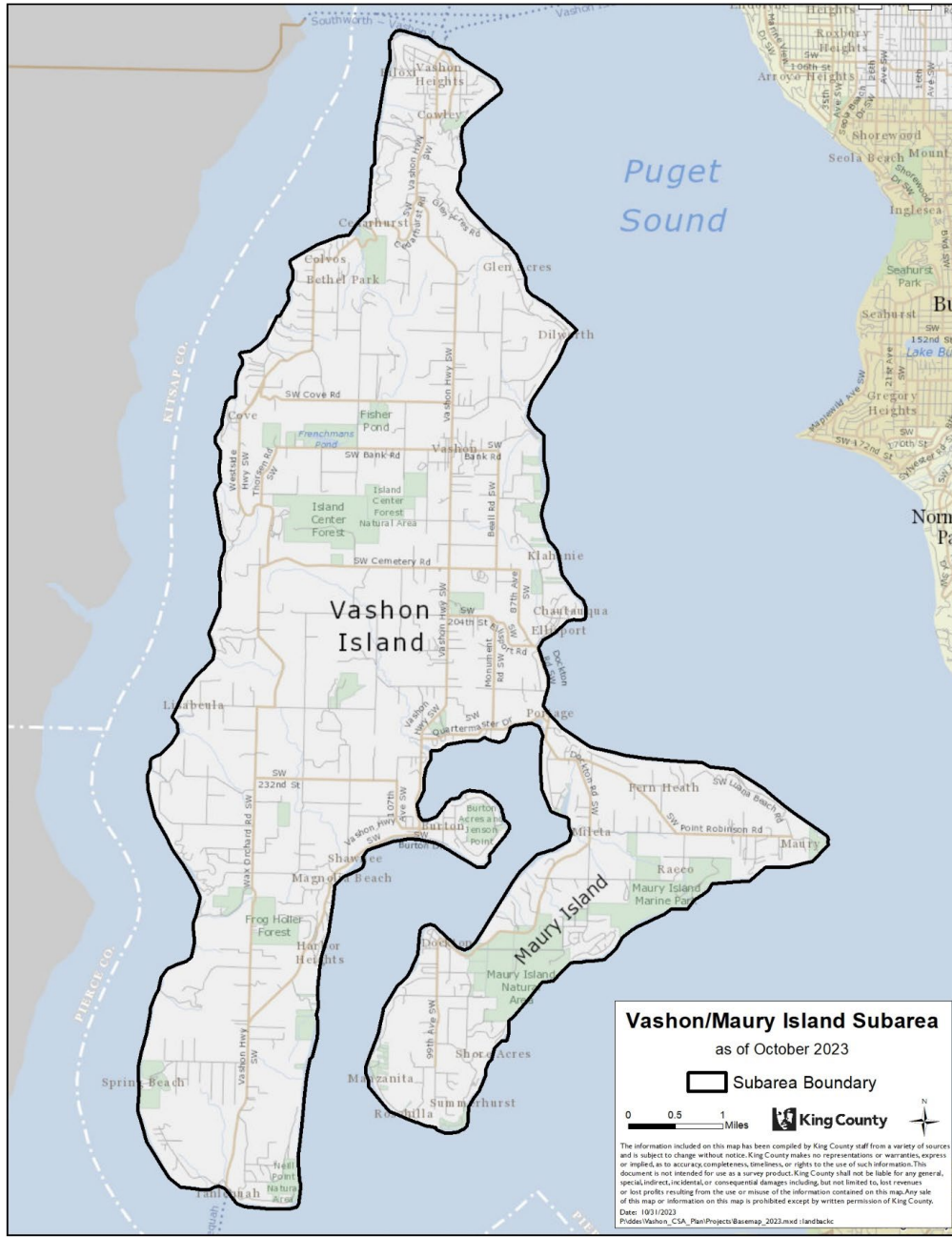
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1608
1609
1610
1611
1612

- Promote an environment where all people can be physically active, eat nutritious food, and live in safe and healthy places
- Support and foster a diverse, dynamic, and sustainable rural economy



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Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146,
and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)**



1613

1614 ~~((VII.))~~ West King County Area

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1615 A. Background

1616 As noted on the Community Service Areas map at the beginning of this chapter, the
1617 West King County Area is comprised of approximately five separate major
1618 unincorporated areas within the Urban Growth ~~Area ((B))~~ boundary; these are all
1619 Potential Annexation Areas for several cities, including Federal Way, Seattle, and
1620 Renton. In addition, there are over *one hundred* other smaller areas that are affiliated
1621 with or adjacent to Kent, Auburn, Issaquah, Sammamish, Redmond, Kenmore, and
1622 others.

1623
1624 King County's approach is that all of these areas annex into the affiliated cities or, for
1625 those areas not affiliated, the most logical adjacent city. As subarea planning occurs,
1626 adjacent cities will be encouraged to participate. Policies guiding these areas are found
1627 both in Chapter 2((:)), Urban Communities (in the Potential Annexation Area section), as
1628 well as in other annexation policies found in chapters throughout the Comprehensive
1629 Plan. For the areas at the edge of the ~~((A))~~ Urban ~~((B))~~ Growth ~~((boundary))~~ Areas, policies
1630 in other parts of this chapter may be relevant since the historical Community Plans often
1631 included these edge communities. This is further described below.

1632 ~~((Background))~~

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1633 The estimated population in this CSA in 2014 was approximately 113,000. The West
1634 King County CSA consists of separate unincorporated areas that were once part of
1635 larger areas with their own community plans. Today's fragmented pattern of
1636 unincorporated urban areas is the result of incorporations and piecemeal annexations
1637 since the community planning process began in the mid-1980s.

1638 ~~((A.))~~ IX. East Federal Way Potential
1639 Annexation Area

1640 Work on the Federal Way Community Plan and/or amendments occurred from 1972 to
1641 1975, 1977 to 1980, and 1984 to 1986. Federal Way was part of the first generation of
1642 community plans in the county that were adopted separately from their implementing
1643 area zoning. After these experiences, the county decided to adopt both together to
1644 avoid going through essentially the same decisions twice for each community. The City
1645 of Federal Way incorporated in 1990, removing most of the planning area from the
1646 county's jurisdiction. None of the Federal Way Community Plan or its amendments are
1647 readopted.

1648 ~~((B.))~~ X. Fairwood and East Renton
1649 Potential Annexation Areas

1650 Fairwood and East Renton are adjacent to the City of Renton and are within the city's
1651 potential annexation area. Over the past decade, small portions (typically at the
1652 subdivision scale) have annexed to the city in a piecemeal fashion. The Fairwood area
1653 has approximately 23,000 residents. The Fairwood area was completely within the

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1654 historical Soos Creek Planning Area, which is now part of both the Greater Maple
1655 Valley/Cedar River and the West King County Community Service Areas. This means
1656 that the general annexation policies in the comprehensive plan, as well as the Greater
1657 Maple Valley/Cedar River area policies are relevant to this area.

1658
1659 The East Renton area has approximately 6,500 residents. The East Renton area was
1660 completely part of the historical Newcastle Planning Area, which is now part of both the
1661 Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain and West King County Community Service areas. This
1662 means that the general annexation policies in the comprehensive plan, as well as the
1663 Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain area policies are relevant to this area.

1664 **((€.)) XI. North Highline Potential**
1665 **Annexation Area((s))**

1666 **A. Plan History**

1667 The history of prior plans for the North Highline subarea is as follows:

- 1668 • **1976 SeaTac Communities Plan.** The adoption of the SeaTac Communities Plan
1669 pre-dated adoption of the Growth Management Act.
- 1670 • **1977 Highline Community Plan and 1981 Area Zoning.** In 1977, King County
1671 adopted the Highline Community Plan,⁹ which covered a large area of then-
1672 unincorporated King County that today includes the Cities of Burien, Des Moines,
1673 Normandy Park, and SeaTac in addition to the currently unincorporated North
1674 Highline neighborhoods of White Center and Glendale. The plan was
1675 supplemented in 1981 by an Area Zoning Plan,¹⁰ which implemented zoning
1676 consistent with the land use policies of the Highline Community Plan.
- 1677 • **1994 White Center Community Action Plan and Area Zoning.** In 1994, King
1678 County augmented the Highline Community Plan with the adoption of the White
1679 Center Community Action Plan and Area Zoning (Action Plan),¹¹ a community
1680 planning document that implemented new zoning for White Center, in addition to
1681 establishing goals in the areas of health and human services, economic and
1682 community development, and environmental protection. The Action Plan was
1683 designed as a six- to ten-year plan for the area and incorporated as part of the 1994
1684 King County Comprehensive Plan.¹²

1685
1686 In December 2022, the County adopted the North Highline Community Service Area
1687 Subarea Plan, which replaces the policies in the 1994 White Center Community Action
1688 Plan. The 2022 subarea plan (bound as a separate document) is adopted as an element
1689 of the King County Comprehensive Plan.

⁹ Ordinance 3530

¹⁰ Ordinance 5453

¹¹ Ordinance 11568

¹² Ordinance 13273 removed references to community plans, including the Highline Community Plan, which in effect repealed the Community Plan; however, the Action Plan remained active.

1690 **B. Vision and Guiding Principles**

1691 *North Highline Vision*

1692 Residing on the traditional land of the Duwamish people, North Highline celebrates its
1693 ethnic diversity, intergenerational roots, and our ongoing inclusivity of diverse families
1694 and individuals, especially those most isolated and vulnerable. We call out race and
1695 place-based inequities and are committed to dismantling systems of power, privilege,
1696 and racial injustice. With mutual support and respect, we value and live out our
1697 brilliance and power through community-led initiatives, creating thoughtful
1698 development without displacing longtime residents and small business owners, forming
1699 and owning the policies that impact us, and building our individual and collective
1700 wealth, health, and ~~((well-being)) wellbeing.~~

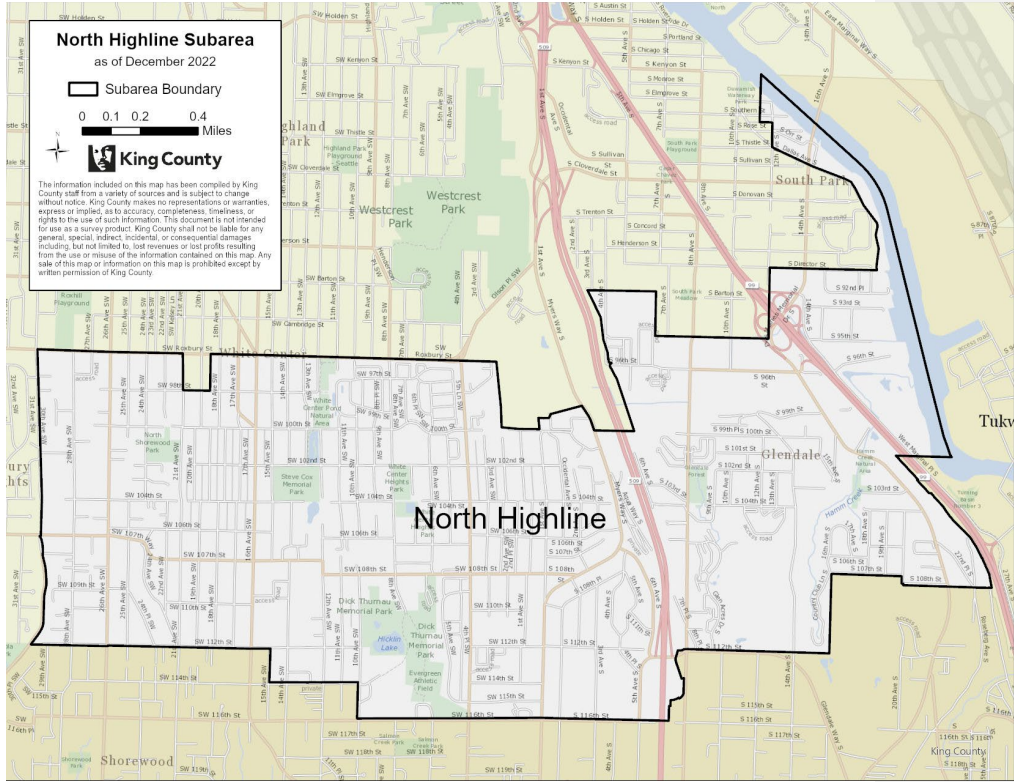
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1702 *Guiding Principles*

1703 The following guiding principles support the community vision and were used by the
1704 County to inform and direct the development of the Subarea Plan. The guiding
1705 principles were developed based on several years of dialogue and work with the
1706 community on the Subarea Plan, drawing from other community-led or focused efforts
1707 in North Highline. They express the community's sentiments around a range of
1708 community issues discussed during the planning process.

- 1709 a. We are proud of our community and continue to share our collective history with
1710 others and to invest in this place, our home for current residents and their future
1711 generations.
- 1712 b. We support community investments and programs that reduce the risks and
1713 mitigate the impacts, of residential, economic, and cultural displacement.
- 1714 c. We live in thoughtfully designed housing and commercial spaces where inter-
1715 generational households and legacy businesses can stay and where affordability
1716 and ownership are realized.
- 1717 d. We support a thriving and equitable economy, with racially and ethnically diverse,
1718 community-minded small business owners, entrepreneurs, and employers.
- 1719 e. We support residents, especially children, youths, and young adults, with services
1720 and resources they and their families need to succeed.
- 1721 f. We promote the development of community-desired amenities to improve
1722 aesthetics, enrich the community's diverse physical and cultural assets, and support
1723 gathering together as a community.
- 1724 g. We support regulations and investments that result in a safe, secure, and healthy
1725 community and compatible development.
- 1726 h. We support residents growing their work interests, skills, and wages.
- 1727 i. We enjoy neighborhoods with accessible and safe streets, roads, and alleyways,
1728 with well-connected hiking and biking trails.
- 1729 j. We can access jobs and amenities in the region and in our community without
1730 relying on automobiles.

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1731

1732

1733

((~~2016~~)) XII. Skyway-West Hill Potential Annexation Area

1734

A. Plan History

1735

The history of prior plans for the subarea is as follows:

1736

• **1994 West Hill Community Plan.** The West Hill Community Plan was adopted by King County in 1993. While prepared in conformance with the Growth Management Act it predated the adoption of the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan.

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• **Community-led Skyway-West Hill Action Plan.** In 2014 and 2015, the County provided technical assistance to a community-led effort to update some elements of the Community Plan. This community-led effort resulted in the development of the Skyway-West Hill Action Plan, or SWAP. The SWAP was proposed as an addendum to the existing Community Plan as part of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update, but the County ultimately did not adopt the SWAP. Instead, the County, reinitiated its Subarea Planning Program, and committed to work with the community to complete a ~~((Community Service Area))~~ Subarea Plan.

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

- 1748 • **Skyway-West Hill Land Use Strategy, Phase 1 of the Skyway West Hill Subarea**
1749 **Plan.** As part of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update, the County adopted a Land
1750 Use Strategy, Phase 1 of the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan, that outlined the
1751 potential policy and implementation steps for land use development in Skyway-
1752 West Hill. The Land Use Strategy called for the County to continue working with the
1753 community to develop the Skyway-West Hill Community Service Area Subarea Plan.
1754

1755 In December 2022, the County adopted the Skyway-West Hill Community Service Area
1756 Subarea Plan, which replaces the West Hill Community Plan and the Land Use Strategy.
1757 The 2022 subarea plan (bound as a separate document) is adopted as an element of the
1758 King County Comprehensive Plan.

1759 **B. Vision & Guiding Principles**

1760 *Skyway-West Hill Vision*

1761 Skyway-West Hill will grow into a vibrant, walkable neighborhood where housing is
1762 affordable and local, community-based businesses are thriving. Skyway-West Hill will be
1763 an ethnically diverse and civically engaged community where the collective voice,
1764 wisdom, and expertise of its residents and business owners are vital in ongoing civic
1765 decision-making.
1766

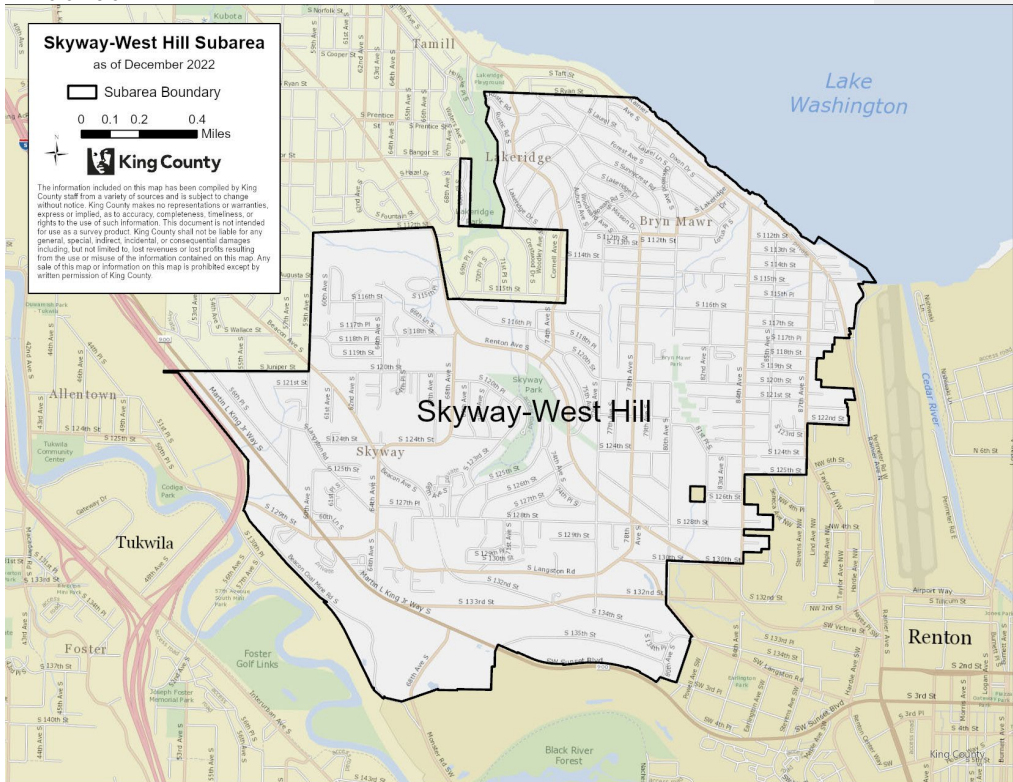
1767 *Guiding Principles*

1768 The following guiding principles support the community vision and were used by the
1769 County to inform and direct the development of the Subarea Plan. The guiding
1770 principles were developed based on several years of dialogue and work with the
1771 community on the Subarea Plan, drawing from prior community planning efforts, such
1772 as the Skyway-West Hill Action Plan, and other community conversations. They express
1773 the community's sentiments around a range of community issues discussed during the
1774 planning process.

- 1775 a. Support community health by providing opportunities to access fresh foods, as well
1776 as routes and trails for walking and bicycling.
- 1777 b. Create healthy connected neighborhoods where residents have safe and adequate
1778 means to connect with their neighbors, schools, community services and programs,
1779 and local businesses.
- 1780 c. Encourage equitable development by promoting access to a variety of housing
1781 choices, incentivizing the creation of public amenities, addressing displacement,
1782 encouraging economic opportunity, and cultivating neighborhood character.
- 1783 d. Create sustainable, vibrant, and walkable business districts that provide
1784 opportunities for local businesses to succeed and jobs for area residents.
- 1785 e. Protect existing and create new affordable housing that focuses on preventing
1786 displacement and providing options and opportunities for Skyway-West Hill
1787 residents to remain in their community.
- 1788 f. Ensure the community grows in a well-planned and sustainable way and that it has
1789 the resources necessary for all its residents to thrive and enjoy a high quality of life.
- 1790 g. Ensure Skyway-West Hill's youth are thriving and engaged in local decision-making
1791 so they can advocate for and receive the services and resources they and their
1792 families need to succeed.

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)

- 1793 h. Promote the development of community-desired amenities and enrich the
- 1794 community's diverse physical and cultural assets.
- 1795 i. Inform all policies, regulations, and County actions affecting Skyway-West Hill with
- 1796 the principles of equity and social justice.
- 1797 j. Protect and enhance the existing character of the community's residential
- 1798 neighborhoods and enhance connections between these areas and business
- 1799 districts.



1800



CHAPTER 12

IMPLEMENTATION,

AMENDMENTS, &

EVALUATION

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

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~~The Comprehensive Plan policies, development regulations, and countywide policy framework have been adopted to achieve the County's and region's growth management objectives. This chapter describes the tools, processes, and procedures used to implement, review, and amend the Comprehensive Plan.~~

~~The chapter explains the relationship between planning and zoning, lists ((the)) incentives programs, identifies actions that will be undertaken between ((eight)) 10-year updates to implement or refine provisions within the Comprehensive Plan, and outlines and distinguishes between annual updates, midpoint updates, and ((eight)) 10-year updates.~~

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6 **I. Regulations**

7 The Comprehensive Plan guides land use over the long term by applying specific land
8 use designations throughout the unincorporated portion of King County and by
9 providing guidelines for implementing regulations used to evaluate specific
10 development proposals. To ensure that these implementing regulations are effective
11 and warrant a high degree of public trust and confidence, the regulations must be
12 equitable, reasonable, and responsibly administered.

- 14 ~~I-101 King County's regulation of land use should:~~
 - 15 ~~a. Protect public health, safety and general welfare, and property~~
 - 16 ~~rights;~~
 - 17 ~~b. Protect consumers from fraudulent practices in land use, land sales~~
 - 18 ~~and development;~~
 - 19 ~~c. Implement and be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and~~
 - 20 ~~other adopted land use goals, policies and plans;~~
 - 21 ~~d. Be expeditious, predictable, clear, straightforward and internally~~
 - 22 ~~consistent;~~
 - 23 ~~e. Provide clear direction for resolution of regulatory conflict;~~
 - 24 ~~f. Be enforceable, efficiently administered and provide appropriate~~
 - 25 ~~incentives and penalties;~~
 - 26 ~~g. Be consistently and effectively enforced;~~
 - 27 ~~h. Create public and private benefits worth their cost;~~
 - 28 ~~i. Be coordinated with timely provision of necessary public facilities~~
 - 29 ~~and services;~~
 - 30 ~~j. Encourage creativity and diversity in meeting county goals and~~
 - 31 ~~policies;~~
 - 32 ~~k. Be coordinated with cities, special purpose districts and other~~
 - 33 ~~public agencies to promote compatible development standards~~
 - 34 ~~throughout King County;~~
 - 35 ~~l. Be responsive, understandable and accessible to the public;~~
 - 36 ~~m. Provide effective public notice and reasonable opportunities for~~
 - 37 ~~the public (especially those directly affected) to be heard and to~~
 - 38 ~~influence decisions;~~
 - 39 ~~n. Avoid intruding on activities involving constitutionally protected~~
 - 40 ~~freedoms of speech, petition, expression, assembly, association~~
 - 41 ~~and economic competition, except when essential to protect~~
 - 42 ~~public health, safety and welfare (and then the restriction should~~
 - 43 ~~be no broader than necessary);~~
 - 44 ~~o. Treat all members of the public equitably. Base regulatory~~
 - 45 ~~decisions wholly on the applicable criteria and code requirements,~~
 - 46 ~~including application of the county's Equity and Social Justice~~
 - 47 ~~goals;~~
 - 48 ~~p. Make development requirements readily accessible to the public~~
 - 49 ~~through up-to-date codes, technical assistance materials and other~~
 - 50 ~~relevant documents; and~~
 - 51 ~~q. Provide for relief from existing regulations when they would~~
 - 52 ~~deprive a property of uses allowed to similar properties with the~~
 - 53 ~~same zoning or environmental or other constraints, and when such~~
 - 54 ~~relief would neither endanger public health and safety nor conflict~~
 - 55 ~~with adopted use policies. This policy is not intended for relief~~
 - 56 ~~from rules governing the subdividing of land.~~

58 ~~Siting public and private uses in communities can at times lead to concerns and~~
59 ~~objections from neighbors resulting from the real or perceived impacts of proposed~~
60 ~~uses. There is also a risk that objections to these "locally unwanted land uses" (LULUs)~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

61 can lead to some uses becoming overly concentrated in some communities, particularly
62 in historically disadvantaged areas. In response, governments should evaluate the
63 potential equity and social justice implications, including the beneficial and/or adverse
64 impacts, of policies and regulations involving such uses.

65
66 ~~I-101a~~ **Equity and social justice principles will be used by King County as an**
67 **important consideration in developing zoning and development**
68 **regulations governing public and private uses, in siting public**
69 **facilities, and in evaluating land use decisions. Results from the Equity**
70 **Impact Review Tool will be used where appropriate.**

71
72 King County wishes to create an equitable relationship with all its residents who own or
73 control potential development or redevelopment of property with critical or significant
74 resource areas. King County provides options that offer property-specific technical
75 assistance and tailored applications of critical areas regulations through Rural
76 Stewardship, Forest Stewardship, and Farm Management Plans. By participating in
77 these programs, property owners may qualify for state tax programs that will reduce the
78 assessed value of their property. However, it is the property owner's choice to
79 participate in these programs.

80
81 ~~I-102~~ **King County property owners are entitled to have their property**
82 **assessed at the true and fair value of real property for taxation**
83 **purposes so that those portions of the property that are not developed**
84 **or redeveloped due to physical or environmental constraints shall be**
85 **assessed to reflect the presence of such constraints. Property**
86 **appraisals shall be consistent with the King County Comprehensive**
87 **Plan, development regulations, zoning, and any other governmental**
88 **policies or practices in effect at the time of appraisal that affect the use**
89 **of property, as well as physical and environmental influences as**
90 **required by RCW 84.40.030.)**

91 ~~((#.))~~ I. Comprehensive Plan 92 Amendments

93 ~~((In the process of implementing the Comprehensive Plan, there may be a need for~~
94 ~~amendments to address emerging land use and regulatory issues. The County has~~
95 ~~established the Comprehensive Plan update process to enable individual residents,~~
96 ~~businesses, community groups, cities, ((c)) County departments, and others to propose~~
97 ~~changes to ((existing)) Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations. This~~
98 ~~process provides for continuous and systematic review of Comprehensive Plan policies~~
99 ~~and development regulations in response to changing conditions and circumstances~~
100 ~~that could affect growth and development throughout King County.))~~

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101
102 The Comprehensive Plan update process includes ~~((the annual update, the midpoint~~
103 ~~update, and the eight-year update)) annual, midpoint, and 10-year updates. The annual~~
104 ~~update generally is limited to those amendments that propose technical changes and~~
105 ~~adoption of ((CSA)) Community Service Area subarea plans. The ((eight)) 10-year~~
106 ~~update is designed to address amendments that propose substantive changes. The~~
107 ~~midpoint update is an optional process that allows for consideration of a smaller range~~
108 ~~of substantive changes, ((but only)) if initiated by motion. This update schedule~~
109 ~~provides the measure of certainty and predictability necessary to allow for new land use~~
110 ~~initiatives to work. By allowing annual and midpoint updates, the process provides~~
111 ~~sufficient flexibility to account for technical adjustments or changed circumstances. The~~
112 ~~process requires early and continuous public involvement and necessitates meaningful~~
113 ~~public ((dialogue)) engagement.~~

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~~((2016))~~ **2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD**

114 King County has established a docket process to facilitate public involvement and
115 participation in the Comprehensive Plan update process in accordance with Revised
116 Code of Washington 36.70A.470. Parties interested in proposing changes to ~~((existing))~~
117 Comprehensive Plan policies, development regulations, land use designations, zoning,
118 or other components of the Comprehensive Plan can ~~((obtain and complete))~~ submit a
119 docket ~~((form))~~ request outlining the proposed amendment. ~~((Docket forms are~~
120 ~~available via the King County website:))~~

121
122
123 ~~((I-201))~~ **The update process shall provide continuing review and evaluation of**
124 **Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations.**

125
126 ~~I-202))~~ **I-101** Through the update process, ~~((King County))~~ Comprehensive Plan
127 policies and ~~((supporting))~~ implementing development regulations
128 shall be subject to continuing review, evaluation, and amendment
129 according to the annual, midpoint, and ~~((eight))~~ 10-year update
130 schedule in accordance with Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.130
131 ~~((1) and (2))~~ and the King County Code.

