

Appendix A: Capital Facilities and Utilities

June 2023



King County

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I. Capital Facilities

A. Introduction

The capital facilities element of the King County Comprehensive Plan is comprised of two parts: Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities and this Appendix A. Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities establishes policy regarding planning for and financing of publicly owned capital facilities to serve the needs of existing and new residents. Together, Chapter 9 and this appendix address how King County should meet its capital facilities responsibilities.

This section of Appendix A is a review of the current state of planning and financing for public facilities and services in King County. The facilities are organized into two sections: those owned by King County and those owned by other public entities. The development of this Appendix was guided by an integrated set of local policies and plans.

B. State Requirements

Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities and this Appendix, including referenced documents, implement the requirements of the state requirements listed below.

1. Growth Management Act Goals and Requirements

The Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.020) requires that public facilities and services necessary to support development be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use, and without decreasing current service levels below established minimum standards.

The Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.070 and WAC 365-196-415) requires that comprehensive plans include a capital facilities plan element consisting of:

- An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities;
- A forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities;
- The proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities;
- At least a six-year plan that will finance such capital facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes; and
- A requirement to reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.

This element must include public "green infrastructure," which are natural assets (including parks and other areas with protected tree canopy) and built facilities in the Urban Growth Area that manage wet weather and that maintain and restore natural hydrology by storing, infiltrating, evapotranspiring, and harvesting and using stormwater.

WAC 365-196-415 and the Washington State Department of Commerce's Capital Facilities

Planning Guidebook provide additional guidance on how to implement this element.

2. King County Countywide Planning Policies

The Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.210) requires counties and cities to coordinate developing and adopting a set of mutually agreed upon planning policies to guide the development of local comprehensive plans. In response to this requirement, elected officials representing the county and the cities and towns of King County joined together to form the King County Growth Management Planning Council and to cooperatively develop and adopt the King County Countywide Planning Policies. Given the important role of special purpose districts in service provision, the Growth Management Planning Council also created seats for representatives of such districts.

The Countywide Planning Policies provide a framework for developing local jurisdictions' comprehensive plans in King County. This framework provides a mechanism for achieving consistency among comprehensive plans. Jurisdictions' comprehensive plan must reflect the countywide vision for capital facilities planning, including siting of facilities and the timing and phasing of land development in concert with the availability of facilities and services.

The Countywide Planning Policies adopted by the King County Council and ratified by the cities call for jurisdictions to provide a full range of urban services (PF-1). The countywide development patterns must provide for a sufficient supply of housing, employment, education, recreation, open space and community and social services.

C. Capital Facilities Inventories and Planning

1. Facilities Provided by King County

Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities requires County facility planning and implementation to occur as part of the King County Real Property Asset Management Plan (RAMP). The RAMP contains an inventory of existing King County general government buildings, their locations and conditions, and provides for long-range facility planning. The RAMP is updated once every four years and includes County administrative, court, law enforcement, jail, public health, and human services facilities.

Additionally, the Capital Improvement Program of the King County Biennial Budget includes six-year capital facility planning and financing for: emergency medical services; general government services; Harborview Medical Center; King County International Airport; parks, recreation, and open space; public transportation; roads; solid waste; surface water management; and wastewater treatment.

Combined, these planning processes provide for continuing, cumulative review and updates of all County facility planning and financing consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. Additional facility-specific inventories and planning are as follows.

a. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

The King County Open Space Plan is adopted as a functional plan of the Comprehensive Plan. The Open Space Plan includes an inventory and locations of existing King County park,

recreation, and open space sites and facilities, as well as information about future growth and financing. This information also addresses applicable green infrastructure provided by urban parks and natural areas. More information can also be found in King County Comprehensive Plan Appendix C2: Regional Trail Needs Report.

b. Surface Water Management

An inventory of existing King County stormwater facilities can be found in the King County Geographic Information Systems database. Additional information about inventories, locations, conditions, future needs, and financing of stormwater facilities can be found in the Stormwater Management Program Plan and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Stormwater Permit Annual Report. This information also addresses applicable green infrastructure associated with stormwater management.

c. Solid Waste

The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan includes an inventory and locations of King County solid waste facilities, as well as information about capacities, levels of service, future needs, and financing.

d. Sanitary Sewer Collection and Treatment

Existing inventories and locations, current capacities, levels of service, future needs, and financing for King County’s regional wastewater treatment facilities are available in the King County Regional Wastewater Services Plan, Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program Update, Conveyance System Improvement Program Update, Asset Registry, and ratepayer reports.

