Scope of Work 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan June 7, 2022

The 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan Update ("2024 update") is an opportunity to make substantive policy changes that address our community's long-term needs and advance the County's policy goals. This update will also meet requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act's ("GMA") to complete a comprehensive review and update to the Comprehensive Plan to ensure compliance with GMA goals and requirements.¹ The GMA-required update must be completed by December 31, 2024.²

This document sets the scope of work for the 2024 update, as required for eight-year Comprehensive Plan updates by King County Code ("K.C.C.") 20.18.060.³ The scope of work will guide the development of the 2024 update, although additional topics beyond those identified here could be included in the 2024 update, and issues identified in the scope of work will not necessarily be addressed in the 2024 update. The scope of work will also inform the environmental review for the 2024 update.

As part of the 2024 update, the County will complete a State Environmental Policy Act ("SEPA") Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") for the Comprehensive Plan. The County will also complete an equity impact analysis of the proposed update prior to adoption.

A. Topical Areas for the 2024 Update

The 2024 update is required to meet the state law and regulations for the GMA, including RCW 36.70A.130 and WAC 365-196-610. Legislative action is required to document the review and to make any amendments necessary to bring the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations into compliance with the GMA. These GMA-required updates must include, at a minimum:

- Review and update of the County's critical areas regulations, using best available science;
- Analysis of the urban growth area and the densities permitted within the County;
- Review of mineral resource lands designations and regulations; and
- Review and updates to comply with the changes made to the GMA since the last GMArequired review.

This update will reflect, create alignment with, and advance current plans, regulations, and practices – including state law, VISION 2050,⁴ the 2021 Countywide Planning Policies ("CPPs"),⁵ 2022 King County Comprehensive Plan Performance Measures Report,⁶ 2016 Comprehensive Plan Workplan action items,⁷ and current case law. The 2024 update will also

¹ Chapter 36.70A Revised Code of Washington (RCW) [LINK]

² Per RCW 36.70A.130, as amended by House Bill 1241 [LINK]

³ King County Code Title 20 [LINK]

⁴ VISION 2050 | Puget Sound Regional Council (psrc.org)

⁵ 2021 Countywide Planning Policies as adopted inordinance 19834 [LINK]

⁶ 2022-RPT0045

⁷ 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update - Adopted - King County - See Chapter 12

streamline the plan and relevant code sections of K.C.C. Title 20, where possible and appropriate.⁸ The County will evaluate the provisions of ESSB 5593.⁹

The 2024 update will be rooted in the value of making King County a welcoming community where every person can thrive. In support of this value, which is also consistent with the core themes of the most recent CPPs, the 2024 update will have three focus areas: pro-equity, housing, and climate change and the environment. By focusing on these critical issues, the County intends to prioritize policies and regulations that address our community's most pressing long-range planning needs.

The following table is the list of scoping topics that will be considered as part of the 2024 update. The list is organized according to the three focus areas noted above, as well as other general changes. Within each topic are possible issues that might be evaluated, pending additional analysis and available resources. Because the focus areas are broad, complex, and inter-related, they contain topics and issues that overlap. Given this, the County intends to prevent siloed work within the focus areas by coordinating and integrating relevant County analysis and proposals.

The scoping list reflects key topics and issues resulting from collaboration with County staff, direct community input from the public Docket process, and Council consultation.¹⁰ Based on feedback stating there is planning and engagement fatigue in the community, and as recommended by the Office of Equity and Social Justice, the County did not conduct extensive scoping engagement with the community. Instead, the scope was informed by: community input from the Skyway-West Hill and North Highline subarea planning processes; community recommendations from the Climate Equity Community Task Force, Mobility Equity Cabinet, and Open Space Equity Cabinet; and building on the guiding principles of the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission.¹¹ Scoping topics and items that align with this input and recommendations, as well as recommendations from the 2022 Performance Measures report, are indicated in footnotes in the list.¹²

The scoping list also anticipates and is designed to complement the County's separate assessment during 2022 of behavioral health supportive service needs across the continuum of care, such as 24-hour no-wrong-door behavioral health emergency services, short term stabilization, and intersections with supportive housing needs.¹³ It also recognizes the County's current child care and early learning facility programs, such as those funded through Best Starts for Kids and the Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account.¹⁴

Additional topics and/or issues not on this list may also be considered as part of the 2024 update, where appropriate and consistent with required SEPA review.