132
133 ~~I-102~~ **Except as provided in ~~I-103202b~~, ((P))proposed amendments to the
134 King County Comprehensive Plan, including the Land Use Map, shall be
135 considered by the King County Council only once each calendar year in
136 accordance with the State Growth Management Act and so that the
137 cumulative effect of the proposals can be determined.**

138
139 ~~I-103~~ **After appropriate public participation, amendments may be considered**
140 **more than once each calendar year as follows:**
141 **a. For initial adoption of a subarea plan;**
142 **b. Adoption or amendment of a shoreline master program;**
143 **c. Amendment of the capital facilities element of a comprehensive**
144 **plan that is part of the adoption or amendment of the County**
145 **budget;**
146 **d. To resolve an appeal of a comprehensive plan filed with the**
147 **Growth Management Hearings Board or with the court; or**
148 **e. If, after public notice is provided and the amendment follows the**
149 **emergency ordinance provisions of Section 230.30 of the King**
150 **County Charter an emergency exists, if:**
151 **1. Based on the King County Council finding that the amendment is**
152 **necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health,**
153 **or safety or for the support of County government and its existing**
154 **public institutions; and**
155 **2. Public notice and an opportunity for public comment precede the**
156 **adoption of the amendments.**

157
158 ~~((I-203))~~ **I-104** Except as otherwise provided in this policy, the annual update shall
159 not consider proposed amendments to the ~~((King County))~~
160 Comprehensive Plan that require substantive changes to
161 Comprehensive Plan policies ~~((and development regulations))~~ or that
162 alter the Urban Growth Area ~~((B))~~ boundary. Substantive amendments
163 may be considered in the annual update only to consider the following:
164 **a. Changes required by existing Comprehensive Plan policies;**
165 **b. Changes to technical appendices and any amendments required**
166 **thereby;**
167 **c. Adoption of Community Service Area subarea plans;**
168 **d. Comprehensive updates of subarea plans initiated by motion;**
169 **e. Changes required by amendments to the Countywide Planning**
170 **Policies or state or federal law;**

~~((2016))~~ 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ~~((updated December 6, 2022))~~ Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ~~((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555))~~ ~~xxxxx~~ ~~(Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~ ~~FB~~

- 171 ~~f. Amendments resulting from the comprehensive plan~~
- 172 ~~implementation progress report required by Revised Code of~~
- 173 ~~Washington 36.70A.130;~~
- 174 ~~g. Land Use Map or shoreline master program map amendments~~
- 175 ~~resulting from a site-specific application or an area zoning and land~~
- 176 ~~use zoning study, provided that the amendments do not require~~
- 177 ~~substantive change to policy language or alter the Urban Growth~~
- 178 ~~Area boundary, except to correct mapping errors;~~
- 179 ~~h. Amendments to add or remove lands from the Agricultural~~
- 180 ~~Production District under policy R-761656a and/or R-762656b for~~
- 181 ~~King County safety, preservation, and/or fish passage road projects~~
- 182 ~~that are in the adopted six-year Capital Improvement Program;~~
- 183 ~~i. ((A)) Four-to-One proposals ((that changes the Urban Growth Area~~
- 184 ~~Boundary));~~
- 185 ~~((b. An amendment regarding the provision of wastewater services to a~~
- 186 ~~Rural Town. Such amendments shall be limited to policy~~
- 187 ~~amendments and adjustments to the boundaries of the Rural Town~~
- 188 ~~as needed to implement a preferred option identified in a Rural~~
- 189 ~~Town wastewater treatment study;~~
- 190 ~~c.) j. Amendments necessary for the conservation, protection, and~~
- 191 ~~recovery of threatened and endangered species; or~~
- 192 ~~((d. Adoption of Community Service Area subarea plans;~~
- 193 ~~e.) k. Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan ((w))Work ((p))Plan to~~
- 194 ~~change deadlines((-or~~
- 195 ~~l. Amendments related to the next long-term solid waste disposal~~
- 196 ~~option; or~~
- 197 ~~m. Amendments to update critical area regulations and related~~
- 198 ~~policies.~~
- 199 ~~((f. Amendments to update the Comprehensive Plan schedule to~~
- 200 ~~respond to adopted ordinances to improve alignment with the~~
- 201 ~~Growth Management Act, multicounty and countywide planning~~
- 202 ~~activities))-))~~
- 203
- 204 ~~((1-204)) I-105 The ((eight)) 10-year update shall make changes required as part of~~
- 205 ~~the Growth Management Act statutory update, consider proposed~~
- 206 ~~amendments that could be considered in the annual update ((and also~~
- 207 ~~those outside the scope of the annual update)), proposed amendments~~
- 208 ~~relating to substantive changes to Comprehensive Plan policies ((and~~
- 209 ~~development regulations;)) and proposals to alter the Urban Growth~~
- 210 ~~Area ((B))boundary in accordance with applicable provisions of~~
- 211 ~~Countywide Planning Policies.~~
- 212
- 213 ~~((1-204a)) I-106 The midpoint update is an optional process that allows for~~
- 214 ~~consideration of a smaller range of substantive policy changes and~~
- 215 ~~amendments to the Urban Growth Area boundary at the ((four)) five-~~
- 216 ~~year point of the ((eight)) 10-year update schedule. Midpoint updates~~
- 217 ~~are only authorized by a motion that establishes the scope of work. ((A~~
- 218 ~~smaller range of substantive changes to policies and amendments to~~
- 219 ~~the Urban Growth Area boundary may be considered as part of the~~
- 220 ~~midpoint update;)) Work ((p))Plan action items may be added or~~
- 221 ~~amended if related to a topic identified in the scope of work.~~
- 222

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

223 ~~((1-205)) I-107 ((In accordance with RCW 36.70A.140 and the State Environmental~~
224 ~~Policy Act, as applicable;)) King County shall use equitable engagement~~
225 ~~strategies to ensure public participation in the update process for~~
226 ~~Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations, particularly~~
227 ~~from populations historically underrepresented or excluded from~~
228 ~~planning processes. King County shall disseminate information~~
229 ~~regarding public involvement in the Comprehensive Plan update~~
230 ~~process, including, but not limited to, the following: description of~~
231 ~~procedures and schedules for proposing amendments to~~
232 ~~Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations; guidelines~~
233 ~~for participating in the docket process; public meetings to obtain~~
234 ~~comments from the public or other agencies; provision of public review~~
235 ~~documents; and dissemination of information relating to the~~
236 ~~Comprehensive Plan update process on the Internet or through other~~
237 ~~methods.~~

239 ((The following policies guide the preparation of amendments and their review by King
240 County:

241
242 ~~I-207)) I-108 ((Proposed amendments to the King County Comprehensive Plan,~~
243 ~~including the Land Use Map, shall be considered by the King County~~
244 ~~Council only once each calendar year in accordance with the State~~
245 ~~Growth Management Act and so that the cumulative effect of the~~
246 ~~proposals can be determined;)) All Executive proposed~~
247 ~~Comprehensive Plan policy amendments ((should)) shall include the~~
248 ~~following analysis:~~
249 ~~a. Rationale and effect: a detailed statement of ((what is proposed to~~
250 ~~be changed and why;~~
251 ~~b. Effect: a statement detailing the anticipated outcome of the~~
252 ~~change on the geographic area affected, populations affected, and~~
253 ~~environment;~~
254 ~~c. Compliance: a statement confirming compliance with the:~~
255 ~~1. Growth Management Act, including statutory references where~~
256 ~~applicable; and~~
257 ~~2. Countywide Planning Policies, including policy references~~
258 ~~where applicable;~~
259 ~~3. King County Strategic Plan, including policy, objective or~~
260 ~~strategy references where applicable; and~~
261 ~~d. Public Review: an indication that the proposed policy amendment~~
262 ~~was included in the executive's public review draft or a statement~~
263 ~~of the public review process used to solicit comments on the~~
264 ~~proposal):~~
265 ~~1. Whether the proposed change is a new policy, or a substantive~~
266 ~~policy change, is clarification of existing intent, or is technical~~
267 ~~with no policy change intended;~~
268 ~~2. The rationale for the proposed change;~~
269 ~~3. The anticipated outcome of the proposed change, including~~
270 ~~effects on the geographic area(s) and populations affected;~~
271 ~~and~~
272 ~~4. Consistency of the proposed change with any other related~~
273 ~~plans and policies, including specific plan names and policy~~
274 ~~references, where applicable; and~~
275 ~~b. Implementation: a description of the anticipated implementation of~~
276 ~~the proposed change, including:~~
277 ~~1. Whether implementation of the proposed change is regulatory,~~
278 ~~programmatic, or a capital project, or a combination;~~
279 ~~2. If the change is regulatory, a description of the development~~
280 ~~regulations transmitted with the Comprehensive Plan update~~
281 ~~that implement the proposed change, in conformance with~~
282 ~~Policy I-109208;~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

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- 3. If the change is programmatic or a capital project, whether it needs additional resources to implement the proposed change; and**
- 4. If the change is programmatic or a capital project, the anticipated timing for implementation.**

~~((1-208)) I-109 Proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan policies ((should)) shall be accompanied by any changes to development regulations, ((as well as modifications to capital improvement programs, subarea, neighborhood, and functional plans required for implementation so that regulations will be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan)) when necessary to implement the policy change.~~

I-110 Adopted Comprehensive Plan policy changes shall be integrated into future regularly scheduled updates to the Capital Improvement Program, subarea plans, and functional plans, when necessary to implement the change.

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~~((III.)) II. Review and Evaluation~~

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King County uses performance measurement to evaluate Comprehensive Plan implementation to ensure Growth Management Act and County goals are being met, improve transparency and accountability with the public, increase use of data to support decision-making, and identify where improvements can be made.

~~In 2017, King County created the framework for performance measurement of the Comprehensive Plan with the intent to use long-term indicators to provide insight into whether the goals of the Comprehensive Plan are being achieved or if revisions are needed. The framework is structured around how well the County is meeting the aspirations of the Guiding Principles policies in the Plan, as consistent with the planning goals of the Growth Management Act. The performance measures are primarily analyzed at a countywide scale, with additional geographic detail for relevant Growth Management Act geographies (incorporated cities, unincorporated urban area, the Rural Area, and Natural Resource Lands), as appropriate and practicable feasible given the dataset used. Wherever possible, disparate equity and social impacts are also analyzed. Many of the Comprehensive Plan performance measures overlap with the Determinants of Equity indicators used for internal equity performance monitoring. Performance measure reports are issued in advance of 10-year Comprehensive Plan updates to inform the scope of work for the update.~~

Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.130 also requires King County to provide the state a report detailing the progress achieved in implementing the Comprehensive Plan ("implementation progress report") five years after adoption of a 10-year update. The report must include information about:

- Implementation of previously adopted changes to the housing element of the Plan, and any effect those changes have had on housing affordability and availability within the jurisdiction;
- Permit processing timelines;
- Progress toward implementing any actions required to achieve reductions to meet greenhouse gas and vehicle miles traveled requirements in the Growth Management Act; and
- Identification of any outstanding actions needed to implement the previous 10-year update, such as specifically identified regulations, zoning, and/or land use changes or other legislative or administrative actions. In such cases, the County must adopt

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

335 a work plan to take any necessary implementing actions identified in the report and
336 complete all work necessary for implementation within two years of submission of
337 the report.

338
339 King County also reports annually on permit processing times.

340
341 Additionally, ~~((and))~~ in accordance with the Growth Management Act, King County and
342 ~~((its))~~ cities ~~((with))~~ work together to employ an established review and evaluation
343 program, as provided by the King County Countywide Planning Policies. The purpose
344 of the program ~~((will be))~~ is to determine whether the ~~((c))~~ County and ~~((its))~~ cities ~~((1))~~
345 have sufficient capacity for targeted growth and housing needs and ~~((2))~~ are achieving
346 urban densities within urban growth areas by comparing growth and development
347 assumptions, targets, housing needs, and objectives contained in the Countywide
348 Planning Policies and the ~~((c))~~ County and city comprehensive plans with actual ~~((growth~~
349 and)) patterns of development in the county and cities.

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351 Additional monitoring, review, and reporting occurs under Policy H-100 to (1) ensure
352 alignment with Countywide Planning Policies Housing Chapter goals and policies and
353 (2) progress towards meeting countywide and jurisdictional housing growth targets,
354 housing needs, and eliminating disparities in access to housing and neighborhood
355 choice.

356 ~~((Buildable Lands Program~~

357 ~~Section)) Revised Code of Washington 36.70A.215 ((of the Growth Management Act,~~
358 ~~commonly called Buildable Lands,)) requires six western Washington counties~~
359 ~~(including King County) and ((their)) the cities in those counties to evaluate their~~
360 ~~capacity to accommodate forecasted growth of housing units and jobs within the~~
361 ~~current Urban Growth Area. ((The purpose of the program is to determine whether the~~
362 ~~county and its cities are achieving urban densities within urban growth areas by~~
363 ~~comparing growth and development assumptions, targets, and objectives contained in~~
364 ~~the Countywide Planning Policies and the county and city comprehensive plans with~~
365 ~~actual growth and development in the county and cities.)) Objectives relating to this~~
366 ~~review and evaluation include:~~

- 367 • Determining whether a county and ~~((its))~~ the cities in that county are achieving
- 368 urban densities within urban growth areas by comparing growth and
- 369 development assumptions, targets, and objectives contained in the Countywide
- 370 Planning Policies and the county and city comprehensive plans with actual
- 371 growth and development in the county and cities;
- 372 • Determining whether there is sufficient suitable land to accommodate
- 373 applicable countywide population projections, including evaluation of impacts
- 374 of approved actions to amend the Urban Growth Area;
- 375 • Determining the actual density of housing constructed within the Urban Growth
- 376 Area since the adoption of, or since the most recent evaluation of, the
- 377 Comprehensive Plan;
- 378 • Determining the actual amount of land developed for commercial and
- 379 industrial uses within the Urban Growth Area since the adoption of, or since the
- 380 most recent evaluation of, the Comprehensive Plan;
- 381 • Reviewing commercial, industrial, and housing needs by type and density range
- 382 to determine the amount of land needed for commercial, industrial, and
- 383 housing for the remaining portion of the 20-year planning period used in the
- 384 ~~((2012 adopted))~~ Comprehensive Plan; and
- 385 • ~~((Adopting and implementing))~~ Identifying measures intended to promote
- 386 consistency between estimates of available land capacity, measures of actual
- 387 development by type, and goals and objectives of city and county
- 388 comprehensive plan policies, development regulations, and Countywide
- 389 Planning Policies. Such measures include, but are not limited to, possible

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

390 amendments to Countywide Planning Policies as determined necessary by the
391 county and the cities.

392

393 ((In collaboration with its cities, King County prepared Buildable Lands Reports in 2002,
394 2007 and 2014, to implement this portion of the Growth Management Act.

395 ~~Conclusions of 2014 King County Buildable Lands Report~~

396 ~~The King County Buildable Lands Report – 2014 reported on development densities and~~
397 ~~capacity as required by the Growth Management Act. The report concluded that King~~
398 ~~County does have sufficient capacity to accommodate forecasted housing-unit and job~~
399 ~~growth through 2031 and beyond. Under existing Comprehensive Plans and zoning, the~~
400 ~~county’s Urban Growth Area has a generous surplus of planned capacity: more than~~
401 ~~double the housing target through 2031 and 160% of the jobs target. Almost all of this~~
402 ~~development capacity is contained within the county’s 39 cities. Unincorporated King~~
403 ~~County within the Urban Growth Area has sufficient capacity for its residential target, but~~
404 ~~technically has a slight shortfall of capacity for job growth.~~

405

406 ~~Under the Growth Management Act, VISION 2040 and the Countywide Planning~~
407 ~~Policies, cities are designated and intended to accommodate almost all employment~~
408 ~~growth. Prior to planning under the Growth Management Act, unincorporated King~~
409 ~~County absorbed a large share of the county’s residential and job growth. Since~~
410 ~~beginning to plan under the Growth Management Act, the county’s growth has shifted~~
411 ~~almost entirely into the cities. However, a commensurate share of urban unincorporated~~
412 ~~growth targets did not shift into cities. Annexations transferred more capacity than~~
413 ~~target into the annexing cities, leaving residual unincorporated targets that are out of~~
414 ~~balance with actual capacity. Bearing in mind that the Urban Growth Area as a whole~~
415 ~~does have sufficient capacity for commercial and industrial growth, the small shortfall in~~
416 ~~urban unincorporated King County is a technical issue that will be addressed as further~~
417 ~~annexations occur. No action need be taken now, as urban unincorporated areas~~
418 ~~undergo transition into cities.~~

419

420 ~~Narrative relocated from above with edits~~

421 ~~((In partnership with the King County Growth Report, the King County Buildable Lands~~
422 ~~Report and supplementary monitoring of the)) To develop the Urban Growth Capacity~~
423 ~~Report and King County Comprehensive Plan Performance Measures, the County and~~
424 ~~((its)) the cities ((with)) partner to review information relating to and including, but not~~
425 ~~limited to, the following:~~

- 426 • Urban densities;
- 427 • Remaining land capacity;
- 428 • Growth and development assumptions, targets, and objectives;
- 429 • Residential, commercial, and industrial development;
- 430 • Transportation;
- 431 • Affordable housing need and supply;
- 432 • Economic development; and
- 433 • Environmental quality.

434

435 ~~((1-304)) I-201 **King County shall:**~~

436 ~~**a. Monitor ((and benchmark)), measure, assess, and report on the**~~
437 ~~**progress of the ((Countywide Planning Policies and King County))**~~
438 ~~**Comprehensive Plan toward achieving ((their)) its objectives,**~~
439 ~~**inclusive of those relating to growth targets, the environment,**~~
440 ~~**development patterns, housing needs, the economy,**~~
441 ~~**transportation, ((and)) the provision of public services, and health**~~
442 ~~**and social equity outcomes of residents(;;); and**~~

443 ~~**b. Use results of such monitoring, measurement, assessment, and**~~
444 ~~**reporting to ((encourage)) identify implementation actions and**~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

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inform policy revisions, as appropriate, to achieve the planning objectives found within the Growth Management Act, Countywide Planning Policies, and ~~((King County)) Comprehensive Plan~~; and
c. Incorporate data on critical areas and other constrained lands into analysis on developable capacity to accommodate growth targets and housing needs.
~~((E-708)) I-202~~ King County should implement a monitoring and adaptive management framework ~~((for))~~ to:
a. Evaluate the effectiveness ((monitoring of critical areas)) of County policies, regulations, and programs in achieving no net loss of critical areas functions and values; and
b. ~~((use monitoring data to i))~~ inform ((the)) future ((review and updates of its critical areas policies and regulations)) regulatory updates.

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~~IV.)~~ III. Land Use Designations and Zoning Classifications ((and Codes))

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The application of zoning classifications on specific properties is the first step towards implementing the land use designations of the Comprehensive Plan. Boundaries between different zone classifications may follow property lines, natural features, or other dividing lines such as roads. A land use designation is implemented by one or more specific zone classification, as indicated on the following table ~~((below))~~.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations	Zoning Classifications*
Unincorporated Activity Center (ac)	R-12, R-18, R-24, R-48, NB, CB, O, I
Community Business Center (cb)	NB, CB, O
Neighborhood Business Center (nb)	NB, O
Commercial Outside of Centers (co)	NB, CB, RB, O, I - this is the range of existing zoning in place when the Comprehensive Plan was adopted
((Urban Planned Development (upd)))	((R-1, R-4, R-6, R-8, R-12, R-18, R-24, R-48, NB, CB, RB, O, I))
Urban Residential, High (uh)	R-18, R-24, R-48
Urban Residential, Medium (um)	R-4, R-6, R-8, R-12
Urban Residential, Low (ul)	R-1
Urban Growth Area((s)) for Cities in Rural Area (rx)	UR ((The following two zones were in place in the North Bend Urban Growth Area when the comprehensive plan was adopted in 1994: I, RB))
Rural Town (rt)	R-1, R-4, R-6, R-8, R-12, R-18, R-24, R-48, NB, CB, ((RB,)) O, I
Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center (rn)	NB
Rural Area (ra)	RA-2.5, RA-5, RA-10, RA-20
Industrial (i)	I
Forestry (f)	F, M
Agriculture (ag)	A-10, A-35
Mining (m)	M
Greenbelt/Urban Separator (gb)	R-1
King County Open Space System (os)	All zones
Other Parks/Wilderness (op)	All zones

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* This is the range of zoning that may be allowed within each comprehensive plan land use designation((s)) subject to ~~((e))~~ Comprehensive ~~((p))~~ Plan and subarea plan policies. Actual zoning on a specific property is determined through the area~~((wide))~~ zoning process or through ~~((a quasi-judicial))~~ site-specific rezone application.

Abbreviation	Zoning Classifications
A	Agricultural ((10 or 35 acre minimum lot area))
F	Forest ((80 acre minimum lot area))
M	Mineral
RA	Rural Area ((2.5-acre, 5-acre, 10-acre or 20-acre minimum density))
UR	Urban Reserve
R	Urban Residential ((base density in dwelling units per acre))
NB	Neighborhood Business
CB	Community Business
RB	Regional Business
O	Office
I	Industrial

468
469 ((The Zoning Code (Title 21A) establishes precise rules for each zoning classification
470 such as permitted residential densities and activities or allowed commercial and
471 industrial development activities, and striving for separation between incompatible
472 uses. This code includes standards relative to bulk (i.e. lot size and coverage, building
473 heights and setbacks, landscape standards).

474 **1-401 The King County Zoning Code's zone classifications and development**
475 **standards and the official zoning maps shall be consistent with the**
476 **Comprehensive Plan and functional plans:**
477

478
479

~~V. Other))~~ IV. Implementing King County Codes

480 The Comprehensive Plan guides land use over the long term by applying specific land
481 use designations throughout the unincorporated portion of King County and by
482 providing guidelines for implementing regulations used to evaluate specific
483 development proposals. To ensure that these implementing regulations are effective
484 and warrant a high degree of public trust and confidence, the regulations must be
485 equitable, reasonable, and responsibly administered.

486
487 ((In addition to the Zoning Code,)) King County regulates land development and
488 construction based on the Comprehensive Plan through a variety of technical code
489 standards resulting in permits and approvals for specific projects. This includes, but is
490 not limited to, elements of the King County Code that control development or land use
491 activities, such as the zoning code, shoreline master program, subdivision ordinances,
492 surface water management, and construction codes. Surface Water Management (King
493 County Code Title 9), Water and Sewer Systems (King County Code Title 13), Roads and
494 Bridges (King County Code Title 14), Building and Construction Standards (King County
495 Code Title 16), Fire Code (King County Code Title 17), Land Segregation (King County
496 Code Title 19A), Planning (King County Code Title 20), and Zoning (King County Code
497 Title 21A).

498
499 ((In terms of land use regulation, the most important of these other implementing codes
500 are Land Segregation (K.C.C. Title 19A) and Shoreline Management (K.C.C. Title 25).
501 The Land Segregation code regulates division of a parcel of land into smaller lots for
502 transfer of ownership. The Shoreline Management code regulates the issuance of
503 substantial development permits for lands abutting waters governed by the Washington
504 State Shoreline Management Act.

505
506 Other development approvals include commercial or industrial construction permits.
507 Review of land segregation, substantial development permits and other development
508 proposals are key parts of the development process for making sure facilities and
509 services to support potential development are adequate and for evaluating
510 environmental impacts.))

- 511
512 ~~((1-104))~~ **I-301 King County's regulation of land use should:**
513 **a. Protect public health, safety and general welfare, and property**
514 **rights;**
515 **b. Protect consumers from fraudulent practices in land use, land sales,**
516 **and development;**
517 **c. Implement and be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and**
518 **other adopted land use goals, policies, and plans;**
519 **d. Be expeditious, predictable, clear, straightforward, and internally**
520 **consistent;**
521 **e. Provide clear direction for resolution of regulatory conflict;**
522 **f. Be enforceable, efficiently administered, and provide appropriate**
523 **incentives and penalties;**
524 **g. Be consistently and effectively enforced;**
525 **h. ((Create public and private benefits worth their cost;**
526 **i.)) Be coordinated with timely provision of necessary public facilities**
527 **and services;**
528 ~~((j.))~~ **i. Encourage creativity and diversity in meeting ((c)) County goals**
529 **and policies;**
530 ~~((k.))~~ **j. Be coordinated with cities, special purpose districts, and other**
531 **public agencies to promote compatible development standards**
532 **throughout King County;**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

- 533 ~~((f:))~~ **k.** Be responsive, understandable, and accessible to the public;
- 534 ~~((m:))~~ **l.** Provide effective public notice and reasonable opportunities
- 535 for the public ~~((t))~~, especially those directly affected~~((t))~~, to be
- 536 heard and to influence decisions;
- 537 ~~((n:))~~ **m.** Avoid intruding on activities involving constitutionally
- 538 protected freedoms of speech, petition, expression, assembly,
- 539 association, and economic competition, except when essential to
- 540 protect public health, safety and welfare ~~((t))~~, and then the
- 541 restriction should be no broader than necessary~~((t))~~;
- 542 ~~((o:))~~ **n.** Treat all members of the public equitably. Base regulatory
- 543 decisions wholly on the applicable criteria and code requirements,
- 544 including application of the ~~((e))~~ County's ~~((E))~~ equity and racial and
- 545 ~~((S))~~ social ~~((J))~~ justice goals;
- 546 ~~((p:))~~ **o.** Make development requirements readily accessible to the
- 547 public through up-to-date codes, technical assistance materials,
- 548 and other relevant documents; and
- 549 ~~((q:))~~ **p.** Provide for relief from existing regulations when they would
- 550 deprive a property of uses allowed to similar properties with the
- 551 same zoning or environmental or other constraints, and when such
- 552 relief would neither endanger public health and safety nor conflict
- 553 with adopted use policies. This policy is not intended for relief
- 554 from rules governing the subdividing of land.

555 ~~((1-401))~~ **I-302** The King County ~~((Zoning))~~ Code's ~~((zone))~~ zoning classifications and development standards ~~((and the ((official zoning maps))~~ ~~King County Zoning Atlas~~ shall be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan ~~((and functional plans))~~).

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- 561 ~~((1-501))~~ **I-303** When needed infrastructure and facilities are not available in a timely manner, development approvals shall ~~((either))~~:
- 562 **a.** ~~((b))~~ Be denied ~~((or))~~;
- 563 **b.** ~~((d))~~ Divided into phases ~~((, or the project proponents should))~~; or
- 564 **c.** ~~((p))~~ Provide the needed facilities and infrastructure to address
- 565 impacts directly attributable to their project ~~((, or as may be provided by the proponent on a voluntary basis))~~.

566 ~~((1-502))~~ **I-304** King County's permitting systems should provide for expeditious review of projects consistent with zoning and adopted policies.

571 ~~((1-503))~~ **I-305** Subdivision, short subdivision, and other development approvals, including those requiring detailed environmental review under the State Environmental Policy Act, shall be reviewed for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, zoning, community, subarea plans, functional plans, and capital improvement programs.

572 ~~((1-504))~~ **I-306** King County shall enforce its ~~((land use and environmental))~~ development regulations by ~~((pursuing))~~ ~~responding to~~ code enforcement complaints and by providing ~~((oversight))~~ inspection services during the process of site development on all sites for which it issues permits.

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583 ~~((1-505))~~ King County shall develop, as a part of the ~~((buildable lands))~~ ~~Urban Growth Capacity~~ analysis, a zoning yield and housing production monitoring program to determine whether housing capacity is being lost in the context of compliance with the Endangered Species Act, and shall propose revisions to the Countywide Planning Policies to implement such a program.))

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590 Siting public and private uses in communities can at times lead to concerns and objections from neighbors resulting from the real or perceived impacts of proposed

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

593 uses. The ~~re(se)~~ is also a risk that objections to these “locally unwanted land uses”
594 ~~((LULUs))~~ can lead to some uses becoming overly-concentrated in some communities,
595 particularly in ~~((historically disadvantaged areas))~~ those communities with higher
596 populations of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color; people with low-incomes;
597 immigrants; and refugees. In response, governments should evaluate the potential
598 equity and racial and social justice implications, including the beneficial and ~~((for))~~
599 adverse impacts, of policies and regulations involving such uses.

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600
601 ~~((1-101a))~~ **I-307 Equity and racial and social justice principles ((will)) shall be used**
602 **by King County as an important consideration in developing zoning**
603 **and development regulations governing public and private uses, in**
604 **siting public facilities, and in evaluating land use decisions. Results**
605 **from ~~((the E))~~equity ~~((t))~~impact ~~((R))~~reviews ~~((Toot-will))~~ shall be used**
606 **where appropriate.**

607 ~~((VI.2016))~~ V. Comprehensive Plan
608 ~~((Workplan))~~ Work Plan

609 ~~((A new feature of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan is this Workplan section. While~~
610 ~~Workplan tasks have accompanied the Comprehensive Plan as part of the adoption~~
611 ~~process by the County Council, these tasks were historically included with the~~
612 ~~Ordinance rather than inside of the Comprehensive Plan. In the 2016 Comprehensive~~
613 ~~Plan, these tasks will be included in the body of the document.)) The Comprehensive
614 Plan ((Workplan tasks)) Work Plan identifies additional actions the County will take after
615 adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan to: (1) further implement and refine the plan,
616 and/or (2) continue work on issues that arose during plan development but there was
617 not sufficient time or resources to complete the work prior to adoption. The action
618 items work in conjunction with the other implementation tools discussed in this chapter,
619 such as regulations, incentive programs, and other core regional planning and
620 implementation activities. Each ((Workplan)) Work Plan action item includes a summary
621 description, general timeline, and anticipated outcomes. ((In the 2018 update to the
622 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan, as part of the restructure adopted in Ordinance
623 18810 and Motion 15142, the County modified the structure of the King County
624 Comprehensive Plan update process to include a comprehensive update every eight
625 years, as well as potential annual and midpoint updates. As part of this review,
626 Workplan items were amended to reflect this restructure, and to add direction for future
627 updates to the Comprehensive Plan, including a 2020 update. Consistent with policies
628 1-203 and 1-204a, modifications and additions to the Workplan were included in the
629 2020 Comprehensive Plan update.)) Completion of Work Plan actions are dependent
630 on future grant awards and/or budget decisions. Should funding be unavailable to
631 complete the work, the timelines and/or deliverables may need to be reassessed.~~

632
633 When transmitting to the Council the required report, study, ordinance, and/or motion
634 in any of the ~~((items))~~ Work Plan deliverables outlined below, the transmittal shall be ~~((in~~
635 ~~the form of a paper original and an electronic copy))~~ electronically filed with the clerk of
636 the Council, who shall ~~((retain the original and))~~ provide an electronic copy to all
637 Councilmembers, the Council chief of staff, ~~((the policy staff director))~~ and the lead staff
638 for the ~~((planning, rural service and environment committee, or its successor))~~
639 committee charged with oversight of the Comprehensive Plan.

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640
641 ~~((Action 1: Implementation of the Community Service Area Subarea Planning~~
642 ~~Program. Under the direction of the Department of Local Services - Permitting Division,~~
643 ~~King County has launched a new regular subarea planning program. While this is~~
644 ~~described in greater detail in Chapter 11: Community Service Area Subarea Planning,~~
645 ~~launching and implementing this effort will be a major activity following the adoption of~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

646 the Comprehensive Plan. For each plan, the County shall comply with Policy CP-100 and
647 K.C.C. 2.16.055:

- 648 ~~• *Timeline:* Ongoing, the Executive will propose a subarea plan for each area~~
- 649 ~~based on planning schedule in Chapter 11.~~
- 650 ~~• *Outcomes:* A proposed subarea plan for each Community Service Area for~~
- 651 ~~Council consideration and possible adoption. Each subarea plan shall be~~
- 652 ~~transmitted by the Executive to the Council in the form of an ordinance that~~
- 653 ~~adopts the subarea plan, at a time consistent with King County Code Chapter~~
- 654 ~~20.10. A Public Review Draft of each subarea plan shall be made available to~~
- 655 ~~the public and the Council for comment prior to finalizing the plan for~~
- 656 ~~transmittal.~~
- 657 ~~• *Lead:* Department of Local Services - Permitting Division, in coordination and~~
- 658 ~~collaboration with the Office of Performance Strategy and Budget. Executive~~
- 659 ~~staff, including the Department of Local Services - Permitting Division, the~~
- 660 ~~Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, or other appropriate agencies,~~
- 661 ~~shall update and coordinate with the Councilmember office(s) representing the~~
- 662 ~~applicable study area throughout the community planning process.~~

~~**Action 2: Develop a Performance Measures Program for the Comprehensive Plan.**~~

665 The purpose of the program is to develop longer-term indicators to provide insight into
666 whether the goals of the Comprehensive Plan are being achieved or if revisions are
667 needed. Given the longer-term nature of the issues addressed in the Comprehensive
668 Plan, this program will be implemented on an eight-year update schedule. Reports are
669 to be released in the year prior to the initiation of the eight-year update in order to
670 guide the scoping process for the update. Additionally, to the extent practicable for
671 each dataset, indicators will be reported at the level most consistent with the major
672 geographies in the Growth Management Act and Comprehensive Plan – incorporated
673 cities, unincorporated urban areas, Rural Areas, and Natural Resource Lands.

- 674 ~~• *Timeline:* The motion adopting the program framework shall be transmitted by~~
- 675 ~~June 1, 2017. A 2022 Comprehensive Plan Performance Measures Report~~
- 676 ~~released by March 1, 2022, will inform the 2022 Scope of Work for the 2024~~
- 677 ~~Comprehensive Plan update.~~
- 678 ~~• *Outcomes:* The 2017 framework for the program shall be transmitted by the~~
- 679 ~~Executive to the Council by June 1, 2017, in the form of a motion that adopts~~
- 680 ~~the framework. The 2022 Comprehensive Plan Performance Measures Report~~
- 681 ~~shall be completed as directed by the 2017 framework motion adopted by the~~
- 682 ~~Council. The Executive shall file with the Council the 2022 Comprehensive Plan~~
- 683 ~~Performance Measures Report. The 2022 Scope of Work for the 2024~~
- 684 ~~Comprehensive Plan update shall be informed by the 2022 Performance~~
- 685 ~~Measures Report. The Executive's transmitted 2024 Comprehensive Plan shall~~
- 686 ~~include updated references to the new Performance Measures Program.~~
- 687 ~~• *Lead:* Office of Performance Strategy and Budget. Executive staff shall work~~
- 688 ~~with the Council's Comprehensive Plan lead staff in development of the 2017~~
- 689 ~~framework for the program.~~

~~**Action 3: Implement a Transfer of Development Rights Unincorporated Urban Receiving Area Amenity Funding Pilot Project.**~~

692 The County's Transfer of
693 Development Rights Program has been very effective in implementing Growth
694 Management Act goals to reduce sprawl and permanently protect open space. This
695 Workplan item is to conduct a pilot project to determine the process for providing
696 amenities to unincorporated urban Transfer of Development Rights receiving area
697 communities. The focus of the pilot project will be the East Renton Plateau – an area of
698 urban unincorporated King County that has received a substantial number of
699 Transferrable of Development Rights. The East Renton Plateau Transfer of Development
700 Rights Receiving Area Pilot Project will: develop a process for engaging the community
701 to determine the type of amenities the community desires; assess the type and amounts

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

702 of funding available for providing amenities, and establish an amount of amenity
703 funding to be provided for each Transferrable of Development Rights (both past and
704 future Transferrable of Development Rights):

- 705 ~~• *Timeline:* 2017-2018; (18-month process). The Transfer of Development Rights~~
706 ~~Amenity Funding Pilot Project Report on the results of the pilot project shall be~~
707 ~~transmitted to the Council by June 1, 2018, so as to inform the King County~~
708 ~~2019-2020 Biennial Budget.~~
- 709 ~~• *Outcomes:* The Executive shall file with the Council the Transfer of~~
710 ~~Development Rights Amenity Funding Pilot Project Report recommending~~
711 ~~process and funding levels relative to Transferrable of Development Rights~~
712 ~~used in development projects. The report shall include identification of any~~
713 ~~necessary recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and King~~
714 ~~County Code. The Executive shall transmit to the Council any recommended~~
715 ~~amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and King County Code as part of the~~
716 ~~2020 Comprehensive Plan update.~~
- 717 ~~• *Leads:* Department of Natural Resources and Parks. Executive staff shall update~~
718 ~~and coordinate with the Councilmember office(s) representing the pilot project~~
719 ~~community throughout the process.~~

721 **Action 4: Transfer of Development Rights Program Review.** The County's Transfer of
722 Development Rights Program has been very successful in protecting Rural Area and
723 Natural Resource Lands by transferring development potential into cities and
724 unincorporated urban areas. Typically the Transfer of Development Rights Program
725 advances two primary policy objectives: conserving Rural Area and Natural Resource
726 Lands, as well as focusing new growth in urban areas.

727 This Workplan item will do the following:

- 728 A. Prepare a Transfer of Development Rights Program Review Study that addresses:
- 729 1) Tax revenue impacts of the Transfer of Development Rights Program for both
730 sending and receiving sites.
 - 731 2) Analysis of potential Transfer of Development Rights Program changes that
732 build on existing program objectives while considering other policy objectives,
733 such as making investments in economically disadvantaged areas, promoting
734 housing affordability, incentivizing green building, and providing for Transit
735 Oriented Development. The analysis should take into consideration the
736 economic feasibility of and market interest in these other policy objectives, as
737 well as opportunities for providing amenities to communities that receive
738 Transfer of Development Rights. This analysis will be achieved through
739 implementation of a pilot project that utilizes such incentives and provides
740 amenities to the community receiving increased density associated with the
741 Transfer of Development Rights. If possible, the pilot project should be
742 undertaken in Skyway-West Hill and help implement the Skyway-West Hill
743 Action Plan.

744 3) Consider possible performance criteria.

745 B. Produce an annual report to the Council on the Transfer of Development Rights
746 Program and associated bank activity.

- 747 ~~• *Timeline:* The annual report to the Council shall commence with a report due~~
748 ~~on December 1, 2017. The Transfer of Development Rights Program Review~~
749 ~~Study, and an ordinance making Comprehensive Plan and/or King County~~
750 ~~Code changes if applicable, shall be filed with the Council by September 30,~~
751 ~~2019 as part of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update.~~
- 752 ~~• *Outcomes:* The Executive shall file with the Council the Transfer of~~
753 ~~Development Rights Amenity Funding Pilot Project Report recommending~~
754 ~~process and funding levels relative to Transferrable of Development Rights~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

755 Development Rights Program Review Study and the annual report. The Study
756 shall outline policy and implementation options, if applicable. If
757 Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code changes are recommended, an
758 ordinance implementing those changes shall also be transmitted to the Council
759 with the Study:
760 • ~~Leads: Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Office of Performance~~
761 ~~Strategy and Budget. Executive staff shall update and coordinate with the~~
762 ~~Councilmember office(s) representing the pilot project community throughout~~
763 ~~the process.~~

764
765 **Action 5: Review 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan Implementation Needs.**
766 The 2016 Comprehensive Plan includes new policy direction that may need updates in
767 the King County Code in order to be implemented before the 2024 Comprehensive
768 Plan update. The County will utilize an interbranch team to review the 2016
769 Comprehensive Plan and any necessary code updates. This analysis will result in a
770 report that identifies the areas of the code in need of updating and subsequent
771 legislation to address the areas of inconsistencies. The legislation will also include code
772 changes to K.C.C. 16.82.150 and 16.82.152, and associated references, to reflect court
773 rulings and current case law:

- 774 • ~~Timeline: An Implementation Report shall be filed with the Council by July 31,~~
775 ~~2017. The Report will inform a code update ordinance(s), which shall be~~
776 ~~transmitted to the Council no later than December 31, 2021.~~
- 777 • ~~Outcomes: The interbranch team shall prepare, and the Executive shall file with~~
778 ~~the Council, the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Report and the~~
779 ~~code update ordinance(s).~~
- 780 • ~~Leads: Interbranch team comprised of staff from at least the: King County~~
781 ~~Council, Office of Performance Strategy and Budget, Department of Local~~
782 ~~Services=Permitting Division, and Prosecuting Attorney's Office.~~

783
784 **Action 6: Alternative Housing Demonstration Project.** There is considerable interest
785 to explore temporary and permanent alternative housing models to address the issues
786 of homelessness and affordable housing in the Puget Sound region. King County is
787 currently exploring microhousing pilot projects across the region that can inform a
788 larger demonstration project under King County Code on alternative housing models in
789 unincorporated King County. Based on what the County learns from the experience of
790 pilots across the region, the County should pursue a larger demonstration project that
791 looks at a broader range of temporary and permanent alternative housing models
792 under its land use authority.

793
794 This work plan item will utilize an interbranch team to analyze the potential for a
795 demonstration project under K.C.C. chapter 21A.55 for one or more temporary or
796 permanent alternative housing projects, such as single and/or multi-family
797 microhousing (i.e., very small units clustered around a shared kitchen and other similar
798 models) or tiny houses, modular construction, live/work units, and co-housing projects.
799 A demonstration project will allow the County to test development regulations and
800 other regulatory barriers related to alternative housing models before adopting or
801 amending permanent regulations. Such regulations could include amendments to or
802 establishment of regulations related to permitted uses or temporary uses, building and
803 fire codes, water and sewer supply requirements, setbacks, landscaping screening,
804 location requirements, light and glare requirements, public notice, and mitigation of
805 impacts to the surrounding area. This work plan item should also analyze potential
806 funding sources and funding barriers for projects that may or may not require public
807 funding, including funds managed by the King County Housing and Community
808 Development Division of the Department of Community and Human Services:

- 809 • ~~Timeline: Two phases. Phase One = Issuance of a request for proposals to~~
810 ~~identify a project or projects in unincorporated King County that will participate~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

811 in an Alternative Housing Demonstration Project. While a project or projects are
812 being chosen, a Demonstration Project ordinance package that pilots necessary
813 regulatory flexibilities will be developed for approval by the Council. Such a
814 Demonstration Project shall be transmitted to Council by December 31, 2019.
815 Phase II – An Alternative Housing Demonstration Project Report, including
816 proposed regulations and/or amendments to implement the recommendations
817 of the report shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration within two
818 years from the final certificate of occupancy for buildings developed under the
819 Demonstration Project Ordinance.

820 ~~• **Outcomes:** The interbranch team shall prepare, and the Executive shall file with~~
821 ~~the Council, the Alternative Housing Demonstration Project Report, which shall~~
822 ~~include analysis of the issues learned in the Demonstration Project(s), and~~
823 ~~identification of recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and~~
824 ~~King County Code. The Executive shall also file with the Council an ordinance~~
825 ~~adopting updates to the Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code as~~
826 ~~recommended in the Report.~~

827 ~~• **Leads:** The King County Council will convene an interbranch team comprised of~~
828 ~~staff from at least: King County Council, Department of Community and Human~~
829 ~~Services, Department of Local Services – Permitting Division, Public Health, and~~
830 ~~Office of Performance Strategy and Budget.~~

831
832 ~~**Action 7: Agricultural Related Uses Zoning Code Updates.** As part of the transmitted~~
833 ~~2016 Comprehensive Plan, the Executive included recommended code changes related~~
834 ~~to agricultural uses in unincorporated King County. In order to give the Council~~
835 ~~additional time to consider these proposed changes and to address the identified~~
836 ~~policy issues, the transmitted code changes will not be adopted in 2016. Instead, the~~
837 ~~code changes will be further developed through this work plan item:~~

838
839 ~~The Council identified several policy issues through review of the code changes as part~~
840 ~~of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update. Through use of an interbranch team, this work~~
841 ~~plan item aims to resolve these policy issues, draft a new ordinance, and complete~~
842 ~~outreach to affected stakeholders such as the King County Agriculture Commission, ag-~~
843 ~~related business owners, and/or Community Service Areas. If the results of the winery~~
844 ~~study, currently being reviewed by the Executive, are not complete in time to~~
845 ~~incorporate into the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, then this work plan item should also~~
846 ~~address the recommendations of that study.~~

847 ~~• **Timeline:** Six to nine month process. An Agricultural Related Uses Zoning Code~~
848 ~~Updates Report and proposed regulations to implement the recommendations~~
849 ~~in report shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration by September 30,~~
850 ~~2017.~~

851 ~~• **Outcomes:** The interbranch team shall prepare, and the Executive shall file with~~
852 ~~the Council, the Agricultural Related Uses Zoning Code Updates Report, which~~
853 ~~shall include identification of recommended amendments to the King County~~
854 ~~Code. The Executive shall also file with the Council an ordinance adopting~~
855 ~~updates to the King County Code as recommended in the Report.~~

856 ~~• **Leads:** The King County Council will convene an interbranch team comprised of~~
857 ~~at least King County Council staff, the Department of Permitting and~~
858 ~~Environmental Review, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, and the~~
859 ~~Office of Performance Strategy and Budget.~~

860
861 ~~**Action 8: Cottage Housing Regulations Review.** Cottage housing is a method of~~
862 ~~development that allows for multiple detached single-family dwelling units to be~~
863 ~~located on a commonly owned parcel. In unincorporated King County, cottage housing~~
864 ~~is currently only permitted in the R-4 through R-8 urban residential zones, subject to~~
865 ~~certain conditions in the King County Code, such as in K.C.C. 21A.08.030 and~~
866 ~~21A.12.030, which includes being only allowed on lots one acre in size or smaller. This~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

867 work plan item will review Comprehensive Plan policies and development code
868 regulations for the potential for expanded allowances for cottage housing in
869 unincorporated King County, including in Rural Areas, and recommend policy and code
870 changes as appropriate. The review will include evaluation of encouraging: close
871 proximity of garages to the associated housing unit; and development of units with a
872 wide variety of square footages, so as to address various needs and a diversity of
873 residents.

- 874 • ~~Timeline:~~ A Cottage Housing Regulations Report shall be transmitted to the
875 Council by December 31, 2018. Any proposed policy or code changes to
876 implement the recommendations in the report shall be transmitted to the
877 Council for consideration by September 30, 2019 as part of the 2020
878 Comprehensive Plan update.
- 879 • ~~Outcomes:~~ The Executive shall file with the Council the Cottage Housing
880 Regulations Report, which shall include identification of any recommended
881 amendments to the King County Code and/or Comprehensive Plan. The
882 Executive shall also file with the Council an ordinance adopting updates to the
883 King County Code and/or the Comprehensive Plan, if recommended in the
884 Report.
- 885 • ~~Leads:~~ The Department of Local Services - Permitting Division and the Office of
886 Performance Strategy and Budget.

887
888 **Action 9: Carbon Neutral King County Plan.** ~~The 2016 Comprehensive Plan includes~~
889 ~~a new policy F-215b which directs the County to “strive to provide services and build~~
890 ~~and operate public buildings and infrastructure that are carbon neutral.” To support~~
891 ~~implementation of this policy, this work plan item directs the Executive to develop an~~
892 ~~Implementation Plan for making King County government carbon neutral. The~~
893 ~~Implementation Plan shall address existing and new County buildings, as well as all~~
894 ~~County operations and services, and shall identify the actions, costs and schedule for~~
895 ~~achieving carbon neutral status. This Implementation Plan will help inform the 2020~~
896 ~~update of the Strategic Climate Action Plan, through which existing county targets for~~
897 ~~carbon neutrality and greenhouse gas emissions reduction will be updated consistent~~
898 ~~with the F-215b and the Implementation Plan.~~

- 899 • ~~Timeline:~~ A Carbon Neutral King County Implementation Plan and a motion
900 ~~adopting the Implementation Plan shall be transmitted to the Council for~~
901 ~~consideration by February 28, 2019. A Progress Report on development of the~~
902 ~~Implementation Plan shall be transmitted to the Council by December 31, 2017.~~
- 903 • ~~Outcomes:~~ The Executive shall file with the Council for review and potential
904 ~~approval the Carbon Neutral King County Implementation Plan and a motion~~
905 ~~adopting the Implementation Plan.~~
- 906 • ~~Leads:~~ Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

907
908 **Action 10: Green Building Handbook Review.** ~~The 2016 Comprehensive Plan~~
909 ~~includes policy direction in Policies U-133, R-336a, F-215a, and ED-501a that~~
910 ~~encourages green building practices in private development. To support these~~
911 ~~implementation of these policies, and consistent with direction in the 2015 Strategic~~
912 ~~Climate Action Plan, the County will soon be in the process of reviewing potential green~~
913 ~~building code requirements and/or encouraged standards for private development for~~
914 ~~possible adoption. In the meantime, the County intends to continue to use the~~
915 ~~Department of Permitting and Environmental Review’s existing “Green Building~~
916 ~~Handbook” to help encourage private green building development, which is referenced~~
917 ~~in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan. This work plan item directs the Executive to transmit~~
918 ~~to the Council the Green Building Handbook for review and potential approval:~~

- 919 • ~~Timeline:~~ The Green Building Handbook and a motion approving the
920 ~~Handbook shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration by March 1,~~
921 ~~2017.~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

- ~~922 ● Outcomes: The Executive shall file with the Council for review and potential~~
- ~~923 approval the Green Building Handbook and a motion adopting the Handbook.~~
- ~~924 ● Leads: The Department of Permitting and Environmental Review.~~

925

~~926 **Action 11: Bicycle Network Planning Report.** The Puget Sound Regional Council has~~
~~927 identified a regional bicycle network, for both the existing network and the associated~~
~~928 gaps and needs, in its Active Transportation Plan, which is an element of *Transportation*~~
~~929 *2040*. King County also identifies local bicycle network needs throughout its planning,~~
~~930 such as in the Transportation Needs Report and the Regional Trail Needs Report.~~

931

~~932 This Workplan item directs the King County Department of Transportation, in~~
~~933 coordination with the Department of Natural Resources and Parks and the Department~~
~~934 of Permitting and Environmental Review, to evaluate and report on how to enhance the~~
~~935 bicycle network within unincorporated King County and address identified regional and~~
~~936 local bicycle infrastructure needs (such as standards for bicycle lanes, tracks and trails;~~
~~937 plans and financing for capital improvements, bicycle racks and parking, air filling~~
~~938 stations, etc). This report will include:~~

- ~~939 a. Evaluation of existing King County planning efforts and possible areas for~~
~~940 improvement, such as addressing bicycle facility provisions in:~~
 - ~~941 ● roadway designs and standards, including lighting standards,~~
 - ~~942 ● plat approvals,~~
 - ~~943 ● commercial developments,~~
 - ~~944 ● parks & trails planning, and~~
 - ~~945 ● transit planning and access to transit.~~

- ~~946 b. Evaluation of bicycle and/or active transportation plan elements of other~~
~~947 jurisdictions, including the City of Seattle, for opportunities to connect to King~~
~~948 County planning and active transportation facilities.~~

- ~~949 c. Working with stakeholders for identification of needs and areas for possible~~
~~950 improvements.~~

- ~~951 ● Timeline: The Bicycle Network Planning Report and a motion approving the~~
~~952 report shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration by December 31,~~
~~953 2017.~~

- ~~954 ● Outcomes: The Executive shall file with the Council for review and potential~~
~~955 approval the Bicycle Network Planning Report and a motion adopting the~~
~~956 Report.~~

- ~~957 ● Lead: Department of Transportation.~~

958

~~959 **Action 12: Update Plat Ingress/Egress Requirements.** State law gives King County~~
~~960 the responsibility to adopt regulations and procedures for approval of subdivisions and~~
~~961 plats. The Department of Local Services - Permitting Division reviews ingress and egress~~
~~962 to subdivisions and plats during the preliminary subdivision approval process using the~~
~~963 Department of Local Services - Road Services Division's "King County Road Design and~~
~~964 Construction Standards - 2007" (Roads Standards). In recent years, subdivision layouts~~
~~965 have included one entry/exit (or ingress/egress) point and a looped road network within~~
~~966 the subdivision.~~

967

~~968 Utilizing one entry/exit point can cause access issues if the roadway were to be~~
~~969 physically impeded (such as due to: a fire, debris, flooding, ice, snow, etc.). This~~
~~970 configuration may also cause traffic backups while waiting for the ability to turn in to or~~
~~971 out of the development. Sometimes, this one access point may also be located too close~~
~~972 to other intersecting roadways to the roadway that the development intersects, this can~~
~~973 contribute to traffic back-ups.~~

974

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

975 This Workplan item directs the Executive to transmit legislation to update the code,
976 (such as K.C.C. Title 21A), and the King County Department of Local Services – Road
977 Services Division’s Road Standards to address these access issues. This code update will
978 include requiring two entry/exit points for plats and subdivisions over a certain size;
979 requiring sufficient distance between the two entry/exit points so as to not impact traffic
980 flows; addressing access for emergency vehicles, including requiring adequate roadway
981 width to accommodate emergency vehicles; and increasing the distance between
982 adjacent intersecting streets. The transmittal letter for the ordinance(s) shall indicate the
983 rationale for the chosen size threshold for when the County will require two entry/exit
984 points.

- 985 • ~~Timeline:~~ The proposed amendments to the King County Code and the King
986 County Roads Standards shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration
987 by June 30, 2020.
- 988 • ~~Outcomes:~~ The Executive shall file with the Council an ordinance(s) adopting
989 updates to the King County Code and the King County Roads Standards.
- 990 • ~~Lead:~~ Department of Local Services.

991
992 **Action 13: Water Availability and Permitting Study.** The recent Washington State
993 Supreme Court decision in *Whatcom County v. Western Washington Growth*
994 *Management Hearings Board (aka, Hirst)* held that counties have a responsibility under
995 the Growth Management Act to make determinations of water availability through the
996 Comprehensive Plan and facilitate establishing water adequacy by permit applicants
997 before issuance of development permits. *Hirst* also ruled that counties cannot defer to
998 the State to make these determinations. This case overruled a court of appeals decision
999 which supported deference to the State. The Supreme Court ruling will require the
1000 County to develop a system for review of water availability in King County, with a
1001 particular focus on future development that would use permit exempt wells as their
1002 source of potable water. This system will be implemented through amendments to the
1003 King County Comprehensive Plan and development regulations. The County will
1004 engage in a Water Availability and Permitting Study to address these and related issues.
1005 This study will analyze methods to accommodate current zoning given possible water
1006 availability issues and will look at innovative ways to accommodate future development
1007 in any areas with insufficient water by using mitigation measures (e.g. water banks). This
1008 study will not include analysis of current water availability.

- 1010 • ~~Timeline:~~ Eighteen month process. Initial report will be transmitted to the
1011 Council by December 1, 2017; final report, with necessary amendments, will be
1012 transmitted to the Council by December 31, 2018. This report may inform the
1013 scope of work for the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update.
- 1014 • ~~Outcomes:~~ Modifications, as needed, to the Comprehensive Plan, King County
1015 Code and County practices related to ensuring availability of water within the
1016 Comprehensive Plan and determining the adequacy of water during the
1017 development permit process.
- 1018 • ~~Leads:~~ Performance, Strategy and Budget. Work with the Department of Local
1019 Services – Permitting Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks,
1020 Department of Public Health, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and King County
1021 Council. Involvement of state agencies, public, local watershed improvement
1022 districts, and non-governmental organizations.

1023
1024 **Action 14: 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update.** In 2018, the County restructured its
1025 comprehensive planning program and associated Comprehensive Plan update process.
1026 This restructure includes moving to an eight-year update schedule. As part of the
1027 transition to this new update schedule and given that the next eight-year plan update
1028 will not be completed until 2024, there is a need to make substantive changes in the
1029 interim. The scope of the update proposed by the Executive in the motion shall include
1030 any changes as called for by applicable Workplan Action items, any policy changes or

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1031 ~~land use proposals that should be considered prior to the 2024 update, review and~~
1032 ~~inclusion of changes related to docket proposals that were recommended to be~~
1033 ~~reviewed as part of the next eight-year update, aligning the language in the~~
1034 ~~Comprehensive Plan and Title 20 regarding what is allowed during annual, midpoint~~
1035 ~~and eight-year updates, and reviewing and updating the terminology to consistently~~
1036 ~~describe the various updates.~~

- 1037 ~~• *Timeline:* A motion authorizing the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update shall be~~
1038 ~~transmitted to the Council for consideration by January 2, 2019. The Council~~
1039 ~~shall have until February 28, 2019 to adopt the motion. The 2020~~
1040 ~~Comprehensive Plan update shall be transmitted to the Council for~~
1041 ~~consideration by September 30, 2019. The Council shall have until June 30,~~
1042 ~~2020 to adopt the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update.~~
- 1043 ~~• *Outcomes:* The Executive shall file with the Council a motion authorizing the~~
1044 ~~2020 Comprehensive Plan update. The Council shall have until February 28,~~
1045 ~~2019 to adopt the motion, either as transmitted or amended. In the absence of~~
1046 ~~Council approval by February 28, 2019, the Executive shall proceed to~~
1047 ~~implement the scope as proposed. If the motion is approved by February 28,~~
1048 ~~2019, the scope shall proceed as established by the approved motion. The~~
1049 ~~Executive shall then file with the Council the proposed 2020 Comprehensive~~
1050 ~~Plan update by September 30, 2019. The Council shall have until June 30, 2020~~
1051 ~~to adopt the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update.~~
- 1052 ~~• *Leads:* Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, in coordination and~~
1053 ~~collaboration with the Department of Local Services - Permitting Division.~~

1054 ~~**Action 15: Annual DLS Briefing at Local Services Committee.** In order to better serve~~
1055 ~~the residents of unincorporated King County, the Council adopted Ordinance 18791 to~~
1056 ~~establish a new Department of Local Services effective January 1, 2019, following~~
1057 ~~guidance for the creation of the Department adopted in Motion 15125. The~~
1058 ~~Department will be evaluating processes, procedures, and policies to identify areas of~~
1059 ~~improvement in the delivery of unincorporated services. In addition to this evaluation,~~
1060 ~~the Department will report at least annually to the Local Services Committee or its~~
1061 ~~successor on key issues related to unincorporated areas.~~

- 1063 ~~• *Timeline:* The Department will report to the Local Services Committee or its~~
1064 ~~successor at least annually.~~
- 1065 ~~• *Outcomes:* The Department of Local Services shall coordinate with the Regional~~
1066 ~~Planning Unit and other departments to inform the 2020 Comprehensive Plan~~
1067 ~~update, and will brief the Local Services Committee at least annually.~~
- 1068 ~~• *Leads:* Department of Local Services, in coordination with the Regional~~
1069 ~~Planning Unit of Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget.~~

1070 ~~**Action 16: Streamlining the Comprehensive Plan.** Public participation, as expressed~~
1071 ~~in Policy RP-103, is to be actively sought out throughout the development, amendment,~~
1072 ~~and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan, and various iterations before~~
1073 ~~final adoption, are posted online in order to be accessible to the public, and active~~
1074 ~~outreach efforts during plan updates seek to reach a wide range of County residents.~~
1075 ~~However, such a lengthy document with many complex regulatory requirements can be~~
1076 ~~difficult to navigate and understand. To make the Comprehensive Plan and relevant~~
1077 ~~sections in King County Code Title 20 more reader-friendly and accessible to a wider~~
1078 ~~audience, redundancies and excess detail should be minimized. This workplan item will~~
1079 ~~initiate the process of streamlining the 2016 Comprehensive Plan and portions of King~~
1080 ~~County Code Title 20 over the next several years, with the goal of becoming shorter,~~
1081 ~~easier to understand, and more accessible to the general public. This review will~~
1082 ~~consider: removal of text or policies that are redundant and/or repetitive within the~~
1083 ~~plan; removal of text or policies that are redundant to other existing plans and policy~~
1084 ~~documents; removal of outdated text or policies; removal of text or policies that are at a~~
1085 ~~level of detail that is more appropriate for functional plans, implementation plans,~~
1086

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1087 development regulations, etc., increasing readability and conciseness, clarifying the
1088 process for amending the plan; and making the document and sections of the Code
1089 more streamlined, user friendly, and accessible for the public.