⁸ King County Comprehensive Plan Workplan, Action 16 [LINK]

⁹ Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5593

¹⁰ King County Docket website [LINK]

¹¹ Link to Open Space Equity Cabinet Recommendations [LINK]; Mobility Framework Report [LINK]; Sustainable & Resilient Frontline Communities section of the 2021 Strategic Climate Action Plan [LINK]; King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission Guiding Principles [LINK]

¹² Alignment notation key: CECTF: Climate Equity Community Task Force; IRC: Immigrant and Refugee Commission; MEC: Mobility Equity Cabinet; OSEC: Open Space Equity Cabinet; PM: 2022 King County Performance Measures Report; SWH/NH: Skyway-West Hill and North Highline subarea planning processes

¹³ Motion 16129 [LINK]

¹⁴ Best Starts for Kids [LINK]; Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account [LINK]

I. Focus Area: Pro-Equity

Scoping Topic

A. Reduce housing and business displacement and advance equity for those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, immigrants, and/or refugees, especially those who also earn less than 80 percent of the area median income¹⁵

Possible Issues to be Evaluated

- 1. Advance 2021 Anti-Displacement Report¹⁶ recommendations and housing equity policies from the CPPs, such as:
 - A. Advance community-driven development
 - B. Increase homeownership
 - C. Improve housing stability
 - D. Advance inclusionary housing regulations
 - E. Preserve manufactured housing communities
- 2. Evaluate strategies to stabilize and prevent economic displacement of businesses.
- 3. Explore strategies that also support housing equity for other intersectional populations, including people with disabilities, seniors, LGBTQIA+ people, and/or those who identify as women
- B. Integrate a pro-equity and antiracist policy framework into the Comprehensive Plan that improves outcomes for those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, immigrants, and/or refugees, especially those who also earn less than 80 percent of the area median income¹⁷
- Review entire plan to advance community-driven anti-racist, pro-equity strategies; ensure alignment with the County's "fair and just principle"¹⁸ and incorporate appropriate goals, objectives and strategies in the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan¹⁹
- Review and document the local history of racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing practices, including explaining the extent to which that history is still reflected in current development patterns, housing conditions, tenure, and access to opportunity²⁰
- 3. Improve process equity to support full and equal participation in County planning and decision-making by all community members, implement CPP requirements mandates for community engagement, and integrate and align with King County equitable engagement best practices²¹
- Advance community recommendations from the King County Climate Equity Community Task Force, Immigrant and Refugee Commission, Mobility Equity Cabinet, and Open Space Equity Cabinet

¹⁵ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

¹⁶ 2021-RPT0112 [LINK]

¹⁷ Aligns with CECTF, IRC, MEC, OSEC, SWH/NH

¹⁸ K.C.C. 2.10.200 through .230

¹⁹ Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan [LINK]

²⁰ As required by the CPPs

²¹ Aligns with CECTF, IRC, MEC, OSEC, SWH/NH

- 5. Advance County investment upstream, where needs are greatest and in partnership with communities that are most directly impacted, such as communities of color, immigrant and refugee populations, and other intersectional populations, including those who earn less than 80 percent of the area median income, people with disabilities, seniors, LGBTQIA+ people, and/or those who identify as women²²
- 6. Improve tribal coordination²³
- C. Improve health equity outcomes in communities with the greatest and most acute needs²⁴
- Increase open space investments in urban areas that would help eliminate disparities in access due to historic and ongoing underinvestment, such as the communities of Skyway-West Hill and North Highline, to help improve physical, emotional, and community health²⁵
- Improve equitable and sustainable healthy food access that would help eliminate disparities in access due to historic and ongoing underinvestment, such as the communities of Skyway-West Hill and North Highline²⁶
- Update cannabis regulations, where appropriate, based on Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force²⁷ and Public Health – Seattle & King County and King County Department of Community and Human Services recommendations^{28, 29}
- 4. Improve health outcomes for housing near high-capacity roadways
- Evaluate policies, regulations and programs for inclusion of community centers, aquatics, and/or community services hubs in unincorporated areas.
- 6. Evaluate policies and regulations for culturally relevant child care and early learning facilities and services within residents' broader community.
- 7. Evaluate policies and regulations for facilities that provide health care for people identifying as women.
- 8. Evaluate policies, regulations, and trauma informed best practices related to design of space with the intention of preventing predator access to those identifying as women, LGBTQIA+ people, those

²² Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, SWH/NH

²³ Including as directed by House Bill 1717 [LINK]

²⁴ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, SWH/NH

²⁵ Aligns with CECTF, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

²⁶ Aligns with CECTF, PM, SWH/NH

²⁷ Social Equity in Cannabis Task Force website [LINK]

²⁸ Health and Human Services priorities regarding marijuana legalization [LINK]

²⁹ Aligns with SWH/NH

	aging out of the feater care system, and/or other
	aging out of the foster care system, and/or other vulnerable populations
9.	Evaluate policies and regulations as they relate to the placement of behavioral health facilities, striving to:
	A. Site facilities to allow residents to obtain culturally relevant services within their broader community, and
	B. Provide a continuum of care and site facilities within the broader community of the residents that they serve.