1090 ~~• *Timeline:* A streamlined version of the Comprehensive Plan and relevant~~
1091 ~~sections of King County Code Title 20, including but not limited to KCC 20.08,~~
1092 ~~20.12, and 20.18 shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration by June~~
1093 ~~30, 2023.~~

1094 ~~• *Outcomes:* The Executive shall file with the Council an ordinance adopting a~~
1095 ~~streamlined version of the Comprehensive Plan and associated code changes~~
1096 ~~as part of the Executive's proposed 2024 eight-year Comprehensive Plan~~
1097 ~~update.~~

1098 ~~• *Leads:* Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, in coordination and~~
1099 ~~collaboration with the Council's Comprehensive Planning lead staff and the~~
1100 ~~Department of Local Services - Permitting Division.~~

1101
1102 ~~**Action 17: Update the Residential Density Incentive Code.** As part of the 2020~~
1103 ~~Comprehensive Plan update, the King County Executive included a code study~~
1104 ~~regarding the County's Residential Density Incentive (RDI) regulations in K.C.C. Chapter~~
1105 ~~21A.34. This code study included recommendations for updating the RDI regulations,~~
1106 ~~but ultimately the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update did not include any updates with~~
1107 ~~the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update. The code study states that the "key factors~~
1108 ~~identified and recommendations should be considered as the Affordable Housing~~
1109 ~~Committee seeks to develop model ordinances or provide technical assistance to other~~
1110 ~~jurisdictions interested in implementing inclusionary housing policies." As part of this~~
1111 ~~Work plan Action, the King County Executive will update the County's RDI regulations.~~
1112 ~~This work can be coordinated with the Affordable Housing Committee of the Growth~~
1113 ~~Management Planning Council, which has been established to implement the Regional~~
1114 ~~Affordable Housing Task Force Five Year Action Plan and will recommend action and~~
1115 ~~assess progress toward implementing the Plan:~~

1116 ~~• *Timeline:* A proposed ordinance modifying the Residential Density Incentive~~
1117 ~~Code shall be transmitted to the Council by June 30, 2023.~~

1118 ~~• *Outcomes:* The Executive shall file with the Council a proposed ordinance as~~
1119 ~~part of the Executive's proposed 2024 eight-year Comprehensive Plan update.~~

1120 ~~• *Lead:* Department of Local Services - Permitting Division, in coordination with~~
1121 ~~the Department of Community and Human Services and the Affordable~~
1122 ~~Housing Committee of the Growth Management Planning Council.~~

1123
1124 ~~**Action 18: Greenhouse Gas Mitigation.** As part of the 2020 update to the 2016~~
1125 ~~Comprehensive Plan, policies and regulations related to some aspects of climate~~
1126 ~~change and greenhouse gas emissions were adopted. More work is needed to address~~
1127 ~~resiliency for the natural and built environment, and to mitigate impacts from climate~~
1128 ~~change, including avoiding or sequestering greenhouse gas emissions. The loss of~~
1129 ~~carbon sequestration capacity resulting from the conversion of forestland to non-forest~~
1130 ~~uses is one area where the County can make a difference in addressing these impacts.~~
1131 ~~In order to implement the policy direction in the 2020 update related to sea level rise,~~
1132 ~~climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, and fossil fuel facility impacts, this Workplan~~
1133 ~~item directs:~~

1134 ~~A. Preparation of a Forest Conversion Review Study that includes and evaluates the~~
1135 ~~following information:~~

1136 ~~1. The current process and standards for reviewing and approving Class IV~~
1137 ~~General Forest Practices relating to forest conversion, and for reviewing and~~
1138 ~~approving Conversion Option Harvest Plans.~~

1139 ~~2. The number of forest conversions permitted in unincorporated King County~~
1140 ~~since August 10, 1999, regardless of whether a separate Class IV General~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1141 Forest Practice permit was issued, and the average and total acreage of forest
1142 removed:

1143 3.—The number of Conversion Option Harvest Plans approved since August 10,
1144 1999, and the number of participating properties that were not subsequently
1145 replanted:

1146 4.—An estimate of sequestered carbon lost and reduced future carbon
1147 sequestration potential due to clearing under Class-IV General Forest Practice
1148 permits and Conversion Option Harvest Plans:

1149 5.—Potential pathways to achieving zero net loss carbon sequestration capacity
1150 from future forest conversions, including, but not limited to, off-site replanting,
1151 payment into a mitigation bank, and purchase of carbon credits. This should
1152 include both standard forest conversions and properties with Conversion
1153 Option Harvest Plans that are subsequently converted to non-forest uses:

1154 B.—Drafting and transmittal of a proposed ordinance that establishes or modifies
1155 regulations, and if necessary, Comprehensive Plan policies, that will result in zero
1156 net loss of carbon sequestration capacity from future forest conversions, based on
1157 the recommended strategies in the Forest Conversion Review Study:

1158 •—~~Timeline:~~ The Forest Conversion Review Study report and a proposed
1159 ordinance making Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code changes
1160 shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration by June 30, 2022:

1161 •—~~Outcomes:~~ The Executive shall file with the Council the Forest Conversion
1162 Review Study report and a proposed ordinance with recommended code
1163 and/or policy updates:

1164 •—~~Leads:~~ Department of Natural Resources and Parks and Department of Local
1165 Services - Permitting Division:
1166

~~**Action 19— Skyway-West Hill and North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategies.**~~

1168 King County will complete an Anti-Displacement Strategy for Skyway-West Hill and
1169 North Highline. In the context of Motion 15539, the work done by the County's
1170 Regional Affordable Housing Task Force and the ongoing work by the Affordable
1171 Housing Committee of the Growth Management Planning Council, this strategy will
1172 evaluate tools, programs, and regulations to retain and create affordable housing and
1173 prevent residential displacement. The strategy, at minimum, shall consider the
1174 following: mandatory inclusionary zoning; preservation for manufactured housing and
1175 manufactured housing communities; residential community benefit agreements;
1176 relocation assistance; redevelopment assistance; right to return programs; community
1177 preference programs; and other tools, programs, and regulations identified in Motion
1178 15539. The report will be informed by best practices, research, other ongoing efforts in
1179 King County, and a robust community engagement process:

1180 •—~~Timeline:~~ A Skyway-West Hill and North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategies
1181 Report and proposed legislation to implement the recommendations in the
1182 report shall be transmitted to the Council for consideration by September 30,
1183 2021. This deadline supersedes the deadlines adopted in Motion 15539.

1184 •—~~Outcomes:~~ The Executive shall file with the Council the Skyway-West Hill and
1185 North Highline Anti-Displacement Strategies Report, which shall include
1186 recommended strategies and tools and identification of recommended
1187 legislation, if appropriate. The Executive shall also file with the Council
1188 legislation as recommended in the Report. These outcomes supersede the
1189 deliverables adopted in Motion 15539.

1190 •—~~Leads:~~ Department of Community and Human Services, Department of Local
1191 Services, the Office of Equity and Social Justice, and the Office of Performance
1192 Strategy and Budget. Executive staff shall update and coordinate with the
1193 Councilmember offices representing the area on at least a quarterly basis
1194 throughout the planning process:

1195
1196
1197
1198
1199
1200
Action 20: Fossil Fuel Facilities Risk Bonds. As part of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update, policies and regulations related to fossil fuel facilities were adopted. More work is needed to address the potential impacts of fossil fuels and fossil fuel facilities and related uses on the environment and human health. To accomplish this, this Workplan Action item directs:

1201 A.—Preparation of a Fossil Fuel Risk Bond evaluation, that will include, at a minimum:

1202 1.—An economic risk assessment of fossil fuel facilities and related uses, and
1203 climate change. The assessment shall include recommended policy language
1204 or development regulations that directs an update to this evaluation on a
1205 periodic basis when significant new information is available, and shall quantify
1206 the expected annualized costs to County finances, the County's economy, and
1207 County households over the next fifty years associated with several categories
1208 of risks:

1209 a.—For fossil fuel facilities and related uses, the assessment shall address risks
1210 associated with catastrophic explosions of storage and transfer facilities,
1211 refineries, oil and gas train derailments, gas pipeline ruptures and
1212 explosions, fuel tanker spills and explosions, pollution of air and water,
1213 brownfields, and abandoned infrastructure.

1214 b.—For climate change, the assessment shall address economic risks
1215 associated with changes in the frequency and severity of wildfires, floods,
1216 storms, drought, infestations of exotic diseases and pests, and other natural
1217 hazards. The assessment shall also address costs associated with the
1218 implementation of climate action policies and plans, as well as investing in
1219 adaptation measures:

1220 2.—An evaluation of the adequacy of existing financial assurance mechanisms in
1221 reducing the County's economic and financial risks associated with fossil fuel
1222 facilities and related uses, and climate change. Title 27A of the King County
1223 Code, "Financial Guarantees" already contains mechanisms for obtaining
1224 financial assurances before attempting potentially dangerous development
1225 activity. However, there is currently no language in Title 27A that requires
1226 financial assurances specifically for fossil fuel facilities and related uses. Such
1227 measures could include surety and performance bonds, letters of credit, third
1228 party trust funds, insurance, corporate guarantees, and others. The evaluation
1229 shall compare risk exposure for the County, with the maximum likely coverage
1230 of that risk by these mechanisms, and shall include recommendations for
1231 additional financial assurances or other measures that need to be adopted to
1232 minimize risks:

1233 B.—Drafting and transmittal of any necessary legislation that establishes or modifies
1234 Comprehensive Plan policies and development regulations, that will implement the
1235 recommendations of the Fossil Fuel Risk Bond evaluation:

1236 •—*Timeline:* The Fossil Fuel Risk Bond evaluation and any necessary legislation
1237 making Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code changes shall be
1238 transmitted to the Council for consideration by June 30, 2022:

1239 •—*Outcomes:* The Executive shall file with the Council the Fossil Fuel Risk Bond
1240 evaluation and, if warranted, a proposed ordinance(s) with recommended code
1241 and/or policy updates:

1242 •—*Leads:* Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, Department of Natural
1243 Resources and Parks, and Department of Local Services - Permitting Division:

1244
1245 **Action 21: Greenhouse Gas Mitigation.** As part of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan
1246 update, policies and regulations related to fossil fuel facilities and resident and business
1247 resiliency to climate change impacts were adopted. However, further work is necessary

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1248 to reduce climate impacts, by mitigating the greenhouse gas emissions that drive those
1249 impacts. Policy E-215 of the Comprehensive Plan requires all projects being evaluated
1250 under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) to be evaluated for greenhouse gas
1251 emissions, and also allows the County to exercise its substantive authority to mitigate for
1252 these emissions, but only after mitigation standards have been adopted by ordinance.
1253 In order to establish standards to begin mitigating emissions from development, this
1254 Workplan Action item directs:

1255 A. ~~Updating the county's greenhouse gas emissions worksheet to include best~~
1256 ~~available emissions factors and other data, and to be able to evaluate emissions~~
1257 ~~from a wide range of project types. The worksheet shall, at a minimum, be capable~~
1258 ~~of evaluating induced demand and all scope one and scope two emissions from the~~
1259 ~~construction and use, as well as embodied scope three emissions from construction~~
1260 ~~materials such as cement, asphalt, and steel.~~

1261 B. ~~Completion of a study evaluating options for implementing greenhouse gas~~
1262 ~~mitigation from all development projects requiring SEPA review, as allowed in~~
1263 ~~Comprehensive Plan Policy E-215.~~

1264 C. ~~If warranted, drafting and transmittal of a proposed ordinance(s) that adopts the~~
1265 ~~updated greenhouse gas worksheet and establishes or modifies Comprehensive~~
1266 ~~Plan policies and development regulations to implement standards for greenhouse~~
1267 ~~gas mitigation in accordance with Policy E-215.~~

1268 • ~~Timeline:~~ The updated greenhouse gas emissions worksheet and the
1269 ~~greenhouse gas mitigation study, and a proposed ordinance(s) making~~
1270 ~~Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code changes shall be transmitted to~~
1271 ~~the Council for consideration by June 30, 2022.~~

1272 • ~~Outcomes:~~ The Executive shall file with the Council the updated greenhouse
1273 ~~gas worksheet, greenhouse gas mitigation study and, if warranted, a proposed~~
1274 ~~ordinance(s) with recommended code and/or policy updates.~~

1275 • ~~Leads:~~ Department of Natural Resources and Parks, and Department of Local
1276 ~~Services-Permitting Division.~~

1277
1278 **Actions Related to the Growth Management Planning Council**
1279 The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) is a separate formal body consisting
1280 of elected officials from King County, Seattle, Bellevue, other cities and towns in King
1281 County, special purpose districts, and the Port of Seattle. The GMPC developed the
1282 Countywide Planning Policies, providing a countywide vision and serving as a
1283 framework for each jurisdiction to develop its own comprehensive plan, which must be
1284 consistent with the overall vision for the future of King County. The GMPC is chaired by
1285 the King County Executive; five King County Councilmembers serve as members.
1286 Recommendations from the GMPC are transmitted to the full King County Council for
1287 review and consideration.

1288
1289 The GMPC develops its own independent work program every year; this section of the
1290 2016 Comprehensive Plan Workplan identifies issues the County will bring forward to
1291 the GMPC for review, consideration and recommendations. King County will submit
1292 these Workplan items to the GMPC for consideration at its first meeting of 2017, with a
1293 goal of completing the GMPC review and recommendations by December 31, 2018.
1294 The Executive will work with the Council to determine whether the amendments are
1295 appropriate for inclusion in the annual or midpoint Comprehensive Plan update prior to
1296 the next eight-year update.

1297
1298 **Action GMPC-1 (Was Action 17): Develop a Countywide Plan to Move Remaining**
1299 **Unincorporated Urban Potential Annexation Areas Toward Annexation.** The GMPC
1300 has authority to propose amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies, and a
1301 unique defined role related to recommending approval or denial of Urban Growth Area
1302 expansions. In order to move remaining unincorporated areas, which vary in size and

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

1303 complexity, towards annexation, the GMPC would reconsider the Potential Annexation
1304 Areas map and the "Joint Planning and Annexation" section of the Countywide Planning
1305 Policies. This effort would include an evaluation of how to address Potential Annexation
1306 Areas that have been previously unsuccessful in annexation and/or where annexation
1307 does not appear feasible in the near future. The report shall include review of tax
1308 revenue impacts to the County resulting from annexations, evaluation of requirements
1309 regarding annexation of roadways within Potential Annexation Areas, and identification
1310 of current orphaned roads and potential methods to transfer ownership to cities.
1311 Deadline: December 31, 2019.

1312
1313 **Action GMPC-2 (Was Action 18): Review the Four-to-One Program.** The County's
1314 Four-to-One Program has been very effective in implementing Growth Management Act
1315 goals to reduce sprawl and encourage retention of open space. This is done through
1316 discretionary actions by the County Council, following a proposal being submitted by a
1317 landowner(s) to the County. Over time, there have been proposals that vary from the
1318 existing parameters of the program; these have included possible conversion of urban
1319 zoning for lands not contiguous to the original 1994 Urban Growth Area, allowing the
1320 open space to be non-contiguous to the urban extension, use of transfer of
1321 development rights, providing increased open space credit for preserved lands with
1322 high ecological value (such as lands that could provide for high value floodplain
1323 restoration, riparian habitat, or working resource lands), and consideration of smaller
1324 parcels or parcels with multiple ownerships. Allowing these changes have the potential
1325 for increasing the use of the tool, with attendant risks and benefits. The Growth
1326 Management Planning Council would review the Four-to-One program and determine
1327 whether changes to the existing program should be implemented that will strengthen
1328 the program and improve implementation of the Comprehensive Plan, including
1329 evaluation of the proposals listed above.

1330
1331 **Action GMPC-3 (Was Action 19):** As required by the Growth Management Act, King
1332 County and the 39 cities participate in the Buildable Lands Program to evaluate their
1333 capacity to accommodate forecasted growth of housing units and jobs. The program,
1334 administered by the Washington State Department of Commerce, requires certain
1335 counties to determine whether the county and its cities are achieving urban densities
1336 within urban growth areas by comparing assumptions and targets regarding growth
1337 and development with actual growth and development in the county and cities. Since
1338 issuance of the first Buildable Lands Report in 2002, jurisdictions and stakeholders have
1339 expressed the potential for possible refinements of the methodology used by King
1340 County and the cities. The Growth Management Planning Council would work with
1341 stakeholders to review the methodology, including testing the accuracy of the Buildable
1342 Lands Report model and results, for potential refinements.))

1343
1344 **Action 1: Comprehensive Plan Performance Measures Framework Update**
1345 In 2017, through adoption of Motion 15014 in 2017, King County established a
1346 Performance Measures Program for the Comprehensive Plan. The Program is intended
1347 to monitor Comprehensive Plan implementation and to help inform whether plan
1348 amendments are needed to better achieve the plan's goals, as reflected in the
1349 Comprehensive Plan Guiding Principles. As established in the reporting timelines in
1350 King County Code Chapter 20.18, Program reporting occurs in advance of, and with the
1351 intent of informing, establishing the scope of work for 10-year Comprehensive Plan
1352 updates.

1353
1354 The Executive issued the first Performance Measures Report under the new program in
1355 2022 via Report 2022-RPT0045. In developing the report, department staff indicated
1356 that the measures could be further refined to better tell show a more accurate picture of
1357 plan performance. The approved framework also does not align with the current
1358 Comprehensive Plan update cycle. As required by Motion 15014, any changes to the

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) ~~xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~~~

1359 performance measures framework must be approved via a motion that is passed by the
1360 Council.

1361
1362 Further, during review of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan, it became clear that: 1) more
1363 frequent reporting was needed, 2) there is overlap with the Implementation Progress
1364 Report required by the Growth Management Act, and 3) more rigorous reporting for the
1365 Housing element is needed. This Action will include updates to the Performance
1366 Measures Program:

- 1367
1368 a. Address department staff-identified refinements;
1369 b. Align the reporting with the requirements in RCW 36.70A.130 for the Housing
1370 element of the Comprehensive Plan and the monitoring requirements of the
1371 Countywide Planning Policies for housing data and implementation strategies;
1372 and
1373 c. More frequent official reporting transmitted to Council, to be not less than
1374 every five years; and annual reporting on the County's website.

1375
1376 The Performance Measures report will also be completed in consultation and
1377 collaboration with the Council.

- 1378
 - Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a motion updating the
1379 Performance Measures Program Framework.
1380
 - Timeline: The Performance Measures Program Framework Motion should be
1381 filed with the Council by ~~December 31, 2029~~TBD. Council review, refinement,
1382 and possible approval of the Motion should be completed by ~~March 31,~~
1383 ~~2030~~TBD, to allow for completion of the next Performance Measures Report
1384 that is due by ~~December 31, 2030~~TBD, to inform scoping for the ~~202934 10-~~
1385 ~~year~~midpointTBD Comprehensive Plan update, ~~if authorized.~~
1386
 - Lead Agency: Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget.
1387
 - Support Agency(ies): Comprehensive Planning Interdepartmental Team.

1388 **Action 2: Comprehensive Plan Public Participation Code Update**
1389

1390 The public participation requirements for updates to the King County Comprehensive
1391 Plan and development regulations are guided by state law, adopted Comprehensive
1392 Plan policies, and King County Code Chapter 20.18. The majority of the requirements
1393 in code have not been amended since they were first adopted in 1998. The 2024
1394 Comprehensive Plan made some code changes to align with current state law, reflect
1395 current practice, and provide clarity. However, additional work is needed to ensure the
1396 code reflects and supports equitable engagement goals and outcomes.

1397
1398 Equitable engagement process improvements were integrated into the 2024
1399 Comprehensive Plan update process.

1400
1401 Those 2024 engagement efforts were not inconsistent with the current code; however,
1402 the code could be strengthened to further support this work in the future. Additionally,
1403 there are more opportunities to improve the engagement process to make it more
1404 equitable. Given this, additional updates to the public participation code in Chapter
1405 20.18 work are warranted. This work would be disingenuous without thoughtful
1406 community engagement on the changes, especially with the Equity Work Group or
1407 successor group, and especially with communities that have been historically excluded
1408 from the planning process underrepresented. This Work Plan Action-action directs that
1409 work to occur outside of a major Comprehensive Plan update to allow for focused
1410 engagement on these important issues.

1411

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1412 ~~The changes proposed are expected to lead to community engagement at a level of at~~
1413 ~~least "County and Community work together" for development of midpoint and 10-year~~
1414 ~~updates. The timing of the work plan action is proposed in order for the new~~
1415 ~~engagement requirements to be in place prior to the start of development of the 2029~~
1416 ~~midpoint update, if it is authorized.~~

1417 ~~The current docket process is unclear. This Work Plan action will include updates to the~~
1418 ~~docket process to make it more accessible to the general public, and to make it clear~~
1419 ~~what will happen with docketed items during midpoint and 10-year updates.~~

- 1421 • ~~Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council an ordinance updating~~
1422 ~~the public participation elements of King County Code Chapter 20.18.~~
- 1423 • ~~Timeline: The ordinance should be transmitted to the Council by June 30, 2028~~
1424 ~~TBD. If there is a Comprehensive Plan midpoint update authorized at that time,~~
1425 ~~the code changes should be part of the midpoint transmittal package.~~
- 1426 • ~~Lead Agency: Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget.~~
- 1427 • ~~Support Agency(ies): Office of Equity and Racial and Social Justice, and~~
1428 ~~Department of Local Services.~~

1430 **Action 3: Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and Community Preference Review**

1431 ~~In 2022, the County adopted inclusionary housing regulations for Skyway-West Hill and~~
1432 ~~North Highline, which included: (1) mandatory inclusionary housing in the commercial~~
1433 ~~cores of both communities, (2) voluntary inclusionary housing in the remaining areas of~~
1434 ~~those communities, and (3) a requirement for a community preference program for any~~
1435 ~~inclusionary housing development. The 2024 Comprehensive Plan expanded the~~
1436 ~~voluntary inclusionary housing provisions to other geographies (all of urban~~
1437 ~~unincorporated King County and the Rural Towns of Vashon and Snoqualmie Pass).~~

1438 ~~The 2024 Comprehensive Plan Equity Work Group, as well as other public input~~
1439 ~~received during development of the 2024 plan, expressed support for also expanding~~
1440 ~~the mandatory inclusionary housing and community preference provisions to some or~~
1441 ~~all of the new geographies that the voluntary provisions in the 2024 changes would~~
1442 ~~apply to. Additional time and resources are needed to review how or if these elements~~
1443 ~~could successfully be implemented in additional communities without unintended~~
1444 ~~consequences.~~

1445 ~~Given this, this Work Plan ~~Action~~action directs evaluation of whether it would be~~
1446 ~~appropriate to potentially expand mandatory inclusionary housing and/or community~~
1447 ~~preference regulations to the other geographies that currently have voluntary~~
1448 ~~inclusionary housing, including consideration of displacement risk, market conditions,~~
1449 ~~and public engagement with potentially affected communities.~~

- 1450 • ~~Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a Mandatory~~
1451 ~~Inclusionary Housing and Community Preference Review report and a~~
1452 ~~proposed ordinance implementing the recommendations in the report.~~
- 1453 • ~~Timeline: The Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and Community Preference~~
1454 ~~Review report and ordinance, if recommended, should be filed with the Council~~
1455 ~~by December 31, 2027TBD.~~
- 1456 • ~~Lead Agency: Department of Community and Human Services.~~
- 1457 • ~~Support Agency(ies): Department of Local Services.~~

1460 **Action 4: Multifamily Housing Tax Exemption Feasibility**

1461 ~~In 2021, the Washington State Legislature authorized use of Multifamily Housing Tax~~
1462 ~~Exemptions (MFTEs) in unincorporated areas via Engrossed Second Substitute Senate~~
1463 ~~Bill 5287, Chapter 187, Laws of 2021. MFTTE programs are property tax waiver programs~~
1464 ~~Implementation, Amendments and Evaluation - Page 12-30~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)FBD~~

1465 ~~enacted by cities and counties to support local housing goals. Under Chapter 84.14~~
1466 ~~Revised Code of Washington, local governments can give exemptions for new~~
1467 ~~construction, conversion, and rehabilitation of multifamily residential improvements with~~
1468 ~~at least four units. Under these exemptions, a property owner does not have to pay~~
1469 ~~property taxes on the residential improvements for a given number of years. The~~
1470 ~~property owner still pays tax on the land and on non-residential improvements like the~~
1471 ~~commercial portion of a mixed-use building;~~

1472
1473 ~~MFTEs give financial incentives to help meet housing goals without the need for direct~~
1474 ~~funding. This can support development of affordable housing, but it can also incentivize~~
1475 ~~market-rate housing in a way that complies with state constitutional requirements. It can~~
1476 ~~also potentially result in either a loss of tax revenue to the community or a tax shift~~
1477 ~~where other property owners will pay more in taxes.~~

1478
1479 ~~This Work Plan Action action directs King County to explore whether to allow use of a~~
1480 ~~MFTE in unincorporated King County, including analysis of:~~
1481 ~~potential program design that would incentivize affordable units;~~
1482 ~~impacts of a tax exemption, and whether that financial impact is sustainable; and~~
1483 ~~potential program administrative needs, including monitoring, oversight, reporting;~~
1484 ~~ongoing program updates to ensure sufficient incentive to maximize public benefits;~~
1485 ~~and~~
1486 ~~public input received during engagement on this action item;~~

1487
1488 ~~Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a Multifamily Housing Tax~~
1489 ~~Exemption Feasibility report and a proposed ordinance implementing the~~
1490 ~~recommendations in the report;~~

1491 ~~Timeline: The Multifamily Housing Tax Exemption Feasibility report and ordinance, if~~
1492 ~~recommended, should be filed with the Council by December 31, 2027;~~

1493 ~~Lead Agency: Department of Community and Human Services;~~
1494 ~~Support Agencies): Department of Local Services, Office of Performance Strategy and~~
1495 ~~Budget;~~

1496 **Action 54: Old Growth Corridors Strategies**

1497 ~~Mature forests with broad range of native tree species and age classes - key~~
1498 ~~characteristics of what are commonly referred to as "old growth" forests - provide a~~
1499 ~~wealth of ecological and social benefits including, but not limited to:; healthy habitat;~~
1500 ~~clean and cool water; water storage to mitigate downstream flooding, providing~~
1501 ~~summer flows to rivers and streams, and supplying drinking water; wildfire resilience;~~
1502 ~~diversity of flora, fauna, fungal, and microbial communities; and recreation. Old growth~~
1503 ~~forests in western Washington are also of enormous cultural importance to sovereign~~
1504 ~~Indian tribes. In addition to providing ecological, social, and cultural benefits, mature~~
1505 ~~forests in the Pacific Northwest also sequester carbon and are more resilient to the~~
1506 ~~effects of climate change than younger or less diverse forests.~~

1507
1508 ~~The 2024 Comprehensive Plan includes policies directing King County to identify and~~
1509 ~~implement strategies to protect forests in ways that build resilience and maximize social~~
1510 ~~and ecological values while carefully considering any effects of changes to forestland~~
1511 ~~management on the timber resource economy. The Plan directs King County to identify~~
1512 ~~opportunities to establish and maintain large blocks of forest, particularly in upper~~
1513 ~~watershed areas and along major river corridors given the importance of contiguous~~
1514 ~~forest cover in these areas for preventing flooding, improving water quality, and~~
1515 ~~protecting salmon and other wildlife habitat.~~

1516
1517 ~~This work plan action item directs review of scientific literature and recommend~~
1518 ~~ation of potential strategies and tactics to accelerate establishment of "old growth corridors" in~~
1519 ~~upper watersheds and along major river corridors, especially in areas with a~~
1520 ~~predominance of existing public ownership, in support of habitat for salmon and other~~
1521 ~~wildlife.~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

1522 This work should include identifying and analyzing: appropriate geographies; feasible
1523 programmatic and project actions King County has control to implement such as
1524 acquisitions, incentive programs, and regulatory changes; potential partnerships with
1525 Indian tribes as sovereign governments, public and private landowners, and land
1526 managers, and Indian tribes; carbon sequestration value; revenue impacts from
1527 changing forestry practices; and existing and potential funding sources. The work
1528 should also build on and align with the Mature Forests Report being developed in
1529 accordance with Motion 16437.

1531 The approaches should promote establishment of a broad mix of native tree species
1532 and age classes, including eventual establishment of forests with old growth
1533 characteristics in areas prioritized as having high conservation value, and should
1534 consider the effect of conservation acquisitions on the viability of the timber resource
1535 economy in King County.

- 1537 • Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council an Old Growth
1538 Corridors Strategies report outlining scientific findings, geographies of
1539 relevance, and potential strategies for establishing old growth corridors and
1540 the other information outlined above.
- 1541 • Timeline: The Old Growth Corridors Strategies report should be transmitted to
1542 the Council by June 1, 2026TBD.
- 1543 • Lead Agency: Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

1544 **Action 65: Vashon-Maury Island Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and**
1545 **Response Plan**

1546 Properties and infrastructure along the Vashon-Maury Island shoreline are potentially at
1547 risk to damage from coastal flooding, tsunamis, landslides, and sea level rise. The
1548 extent to which these hazards affect specific locations will vary depending on site-
1549 specific factors, including topography, the proximity of infrastructure to the shoreline,
1550 and the ability to implement adaptive measures in any given location. Existing studies
1551 have not gotten to this level of specificity for these hazards, however. This makes it
1552 difficult to determine where and what specific hazard mitigation approaches may be
1553 needed and how to sequence that work.

1554 King County will conduct a detailed assessment of the Vashon-~~and~~-Maury Island
1555 shoreline inclusive of public and private infrastructure and natural systems to better
1556 understand which locations face a higher risk from coastal flooding, tsunamis,
1557 landslides, and sea level rise due to site constraints or other factors. Results from the
1558 study will inform long-range planning for these hazards and the development of
1559 additional actions, policies, development regulations, and/or zoning changes, as
1560 needed, to address these risks. These changes would be included in future updates of
1561 the Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code.

1562 The study will draw on available data and studies, as well as a new coastal storm surge
1563 model for the King County shoreline being developed by the U.S. Geological Survey
1564 (due summer 2024). The County intends to apply for grant funding to complete this
1565 work.