II. Focus Area: Housing

Scoping Topic	Possible Issues to be Evaluated
Comprehensive housing policy review and update	1. Ensure alignment of housing policies, regulations and data with the 2021 CPPs, including any updates developed the Growth Management Planning Council Affordable Housing Committee's work, and HB 1220
	Complete the housing inventory and analysis required by the CPPs
	Evaluate "should" and "shall" policies for alignment with current practice and resources
	 Align policies with current regional housing funding guidelines and priorities
	 Align policies and regulations to use consistent terminology and standards for incentives and regulations related to provisions of "affordable housing" and required affordability level

B. Improve affordable housing supply, especially for those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, immigrants, and/or refugees and that earn less than 80 percent of the area median income ³⁰

- 1. Plan for and accommodate housing affordable to all income levels³¹
- 2. Advance applicable recommendations from the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force report³²
- 3. Increase development of eco-friendly and climate-resilient affordable housing³³
- Evaluate strategies to incentivize or require, where appropriate, housing affordable to households earning less than 80 percent of area median income;
- 5. Consider displacement impacts and mitigation strategies as part of the approach³⁴

³⁰ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

³¹ As required by House Bill 1220 [LINK]

³² Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Final Report and Recommendations as adopted by Motion 15372

³³ Aligns with CECTF

³⁴ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

6.	Update the Residential Density Incentive Program to improve incentives for development of affordable housing ³⁵
7.	Review outcomes of Vashon Rural Town Affordable
	Housing Special District Overlay and update
	regulations based on that review ³⁶
8.	Explore strategies that also support housing

 Explore strategies that also support housing affordability for other intersectional populations, including people with disabilities, seniors, LGBTQIA+ people, and/or those who identify as women

C. Expand housing options

 Evaluate the types of housing allowed in low-density urban residential zones; consider allowing more multifamily and middle-density; housing near transit and employment³⁷ and neighborhood choice for all residents

III. Focus Area: Climate Change & the Environment

Scoping Topic

Possible Issues to be Evaluated

- A. Alignment with and advancement of 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan³⁸ to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support sustainable and resilient communities, and prepare for climate change³⁹
- Build on the goals of House Bill 1099, which did not pass the state legislature in 2022, which included strengthening the County's climate policies and regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resiliency to local climate impacts⁴⁰
- 2. Advance environmental justice and reduce climaterelated health impacts⁴¹
- Increase climate resilience by supporting investments in urban green spaces that would help eliminate disparities in access due to historic and ongoing underinvestment, such as the communities of Skyway-West Hill and North Highline⁴²
- Support decarbonization/elimination of fossil fuel use in the built environment and increase affordable and equitable access to energy efficiency and decarbonization programs⁴³
- 5. Reduce transportation-related emissions⁴⁴
- 6. Evaluate policies, regulations and programs regarding in wildfire risk areas, including prevention

³⁵ As required by Comprehensive Plan Workplan Action 17

³⁶ As required by Ordinance 18623, Section 10 [LINK]

³⁷ Aligns with PM, SWH/NH

³⁸ 2020 Strategic Climate Action Plan as adopted in Motion 15866 [LINK]

³⁹ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

⁴⁰ House Bill 1099 [LINK]

⁴¹ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

⁴² Aligns with CECTF, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH

⁴³ Aligns with CECTF

⁴⁴ Aligns with MEC

Scoping Topic	Possible Issues to be Evaluated
	of wildfires. Strengthen regional coordination of service provision and policies, including federal, state, city, private forestland owners, and tribal partners. Incorporate applicable recommendations from the Wildfire Risk Strategy. 7. Support development of and access to green jobs that advance sustainability and living wage opportunities and increase representation and access for populations who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, immigrants, and/or refugees, and other intersectional populations, including those who earn less than 80 percent of the area median income, people with disabilities, seniors, LGBTQIA+ people, and/or those who identify as women 46
B. Integrate and implement Clean Water, Healthy Habitat goals ⁴⁷	 Update shoreline armoring regulations⁴⁸ Support net ecological gains and accelerate improvements to salmon habitat and removal of barriers to fish passage Improve integrated floodplain management
C. Increase land conservation	 Increase open space investments that would help eliminate disparities in access due to historic and ongoing underinvestment, especially in urban areas such as the communities of Skyway-West Hill and North Highline⁴⁹ Review Four-to-One Program⁵⁰ Strengthen Transfer of Development Rights Program