- 1566 • Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council the Vashon-Maury
1567 Island Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Response Plan. If policy
1568 and/or code changes are recommended by the Assessment, they should be
1569 transmitted to the Council in the next appropriate update to the
1570 Comprehensive Plan and/or the King County Code.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

- 1574 • ~~Timeline:~~ The Vashon-Maury Island Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Response Plan should be transmitted to the Council by ~~December 31, 2026~~TBD.
- 1575
- 1576
- 1577 • ~~Lead Agency:~~ Department of Natural Resources and Parks.
- 1578 • ~~Support Agency(ies):~~ Department of Local Services, Public Health - Seattle & King County, and ~~Executive Climate Office.~~
- 1579
- 1580

Action 76: Wildfire Risk Assessment

1582 Large wildfires across the Pacific Northwest over the last decade, combined with recent
1583 local fires in King County and increasing concern about the impacts of climate change
1584 on wildfire potential, have contributed to a growing awareness of the need to prepare
1585 for an increased risk of wildfire in or adjacent to the wildland-urban interface (WUI).

1586 ~~The King County Executive issued its the county's first Wildfire Risk Reduction Strategy~~
1587 ~~in 2022 and has since been working to develop and implement the identified actions.~~
1588 ~~This includes implementing state building code changes related to building in the WUI~~
1589 ~~in 2023, as well as adopting a wildfire risk policy and code changes in the 2024~~
1590 ~~Comprehensive Plan. However, additional information is needed to better understand~~
1591 ~~wildfire risks in unincorporated King County and whether additional regulatory~~
1592 ~~measures are needed to further reduce wildfire risk. Additionally, King County partners~~
1593 ~~with cities on coordinated emergency response. Where the WUI is adjacent to or~~
1594 ~~crosses a border between unincorporated King County and a city, the risk is shared by~~
1595 ~~both jurisdictions.~~

1596 This work plan ~~action~~ will include completing a wildfire risk assessment for
1597 unincorporated King County to better understand where and how communities and
1598 critical infrastructure are vulnerable to wildfire; the degree to which current codes and
1599 policies address the risk; and what additional actions, policy, development regulation,
1600 or zoning changes, if any, may be needed to reduce wildfire risk. ~~Where the WUI is~~
1601 ~~adjacent to or crosses a border between unincorporated King County and a city, King~~
1602 ~~County should partner with the city to share approaches, incorporate local concerns,~~
1603 ~~and support consistency in wildfire risk reduction. Potential additional external partners~~
1604 ~~for the study include King County fire districts, the Washington State Department of~~
1605 ~~Natural Resources, and utilities. The results of this work will inform future updates of the~~
1606 ~~Comprehensive Plan and/or King County Code. The County intends apply for grant~~
1607 ~~funding to complete this work.~~

- 1610 • ~~Deliverable:~~ The Executive should file with the Council the Wildfire Risk
1611 ~~Assessment report. If policy and/or code changes are recommended by the~~
1612 ~~report, they should be transmitted to the Council in the next appropriate~~
1613 ~~update to the Comprehensive Plan and/or the King County Code.~~
- 1614 • ~~Timeline:~~ The Wildfire Risk Assessment report should be transmitted to the
1615 ~~Council by December 31, 2026~~ TBD.
- 1616 • ~~Lead Agency:~~ ~~Executive Climate Office~~Department of Natural Resources and
1617 ~~Parks;~~
- 1618 • ~~Support Agency(ies):~~ Department of Natural Resources and Parks; King County
1619 ~~Office of Emergency Management; Department of Local Services - Permitting~~
1620 ~~Division.~~
- 1621

Action 7: Rural Economic Strategies Update

1622 The County adopted the Rural Economic Strategies in Ordinance 17956 in 2014.
1623 Ordinance 17956 built on work that had been done in 2008 and 2012. This Work Plan
1624 action directs an update to this work, to reflect that changes in the rural economy that
1625 have occurred in the last decade, including those due to COVID-19, technological
1626 changes, creation of the Department of Local Services, and more.

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

- 1628 This action will include:
- 1629 a. Evaluation and description of implementation of the strategies adopted in
1630 Ordinance 17956;
- 1631 b. Review of how the rural economy has changed since 2014, and is anticipated to
1632 change in the next two decades;
- 1633 c. Policy changes made with the 2024 Comprehensive Plan;
- 1634 d. Evaluation of the existing strategies at creating a sustainable and vibrant rural
1635 economy;
- 1636 e. Recommendation of any changes to strategies, policies, or Code;
- 1637 a.f. Potential partners for the action include cities that serve the Rural Area, chambers
1638 of commerce, community groups, the Agriculture and Rural Forest Commissions,
1639 and the community. Community engagement, at a level of "County and Community
1640 work together," will be done as part of this action.
- 1641 • Deliverable: The Executive should file with the Council the Rural Economic
1642 Strategies report. If policy and/or code changes are recommended by the
1643 report, they should be transmitted to the Council in the next appropriate
1644 update to the Comprehensive Plan and/or the King County Code.
 - 1645 • Timeline: The Rural Economic Strategies report should be transmitted to the
1646 Council by TBD.
 - 1647 • Lead Agency: Department of Local Services.
 - 1648 • Support Agency: Department of Natural Resources and Parks.
- 1649 **Action 8: Communication Facilities Code Update**
- 1650 The County regulates cellular towers and similar facilities as "minor communication
1651 facilities" under K.C.C. Title 21A. The majority of the code relating to communication
1652 facilities was written more than two decades ago, with the last substantive updates
1653 occurring in 2014. In the intervening years, technology, as well as the federal regulatory
1654 landscape, have changed. Work is therefore needed to modernize the County's
1655 communication facility regulations. This work should include:
1656
- 1657 a. Review of how federal regulations, case law, and technologies for communication
1658 facilities have changed since the communication facility standards were initially
1659 adopted in 1998, and whether additional changes are expected in the coming two
1660 decades;
- 1661 b. Review of how jurisdictions within and adjacent to King County regulate
1662 communication facilities; and
- 1663 c. Recommendation of any changes to the County code to align the code with federal
1664 law and with best practices.
1665
- 1666 • Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a Communication
1667 Facilities Code update report containing the information described above, and,
1668 if recommended by the report, an ordinance implementing the
1669 recommendations of the report.
 - 1670 • Timeline: The Communication Facilities Code update report should be
1671 transmitted to the Council by TBD.
 - 1672 • Lead Agency: Department of Local Services.
- 1673 **Action 9: Surface Water Management Code Update**
- 1674

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

1675 The King County Surface Water Design Manual is adopted by public rule every five
1676 years, most recently in 2021. The 2021 update did not include updates to the County's
1677 surface water management code in K.C.C. Title 9. Prior to adoption of the 2026 Surface
1678 Water Design Manual, it is necessary to update K.C.C. Title 9 to ensure consistency
1679 between the County's regulations and the Surface Water Design Manual.

1680
1681 The work should include a full review of K.C.C. Title 9 to ensure that the code reflects
1682 current requirements and terminology, and that any changes necessary to align with the
1683 2026 Surface Water Design Manual update are incorporated into the code.

1684

- Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a proposed ordinance
1685 updating K.C.C. Title 9.

1686

- Timeline: The proposed ordinance should be transmitted to the Council by
1687 TBD.

1688

- Lead Agency: Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

1689 **Action 10: Fish Passage Restoration**
1690

1691 In March 2024, the King County Auditor's Office released an audit of King County's Fish
1692 Passage Restoration program. The audit found that the program's sequencing of low-
1693 impact projects before high-impact projects was not in alignment with the County goal
1694 of opening the best habitat as quickly as possible, and puts more impactful projects at
1695 risk if there are funding or staffing shortages later. The audit also found that the
1696 program does not consider the impact of non-county-owned barriers to fish passage
1697 when reporting the number of miles of restored habitat, thereby overstating the
1698 reported impact of the program. Work is needed to address the issues raised by the
1699 Auditor's Office.

1700 This work should include:
1701

1702 a. Development of a strategic plan clarifying the goals and objectives of the Fish
1703 Passage Restoration program, in conjunction with staff working on the Clean Water
1704 Healthy Habitat initiative, and including a plan to ensure completion of habitat-
1705 focused projects if delays occur, costs increased, or funding becomes otherwise
1706 constrained and performance measures that accurately reflect program outputs and
1707 outcomes for restoring fish passage, including the impact of non-County-owned
1708 barriers on program outcomes;

1709 b. A review and update to the Fish Passage Restoration Program's ten-year work plan
1710 to ensure it is aligned with County goals and with the goals of the strategic plan
1711 developed in accordance with subsection a.;

1712 c. An update to the program's public-facing materials to ensure that they accurately
1713 reflect the decision-making considerations and tradeoffs involved in its workplan
1714 development and the resulting schedule of projects.

1715

- Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council the strategic plan, the
1716 ten-year work plan, and a summary of the changes made to public-facing
1717 materials, along with a motion accepting the plans. If policy and/or code
1718 changes are recommended by the report, they should be transmitted to the
1719 Council in the next appropriate update to the Comprehensive Plan and/or the
1720 King County Code.

1721

- Timeline: The deliverables should be transmitted to the Council by TBD.

1722

- Lead Agency: Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

1723

- Support Agency: Department of Local Services.

1724

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Action 11: Remove Barriers to Affordable Housing

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD

1727 The policies in Chapter 4, Housing and Human Services, support investment,
1728 collaboration, and a variety of tools to address the housing needs of King County's
1729 residents. However, nearly one-third of households in King County are currently cost-
1730 burdened, meaning that they pay over 30 percent of their income on housing costs.

1731
1732 Recent changes in state law have authorized the use of the Multifamily Housing Tax
1733 Exemption program in unincorporated areas. These programs allow local governments
1734 to waive property taxes for new construction, conversion, and rehabilitation of
1735 multifamily residential buildings with at least four units. Changes to the State
1736 Environmental Policy Act also allowed for additional categorical exemptions for
1737 residential infill development. In addition to these opportunities, the Housing Needs
1738 Assessment in Appendix B also identifies several key barriers to housing development,
1739 including:

- 1740 a. Increased time and risk from applying for a Conditional Use Permit.
- 1741 b. Delays and increased costs to comply with requirements related to the State
1742 Environmental Policy Act, and
- 1743 c. Permitting timelines and staffing challenges.

1744
1745 This Work Plan Action directs the evaluation of additional tools and strategies for
1746 expediting affordable housing development in unincorporated King County, including:

- 1747 a. Allowing Multifamily Housing Tax Exemption program in unincorporated King
1748 County, including an analysis of:
 - 1749 i. Potential program design that would incentivize affordable units;
 - 1750 ii. Impacts of a tax exemption, and whether that financial impact is
1751 sustainable;
 - 1752 iii. Potential program administrative needs, including monitoring, oversight,
1753 and reporting;
 - 1754 iv. Ongoing program updates to ensure sufficient incentive to maximize public
1755 benefits; and
 - 1756 v. Public input received during engagement on this action item.
- 1757 b. Reducing permitting timelines for affordable housing development, including
1758 consideration of:
 - 1759 i. Prioritizing affordable housing projects in permit review;
 - 1760 ii. Providing dedicated permit review resources for County-funded affordable
1761 housing development applications;
 - 1762 iii. Updating the permit application screening process;
 - 1763 iv. Making code updates to reduce barriers to affordable housing
1764 development;
 - 1765 v. Implementing new electronic review management software;
 - 1766 vi. Seeking additional staffing;; and
 - 1767 vii. Seeking grant funding to provide technical assistance to applicants.
- 1768 c. Reducing or waiving permit application and inspection fees for affordable housing;
- 1769 d. Developing pre-approved plans for accessory dwelling units;
- 1770 e. Aligning the King County Code with recent changes to the State Environmental
1771 Policy Act, including the categorical exemption for housing development; and
- 1772 f. Encouraging owners of derelict and unoccupied buildings and vacant land to

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440) TBD~~

- 1773 redevelop their property so that it does not become a health or safety concern for
1774 the neighborhood, including consideration of:
- 1775 i. Registering vacant foreclosure properties and commercial spaces;
 - 1776 ii. Developing a vacant building monitoring program; and
 - 1777 iii. Establishing a temporary caretaker program so that buildings remain
1778 occupied until redevelopment.
- 1779 • Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council an Expediting
1780 Affordable Housing report and, if recommended, proposed ordinance(s)
1781 implementing the recommendations in the report.
 - 1782 • Timeline: The Expediting Affordable Housing report and any implementing
1783 ordinances should be transmitted to the Council by TBD.
 - 1784 • Lead Agency: Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget.
 - 1785 • Support Agencies: Department of Local Services, Department of Community
1786 and Human Services.

1787 **Action 12: Short-term Rental Regulations**

- 1788 Short-term rentals are regulated by Chapter 64.37 RCW and are defined as a lodging
1789 use that is not a hotel or motel or bed and breakfast, in which a dwelling unit, or portion
1790 thereof, ((is)) is offered or provided to a guest by a short-term rental operator for a fee for
1791 fewer than thirty consecutive nights. Short-term rental operators may need a business
1792 license through the Department of Revenue and are required to pay retail sales tax and
1793 B&O tax on rental charges, as well as lodging and convention and trade center taxes, as
1794 applicable. Additionally, state law outlines various consumer safety provisions, requires
1795 short-term rental platforms to be registered with the state, and requires liability
1796 insurance of at least \$1 million to be held either by the operator or the rental platform.:
1797 -
1798 Currently, the County does not regulate the short-term lodging industry beyond
1799 regulations identified in state law.:
1800 -
1801 This Work Plan Action directs King County to explore whether to adopt regulations
1802 beyond state law regulating the short-term lodging tax industry. The report should
1803 include:
1804
- 1805 a. An analysis of how other jurisdictions in the state are regulating the short-term
1806 lodging industry;
 - 1807 b. A recommended regulatory framework, including any additional licensing
1808 requirements, unit count restrictions, owner occupation requirements, or any other
1809 recommended provisions;
 - 1810 c. Potential program administrative needs, including monitoring, oversight, and
1811 reporting;
 - 1812 d. An estimate on the impacts of the proposed regulations on the County's short-term
1813 lodging tax collection; and
 - 1814 e. Public input received during engagement on this action item.
- 1815 • Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a Short-term Rental
1816 Regulations report and a proposed ordinance implementing the
1817 recommendations in the report.
 - 1818 • Timeline: The Short-term Rental Regulations report and ordinance, if
1819 recommended, should be filed with the Council by TBD.
 - 1820 • Lead Agency: Department of Local Services.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

- Support Agency: Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget.

Action 13: Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Special District Overlay

The Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Special District Overlay, known as SO-140 and codified in K.C.C. 21A.38.150, was adopted in 1997 to limit land uses that have the potential to severely contaminate groundwater supplies and to provide increased areas of permeable surface to allow for infiltration of surface water into ground resources, in light of Vashon-Maury Island's sensitive aquifer. Since the overlay's creation, King County adopted the critical aquifer recharge area (CARA) code in 2005, which includes regulations for areas that have a high susceptibility to ground water contamination. The entirety of the island is governed by this code. A comparative analysis of the overlay with K.C.C. Title 21A found several overlapping regulations and inconsistencies in the mapping of risk levels to groundwater resources. Furthermore, a review of Best Management Practices found limited risk potential in many of the uses restricted by the overlay.

No changes to the mapping were recommended as part of the Executive's proposed 2024 Comprehensive Plan. However, the Executive noted that further work is needed, including further review of the overlay's boundaries, possible incorporation into the CARA code, and review of the CARA mapping and code.

- Deliverables: The Executive should file with the Council a Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Special District Overlay report and any recommended policy and code changes as part of the 2034 Comprehensive Plan transmittal package.
- Timeline: Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Special District Overlay report and ordinance, if recommended, should be filed with the Council by TBD.
- Lead Agency: Department of Local Services.
- Support Agency: Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

~~((VII.))~~ **VI. Incentives**

To ensure that the vision, goals, objectives, and policies of ~~((this))~~ the Comprehensive Plan become a reality, it will require adjusting policy and budget priorities by King County government. It will require individuals to reconsider their daily decisions and choices relating to the management or development of their lands. The decisions and choices of large scale public/private partnerships during the development of major projects will be critical factors contributing to the effective implementation of ~~((this))~~ the Comprehensive Plan. Incentives, ~~((like))~~ such as the Transfer of Development Rights Program, must encourage the types of growth and development patterns desired by King County and its residents.

~~((I-604))~~ **I-401 King County should develop incentives for the Urban Growth Area that encourage the development industry to provide a broad range of housing affordable to all income levels and ~~((business))~~ commercial space, including areas of the county with the most disparate outcomes in health, economic prosperity, and housing conditions, where residents may be at high risk of displacement. Incentives could include:**

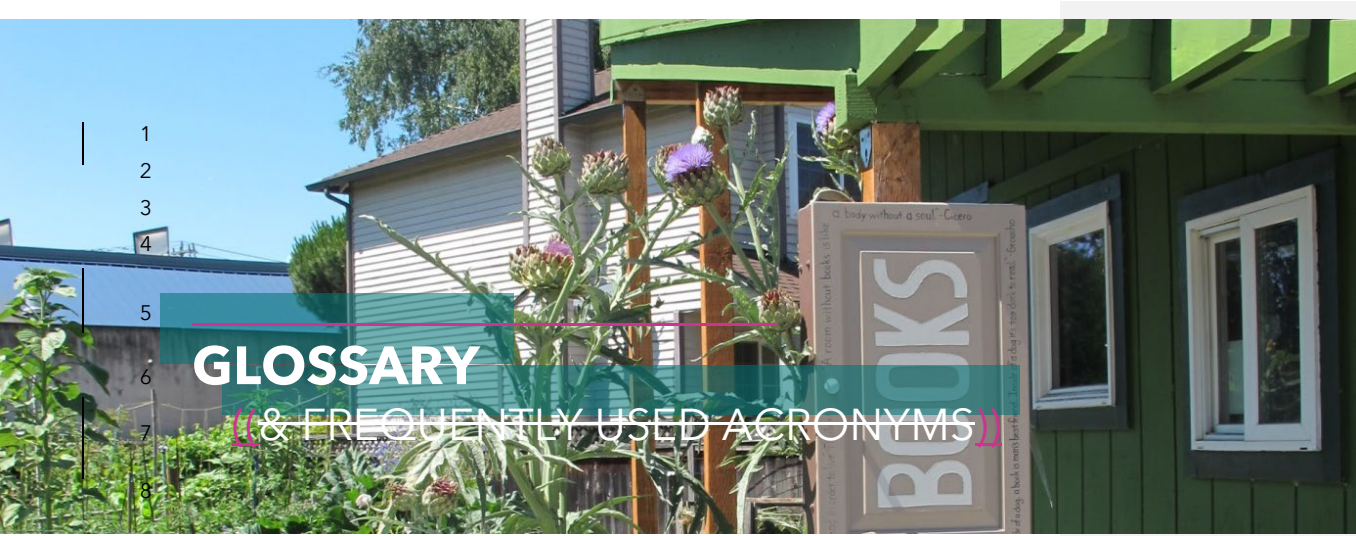
- ~~((Identification of geographic areas with infill opportunities, granting budget priority status and allowing more flexible development standards;~~

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)TBD~~

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- ~~b. Density bonuses for site designs which provide public benefits (for example, grid roads that connect with other developments and limit impacts on arterials);~~
- ~~c. Incentives which lower financial development risk;~~
- ~~d.) Density bonuses and/or other regulatory flexibilities for inclusionary housing;~~
- ~~b. Joint development opportunities at ((c))County-owned or operated facilities, utilization of air rights on ((c))County-owned or operated facilities, and the establishment of transit-supportive design guidelines and regulations; and~~
- ~~((e.) c. County ((capital improvement)) funding for public urban amenities, including transportation, parks, open space, cultural, and other facilities, for cities participating in the King County Transfer of Development Rights Program.~~



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GLOSSARY

(& FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS)

A

Active Recreation ((Site))

Active recreation ((sites recognize a higher level of public use and will require developed areas for organized or intense recreation. An active recreation site includes both the active recreation uses and all necessary support services and facilities:)) refers to sites characterized by organized, scheduled activities, and/or a variety of recreation uses, such as highly developed athletic field complexes with lights and extensive support facilities.

Active Transportation

Active transportation means pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian travel including and also includes, but is not limited to, the use of wheelchairs and personal assistive mobility devices powered by electricity that are used by physically impaired persons with physical impairments, skateboards and scooters, and micromobility devices such as motorized foot scooters and electric assisted bicycles. Any moped, motorcycle, or, except as otherwise provided for in this definition, personal assistive mobility device, are considered motorized transportation. The Regional Trail network, and its use, is for both recreation and transportation purposes. Not all facilities are appropriate for all modes and may have restrictions on the use of any mode.

Adaptive management

Adaptive management ((is a systematic approach for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of operational programs)) means modifying management actions based on ongoing monitoring and data analysis.

Agricultural activities

((Agricultural activities means agricultural uses and practices including, but not limited to: producing, breeding, or increasing agricultural products; rotating and changing agricultural crops; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie fallow in which it is plowed and tilled but left unseeded; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant as a result of adverse agricultural market conditions; allowing land used for agricultural activities to lie dormant because the land is enrolled in a local, state, or federal conservation program, or the land is subject to a conservation easement; conducting agricultural operations; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural equipment; maintaining, repairing, and replacing agricultural facilities, provided that the replacement facility is no closer to the shoreline than the original facility; and maintaining agricultural lands under production or cultivation:)) Except for the purposes

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~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

48 of Chapter 6, Shorelines, agricultural activities means those agricultural uses and
49 practices that pertain directly to the commercial production of agricultural products,
50 including, but not limited to:

- 51 a. ~~Tilling, discing, planting, seeding, fertilization, composting, and other soil~~
52 ~~amendments and harvesting;~~
- 53 b. ~~Grazing, animal mortality management, and on-site animal waste storage,~~
54 ~~disposal, and processing;~~
- 55 c. ~~Soil conservation practices including dust control, rotating and changing~~
56 ~~agricultural crops, and allowing agricultural lands to lie fallow under local,~~
57 ~~state or federal conservation programs;~~
- 58 d. ~~Maintenance of farm and stock ponds, agricultural drainage, irrigation~~
59 ~~systems canals and flood control facilities;~~
- 60 e. ~~Normal maintenance, operation and repair of existing serviceable~~
61 ~~equipment, structures, facilities or improved areas, including, but not~~
62 ~~limited to, fencing, farm access roads and parking; and~~
- 63 f. ~~Processing, promotion, sale, storage, packaging and distribution.~~

64 (See Chapter 6, Shorelines, for agricultural activities in the shoreline jurisdiction.)

65 **Agricultural Production Districts ((APD))**

66 The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to designate, where
67 appropriate, agricultural lands that are not characterized by urban growth and that have
68 long-term significance for the commercial production of food or other agricultural
69 products. ~~((The comprehensive plan designates)) Agricultural Production Districts ((are~~
70 ~~lands where the principal land use should be agriculture)) in accordance with this~~
71 ~~requirement. ((Lands within Agricultural Production Districts should remain in parcels~~
72 ~~large enough for commercial agriculture:)) (See Chapter 3((:)), Rural Area((s)) and~~
73 ~~Natural Resource Lands.)~~

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74 **Agricultural products**

75 Agricultural products include, but are not limited to: horticultural, viticultural,
76 floricultural, ~~((vegetable, fruit, berry, grain, hops, hay, straw, turf, sod, seed,))~~ and apian
77 products; ~~livestock, livestock products, and other animal products including, but not~~
78 ~~limited to, upland finfish, dairy products, meat, poultry, and eggs;~~ feed or forage for
79 livestock; Christmas trees; and hybrid cottonwood and similar hardwood trees grown as
80 crops and harvested within ~~((twenty))~~ 20 years of planting; ~~((and livestock, including~~
81 ~~both the animals themselves and animal products including, but not limited to, meat,~~
82 ~~upland finfish, poultry and poultry products, and dairy products:))~~

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83 **Annexation**

84 Annexation is the process of adding or incorporating an area into a city's jurisdiction.

85 **Applicant**

86 An applicant is a property owner, a public agency or a public or private utility that owns
87 a right-of-way or other easement or has been adjudicated the right to such an easement
88 under Revised Code of Washington 8.08.040, or any person or entity designated or
89 named in writing by the property or easement owner to be the applicant, in an
90 application for a development proposal, permit, or approval.

91 **Area Median Income**

92 Area median income is the midpoint income for ~~an area~~ King County, where half of the
93 ~~people households~~ earn more than the median, and half of the ~~people households~~ earn
94 ~~less, as established by —~~ The United States Department of Housing and Urban
95 ~~Development calculates an adjusted area median income for each metropolitan region~~
96 ~~based on American Community Survey data and local and national factors and uses it to~~
97 ~~determine income limits for government affordable housing program household size.~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

104 **Area Zoning and Land Use Study**

105 An area zoning and land use study is a study that reviews the land use designations and
106 zoning classifications for a specified set of properties. Area zoning and land use studies
107 are typically focused on a ~~((broader set of policies than a subarea study))~~ specific set of
108 possible land use and zoning changes, and do not look at the larger range of issues that
109 a subarea plan would include. Area zoning and land use studies consider specific
110 potential changes to land use or zoning, or both, and analyze such requests based on
111 surrounding land use and zoning, current infrastructure and potential future needs, and
112 consistency with the King County Comprehensive Plan, ~~((c))~~Countywide ~~((p))~~Planning
113 ~~((p))~~Policies, and the ~~((g))~~Growth ~~((m))~~Management ~~((a))~~Act.

114
115 **Arterial Functional Classification**

116 Arterial functional classification is the ~~((division of a road system into a number of~~
117 ~~categories according to the function of each road))~~ categorization of roadways based on
118 their function. The degree to which ~~((the))~~ a road serves movement of traffic or access
119 to adjacent properties is the basis for its classification. Principal arterials provide for
120 movement across large areas, serving predominantly “through traffic.” Minor arterials
121 generally serve smaller areas than principal arterials and provide ((movement)) greater
122 access to abutting properties ~~((and to arterials within large areas bound by principal~~
123 ~~arterials)).~~ Collector arterials serve smaller areas by “collecting” traffic ~~((to or))~~ from local
124 roads and abutting properties and funneling it to ~~((and from))~~ the ~~((transportation~~
125 ~~system))~~ arterial network.

126
127 **Asset Poverty**

128 Asset poverty is a socio-economic condition that describes a person or household’s lack
129 of wealth-building property, possessions, or financial holdings. It is a broader concept
130 than poverty, which is traditionally defined based on income or wages, and can measure
131 or describe stability or precarity amid unexpected life events.
132

133 **B**

134 **Biodiversity**

135 Biodiversity, or biological diversity, is the variety of living organisms considered at all
136 levels, from genetic diversity through species, to higher taxonomic levels, and includes
137 the variety of habitats, ecosystems, and landscapes in which the species are found.

138
139 **Brownfields**

140 Brownfields are defined as vacant or underdeveloped industrial/commercial sites with
141 real or perceived contamination.

142
143 **Buffer**

144 A buffer, when referring to critical areas, is a designated area adjacent and contiguous
145 to a ~~((steep slope or landslide hazard area intended to protect slope stability,~~
146 ~~attenuation of surface water flows and landslide hazards, or a designated area~~
147 ~~contiguous to and))~~ critical area that is intended to protect ~~((and be an integral part of~~
148 ~~an aquatic area or wetland))~~ the functions and values of the critical area and reduce
149 impacts from adjacent land uses.
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151 **C**

152 **Capital Improvement Program ((CIP))**

153 The ~~((A))~~adopted Capital Improvement Program budget allocates funds from various
154 revenue sources to improve cultural and recreational opportunities for King County
155 residents, build needed transportation facilities, protect the County's investment in

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

156 existing buildings, protect the health of residents, enhance the management of natural
157 resources, and provide necessary capital resources for the law, safety, and ((justice))
158 criminal legal system.

160 ~~Channel migration hazard area, moderate~~

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161 A portion of the channel migration zone, as shown on King County's Channel Migration
162 Zone maps, which lies between the severe channel migration hazard area and the outer
163 boundaries of the channel migration zone:

165 ~~Channel migration hazard area, severe~~

166 A portion of the channel migration zone, as shown on King County's Channel Migration
167 Zone maps, which includes the present channel. The total width of the severe channel
168 migration hazard area equals one hundred years times the average annual channel
169 migration rate, plus the present channel width. The average annual channel migration
170 rate as determined in the technical report is the basis for each Channel Migration Zone
171 map.))

173 ~~Channel Migration Zone~~

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174 Channel migration zones are those areas along a river channel within which the
175 channel((s)) can be reasonably predicted, based on best available science, to migrate
176 over time as a result of natural and normally occurring hydrological and related
177 processes when considered with the characteristics of the river and its surroundings. In
178 areas located in King County's shoreline jurisdiction, the channel migration zone
179 includes areas shown on King County's Channel Migration zone maps, including both
180 the severe channel migration hazard area and the moderate channel migration hazard
181 area, and areas not shown on King County's Channel Migration Zone maps but located
182 within the floodplain.

184 ~~Circular Economy~~

185 Circular economy means a system that keeps products and materials in a cycle of use for
186 as long as possible, thereby lessening the need to extract virgin materials, like trees,
187 metals, and oil, from the earth. Actions that promote a circular economy include
188 recycling, reusing, repairing, and reducing.

190 ~~Cities~~

191 For the purposes of the Comprehensive Plan, the term "cities" includes incorporated
192 towns.

194 ~~Cities in the Rural Area~~

195 ~~((King County's))~~ Cities in the Rural Area are incorporated areas ~~((within))~~ substantively
196 surrounded by the Rural Area, and whose local governments are involved in the
197 region's planning processes on an equal legal basis with ((the suburban cities,)) Seattle,
198 Bellevue, and the other King County cities ((Seattle)). The ~~((incorporated))~~ Cities in the
199 Rural Area are Black Diamond, Carnation, Duvall, Enumclaw, North Bend, Skykomish,
200 and Snoqualmie. (See Chapter 3((:)), Rural Area((s)) and Natural Resource Lands)

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202 ~~Clearing~~

203 Clearing includes cutting, killing, grubbing, or removing vegetation or other organic
204 plant material by physical, mechanical, chemical, or any other similar means. For the
205 purpose of this definition ~~((of clearing)),~~ cutting means the severing of the main trunk or
206 stem of woody vegetation at any point.