IV. General Updates

Scoping Topic	Possible Issues to be Evaluated
A. Implement unincorporated area-related changes from the CPPs	 Adopt new housing and jobs growth targets for unincorporated King County Evaluate designating the White Center Unincorporated Activity Center and the Skyway Community Business Center as countywide centers

<sup>Aligns with CECTF
Aligns with CECTF
Aligns with CECTF
As required by Senate Bill 5273 [LINK]
Aligns with CECTF, OSEC, PM, SWH/NH
As required by Ordinance 19384, Section 4</sup>

B. Implement Subarea Planning Program

- Evaluate possible unincorporated area-wide policies and regulations for applicable issues raised during subarea planning processes⁵¹
- 2. Update Vashon-Maury Island p-suffix and special district overlay regulations⁵²
- 3. Review the requirements and process for developing community needs lists, including evaluating whether and how community engagement could occur at the "county and community work together" level of engagement as outlined in the Office of Equity and Social Justice (OESJ) Community Engagement Guide
- C. Update transportation policies. Modifications to transit-related policies contemplated in the 2024 KCCP update are those to reflect already-adopted updates to County transit policies, including as part of Ordinance 19367.
- 1. Support equitable access to mobility options and invest in transit services where the needs are greatest, especially for populations who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, immigrants, and/or refugees, and other intersectional populations, including those who earn less than 80 percent of the area median income and those that have no income, people with disabilities, seniors, people with special transportation needs, LGBTQIA+ people, and/or those who identify as women 53
- 2. Support investments to increase safe access to public transit⁵⁴
- Advance integrated approaches to enhanced traffic safety for all users, such as supporting complete streets and equitable infrastructure investments⁵⁵
- 4. Make urban growth area boundary corrections for road rights-of-way
- Review policies, regulations, and programs related to transportation improvements and access in the rural area, including mitigation of impacts of urban development on the rural area transportation network.

D. Review rural and natural resources regulations

- 1. Advance key Farm, Fish, Flood goals⁵⁶
- 2. Increase the amount of farmland in active production⁵⁷
- 3. Evaluate existing and establishing new regulations for resorts in the rural area

⁵¹ Aligns with SWH/NH

⁵² Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan, VMI CSA Workplan Action 1 [LINK]

⁵³ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, SWH/NH

⁵⁴ Aligns with CECTF, MEC, SWH/NH

⁵⁵ Aligns with MEC. SWH/NH

⁵⁶ Snoqualmie Fish, Farm, Flood Advisory Committee Action Recommendations [LINK]

⁵⁷ Aligns with CECTF, PM

- 4. Review mineral processing regulations in forest zones
- 5. Review code provisions for manufacturing and regional land use uses allowed in the Industrial zone and evaluate whether the restriction on uses requiring a CUP/SUP is necessary or could be revised to remove the prohibition outside the UGA or revise the uses that require a CUP/SUP, consistent with existing or revised Comprehensive Plan policies.
- 6. Review policies, regulations and programs related to rural economic development, rural economic strategies, and tourism in the rural area and on natural resource lands, evaluate the appropriate balance between economic development and protection of rural character, working farms and natural resource lands.
- E. Advance public Docket amendment requests, where appropriate
- 1. Evaluate Vashon grange retail proposal
- 2. Review materials processing standards in rural area
- F. Land Use and Zoning Studies
- Maple Valley Industrial: Review land use designations and implementing zoning on parcels 1622069091, 1522069034, and 1522069036 and the surrounding area, and consider changes that would facilitate development of this area, including modifying the land use designation and/or implementing zoning, and/or whether to revise or eliminate the development conditions.
- 2. Snoqualmie Interchange:⁵⁸ Conduct 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, including whether the area should be included inside the urban growth area, and should recognize and protect the forested visual character of the Mountains to Sound National Scenic byway

⁵⁸ This request is similar to a required study in Chapter 11 of the KCCP, to be done with the Snoqualmie Valley/NE King County Community Service Area Subarea Plan. The County intends to complete the work in Chapter 11 and this scope of work with the Subarea Plan. The entire text is included in the scope of work for context, but if the study requirement in this scope of work is completed with the Subarea Plan, it need not be included in the 2024 update.