208 ~~Clustering~~

209 Clustering means ~~((developing))~~ development of a subdivision at the existing zoned
210 density that reduces the size of individual lots ((areas to)) and creates permanent open
211 space for the preservation of critical areas or ((a reserve for future development while it
212 maintains the zoned residential density)) resource land for forestry or agriculture.

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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Community Business Centers

These are primarily retail developments designed to serve a nearby market area of 15,000 to 40,000 people. (See Chapter 2((-)), Urban Communities.)

Community-Driven Development

~~Community-Driven driven Development development~~ includes equitable development actions that advance the following principles:

- a. ~~advances economic mobility and opportunity for residents;~~
- b. ~~prevents residential, commercial and cultural displacement;~~
- c. ~~builds upon and protects local cultural assets that anchor communities;~~
- d. ~~supports organizational capacity building;~~
- e. ~~promotes transportation mobility and connectivity; and~~
- f. ~~enables equitable access for all communities.~~

Community Needs List

~~A Community Needs List is a community-identified list of services, programs, facilities, and capital improvement projects that support the community's vision for their neighborhood.~~

Community Service Areas ((CSA))

~~Community Services Areas refers to the geographic framework that organizes the unincorporated areas of King County into seven territories for the purposes of the Community Service Area Program. (See Chapter 11, Community Service Area Subarea Planning.)~~

Community Service Areas Program

~~The ((CSA)) Community Service Areas Program is housed in the Department of ((Natural Resources and Parks)) Local Services. This program promotes robust public engagement that informs, involves, and empowers people and communities in unincorporated ((urban areas and in the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands of)) King County to take an active role in County decision-making related to programs, services, and capital projects within each Community Service Area.~~

~~**Community Service Area Subarea Plan**~~

~~((With King County's initiation of the subarea planning program, the new plans will be called)) Community Service Area Subarea Plans((. These will)) apply the countywide goals of the Comprehensive Plan to smaller geographic areas consistent with the Community Service Area Program. ((Each one of King County's six rural CSAs and each of the five large Potential Annexation Areas has or is scheduled to have its own CSA Subarea Plan. CSA Subarea Plans focus on land use issues in the smaller geographies, as well as community identified implementation activities)) while recognizing the parameters of County funding and revenue sources.)) These plans help implement and are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan's policies ((and development regulations)).))~~

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Comprehensive Plan

~~The ((state of Washington's)) Growth Management Act requires certain cities and counties of the state to adopt comprehensive land use plans. A comprehensive plan is a generalized, coordinated land use policy statement of the governing body of a county or city that is adopted pursuant to the Growth Management Act. A comprehensive plan consists of a map or maps; descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards used to develop the comprehensive plan; and a plan, scheme, or design for land use, housing, capital facilities, utilities, the rural area((s)), natural resource lands, ((and)) transportation. Optional components include elements relating to conservation, solar energy, recreation, and subarea plans.~~

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270 **Concurrence Management System**

271 The Growth Management Act requires jurisdictions to adopt and enforce ordinances
272 that prohibit development approval if the development causes the level of service on a
273 transportation facility to decline below the standards adopted in the comprehensive
274 plan, unless transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of
275 development are made “concurrent” with the development. Concurrent with
276 development means that transportation improvements or strategies are in place at the
277 time of development or that financial commitment is made to complete the
278 improvements or strategies within six years. The Concurrence Management System of
279 King County establishes a process to manage new development based on
280 transportation impacts on levels of service and the concurrency of needed
281 improvements or actions. (See Chapter 8: Transportation.)

282
283 **Congestion Pricing**

284 Congestion pricing is a strategy to manage traffic congestion by charging drivers a fee
285 for using designated lanes or roadways during congested periods. Congestion pricing
286 encourages drivers to use other modes of transportation, other routes, or other travel
287 times. By removing a fraction of vehicles from the roadway during peak travel times, the
288 transportation system operates more efficiently.

289
290 **Coordinated Water System Plans**

291 Four Critical Water Service Areas have been designated in King County in
292 accordance with the Public Water System Coordinated Act of 1977 ((c))Chapter
293 ((70.116)) 70A.100 Revised Code of Washington: East King County, Skyway, South
294 King County, and Vashon Island. The Coordinated Water System Plan for each area
295 provides an assessment of water supply and a program to meet future demand.
296 Planning areas, within which a water purveyor is obligated to provide service consistent
297 with ((c))County land use plans and regulations, were assigned for major purveyors.

298
299 **Countywide Planning Policies ((CPP))**

300 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires that counties, as regional governments within~~
301 ~~their boundaries, prepare c))Countywide planning policies ((which establish)) are written~~
302 ~~policy statements used solely for establishing a countywide framework from which~~
303 ~~county and city comprehensive plans are ((to be)) developed and adopted((. This~~
304 ~~framework is)) to ensure that county and city ((and county)) comprehensive plans are~~
305 ~~consistent. ((The King County Countywide Planning Policies were developed and~~
306 ~~recommended by the Growth Management Planning Council and are to serve as a~~
307 ~~blueprint for how King County and its cities should grow over the next 20 years. The~~
308 ~~Metropolitan King County Council adopted these policies in 1992. Since this time,~~
309 ~~amendments called “Phase II Countywide Planning Policies” have been made to the~~
310 ~~sections pertaining to affordable housing, economic development and rural character.~~
311 ~~The County Council has adopted these Phase II amendments.)) The Countywide~~
312 ~~Planning Policies create a shared and consistent framework for growth management~~
313 ~~planning for all jurisdictions in King County in accordance with RCW 36.70A.210, which~~
314 ~~requires the legislative authority of a county to adopt a countywide planning policy in~~
315 ~~cooperation with cities located in the county. The comprehensive plan for King County~~
316 ~~and the comprehensive plans for cities and towns in King County are developed from~~
317 ~~the framework that the Countywide Planning Policies establish. The Growth~~
318 ~~Management Planning Council is the formal body charged with developing the~~
319 ~~Countywide Planning Policies. (See Chapter 1((:)), Regional Growth Management~~
320 ~~Planning.)~~

321
322 **Creative Economy**

323 Creative economy means industries, artists, educators, entrepreneurs, vendors,
324 policy makers, and funders that produce and distribute creativity- and artistic-based
325 goods and services.

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Critical Areas

~~(((The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to designate, where appropriate, critical areas which include: 1) wetlands, 2) areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water, 3) fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, 4) frequently flooded areas, and 5) geologically hazardous areas. (See Chapter 5((:)), Environment, for King County's designation of critical areas.)))
)) Any area that is subject to natural hazards or a land feature that supports unique, fragile, or valuable natural resources including fish, wildlife, or other organisms or their habitats or such resources that carry, hold, or purify water in their natural state. "Critical area" includes the following areas:
a. Critical aquifer recharge areas;
b. Frequently flooded areas, regulated as Flood Hazard Areas:
1. Floodplain;
2. Special flood hazard area, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps;
3. Zero-rise flood fringe;
4. Zero-rise floodway;
5. FEMA floodway; and
6. Channel migration zones;
c. Fish and wildlife habitat conversation areas:
1. Aquatic areas;
2. Riparian areas;
3. Wildlife habitat conservation areas; and
4. Wildlife habitat networks;
d. Geologically hazardous areas:
1. Alluvial fan hazard areas;
2. Channel migration zones;
3. Coal mine hazard areas;
4. Erosion hazard areas;
5. Landslide hazard areas;
6. Seismic hazard areas;
7. Steep slope hazard areas;
8. Tsunami hazard area; and
9. Volcanic hazard areas; and
e. Wetlands.
~~(See Chapter 5((:)), Environment, for King County's designation of critical areas.)~~~~

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Critical Habitat

Critical habitat includes specific areas that possess physical or biological features, which are essential to the conservation of a listed species.

Cultural Resources

Cultural resources include performing and visual arts events, programs, and facilities; public art; heritage events, programs, and facilities; Indian tribal celebrations and cultural events; and historic properties.

Cumulative ((?))Impacts

Cumulative impacts, ~~for the purposes of Chapter 6. Shorelines,~~ are the sum total of the current, plus any reasonably foreseeable future, disturbances to ecological functions, which can be impacted by both development subject to shoreline permits and by development that is not subject to permits.

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D

((Deficiency

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

380 Deficiency in a comprehensive plan or development regulation refers to the absence of
381 required or potentially desirable contents of a comprehensive plan or development
382 regulation:))

383

384 **Debris Flow**

385 Debris flow means a moving mass of rock fragments, soil, and mud, with more than half
386 of the particles being larger than sand size.

387

388 **Density**

389 Density is the quantity of structures or buildings per unit area. Density is typically
390 expressed as housing units per acre or square mile.

391

392 **Density Incentives/Bonuses**

393 Density incentives, or density bonuses, are programs that allow more dwelling units
394 than the number permitted on a site by zoning (sometimes referred to as "base density")
395 in exchange for public benefits provided by the developer. ~~((King County has~~
396 ~~incorporated use of density incentives with standard urban subdivision, mobile home~~
397 ~~park, and multifamily development projects. (King County Code, Title 21A))~~

398

399 **Development**

400 For purposes of the shoreline master program, development means a use consisting of
401 the construction or exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping; filling;
402 removing sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving of piling; placing of
403 obstructions; or any project of a permanent or temporary nature which interferes with
404 the normal public use of the surface of the waters overlying lands subject to any state of
405 water level.

406

407 **Development regulations**

408 Development regulations means the controls placed on development or land uses by a
409 county or city, including, but not limited to: zoning ordinances, critical areas ordinances,
410 all portions of a shoreline master program other than goals and policies approved or
411 adopted under ~~((c))Chapter 90.58 Revised Code of Washington~~, planned unit
412 development ordinances, subdivision ordinances, and binding site plan ordinances
413 together with any amendments thereto.

414

415 **Displacement**

416 Displacement means the involuntary relocation of current residents or businesses from
417 their current or previous home, neighborhood, or community. This is a different
418 phenomenon than when property owners voluntarily sell their interests to capture an
419 increase in value. Physical displacement is the result of eviction, acquisition,
420 rehabilitation, or demolition of property, or the expiration of covenants on rent- or
421 income-restricted housing. Economic displacement occurs when residents and
422 businesses can no longer afford escalating costs. Cultural or ethnic displacement occurs
423 when people choose to move because their neighbors and culturally related businesses
424 have left the area.

425

426 **Docket**

427 A list of suggested changes to a comprehensive plan or development regulations
428 maintained by the department.

429

430 **Docket Process, The**

431 The docket process specifies that dockets are not just to note deficiencies, but also to
432 suggest changes and make written comments. These suggested changes are reviewed
433 by the ~~((c))County~~ and made available for review by the public. Information provided to
434 the public ~~((with))~~ includes the ~~((c))County's~~ response. ~~((An internet docket process is~~
435 ~~available and can be found at:~~

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436 ~~http://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-~~
437 ~~planning/king-county-comprehensive-plan/amend/docket.aspx.~~

438
439 **Docketing**

440 ~~Docketing means compiling and maintaining a list of suggested changes to the~~
441 ~~comprehensive plan or development regulations in a manner that will ensure such~~
442 ~~suggested changes will be considered by the county and will be available for review by~~
443 ~~the public:))~~

444
445 **Drainage Basin**

446 A drainage basin, like a watershed, is an area that drains to a common outlet or an
447 identifiable water body such as a river, stream, lake, or wetland. In King County, 72
448 drainage basins are contained within six major watersheds. These drainage basins in
449 turn contain numerous individual water bodies with small drainages.

450
451 ~~(((Dredging~~

452 ~~Dredging is the removal, displacement, or disposal of unconsolidated earth material~~
453 ~~such as sand, silt, gravel, or other submerged materials, from the bottom of water~~
454 ~~bodies, ditches, or natural wetlands. Maintenance dredging and/or support activities~~
455 ~~are included in this definition:))~~

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456
457 **Dwelling unit**

458 A dwelling unit consists of one or more rooms designed for occupancy by a person or
459 ~~((household)) family~~ for living and sleeping purposes, containing kitchen facilities and
460 rooms with internal accessibility, for use solely by the dwelling's occupants. Dwelling
461 units include ~~(((but are not limited to efficiency and))~~ studio apartments, factory-built
462 housing, and ~~manufactured and~~ mobile homes.

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464 **E**

465 **Ecological Function**

466 An ecological function refers to physical, chemical, and biological processes or
467 attributes at some level of biological organization. For example, the ecological
468 functions of wetlands include food chain support, water quality maintenance, flood
469 storage, and wildlife habitat.

470
471 **Ecoregions**

472 Ecoregions are land areas that contain a geographically unique set of species,
473 communities, and environmental conditions.

474
475 **Ecosystem**

476 Ecosystem means the complex of a community of organisms and its environment
477 functioning as an ecological unit.

478
479 **Ecosystem-wide processes**

480 Ecosystem-wide processes means the suite of naturally occurring physical and geologic
481 processes of erosion, transport, and deposition; and specific chemical processes that
482 shape landforms within a specific shoreline ecosystem and determine both the types of
483 habitat and the associated ecological functions.

484
485 ~~(((Emissions Trading~~

486 ~~Emissions trading means the transfer in ownership of emission reductions. Emission~~
487 ~~trading occurs when a source of air pollution reduces its emissions and then transfers~~
488 ~~ownership of the emission reduction to another party. Markets for emission reductions~~

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489 can be created by regulation (the market for sulfur dioxide allowances for example) or
490 voluntarily (the current market for greenhouse gases:))

491
492 **Endangered Species**

493 Endangered species means any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all
494 or a significant portion of its range and which has been designated as such in
495 regulations issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the state of Washington
496 Department of Fish and Wildlife.

497
498 **Endangered Species Act ((ESA))**

499 The Endangered Species Act is an act that was adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1973 to
500 provide a means to conserve ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened
501 species depend and to provide a program for the conservation for such endangered
502 and threatened species.

503
504 **((Endemic Species**

505 Endemic species (or habitats or ecosystems) are those that are native to, and occur only
506 in, a particular area or locale. Endemic species generally have very specific adaptive
507 requirements that are linked to particular habitat or ecosystems that are rare (e.g.,
508 Townsend's big-eared bats and caves). Even small changes in the ecosystem are likely
509 to cause localized extinctions of these species:))

510
511 **Enhancement**

512 ~~For the purposes of critical area regulations, ((E))enhancement means ((to increase or))~~
513 ~~an action that improves ((one or more of the functions, attributes, or values that an~~
514 ~~ecosystem or environmental feature possesses)) the processes, structures, and functions~~
515 ~~of ecosystems and habitats associated with critical areas or their buffers. (See Chapter~~
516 ~~5((:)), Environment).~~

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517
518 **((Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

519 Environmentally sensitive areas include: coal mines; areas that are prone to erosion,
520 floods, landslides, or seismic activity; steep slopes; volcanic hazard areas; and streams,
521 wetlands and protection buffers:))

522
523 **Equitable Development**

524 ~~Equitable development is an approach to planning and community development paired~~
525 ~~with public and private investments and service delivery that advances equity and self-~~
526 ~~determination of communities:~~

527 ~~Adversely impacted by structural racism and discrimination;~~

528 ~~Experiencing disparities in economic and health outcomes~~

529 ~~Subject to current or historical disinvestment, or and~~

530 ~~Facing a heightened risk of displacement.~~

531 ~~These communities primarily include Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color;~~
532 ~~people living with extremely-low, very-low, and low incomes earning less than 80%~~
533 ~~area median income; immigrants; refugees; people with disabilities; seniors people~~
534 ~~aged 62 years and older; and LGBTQIA+ communities.~~

535 ~~Equitable development refers to public and private investments, programs, and policies~~
536 ~~in communities characterized by high levels of chronic and recent displacement, a~~
537 ~~history of racially driven underinvestment, and populations impacted by structural~~
538 ~~racism and discrimination. This work is conducted in partnership with community~~
539 ~~members to meet the needs of the community and reduce disparities, taking into~~
540 ~~account history and current conditions, so that quality-of-life outcomes such as access~~
541 ~~to quality education, living-wage employment, healthy environment, affordable~~
542 ~~housing, and transportation; are equitably distributed for the people currently living and~~
543 ~~working there, as well as for new people moving into the community.~~

544
545 **Equitable Neighborhood**

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546 An equitable neighborhood is a neighborhood where people are healthy, safe,
547 culturally connected, and can access resources to meet their needs. All members of the
548 community, regardless of background, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, or
549 abilities, can thrive in equitable neighborhoods, engage with local decision-makers to
550 inform how their community is served, and access opportunities such as affordable
551 housing or homeownership, healthcare, education, and employment.

552
553 **Equity Impact Review**

554 An equity impact review is a process to identify, evaluate, and communicate the
555 potential impact - both positive and negative - of a policy or program on equity using
556 tools from the King County Office of Equity and Racial and Social Justice.
557

558 **F**

559 ~~((Fair Housing Ordinance~~

560 King County's Fair Housing Ordinance prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of
561 race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status, parental status, use of
562 Section 8 subsidy, sexual orientation, disability or the use of a trained guide dog.))

563
564 ~~Family-Wage Jobs~~

565 Family-wage jobs are jobs that pay more than the average annual wage for King County
566 in a given year and therefore enable a worker to support a family.))

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567
568 **Feasible**

569 Feasible means, for the purpose of ((this)) the Shoreline Master ((p))Program, that an
570 action, such as a development project, mitigation, or preservation requirement, meets
571 all of the following conditions:

572 ~~((a))~~ a. The action can be accomplished with technologies and methods that
573 have been used in the past in similar circumstances, or studies or tests have
574 demonstrated in similar circumstances that such approaches are currently
575 available and likely to achieve the intended results;

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576 ~~((b))~~ b. The action provides a reasonable likelihood of achieving its intended
577 purpose; and

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578 ~~((c))~~ c. The action does not physically preclude achieving the project's
579 primary intended legal use.

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580 In cases where these guidelines require certain actions unless they are infeasible, the
581 burden of proving infeasibility is on the applicant. In determining an action's
582 infeasibility, the reviewing agency may weigh the action's relative public costs and
583 public benefits, considered in the short- and long-term ~~((time frames))~~ timeframes.

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585 **FEMA floodway**

586 A FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) floodway is the channel of the
587 stream ~~((and that portion of the adjoining floodplain that is necessary to contain and~~
588 ~~discharge the 100-year flood flow without increasing the base flood elevation more than~~
589 ~~one foot)) or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved to
590 discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation
591 more than a designated height at any point. The FEMA floodway is delineated on the
592 Flood Insurance Rate Map, as well as on, but not limited to, King County Surface
593 Water Design Manual major floodplain or floodway studies.~~

594
595 **Fill**

596 For the purposes of the Chapter 6, Shorelines, Fill means the addition of soil, sand, rock,
597 gravel, sediment, earth retaining structure, or other material to an area waterward of the

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598 ordinary high water mark (OHWM), in wetlands, or on shorelands in a manner that raises
599 the elevation or creates dry land.

600

601 ~~((Flood Hazard Management Plan~~

602 The King County Flood Hazard Management Plan contains policies and program and
603 project recommendations that guide floodplain use and development throughout King
604 County.))

605

606 **Floodplain**

607 Floodplain is the total area subject to inundation by the 100-year flood.

608

609 ~~((Floodway, zero-rise~~

610 Floodway zero-rise is the channel of a stream and that portion of the adjoining
611 floodplain that is necessary to contain and discharge the base flood flow without any
612 measurable increase in base flood elevation:

613 A. For the purpose of this definition, measurable increase in base flood elevation
614 means a calculated upward rise in the base flood elevation, equal to or greater than
615 0.01 foot, resulting from a comparison of existing conditions and changed
616 conditions directly attributable to alterations of the topography or any other flow
617 obstructions in the floodplain. Zero-rise floodway is broader than that of the FEMA
618 floodway but always includes the FEMA floodway.

619 B. Zero-rise floodway includes the entire floodplain unless a critical areas report
620 demonstrates otherwise.))

621

622 ~~**Food Innovation District**~~

623 A district of food-related activities supportive of healthy, affordable local food. Food
624 innovation districts may encompass food retail, anchor food businesses, small food
625 business incubation, food industry education and training, markets and food hubs,
626 urban agriculture, food programs and partnerships with urban and rural food growers
627 and cooperatives, and food aggregation and processing.))

628

629 **Forest practice**

630 Forest practice is any forest practice as defined in Revised Code of Washington
631 76.09.020.

632

633 ~~**Forest Production Districts ((FPD))**~~

634 The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to designate, where
635 appropriate, forest lands that are not characterized by urban growth and that have
636 long-term significance for the commercial production of timber. The Comprehensive
637 Plan designates Forest Production Districts where the primary use should be
638 commercial forestry. Lands within the Forest Production District ~~((shall))~~ remain in large
639 parcels and in ownership conducive to forestry. (See Chapter 3~~((:))~~, Rural Areas and
640 Natural Resource Lands).

641

642 **Frontline Communities**

643 Frontline communities are those that are disproportionately impacted by climate
644 change due to existing and historical racial, social, environmental, and economic
645 inequities, and who have limited resources and/or capacity to adapt. These populations
646 often experience the earliest and most acute impacts of climate change, but whose
647 experiences afford unique strengths and insights into climate resilience strategies and
648 practices. Frontline communities include Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color
649 communities; immigrants; refugees; ~~people living with low incomes~~households at or
650 below 80 percent of area median income; communities experiencing disproportionate
651 pollution exposure; women and gender non-conforming people; LGBTQIA+ people;
652 people who live and/or work outside; those with existing health issues; people speaking
653 a language(s) other than English; and other climate-vulnerable groups.

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Fully Contained Community ((FCE))

A fully contained community is a site-specific development project consisting of conceptual site plan(s), development standards, processing and other elements. ~~((It is also consistent with the criteria provided in RCW 36.70A.350 which states that Fully Contained Communities should be located outside of the initially designated Urban Growth Area.))~~

Functional Classification

See "Arterial Functional Classification"

Functional Planning

Functional plans are detailed King County plans for facilities and services and action plans and programs for other governmental activities. Some functional plans are operational or programmatic, which means they guide daily management decisions. Others include specific details of facility design and location and must be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations. ~~((Functional plans are prepared by King County, independent special purpose districts or other public and private agencies. (See Chapter 12: Implementation, Amendments and Evaluation)))~~

G

674

Geotechnical report or geotechnical analysis

Geotechnical report or geotechnical analysis means a scientific study or evaluation conducted by a qualified expert that includes: a description of the ground and surface hydrology and geology; the affected land form and its susceptibility to mass wasting, erosion, and other geologic hazards or processes; conclusions and recommendations regarding the effect of the proposed development on geologic conditions; the adequacy of the site to be developed; the impacts of the proposed development; alternative approaches to the proposed development; and measures to mitigate potential site-specific and cumulative geological and hydrological impacts of the proposed development, including the potential adverse impacts to adjacent and down-current properties. Geotechnical reports shall conform to accepted technical standards and must be prepared by qualified professional engineers or geologists who have professional expertise about the regional and local shoreline geology and processes.

~~**((Global Warming**~~

~~Global warming is an increase in worldwide atmospheric temperature and resulting alterations in climate.))~~

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Grading

Grading is any excavation, filling, or removal of the duff layer or any combination thereof.

Green Jobs

~~Middle wage living wage positions providing environmental benefits (such as clean energy deployment) in high-demand industry sectors such as construction, manufacturing, transportation, and professional services. Potential examples of green jobs may include, but are not limited to: environmental science positions, such as a forester; clean energy sector jobs, such as in the solar industry; or farmers using sustainable or regenerative agriculture practices.~~

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Groundwater Management Plans

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707 King County has five Groundwater Management Areas ~~(((GWMA)))~~ for which residents
708 and technical experts are addressing groundwater issues. For each ~~(((GWMA)))~~
709 Groundwater Management Area, a Groundwater Management Plan ~~(((GWMP)))~~ has
710 been developed per ~~(((c)))~~Chapter 173-100 Washington Administrative Code
711 ~~(((c)))~~Chapter 90.44 Revised Code of Washington. Each ~~(((GWMP)))~~ Groundwater
712 Management Plan describes the area's groundwater resource, contains a detailed
713 exploration of groundwater protection issues, and proposes solutions to perceived
714 threats. These plans identify Sensitive Aquifer Areas to receive a special level of
715 protection.

716
717 **Growth Management Act ~~(((GMA)))~~**
718 In 1990 and 1991, the Washington State Legislature passed the Growth Management
719 Act. The Growth Management Act calls for urban counties and cities in the state to
720 develop comprehensive plans to guide growth management decisions. Amendments
721 to the Act in 1991 require that counties, working with the cities within their boundaries,
722 develop Countywide Planning Policies to provide a common vision of the future to serve
723 as the framework for all comprehensive plans throughout the county. (See Chapter
724 1~~(((r)))~~, Regional Growth Management Planning)

725
726 **Growth Management Planning Council ~~(((GMPC)))~~**
727 The Growth Management Planning Council, which was established by an interlocal
728 agreement, is a council of elected officials from Seattle, Bellevue, ~~(((suburban)))~~ other
729 King County cities, special purpose districts, the Port of Seattle, and King County. The
730 Growth Management Planning Council is responsible for the preparation and
731 recommendation of the Countywide Planning Policies to the Metropolitan King County
732 Council, which then adopts the policies and sends them to the cities for ratification.

733
734 **~~(((Urban)))~~ Growth Target**
735 The Growth Management Act and the Countywide Planning Policies require King
736 County and ~~(((its)))~~ the cities in the county to plan for a 20-year population and
737 employment growth target for urban areas in each jurisdiction, based on designation of
738 the Urban Growth Area, Urban Centers, and the criteria of the Countywide Planning
739 Policies. (See Chapter 2~~(((r)))~~, Urban Communities)

741 **H**

742 **Habitat**
743 Habitat is the area where wildlife normally lives and grows. Habitat components include
744 food, water, cover (security, breeding, thermal) and space.

745
746 **Habitat Network**
747 Habitat network is a system of fish and wildlife habitat ~~(((where connections between)))~~
748 that link large habitat blocks and open spaces with critical areas and their buffers,
749 priority habitats, trails, parks, and other areas that ~~(((are necessary for the support of)))~~
750 provide for fish and wildlife through their life cycles and alleviate habitat fragmentation.

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751
752 **Healthy Community**
753 Healthy community (communities) means a community that makes it ~~(((easier)))~~ easy for
754 people to live healthy lives by~~(((r)))~~ encouraging ~~(((mixed)))~~ and dense a land use ~~(((and~~
755 ~~greater land density)))~~ pattern to shorten distances between housing, workplaces,
756 schools, and recreation so people can walk or bike more easily to them; incorporating
757 ~~(((good)))~~ complete pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, including sidewalks and bike
758 paths that are safely removed from ~~(((automobile)))~~ vehicle traffic; providing
759 opportunities for people to be physically active and socially engaged as part of their
760 daily routine; including access to open space and parks; allowing people, if they

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761 choose, to age in place and remain in their community as their lifestyle changes or they
762 face changing physical capabilities; and ensuring access to affordable and healthy food,
763 especially fruits and vegetables.

764 **Healthy Housing**

765 Healthy housing means housing that is sustainable and protects all residents from
766 exposure to harmful substances and environments, reduces the risk of injury, provides
767 opportunities for safe and convenient daily physical activity, and ~~((assures)) ensures~~
768 access to healthy food and social connectivity.

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770 ~~((High Capacity Transit Facilities~~

771 These include all of the elements of a system, including the rails, stations, vehicle
772 infrastructure and associated supportive facilities:))

773 **Historic Properties**

774 Historic properties include historic buildings, sites, objects, districts, and landscapes,
775 prehistoric and historic archaeological resources, and traditional cultural places.

776 **Historic Property, Significant**

777 Significant historic properties are those properties that meet the criteria for designation
778 as County landmarks and/or listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

779 **Historically Underrepresented Groups**

780 Historically underrepresented groups or populations are communities of people whose
781 experiences, opinions, and life outcomes have intentionally or indirectly not been
782 sought out or reflected in planning processes. Historically underrepresented groups
783 often include Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color communities; immigrants;
784 refugees; people living with low incomeshouseholds at or below 80 percent of area
785 median income; people speaking ~~a~~ language(s) other than English; women and gender
786 non-conforming individuals; ~~and~~ LGBTQIA+ people, and people with special housing
787 needs.

788 **Historically Underinvested Underserved**

789 Historically underinvested groups or populations are communities that have
790 experienced a long-term pattern of lacking investment in public services and amenities
791 relative to neighboring communities or an expected standard. Historically underserved
792 groups or populations are communities that have been systematically denied a full
793 opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life. Historically
794 underinvested groups often include Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color
795 communities; immigrants; refugees; people living with low incomeshouseholds at or
796 below 80 percent of area median income; people speaking ~~a~~ language(s) other than
797 English; women and gender non-conforming individuals; ~~and~~ LGBTQIA+ people; and
798 people with special housing needs.

800 **Housing Needs**

801 Housing needs means refers to the number of housing units needed in King
802 Countyincorporated King County by the end of the planning period to ensure
803 sufficient and attainable housing for all households. Jurisdictional housing needs are
804 shown in Table H-2 of the Countywide Planning Policies.



812 **Impervious surface**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

814 ~~((An-))~~Impervious surface ~~((is))~~ means a nonvertical surface artificially covered or
815 hardened ((that)) so as to prevent((s, retards, or otherwise alters)) or impede the ((entry))
816 percolation of water into the soil mantle ((as compared to)) at natural ((conditions prior
817 to development, and/or a hard surface area that causes water to run off the surface in
818 greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from the flow present under natural
819 conditions prior to development). Common impervious surfaces include)) infiltration
820 rates including, but are not limited to, roofs ((tops)), swimming pools and areas that are
821 paved, graveled, or made of packed or oiled earthen materials such as roads, walkways,
822 ((patios, driveways,)) or parking ((lots and gravel roads)) areas. "Impervious surface"
823 does not include landscaping and surface water flow control and water quality
824 treatment facilities.

825
826 **Income, Extremely Low-**
827 Extremely low-income means households ~~are households~~ earning less than or equal to
828 30 percent of ~~the~~ area median income for their household size.

829
830 **Income, Low-**
831 Low-income means households earning greater than 50 percent to less than or equal to
832 80 percent of ~~the~~ area median income for their household size.

833
834 **Income, Moderate-**
835 Moderate-income means households earning greater than 80 percent to less than or
836 equal to 120 percent of ~~the~~ area median income for their household size.

837
838 **Income, Very Low-**
839 Very low-income means households earning greater than 30 percent to less than or
840 equal to 50 percent of ~~the~~ area median income for their household size.

841
842 **Incorporated Areas**
843 Incorporated areas are those areas within a city or a city's jurisdiction. King County
844 contains the entirety of ~~((39)) 35~~ incorporated cities and parts of ~~((two)) four~~ others.

845
846 **Infill**
847 Infill means development or redevelopment on small properties or groups of properties
848 within existing built-up areas.

849
850 **~~((Initial Project Needs~~**
851 ~~Initial project needs are road improvement projects needed to address the impacts of a~~
852 ~~specific development. The projects must be concurrent with the development.))~~

854 **J**

855

856 **K**

857 **~~((Keystone Species~~**
858 ~~Keystone species are those that exert a significant effect on the structure of the~~
859 ~~biological community of which they are a part. These species often prevent dominance~~
860 ~~by a single species and thereby maintain diversity in the community.))~~

861
862 **L**

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~~(((2016))) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

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Landfill

Landfill is a disposal site or part of a site at which refuse is deposited.

Landslide Hazard Areas

An area subject to severe risk of landslide, such as:

- ~~(((A.))) a.~~ An area with a combination of:
 1. Slopes steeper than fifteen percent of inclination;
 2. Impermeable soils, such as silt and clay, frequently interbedded with granular soils, such as sand and gravel; and
 3. Springs or ground water seepage;
- ~~(((B.))) b.~~ An area that has shown movement during the Holocene epoch, which is from ten thousand years ago to the present, or that is underlain by mass wastage debris from that epoch;
- ~~(((C.))) c.~~ Any area potentially unstable as a result of rapid stream incision, stream bank erosion or undercutting by wave action;
- ~~(((D.))) d.~~ An area that shows evidence of or is at risk from snow avalanches; or
- ~~(((E.))) e.~~ An area located on an alluvial fan, presently or potentially subject to inundation by debris flows or deposition of stream-transported sediments.

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Land Use Map

The land use map adopted as part of the Comprehensive Plan designates the general location and extent of the uses of land for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce, industry, recreation, open spaces, public utilities, public facilities, and other land uses as required by the Growth Management Act. A representation of the Land Use Map is included at the end of Chapter 1((:)), Regional Growth Management Planning.

Level of Service - Transportation ~~(((LOS)))~~

Transportation ~~(((LOS)))~~ Level of Service is a qualitative measure describing the operational conditions of the transportation system as experienced by travelers.

LGBTQIA+

LGBTQIA+ means people that are Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Plus. As an evolving acronym, the plus symbol includes all other identities on the gender and sexuality spectrum not included already.

~~(((Locally Significant Resource Areas ~~(((LSRAs)))~~)))~~

~~(((LSRAs)))~~ Locally Significant Resource Areas contribute to the aquatic resources within a specific basin, when compared to aquatic and terrestrial systems of similar size and structure elsewhere in the basin. They also provide wetland and stream habitat that is important for wildlife and salmonid diversity and abundance within the basin. (See Chapter 5~~(((:)))~~ Environment))

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Long-term commercial significance

Long-term commercial significance is defined in Washington Administrative Code 365-190-030~~(((44)))~~ to include the growing capacity, productivity, and soil composition of the land for long-term commercial production, in consideration with the land's proximity to population areas, and the possibility of more intense uses of land. Long-term commercial significance means the land is capable of producing the specified natural resources at commercially sustainable levels for at least a twenty-year planning period, if adequately conserved. Designated mineral resource lands of long-term commercial significance may have alternative post-mining land uses, as provided by the Surface Mining Reclamation Act, comprehensive plan and development regulations, or other laws.

Low Impact Development ~~(((LID)))~~

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

919 ~~((H))~~ Low impact development is an approach to land development that works to
920 match a site's natural hydrologic function by protecting native vegetation and soils,
921 reducing impervious surface and managing stormwater at the source.
922

M

~~((Master Planned Resorts~~

924 ~~RCW 36.70A.360 defines a Master Planned Resort as a self-contained and fully~~
925 ~~integrated planned unit development, in a setting of significant natural amenities, with~~
926 ~~primary focus on destination resort facilities consisting of short-term visitor~~
927 ~~accommodations associated with a range of developed on-site indoor or outdoor~~
928 ~~recreation facilities. A master planned resort may include other residential uses within its~~
929 ~~boundaries, but only if the residential uses are integrated into and support the on-site~~
930 ~~recreational nature of the resort.))~~
931

May

932
933
934 ~~((See definition for "shall"')) To guide King County, the use of the terms "shall," "should,"~~
935 ~~and "may" in policies determine the level of discretion the ((c))County can exercise in~~
936 ~~making future and specific land use, budget, development regulation, and other~~
937 ~~decisions. "May" in a policy means that the action is allowed and/or it is in the County's~~
938 ~~interest to carry out the policy, but the County has total discretion in making decisions.~~
939

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~~((Median Household Income~~

940 The median household income is the income level at which half of all households has
941 higher income and the other half has lower income.))
942
943

Middle Housing

944 Middle housing includes moderately scaled multi-unit ~~attached or clustered detached~~
945 ~~housing types that are compatible in residential areas developed with predominantly~~
946 ~~single detached residences. Middle housing developments typically includes more~~
947 ~~housing units than single detached homes developments, but less than large apartment~~
948 ~~buildings. These housing types typically include, but are not limited to, duplexes;~~
949 ~~triplexes, quadplexes, multiplexes houseplexes, townhouses, courtyard buildings,~~
950 ~~cottage houses, and live-work buildings.~~
951

Middle-Wage Jobs

952 Jobs that can support a household or family without significant educational
953 requirements. Given the barriers in access throughout the educational, banking, and
954 other institutional systems, these middle-wage jobs provide key avenues for financial
955 self-sufficiency and wealth building and play a unique role in advancing equity. Jobs in
956 this range predominate in more locally -owned, smaller- and medium-sized businesses
957 and manufacturers, such as accountants, machinists, or technicians.
958
959

Mineral Resource Sites

960 The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to designate, where
961 appropriate, mineral resource lands that are not already characterized by urban growth
962 and that have long-term significance for the extraction of minerals. The comprehensive
963 plan designates as Mineral Resource Sites existing, approved mineral extraction sites,
964 and also designates as Potential Surface Mineral Resource Sites properties on which
965 King County expects some future mines may be located. (See Chapter 3((-)), Rural Areas
966 and Natural Resource Lands)
967
968
969

~~((Mitigation Bank~~

970

~~(((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

971 A mitigation bank is a property approved by the appropriate county, state and federal
972 agencies for restoration, creation, or enhancement to compensate for adverse impacts
973 to wetlands caused by the development of public agency facilities and utility facilities.
974

975 **Mitigation Payment System**

976 This impact fee system establishes a requirement that new growth and development
977 pay a proportionate share of the cost of needed transportation improvements. The
978 mitigation payment system is authorized by state growth management legislation. (See
979 Chapter 8: Transportation))

981 **Mixed-Use**

982 Mixed-use refers to a development with combined commercial and residential uses.
983

984 ~~(((Mode Split~~

985 Mode split is the percentage of a specific mode's use from among all modes of travel.
986 For example, if 25 trips out of 100 total trips are made by bus, the bus mode split is 25
987 percent. Modes of travel include single-occupant vehicles, transit, carpooling, bicycling,
988 walking, and other modes.))

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990 ~~(((Multifamily)) Multiunit Housing~~

991 ~~(((Multifamily)) Multiunit~~ housing structures are those with more than one unit.
992 ~~(((Multifamily)) Multiunit~~ housing includes ~~(((duplexes))~~ middle housing, townhouses,
993 apartments, and condominiums.
994

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995 **Must**

996 See definition for "shall"
997

998 **N**

999 **Natural Area**

1000 Natural areas are ~~(((those))~~ properties ~~or tracts~~ ~~(((in the ((c))County's natural lands~~
1001 ~~inventory))~~ whose primary purpose is to conserve and restore ecological value. They
1002 may not be completely natural and undisturbed but may be important in preserving rare
1003 or vanishing flora, fauna, geological sites, or features of scientific, traditional, cultural, or
1004 educational value. These sites may allow public use ~~in was that~~ ~~(((does not))~~ avoid and
1005 minimize harm to the ecological resources of the site to the maximum extent feasible.
1006 ~~(((Also referred to as Ecological Lands or Ecological sites.))~~

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1007 **Natural Resource Lands**~~(((,-designated))~~

1008 ~~Natural Resource Lands~~ means lands designated under ~~(((F))~~the Growth Management
1009 Act ~~(((requires cities and counties to designate natural resource lands which include the~~
1010 ~~following:))~~ as 1) agricultural lands that have long-term significance for the commercial
1011 production of food or other agricultural products; 2) forest lands that have long-term
1012 significance for the commercial production of timber; ~~(((and))~~ or 3) mineral resource
1013 lands that have long-term significance for the extraction of minerals. ~~(((The~~
1014 ~~Comprehensive Plan designates))~~ This designation includes Agricultural Production
1015 Districts, Forest Production Districts, and Mineral Resource Sites. (See Chapter 3~~(((,-~~
1016 ~~Rural Area~~ ~~(((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands)
1017

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1018 **Neighborhood Business Centers**

1019 Neighborhood Business Centers are shopping areas that offer convenience goods and
1020 services to local residents. They primarily contain retail stores and offices. (See Chapter
1021 2~~(((,-~~ Urban Communities)
1022

1023 ~~(((New-Growth~~

1024

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1025 ~~New growth is growth that occurs subsequent to pipeline development for which no~~
1026 ~~application is currently pending review/approval in the King County permitting process,~~
1027 ~~but which is forecasted to occur over the next 20 years in this comprehensive plan.~~

1028
1029 **Nondegradation**

1030 ~~Nondegradation means to prevent the decline to a lower state, to keep from reducing~~
1031 ~~the complexity, functions, or integrity of ecological processes or values.~~

1032
1033 **Nonmotorized Transportation**

1034 ~~Nonmotorized transportation refers to pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian travel, and~~
1035 ~~the facilities needed to support such travel. For purposes of this Comprehensive Plan,~~
1036 ~~wheelchairs, personal assistive mobility devices or scooters powered by electricity and~~
1037 ~~used by physically impaired persons shall be considered nonmotorized transportation.~~
1038 ~~Any motorized foot scooter, motor-driven cycle, moped, motor-powered bicycle, a~~
1039 ~~motorcycle or, except as provided above, personal assistive mobility device shall be~~
1040 ~~considered motorized transportation.))~~

1041
1042 **Non((-))point Source Pollution**

1043 ~~Non((-))point source pollution is pollution that enters any waters of the state from any~~
1044 ~~dispersed land-based or water-based activities, including but not limited to atmosphere~~
1045 ~~disposition, surface water runoff from agricultural lands, urban areas, or forest lands,~~
1046 ~~subsurface or underground sources, or discharges from boats or marine vessels.~~

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1048 **O**

1049 **Open Space System, King County**

1050 ~~King County's Open Space System ((is a regional system of *county-owned* parks, trails,~~
1051 ~~natural areas, working agricultural and forest resource lands, and flood hazard~~
1052 ~~management lands. This regional network of open spaces)) includes regional parks and~~
1053 ~~recreation amenities, natural areas, forests, regional and back-country trails, and local~~
1054 ~~parks in unincorporated areas. The system provideprovides((-)) benefits to county~~
1055 ~~residents including recreation, conservation of natural and working lands, flood hazard~~
1056 ~~management, wildlife habitat, and connection of critical areas. (See Chapter 7((-)), Parks,~~
1057 ~~Open Space, and Cultural Resources)~~

1058
1059 **Opportunity Area**

1060 ~~An opportunity area is a location with high-quality schools, jobs, transit, access to parks,~~
1061 ~~open space, clean air, water, and soil, and other key determinants of social, economic,~~
1062 ~~and physical well-being.~~

1063
1064 **((Opportunity Mapping**

1065 ~~Opportunity mapping assesses the conditions present in neighborhoods across a~~
1066 ~~region by examining indicators of opportunity in areas such as education, economy,~~
1067 ~~transportation, housing, environment, and health. Opportunity mapping provides a~~
1068 ~~comprehensive analytical framework to measure opportunity in the region and to~~
1069 ~~determine who has access to opportunity-rich areas. Analysis of opportunity mapping~~
1070 ~~can provide valuable information about where more affordable housing needs to be~~
1071 ~~located, and what needs to be remedied in areas where these types of opportunities are~~
1072 ~~currently very limited.))~~

1074 **P**

1075 **Particulate Matter**

~~(((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1076 Particulate matter is solid or aerosol particles dispersed in the air including dust, soot,
1077 and oil. The major sources are industrial activities, fugitive road dust, motor vehicle
1078 emissions, and wood smoke.

1079
1080 **Passive Recreation ~~(((Site)))~~**

1081 ~~Passive recreation ((sites require a lower level of development and provide areas for~~
1082 ~~informal, self-directed activities for individuals and groups)) is characterized by low-~~
1083 ~~impact, individually-oriented activities such as informal play, hiking, walking, jogging,~~
1084 ~~horseback riding, and biking. Capital improvements are generally minimal, such as~~
1085 ~~picnic tables, park furniture, signage, grass fields or meadows, or backcountry trails.~~

1086
1087 **(((Pervious surface**

1088 ~~A pervious surface is an area that allows the entry of water into the soil mantle, as under~~
1089 ~~natural conditions prior to development.~~

1090
1091 **Pipeline Development**

1092 Pipeline Development is comprised of land use development applications, whether
1093 vested or unvested, that were submitted prior to adoption of the King County
1094 Comprehensive Plan and are pending review/approval in the permitting process.

1095
1096 **Pipeline transportation needs**

1097 Pipeline transportation needs are associated with growth that is pending through the
1098 county's development review process.

1099
1100 **Point Pollution**

1101 Point pollution is pollution that enters any waters of the state from an identifiable source
1102 such as a pipe:))

1103
1104 **Potential Annexation Area ~~(((PAA)))~~**

1105 A Potential Annexation Area is an area in unincorporated King County adjacent to a city
1106 that is expected to annex to the city and to which that city will be expected to provide
1107 services and utilities within the next two decades. (See Chapter 2((:)), Urban
1108 Communities)

1109
1110 **Precautionary Action**

1111 Precautionary action, also referred to as the "no risk approach," means in such instances
1112 where an absence of valid scientific information or incomplete scientific information
1113 relating to the county's critical areas, leading to uncertainty about whether development
1114 and land uses could lead to harm of critical areas or uncertainty about the risk to critical
1115 area function, such development and land use activities are strictly limited until the
1116 uncertainty is sufficiently resolved.

1117
1118 **Preserve/Preservation**

1119 Preserve/preservation, as used in Chapter 2((:)), Urban Communities, and Chapter ((9:
1120 Services, Facilities and Utilities)) 4, Housing and Human Services, regarding affordable
1121 housing, means the process of protecting the availability of affordable housing,
1122 especially publicly-assisted affordable housing, for ~~(((extremely low-, very low-, low-, and~~
1123 ~~moderate((=)) income)))~~ households at or below 120 percent of area median income
1124 when transitions from current assistance programs or affordable housing uses are
1125 planned. Preservation may occur through acquisition of the housing by a non((=))profit
1126 or public agency or through funding mechanisms that include a covenant or similar
1127 legal agreement requiring that the units in the property remain affordable to a
1128 designated household income level for an extended period of time, such as 15 years, 30
1129 years, or 50 years. (See "Rehabilitate")

1130
1131 **Priority habitat**

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1132 Priority habitat means a habitat type with unique or significant value to one or more
1133 species. An area classified and mapped as priority habitat must have one or more of the
1134 following attributes:

- 1135 • Comparatively high fish or wildlife density;
- 1136 • Comparatively high fish or wildlife species diversity;
- 1137 • Fish spawning habitat;
- 1138 • Important wildlife habitat;
- 1139 • Important fish or wildlife seasonal range;
- 1140 • Important fish or wildlife movement corridor;
- 1141 • Rearing and foraging habitat;
- 1142 • Important marine mammal haul-out;
- 1143 • Refugia habitat;
- 1144 • Limited availability;
- 1145 • High vulnerability to habitat alteration;
- 1146 • Unique or dependent species; or
- 1147 • Shellfish bed.

1148
1149 A priority habitat may be described by a unique vegetation type or by a dominant plant
1150 species that is of primary importance to fish and wildlife (such as oak woodlands or
1151 eelgrass meadows). A priority habitat may also be described by a successional stage
1152 (such as old growth and mature forests). Alternatively, a priority habitat may consist of a
1153 specific habitat element (such as a consolidated marine/estuarine shoreline, talus
1154 slopes, caves, snags) of key value to fish and wildlife. A priority habitat may contain
1155 priority and/or nonpriority fish and wildlife. [Washington Administrative Code
1156 173-26-020 ~~(((24)))~~]

1157
1158 **Priority Species**

1159 Priority species means species requiring protective measures and/or management
1160 guidelines to ensure their persistence at genetically viable population levels. Priority
1161 species are those that meet any of the criteria listed below.

1162 ~~(((a)))~~ a. Criterion 1. State-listed or state-proposed species. State-listed
1163 species are those native fish and wildlife species legally designated as
1164 endangered (Washington Administrative Code ~~(((232-12-014)))~~ 220-610-
1165 010), threatened (Washington Administrative Code ~~(((232-12-014)))~~ 220-200-
1166 100), or sensitive (Washington Administrative Code ~~(((232-12-014)))~~ 220-200-
1167 100). State-proposed species are those fish and wildlife species that will be
1168 reviewed by the ~~(((d)))~~ Department of ~~(((f)))~~ Fish and ~~(((w)))~~ Wildlife
1169 ~~(((POLM-600)))~~ for possible listing as endangered, threatened, or
1170 sensitive according to the process and criteria defined in Washington
1171 Administrative Code ~~(((232-12-297)))~~ 220-610-110.

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1172 ~~(((b)))~~ b. Criterion 2. Vulnerable aggregations. Vulnerable aggregations
1173 include those species or groups of animals susceptible to significant
1174 population declines, within a specific area or statewide, by virtue of their
1175 inclination to congregate. Examples include heron colonies, seabird
1176 concentrations, and marine mammal congregations.

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1177 ~~(((c)))~~ c. Criterion 3. Species of recreational, commercial, and/or **Indian** tribal
1178 importance. Native and nonnative fish, shellfish, and wildlife species of
1179 recreational or commercial importance and recognized species used for

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1180 tribal ceremonial and subsistence purposes that are vulnerable to habitat
1181 loss or degradation.

1182 ~~(((d))) d.~~ Criterion 4. Species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act
1183 as either proposed, threatened, or endangered.

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1184
1185 **Protect**

1186 Protect means to keep from harm, attack, injury, or destruction, to maintain the integrity
1187 of, especially through environmental care.)

1188
1189 **Public Benefit Rating System ((PBR5))**

1190 The Public Benefit Rating System ((PBR5)) is a current use taxation program whereby
1191 property taxes are reduced by an amount determined by a scoring system related to the
1192 numbers and quality of open space resources located on all or portions of the property.

1193
1194 **Public Review Draft**

1195 A Public Review Draft is a draft of Executive proposed Comprehensive Plan updates,
1196 including proposed ~~(((Community Service Area)))~~ subarea plans, made available to the
1197 public for review and comment. A Public Review Draft((s)) is published prior to
1198 transmittal of proposed Comprehensive Plan updates to the Council ~~(((so as)))~~ to provide
1199 the public an opportunity to record comments before the Executive finalizes the
1200 recommended updates.

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1201
1202 **Puget Sound**

1203 Puget Sound is an estuary—a semi~~(((r)))~~enclosed, glacial fjord where salt water from the
1204 ocean is mixed with fresh water. Puget Sound is bordered by about 1,300 miles of
1205 shoreline with a mix of beaches, bluffs, deltas, mudflats, kelp forests and eelgrass
1206 meadows. Approximately 100 miles of this saltwater shoreline lie within King County.
1207 King County's immediate responsibilities include those portions of Puget Sound which
1208 lie within the county, roughly between Point Wells to the north and Dumas Bay to the
1209 south. King County shares responsibility for the health of the main basin of Puget
1210 Sound with its neighbors—Pierce County, Kitsap County, and Snohomish County.

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1211
1212 **Puget Sound Regional Council ((PSRC))**

1213 The ~~(((PSRC)))~~ Puget Sound Regional Council is the designated metropolitan planning
1214 organization for the four-county region that includes King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap
1215 counties, and is responsible for regional growth management and transportation
1216 planning. The ~~(((PSRC's)))~~ Puget Sound Regional Council's General Assembly includes
1217 mayors, county executives, and council commission members from the four counties, as
1218 well as representatives from local Indian tribes, ports, transit agencies, the State
1219 Department of Transportation, and Transportation Commission. The ~~(((PSRC)))~~ Puget
1220 Sound Regional Council prepared Multi~~(((=)))~~county Planning Policies for the four-county
1221 region.

1222
1223 **Q**

1224
1225 **R**

1226 **Rare Ecosystems, Habitats, and Species**

1227 Rare ecosystems, habitats, and species~~(((habitats, and ecosystems)))~~ are those that are
1228 few in number or are poorly represented in an area. Rare species often lack the
1229 capability to resist changes in environmental conditions or lack the resilience to recover
1230 after a change. Species, habitats, and ecosystems may be rare because of the following

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1231 reasons: changing natural conditions have reduced their range, abundance, or
1232 distribution; they depend on specific environmental conditions that are not commonly
1233 represented in this area (species or habitats at the edge of their range or occurring as
1234 relicts); and anthropogenic (human-related) actions have caused habitat loss or severe
1235 decreases in range or abundance.

1236
1237 **Recycled Water (also, referred to as Reclaimed Water)**

1238 Recycled water means effluent from a wastewater treatment system that has been
1239 adequately and reliably treated, so that as a result of that treatment it is suitable for a
1240 beneficial use or a controlled use that would not otherwise occur, and is no longer
1241 considered wastewater. Recycled is also referred to as Reclaimed Water under
1242 Washington State law. Recycled water may be used for beneficial purposes such as
1243 landscape and agricultural irrigation, heating and cooling, industrial processing, and
1244 environmental enhancement or restoration of streams, wetlands, and aquifers.

1245
1246 ~~(((Regionally Significant Resource Area ((RSRA)))~~

1247 ~~(((RSRAs))) Regionally Significant Resource Areas are those portions of watersheds that~~
1248 ~~contribute to the resource base of the entire Puget Sound region by virtue of~~
1249 ~~exceptional species and habitat diversity and abundance when compared to aquatic~~
1250 ~~and terrestrial systems of similar size and structure elsewhere in the region. Regionally~~
1251 ~~Significant Resource Areas may also support rare, threatened or endangered species or~~
1252 ~~communities. (See Chapter 5((:)), Environment))~~

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1253
1254 **Regional Wastewater Services Plan ((RWSP))**

1255 King County adopted the Regional Wastewater Service Plan ((RWSP)) in 1999. The
1256 ((RWSP)) Regional Wastewater Services Plan outlines a number of important projects,
1257 programs, and policies for King County to implement through 2030 to continue to
1258 protect public health and water quality and ensure sufficient wastewater capacity to
1259 meet future growth needs. ((RWSP)) Regional Wastewater Services Plan policies guide
1260 the phasing and size of treatment facilities and improvements to the conveyance
1261 system, as well as improvements to control combined sewer overflows. The ((RWSP))
1262 Regional Wastewater Services Plan also includes policies that guide the production and
1263 use of biosolids and recycled water.

1264
1265 **Rehabilitate/Rehabilitation**

1266 Rehabilitate or rehabilitation, as used in ((Chapter 2: Urban Communities, and Chapter
1267 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities)) Chapter 4, Housing and Human Services, regarding
1268 affordable housing, means as repairs, improvements, replacements, alterations, and
1269 additions to existing properties that bring them into full compliance with existing
1270 building and health codes. Rehabilitation may be minor, moderate, or substantial; or it
1271 may involve adaptive reuse from nonresidential to residential uses. Rehabilitation of
1272 housing is undertaken to improve and revitalize housing stock that is aging or in poor
1273 condition. ~~((When public funding is used for rehabilitation it is usual to require a~~
1274 ~~covenant or other legal mechanism to preserve the affordability of the rehabilitated~~
1275 ~~property.)) (See "Preserve")~~

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1276
1277 ~~(((Resource Lands, designated~~

1278 ~~The Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to designate natural resource~~
1279 ~~lands which include the following: 1) agricultural lands that have long-term significance~~
1280 ~~for the commercial production of food or other agricultural products; 2) forest lands that~~
1281 ~~have long-term significance for the commercial production of timber; and 3) mineral~~
1282 ~~resource lands that have long-term significance for the extraction of minerals. The~~
1283 ~~Comprehensive Plan designates Agricultural Production Districts, Forest Production~~
1284 ~~Districts, and Mineral Resource Sites. (See Chapter 3: Rural Areas and Natural Resource~~
1285 ~~Lands)))~~

1286
1287 **Restore**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1288 Restore, ~~for the purposes of Chapter 5, Environment,~~ means to return land and water
1289 resources from a disturbed or altered condition to an approximation of their condition
1290 prior to disturbance or alteration. Restoration projects are conducted by public
1291 agencies through capital improvement projects and by developers as a means to
1292 mitigate adverse impacts of their proposals. (Restoration of land is not required of
1293 developers when they protect land and water resources according to King County
1294 regulation.) ~~((See Chapter 5: Environment))~~

1295

1296 ~~Rezone((s))~~

1297 Rezoning is the term that refers to the process of individual requests and applications to
1298 change the zoning classification of land.

1299

1300 ~~Riparian Area~~

1301 ~~((Pertains to the banks of rivers and streams, and also sometimes wetlands, tidewater,~~
1302 ~~and lakes.)) A designated area contiguous to an aquatic area such as a stream, lake,
1303 estuary, or marine waters, that provides fish and wildlife habitat, protects adjacent
1304 aquatic fish and wildlife species and habitat, and protects water quality. Riparian areas
1305 reduce impacts from adjacent land uses through various physical, chemical, or
1306 biological processes.~~

1307

1308 ~~Rural Area ((g))Geography (See also Rural Area Zoning)~~

1309 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires that counties designate a Rural Area in order to~~
1310 ~~conserve the rural character and quality of the existing rural lands in Washington. King~~
1311 ~~County's)) The Rural Area refers collectively to the geography that primarily contains the
1312 following land use categories: ~~((=))~~ Rural Towns, Rural Neighborhood Commercial
1313 Centers, and Rural Area ~~((with RA-2.5, RA-5, RA-10 and RA-20 zoning classifications))~~ in
1314 unincorporated King County. The Rural Area geography also includes a limited amount
1315 of acreage with ~~the Industrial~~ land use ~~((categories such as Industrial, Commercial~~
1316 ~~Outside of Center, etc))~~ designation. The Rural Area geography does not include
1317 designated Natural Resource Lands, although resource activities occur ~~((on them)) in it.~~
1318 The Rural Area contains very low-density residential development, commercial and
1319 industrial development, farms, forests, watersheds crucial for both fisheries and flood
1320 hazard management, mining areas and towns, historic sites and buildings,
1321 archaeological sites, and regionally important recreation areas. (See Chapter 3~~((=))~~,
1322 Rural Area~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands)~~

1323

1324 ~~Rural Area ((z))Zoning~~

1325 ~~((The)) Rural Area ((zone)) (RA) zoning or zones~~ refers to the Rural Area~~((-))~~2.5, Rural
1326 Area~~((-))~~5, Rural Area~~((-))~~10, and Rural Area~~((-))~~20 zoning ~~((categories))~~ classifications.
1327 This zoning is meant to provide an area-wide, long-term~~((=))~~ rural character and to
1328 minimize land use conflicts with nearby agricultural, forest or mineral extraction
1329 production districts. These purposes are accomplished by: 1) limiting residential
1330 densities and permitted uses to those that are compatible with rural character and
1331 nearby resource production districts and are able to be adequately supported by rural
1332 service levels; 2) allowing small-scale farming and forestry activities and tourism and
1333 recreation uses which can be supported by rural service levels and which are
1334 compatible with rural character; and 3) increasing required setbacks to minimize
1335 conflicts with adjacent agriculture, forest, or mineral zones.