- on Interstate 90 as well as provide appropriate conservation mitigation for any newly allowed development. The land use and zoning study 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 study should include a review of whether affordable housing and/or behavioral health support services and/or facilities could locate in this area. The study 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.
- 3. <u>Black Diamond Fire Station:</u> Review land use designations and implementing zoning on parcel 0421069092 and the surrounding area; to consider changes to the land use designation and zoning that would allow sewer service, including whether this area should be inside the urban growth area; and evaluate whether policy and/or code modifications should be enacted to allow sewer service for public safety facilities that are outside the urban growth area boundary.
- 4. Carnation Swap: Review land use designations and implementing zoning on parcels 2125079009, 2125079002, and the surrounding area; to consider ways to permanently protect this area from urban development, and a potential swap of non-urban land to replace the area permanently protected from urban development.

B. SEPA Work Program

SEPA review for the 2024 update will commence with the approval of the scope of work for the update in the spring of 2022. The County anticipates conducting an EIS process, with release of an EIS concurrent with transmittal of the Executive-recommended plan. The environmental review will continue through Council's review of the plan and will be concluded in advance of final action by the full Council in December 2024.

C. Public Participation Work Program

The GMA and King County Code require early and continuous public participation in the preparation of comprehensive plan amendments.⁵⁹ Consistent with this, the County will conduct a multi-phased approach to public engagement for the 2024 update. Throughout the process, the County will: center the voices of those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, immigrants, and/or refugees, and other intersectional populations, including those who earn less than 80 percent of the area median income, people with disabilities, seniors, LGBTQIA+ people, and/or those who identify as women; and partner with King County equity cabinets and community-based organizations.

I. Phase 1 – Scoping

The scoping phase included sharing information about comprehensive planning and the 2024 update and requesting public input through the Docket on the issues to be addressed in the scope of work. Based on community feedback about "process fatigue," and as recommended by the Office of Equity and Social Justice, the Executive did not conduct extensive scoping engagement with the community. Instead, the scope was further informed by review of recent community input from the Skyway-West Hill and North Highline subarea planning processes, as well as the community recommendations from the King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission, Mobility Equity Cabinet, Open Space Equity Cabinet, and Climate Equity Community Task Force.

II. Phase 2 – Development of Executive Public Review Draft

The Executive will engage with the community to develop the Executive Public Review Draft of the 2024 update. This will begin with educational engagement to expand the knowledge base about what comprehensive planning is and why it matters. Then, the Executive will involve and collaborate with the community in developing policy concepts and proposals that will be included in the Executive Public Review Draft of the 2024 update.

III. Phase 3 – Development of Executive Recommended Plan

The third phase will take place after the Public Review Draft has been released and will start with a 45-day public review and comment period. This will include the Executive leading broad engagement with the community. Once public feedback has been compiled, updates to the Public Review Draft based on input will be identified, where appropriate. At that time, the Executive will report back to the community on how the input shaped the Executive recommended plan and share next steps for the process. An Executive recommended plan informed by this public engagement will be transmitted to the Council by December 29, 2023.

IV. Phase 4 – Council Review, Refinement, and Adoption

The Council review, refinement, and adoption phase will include additional public outreach and opportunities for public input as part of the decision-making process. This will include the ability to submit written feedback throughout the process, opportunities for verbal public comment, a formal public hearing before the full Council, a 30-day notice of the public hearing date and a formal comment period, emailed notices of key milestones and opportunities for input, and a mailed notice to properties near proposed land use and/or zoning changes.⁶⁰

⁵⁹ RCW 36.70A.140 [LINK] and K.C.C. 20.18.160 [LINK]

⁶⁰ K.C.C. 20.18.120 requires this mailed notice to be sent to property owners within 500 feet of the proposed land use changes, and must include at least 20 different property owners.

V. Public Participation Plan

To support early and continuous engagement, especially with the community, the Executive will develop a public participation plan. The public participation plan should strive to meet the "county and community work together" level of community engagement as outlined in the OESJ Community Engagement Guide. Development of this plan will include:

- Asking how the community would like to be engaged;
- Working with the community to identify the names of groups that should be included in the engagement process;
- Reflecting a desire to meet people where they are by attending community meetings held by community-based organizations and other King County agencies; and
- Incorporating language access strategies, including offering interpretation services and translation of key materials.

A key aspect of the public participation plan will be identifying the strategies for informing, consulting, and involving the community throughout the entire planning process. As required by K.C.C. 20.18.160, at a minimum this will include posting information online about the Comprehensive Plan and the 2024 update, the update schedule, opportunities for public involvement and ways to provide input, and the range of proposals under consideration by the County. Information and project updates at key milestones will also be provided, as appropriate, via a variety of methods, such as the Comprehensive Plan email list, other County email lists, social media, and hard-copy materials at key locations.