1336

1337 ~~Rural Character~~

1338 Rural character refers to the pattern of land use and development established by a
1339 county in the rural element of its comprehensive plan:

1340 ~~((a))~~ a. In which open space, the natural landscape, and vegetation
1341 predominate over the built environment;

1342 ~~((b))~~ b. That foster traditional rural lifestyles, rural-based economies, and
1343 opportunities to both live and work in ~~the Rural Area((s))~~;

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1344 ~~((c))~~ c. That provide visual landscapes that are traditionally found in the Rural
1345 Area~~(s))~~ and communities;

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1346 ~~((d))~~ d. That are compatible with the use of the land by wildlife and for fish
1347 and wildlife habitat;

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1348 ~~((e))~~ e. That reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into
1349 sprawling, low-density development;

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1350 ~~((f))~~ f. That generally do not require the extension of urban governmental
1351 services; and

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1352 ~~((g))~~ g. That are consistent with the protection of natural surface water flows
1353 and groundwater and surface water recharge and discharge areas.

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1354 **Rural Forest Focus Areas**

1355 Rural Forest Focus Areas are designated geographic areas with Rural Area zoning that
1356 contain large contiguous blocks of rural forest. ~~These efforts, such as funding,~~
1357 ~~economic incentives, regulatory actions, and other strategies, are enacted to maintain~~
1358 ~~forest cover and the practice of sustainable forestry.~~

1360 **~~((Rural Growth~~**

1361 Rural Growth refers to residential, commercial, and industrial growth that is scaled to be
1362 compatible with, and maintains the traditional character of the Rural Area. Rural growth
1363 typically does not require urban governmental services except in the case of some Rural
1364 Towns to protect the environment as provided in this Comprehensive Plan. The basic
1365 elements of "Rural Character," as defined by the King County Countywide Planning
1366 Policies, are natural features, resource-based industries, rural towns, rural
1367 neighborhoods, rural infrastructure and services, open space system, rural housing,
1368 rural economy, and Cities in the Rural Area.))

1370 **Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers**

1371 Rural Neighborhood Commercial Center~~((s (a specific land use category within the~~
1372 ~~larger geography of Rural Areas) are))~~ is a land use designation used to recognize
1373 existing small pockets of commercial development~~((s)), or in some cases, historic~~
1374 ~~((towns)) communities~~ or buildings, that are too small to provide more than convenience
1375 shopping and services to surrounding residents. They generally do not have services
1376 such as water supply or sewage disposal systems any different from those serving
1377 surrounding rural residential development. (See Chapter 3~~((:)), Rural Area~~s and Natural
1378 Resource Lands)

1380 **Rural Towns**

1381 Rural towns (a specific land use category within the larger geography of Rural Area~~((s))~~)
1382 are unincorporated towns governed directly by King County. ~~((They provide a focal~~
1383 ~~point for community groups such as chambers of commerce or community councils to~~
1384 ~~participate in public affairs.))~~ The purposes of Rural Town designations within the
1385 Comprehensive Plan are to recognize existing concentrations of higher density and
1386 economic activity in the Rural Area~~(s))~~ and to allow modest growth of residential and
1387 economic uses to keep them economically viable into the future. (See Chapter 3~~((:)),~~
1388 Rural Area~~((s))~~ and Natural Resource Lands)

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1391 **S**

1392 **Salmonid**

1393 A member of the fish family Salmonidae. In King County, salmonid species include, but
1394 are not limited to, Chinook, Coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon; cutthroat,
1395 steelhead, and rainbow~~((, and brown))~~ trout ~~((and steelhead));~~ Dolly Varden char,

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1396 ~~((brook)) trout, which is a type of char; ((char,)) kokanee, ((and)) pygmy whitefish; and~~
1397 ~~mountain whitefish.~~

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1399 ~~**Satellite ((System)) or Remote Ownership and Management Agency**~~
1400 ~~Satellite or remote ownership and management refers to (((When)) large water utilities~~
1401 ~~that oversee the operations of smaller water systems, not connected to their own~~
1402 ~~system((, it is called satellite system management)). ((The satellite system manager is)) ~~Δ~~~~
1403 ~~satellite management agency is a large water utility. These entities are hired by ((the))~~
1404 ~~smaller system managers to operate and maintain the system in accordance with local,~~
1405 ~~state, and federal health regulations.~~

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1406 ~~**Sediment Transport**~~
1407 ~~Sediment transport is the process of taking soil from one place and depositing it in~~
1408 ~~another via the flow of water. Deposition of the soil occurs when sediment in the water~~
1409 ~~flow is more than the flow can transport.~~

1410 ~~**((Sensitive Areas Map Folio**~~
1411 ~~The folio displays the location of environmentally sensitive areas in unincorporated King~~
1412 ~~County. It identifies sensitive areas for wetlands, streams, flood hazards, erosion~~
1413 ~~hazards, landslide hazards, seismic hazards, and coal mine hazards:))~~

1414 ~~**Sensitive Species**~~
1415 ~~Sensitive species means any species that is likely to become an endangered species~~
1416 ~~within the foreseeable future throughout all or significant portion of its range and which~~
1417 ~~has been designated as such in regulations issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service~~
1418 ~~or the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.~~

1419 ~~**Sewer Availability**~~
1420 ~~Sewer availability means the presence of sewers now or within six years through~~
1421 ~~extensions included in adopted sewer comprehensive plans. ((In the case of Urban~~
1422 ~~Planned Development, 1) the capacity to intercept and treat waste water as evidenced~~
1423 ~~by a King County approved sewer system plan or a Metro utility plans, 2) a firm~~
1424 ~~commitment to serve an area with sewer as evidenced by either a sewer availability~~
1425 ~~certificate, utility extension agreement, or an approved sewer system plan and 3) a firm~~
1426 ~~financial commitment to provide sewer, as evidenced by either a capital improvement~~
1427 ~~program or utility extension agreement.~~

1428 ~~**Sewer Tightline**~~
1429 ~~Tightlining of sewers means that a sewer line is designed and sized to only serve a~~
1430 ~~particular structure:))~~

1431 ~~**Shall**~~
1432 ~~To guide King County, the use of the terms "shall," ((("will,") "should," and "may" in~~
1433 ~~policies determine the level of discretion the ((c))County can exercise in making future~~
1434 ~~and specific land use, budget, development regulation, and other decisions. "Shall"~~
1435 ~~((and "will")) in a policy means that it is mandatory for the ((c))County to carry out the~~
1436 ~~policy, even if a timeframe is not included. "Shall" ((and "will" are)) is imperative and~~
1437 ~~nondiscretionary--the ((c))County must make decisions based on what the policy says to~~
1438 ~~do. (("May" in a policy means that the action is allowed and/or it is in the ((c))County's~~
1439 ~~interest to carry out the policy, but the ((c))County has total discretion in making~~
1440 ~~decisions. "Must" in a policy means a mandate; the action is required. "Should" in a~~
1441 ~~policy means: noncompulsory guidance, in which cost, availability of funding, and~~
1442 ~~public benefit associated with the policy's purpose are considered as part of the~~
1443 ~~implementation decision; establishes that the ((c))County has discretion in making~~
1444 ~~decisions:)) (See definitions for "should" and "may.")~~

1445 ~~**Shoreline Environment**~~

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1453 Shoreline environment ~~((or master program environment))~~ means the categories of
1454 shorelines of the state established by the King County shoreline management master
1455 program to differentiate between areas whose features imply differing objectives
1456 regarding their use and future development.

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1457 **Shoreline Master Program**

1459 The Shoreline Master Program is the comprehensive use plan for a described area, and
1460 the use regulations together with maps, diagrams, charts, or other descriptive material
1461 and text, a statement of desired goals, and standards developed in accordance with the
1462 policies enunciated in Revised Code of Washington 90.58.020.

1464 **Should**

1465 ~~((See definition for "shall".)) To guide King County, the use of the terms "shall," "should,"~~
1466 ~~and "may" in policies determine the level of discretion the County can exercise in~~
1467 ~~making future and specific land use, budget, development regulation, and other~~
1468 ~~decisions. "Should" in a policy means noncompulsory guidance, in which cost,~~
1469 ~~availability of funding, and public benefit associated with the policy's purpose are~~
1470 ~~considered as part of the implementation decision; it establishes that the County has~~
1471 ~~discretion in making decisions.~~

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1472 **Significant Adverse Environmental Impact**

1474 Significant as used in State Environmental Policy Act means a reasonable likelihood of
1475 more than a moderate adverse impact on the environment. Significance involves
1476 context and intensity and does not lend itself to a formula or quantifiable text. The
1477 context may vary with the physical setting. Intensity depends on the magnitude and
1478 duration of an impact. The severity of an impact should be weighed along with the
1479 likelihood of its occurrence. An impact may be significant if its chance of occurrence is
1480 not great, but the resulting environmental impact would be severe if it occurred.

1482 **Significant vegetation removal**

1483 Significant vegetation removal means the removal or alteration of trees, shrubs, and/or
1484 ground cover by clearing, grading, cutting, burning, chemical means, or other activity
1485 that causes significant ecological impacts to functions provided by such vegetation. The
1486 removal of invasive or noxious weeds does not constitute significant vegetation
1487 removal. Tree pruning, not including tree topping, where it does not affect ecological
1488 functions, does not constitute significant vegetation removal.

1489 **Single~~((Family Housing)) Detached Residences~~**

1491 Single~~((family housing units)) detached homes residences~~ are individual structures,
1492 including conventional houses and ~~((mobile)) manufactured homes, containing one~~
1493 ~~primary dwelling unit. Attached accessory dwelling units may also be included in a~~
1494 ~~single detached residence (not including attached accessory dwelling units).~~

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1495 **Special Housing Needs**

1497 ~~Housing arrangements for populations with special physical or other needs. These~~
1498 ~~populations may include people aged 62 years and older; people with behavioral,~~
1499 ~~physical, cognitive, or developmental disabilities; and homeless individuals and~~
1500 ~~families.~~

1502 **Species of Local Importance**

1503 Species of local importance include priority species as identified by the state of
1504 Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; bird species whose populations in King
1505 County are known to have declined significantly over the past 150 years; anadromous
1506 salmonids; and aquatic species whose populations are particularly vulnerable to
1507 changes in water quality and water quantity.

1508 **Subarea Plans**

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1510 A subarea plan is a detailed local land use plan that implements, is consistent with, and
1511 is an element of the Comprehensive Plan containing specific policies, guidelines and
1512 criteria adopted by the council to guide development and capital improvement
1513 decisions within specific subareas of the county. ~~((Subareas are))~~ Subarea plans are
1514 used for distinct communities, specific geographic areas, or other types of districts
1515 having unified interests or similar characteristics within the county. ~~((Subarea plans may~~
1516 ~~include ((: community plans)), but are not limited to, community service area subarea~~
1517 ~~plans ((, neighborhood plans, basin plans, and plans addressing multiple areas having~~
1518 ~~common interests)). ((The relationship between the 1994 King County Comprehensive~~
1519 ~~Plan and subarea plans is established by K.C.C. 20.12.015.~~

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Subarea Study

1522 A subarea study is a study that is required by a policy in the Comprehensive Plan to
1523 evaluate a proposed land use change, such as the establishment of new community
1524 business centers, adjusting Rural Town boundaries, or assessing the feasibility of zoning
1525 reclassifications in urban unincorporated areas. Subarea studies are focused on specific
1526 areas of the County, but do not look at the larger range of issues that a subarea plan
1527 would include. Subarea studies are separate from area zoning and land use studies
1528 defined in K.C.C 20.08.030. The Comprehensive Plan policies and accompanying text
1529 shall guide the scope and content of the subarea study.)

Subdivision

1532 ~~((A subdivision is land that has been divided into legal lots((,)) or is the process of~~
1533 ~~dividing land into lots.))~~ A division or redivision of land into lots, tracts, parcels, or sites
1534 for the purpose of the sale, lease, or transfer of ownership.

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Sustainable economic development

1537 Sustainable economic development means economic development that does not
1538 exceed the ability of the natural or built environments to remain healthy while sustaining
1539 growth over the long term.

Sustainable Housing

1542 Sustainable housing includes but is not limited to housing that uses sustainable building
1543 materials and construction practices to increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse
1544 gas emissions, and support transit-oriented development, as well as housing that is
1545 located or built in ways that reduce climate change impacts on residents and structures.

Substantially degrade

1547 Substantially degrade means to cause significant ecological impact.
1548
1549

T

~~((Sewer)) Tightline~~

1551 Tightlining of sewers means that a sewer line is designed and sized to only serve a
1552 particular structure.
1553

Totalizing source meter

1555 A totalizing source meter is a device that will measure the volume of water withdrawn
1556 from a well over time and provide a sum total of the water extracted. This type of meter
1557 is different than a meter that would measure just the instantaneous volume of water
1558 being withdrawn.
1559

Traditional Rural Development

1561 In King County, traditional rural land uses could include, but are not limited to: low
1562 density residential uses; small scale farming, forestry and mineral extraction; small,
1563

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1564 neighborhood ~~((churches))~~, ~~places of worship~~religious facilities; feed and grain stores; 1565 the keeping of horses and livestock; cottage industries, crafts and trades that support 1566 the residents of the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands and/or the needs of natural 1567 resource production; and public and private facilities necessary to serve rural homes 1568 such as utility installations or public schools. In general, the rural development pattern 1569 in King County has historically been comprised of houses, barns, fences, and cultivated 1570 fields, but natural features and open spaces are the predominant visual image.

1571
1572 **Transfer of Development Rights ((TDR))**

1573 Transfer of development rights means the ability to transfer allowable density, in the 1574 form of permitted building lots or structures, from one property (the "sending site") to 1575 another (the "receiving site") in conjunction with conservation of all or part of the 1576 sending site as open space or working farm or forest. ~~((King County allows transfers of 1577 development rights as part of standard subdivision, ((mobile)) manufactured home park 1578 and ((multifamily)) multiunit project review processes through its ((TDR)) Transfer of 1579 Development Rights Program. (King County Code((:)) Title 21A))~~

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1581 **Transit-Oriented Development ((TOD))**

1582 ~~((A private or public/private real estate development project that creates, expands, 1583 maintains or preserves a mixed-use community or neighborhood within walking 1584 distance of a transit center, or stop, that is designed to encourage transit use and 1585 pedestrian activity. Transit Oriented Development projects support transit by increasing 1586 the density of residents, shoppers, visitors, or employees per acre. New Transit 1587 Oriented Development projects are often coupled with an increase in transit service to 1588 the area.)) Transit-oriented development refers to a style of development that often 1589 includes a mix of housing, commercial space, services, and job opportunities near 1590 public transportation. These developments encourage transit use and reduce 1591 automobile dependence through thoughtful design that is sufficiently dense, prioritizes 1592 pedestrians, often reduces parking, and enhances access and mobility between 1593 residences, jobs, and services.~~

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1594 **Transportation Concurrency Management ((System))**

1595 ~~((The Growth Management Act requires jurisdictions to adopt and enforce ordinances)) 1596 Transportation Concurrency Management means regulations that prohibit development 1597 approval if the development causes the level of service on a transportation facility to 1598 decline below the standards adopted in the ((c))Comprehensive ((p))Plan, unless 1599 transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of 1600 development are made "concurrent" with the development. Concurrent with 1601 development means that transportation improvements or strategies are in place at the 1602 time of development or that financial commitment is made to complete the 1603 improvements or strategies within six years. ((The Concurrency Management System of 1604 King County)) King County's Transportation Concurrency Management program 1605 establishes a process to manage new development in unincorporated King County 1606 based on transportation impacts on levels of service and the concurrency of needed 1607 improvements or actions. (See Chapter 8((:)), Transportation)((:))~~

1609 **Transportation Demand Management ((TDM))**

1610 ~~Transportation Demand Management is ((a strategy)) an array of strategies to reduce 1611 the number of ((automobile)) vehicle trips, particularly trips taken in single-occupant 1612 vehicles. Transportation Demand Management encourages public transportation over 1613 ((automobile)) vehicle use ((and specifically refers to)) as well as other policies, 1614 programs, and actions implemented to increase the use of high-occupancy vehicles 1615 (public transit, car-pooling and ((van-pooling)) vanpooling), reduce the total amount of 1616 trips (such as through remote work), and spread travel to less congested time periods 1617 through alternative work hour programs (See Chapter 8((:)), Transportation)((:))~~

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1618
1619
1620 **Transportation Facilities and Services**

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1621 Transportation facilities and services are ~~((the physical assets))~~ elements of the
1622 transportation system that are used to provide mobility. They include roads, sidewalks,
1623 bike lanes and other facilities supporting ~~((nonmotorized travel))~~ active transportation,
1624 transit, bridges, traffic signals, ramps, buses, bus garages, park ~~((and))~~ ride lots, and
1625 passenger shelters.

~~((Transportation needs for new growth~~

1627
1628 Transportation needs for new growth are associated with growth that has been planned
1629 for 2012 in this comprehensive plan:))

~~((Transportation Needs Report ((FNR))~~

1631
1632 The ~~((FNR))~~ Transportation Needs Report is a comprehensive list of ~~((recommended~~
1633 ~~))~~ County transportation needs ~~((through the year 2022 needed))~~ to implement the land
1634 use element of the Comprehensive Plan. It includes transportation needs for the
1635 unincorporated King County road network ~~((, and some city, state, and adjacent county~~
1636 ~~projects))~~. It does not include transit service or capital needs. (See Chapter 8 ~~((:)),~~
1637 Transportation, and Appendix C1, Transportation Needs Report)
1638

U

1639
1640 **Unemployment Rate**

1641 The unemployment rate is the percentage of the civilian labor force that is unemployed
1642 and actively seeking work.

1643
1644 **Unincorporated Activity Centers**

1645 Unincorporated Activity Centers are the primary locations for commercial and industrial
1646 development in urban unincorporated King County. ~~((Currently, White Center is the~~
1647 ~~only designated Unincorporated Activity Center, as other such centers are now parts of~~
1648 ~~cities:))~~ (See Chapter 2 ~~((:)),~~ Urban Communities)

1649
1650 **Unincorporated Areas**

1651 Unincorporated areas are those areas outside any city and under King County's
1652 jurisdiction.

1653
1654 ~~((Unique Wetland~~

1655 The term unique wetland refers to bogs and fens, which have unusual and sensitive
1656 water chemistries:))

1657
1658 **Universal Design**

1659 Universal design ~~((as used in ((Chapter 2: Urban Communities)) Chapter 4, Housing and~~
1660 ~~Human Services;))~~ means the design of products, buildings, and public spaces
1661 ~~((environments))~~ to be usable by all people ~~((, to the greatest extent possible,))~~ with or
1662 without disabilities and which allows people to age in place in their home without the
1663 need for adaptation or specialized design.

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1664
1665 ~~((Urban Centers~~

1666 Urban Centers are centers of concentrated employment and housing located within the
1667 Urban Growth Area designated by the ~~((Phase II))~~ Countywide Planning Policies. Urban
1668 Centers are to be serviced directly by high-capacity transit and are to contain a wide
1669 variety of land uses, including retail, recreational, cultural, and public facilities, parks,
1670 and open spaces. Unincorporated Urban Centers are represented on Urban Centers
1671 Map included at the end of Chapter 2 ~~((:)),~~ Urban Communities:))

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1672
1673 **Urban Growth**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1674 Urban growth refers to residential, commercial, and industrial growth that makes
1675 intensive use of land for the location of buildings, structures and impermeable surfaces
1676 to such a degree as to be incompatible with the primary use of such land for the
1677 production of food, other agricultural products, or fiber, or the extraction of mineral
1678 resources. Urban growth typically requires urban governmental services.
1679 "Characterized by urban growth" refers to land having urban growth located on it, or to
1680 land located in relationship to an area with urban growth.

1681
1682 **Urban Growth Area**

1683 The Growth Management Act requires King County's Comprehensive Plan to designate
1684 an Urban Growth Area, where most future urban growth and development is to occur to
1685 limit urban sprawl, enhance open space, protect the Rural Area(s) and Natural
1686 Resource Lands, and more efficiently use human services, transportation, and utilities.
1687 The Comprehensive Plan designates an Urban Growth Area which includes areas and
1688 densities sufficient to permit the urban growth that is projected to occur in the county
1689 for the succeeding 20-year period. (See Chapter 1((-)), Regional Growth Management
1690 Planning, and Chapter 2((-)), Urban Communities)

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1691
1692 **~~Urban Growth Target~~**

1693 ~~The Growth Management Act and the Countywide Planning Policies require King~~
1694 ~~County and its cities to plan for a 20-year population and employment growth target for~~
1695 ~~each jurisdiction, based on designation of the Urban Growth Area, Urban Centers and~~
1696 ~~the criteria of the Countywide Planning Policies. (See Chapter 2: Urban Communities))~~

1697
1698 **Urban Planned Developments ~~((UPD))~~**

1699 Urban Plan Developments are site specific projects consisting of conceptual site plans,
1700 development stands, processing, and other elements.

1701
1702 **Urban Separator**

1703 ~~Urban separators are corridors of land that define community or municipal identities~~
1704 ~~and boundaries, provide visual breaks in the urban landscape, and link parks and open~~
1705 ~~space within and outside the Urban Growth Area. Urban separators are (areas)~~
1706 ~~planned for permanent low-residential density within the Urban Growth Area. Urban~~
1707 ~~separators protect adjacent resource land, ((environmentally sensitive)) critical areas, or~~
1708 ~~Rural Area(s) and create open space corridors within and between urban areas which~~
1709 ~~provide environmental, visual, recreations, and wildlife benefits.~~

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1710
1711 **Utilities Technical Review Committee ~~((UTRC))~~**

1712 The Utilities Technical Review Committee ~~((UTRC))~~ is an interdepartmental committee
1713 with responsibility for ensuring that water and sewer plans comply with county and state
1714 health requirements and county land use policies. The committee reviews the plans of
1715 all water and sewer utilities that operate in unincorporated King County and then
1716 recommends the plans to King County Executive and the Metropolitan King County
1717 Council for approval.
1718

1719 **V**

1720 **~~Variable Tolling~~**

1721 ~~Variable tolling or pricing is any form of collecting a direct user fee on a roadway.)~~
1722

1723 **W**

1724 **Water Availability**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - (updated December 6, 2022) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1725 Water availability means the presence of a water source of sufficient quantity and quality
1726 with applicable water rights that can serve the projected demand for the planning
1727 horizon, as shown in water comprehensive plans approved by King County. ~~((In the
1728 case of Urban Planned Developments, water availability is defined as: 1) presence of a
1729 water source with water rights that can serve the projected average daily demand; 2) a
1730 firm commitment to serve an area with water, as evidenced by either a water availability
1731 certificate, utility extension agreement or a King County approved water system plan;
1732 and 3) a firm financial commitment to provide water, as evidenced by either a capital
1733 improvement plan or utility extension agreement.))~~

1734
1735 **Water Quality**

1736 Water quality, in the context of the shoreline jurisdiction, means the physical
1737 characteristics of water within shoreline jurisdiction, including water quantity,
1738 hydrological, physical, chemical, aesthetic, recreation-related, and biological
1739 characteristics. Where used in this plan, the term water quantity refers only to
1740 development and uses regulated under this plan and affecting water quantity, such as
1741 pollution generating surfaces and ~~((storm water)) stormwater handling practices~~. Water
1742 quantity, for purposes of this comprehensive plan, does not mean the withdrawal of
1743 ground water or diversion of surface water pursuant to Revised Code of Washington
1744 90.03.250 through 90.03.340.

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1745
1746 **~~((Water Reuse~~**

1747 ~~Water reuse refers to the use of recycled water or the reuse of other non-potable water,
1748 such as greywater, stormwater, or collected rainwater, as allowed under relevant state or
1749 local standards.~~

1750
1751 **Water Supply Availability**

1752 ~~Water supply availability is the presence of a water source of sufficient quantity and
1753 quality with applicable water rights that can serve the projected demand through the
1754 planning horizon shown in adopted water comprehensive plans.~~

1755
1756 **Water System Classifications**

1757 ~~Water System Classifications define the level of service for different water systems. A
1758 public water system is defined as any system that has more than one connection. A well
1759 serving one house is a private system. Group A water systems have fifteen or more
1760 service connections. Group B water systems have two through fourteen service
1761 connections.))~~

1762
1763 **Water System Plan**

1764 Water system plans are planning documents that include water system plans as referred
1765 to in Chapter 43.20 Revised Code of Washington, comprehensive plans of water supply
1766 systems (including combined water and sewer plans) as referred to in Revised Code of
1767 Washington 57.16.010, water system plans and coordinated water system plans as
1768 referred to in Revised Code of Washington ~~((70.116.050)) 70A.100.050~~, and all other
1769 water system plans, comprehensive plans and plan elements that may be required
1770 under King County Code Chapter 13.24 and ~~((this King County)) the~~ Comprehensive
1771 Plan for any special district or any other public or private entities that distribute or obtain
1772 water in unincorporated King County.

1773
1774 **Watershed**

1775 A watershed, like a drainage basin, is an area that drains to a common outlet or an
1776 identifiable water body such as a river, stream, lake, or wetland. The six major
1777 watersheds in King County are Cedar River, Green River, Skykomish River, Snoqualmie
1778 River ~~((and))~~, White River, and the Puget Sound. These watersheds contain a total of 72
1779 individual drainage basins. (See Chapter 5((:)), Environment)

1780
1781 **~~((Well Head)) Wellhead Protection~~**

~~(((2016))) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1782 ~~((Well Head))~~ Wellhead protection is a ~~((nothor))~~ way that King County can protect its
1783 groundwater resource. This program directs purveyors to identify ~~((+))~~ one, ~~((5))~~ five,
1784 and 10-year time of travel to their well(s) to identify contamination sources, and to
1785 propose methods to reduce or eliminate contamination sources.

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1786
1787 **Wetland**

1788 The term wetland means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or
1789 ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal
1790 circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in
1791 saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and
1792 similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created
1793 from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches,
1794 grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm
1795 ponds, landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990 that were
1796 unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway.
1797 Wetlands shall include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland
1798 areas to mitigate conversion of wetlands.

1799
1800 **Wetland Banking**

1801 Wetland banking is a process that allows certain wetlands to be developed if the
1802 development is accompanied by the restoration or creation of wetlands in other areas.
1803 (See Chapter 5: Environment))

1804
1805 **Wetland Functions**

1806 ~~((Functions refer to the ecological (physical, chemical, and biological) workings or
1807 attributes of a wetland regardless of their importance to society. Food chain support or
1808 the transport and transformation of chemicals in ecosystems are examples of wetland
1809 functions. Water quality maintenance, flood storage, and wildlife habitat are examples
1810 of ecological functions to which society attributes a value.))~~ The physical, biological,
1811 chemical, and geologic interactions among different components of the environment
1812 that occur within a wetland. Wetlands perform functions that are grouped into three
1813 categories: functions that improve water quality, functions that change the water regime
1814 in a watershed such as flood storage, and functions that provide habitat for plants and
1815 animals. (See Chapter 5((:)), Environment)

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1816
1817 **Wetland Values**

1818 Values are estimates, usually subjective, of the worth, merit, quality, or importance of
1819 wetland attributes that are valuable and beneficial to society. Values vary by watershed
1820 or human community. Education, research, aesthetics, and recreation are examples of
1821 other wetland attributes that may be considered values in that they are beneficial to
1822 society.

1823
1824 **Wildland-Urban Interface**

1825 The wildland-urban interface is the geographic area where structures and other human
1826 development meets or intermingles with wildland vegetative fuels.

1827
1828 **With**

1829 See definition for "shall".

1830
1831 **X**

1832
1833 **Y**

~~((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan - ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) xxxxx (Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440)~~

1834

1835

Z

1836

1837

((Frequently Used Acronyms

1838	APD	Agricultural Production District
1839	CIP	Capital Improvement Program
1840	EPP	Countywide Planning Policy
1841	CSA	Community Service Area
1842	ESA	Endangered Species Act
1843	FCC	Fully Contained Community
1844	FPD	Forest Production District
1845	GMA	Growth Management Act
1846	GMPC	Growth Management Planning Council
1847	HOT	High Occupancy Toll
1848	HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
1849	ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems
1850	KCCP	King County Comprehensive Plan
1851	KCSP	King County Strategic Plan
1852	LID	Low Impact Development
1853	LOS	Level of Service
1854	LSRA	Locally Significant Resource Area
1855	MPP	Multi-county Planning Policies
1856	MPS	Mitigation Payment System
1857	PA	Potential Annexation Area
1858	PBR	Public Benefit Rating System
1859	PSRC	Puget Sound Regional Council
1860	RSRA	Regionally Significant Resource Area
1861	RWSP	Regional Wastewater Services Plan
1862	SCAP	Strategic Climate Action Plan
1863	SPPT	Strategic Plan for Public Transportation
1864	SPRS	Strategic Plan for Road Services
1865	SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
1866	TAM	Transportation Adequacy Measure
1867	TDR	Transfer of Development Rights
1868	TDM	Transportation Demand Management
1869	TNR	Transportation Needs Report
1870	TOD	Transit Oriented Development
1871	UGA	Urban Growth Area
1872	UGB	Urban Growth Boundary
1873	UPD	Urban Planned Development
1874	UTRC	Utilities Technical Review Committee))

1 **Appendices**

2 The Comprehensive Plan also includes the following detailed appendices that
3 supplement the information found in the Plan and support compliance with the
4 Growth Management Act.

5
6 Appendix A. Capital Facilities and Services

7 Appendix B. Housing Needs Assessment

8 Appendix C. Transportation

9 Appendix C1. Transportation Needs Report

10 Appendix C2. Regional Trail Needs Report

11 Appendix D. 1994 Growth Targets and the Urban Growth Area

12 Appendix D1. Growth Targets and the Urban Growth Area

13 Appendix E. 1994 Natural Resource Lands

14 Appendix F. School Siting Task Force Report

Redline provided for illustrative purposes only

((2016 Comprehensive Plan — updated December 6, 2022
18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555))



King County

Office of Performance
Strategy and Budget

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2024 King County Comprehensive Plan -Adopted TBD
Attachment A to Ordinance TBD