e. Flood Hazard Management

King County provides flood hazard management services on behalf of the King County Flood Control District. The King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, adopted by both agencies, includes an inventory and locations of existing facilities, current capacities, levels of service, future needs, and financing. More information can also be found in the Flood Control District annual budget and associated Capital Improvement Program.

f. Emergency Medical Services

The King County Emergency Medical Services Division of Public Health — Seattle & King County is responsible for coordinating regional emergency medical services in King County and for developing, implementing, and administering a mobile intensive paramedic care services program in cooperation with King County fire districts, municipal fire departments, and hospital providers. Information about current services and capacities, levels of service, future needs, and financing are included in the Medic One/Emergency Medical Services Strategic Plan.

g. Transportation

An inventory and locations of existing King County roadway facilities can be found in the King County Geographic Information Systems database. Additional information about inventories, locations, condition, capacity, levels of service, future needs, and financing of roadway facilities can be found in Comprehensive Plan Appendices C: Transportation, C1: Transportation Needs Report, and C2 Regional Trail Needs Report; the Annual Bridge Report; the Strategic Plan for Road Services; and the Transportation Concurrency Update Report.

An inventory including locations, capacities, levels of service, future needs, and financing for

public transit facilities and services can be found in Comprehensive Plan Appendix C: Transportation and King County Metro's Strategic Plan, Service Guidelines, and Long Range Plan.

2. Facilities provided by other public entities

For facilities provided by other public entities, RCW 36.70A.070(3) requires the County to:

1. identify all public entities that own capital facilities; and
2. endeavor in good faith to work with other public entities, such as special purpose districts, to gather and include within the capital facilities element the information required for such facilities. A good faith effort must, at a minimum, include consulting the public entity's capital facility or system plans and emailing and calling the staff of the public entity.

Publicly accessible information about these facilities and associated future planning is limited, as they are owned and operated by non-County entities and the Growth Management Act does not require those entities to plan in accordance with the Act. Summarized below is information about these facilities based on County research of available online information and inquiries with applicable entities as of May 2023. Additional work is ongoing.

a. Drinking Water Supply

Public water systems are managed by: homeowners; private, non-profit organizations and corporations such as homeowners' associations; private, for-profit companies; and municipal governments and water/sewer districts. Given that the Growth Management Act requires the capital facilities element to address those facilities owned by public entities, this subsection focuses on water services provided by municipal governments and water/sewer districts.

King County is not a water utility and does not supply potable water to residents. Instead, King County has certain regulatory roles for Group A and Group B water systems¹ that operate in unincorporated King County, such as reviewing Water System Plans subject to Washington State Department of Health's approval, approving Group A system expansion plans in unincorporated King County, and regulating franchise agreements for use of King County rights-of-way. The public water utilities serving unincorporated King County are as follows.

i. Public Water Utilities Serving Unincorporated King County

Ames Lake Water Association Inc.
Auburn, City of
Bellevue, City of
Black Diamond, City of
Burton Water Company Inc.
Carnation, City of
Cedar River Water & Sewer District
Coal Creek Utility District
Covington Water District
Diamond Springs Water Association
Dockton Water Association

¹ Group A systems generally serve more than 15 connections; Group B systems generally serve 2-14 connections.

Duvall, City of
Edgehill Water Association
Enumclaw, City of
Fall City Water District #127
Foothills Water Association
Four Lakes Landowners Association
Gold Beach Water Company
Heights Water
Highline Water District
Issaquah, City of
Kent, City of
King County Water District 19
King County Water District 20
King County Water District 45
King County Water District 90
King County Water District 111
King County Water District 119
King County Water District 123
King County Water District 125
Kirkland, City of
Lakehaven Water and Sewer District
Lake Forest Park Water District
Lake Margaret Community Purposes Club
Maury Mutual Water Company
Mirrormont
North Bend, City of
NE Sammamish Sewer & Water District
Preston Industrial Park Water Association
Redmond, City of
Renton, City of
River Bend Homesites Association Inc.
Sallal Water Association Inc.
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District
Seattle, City of
Skyway Water & Sewer
Snoqualmie, City of
Snoqualmie Pass Utility District
Spring Glenn Association
Soos Creek Water & Sewer District
Union Hill Water Association Inc.
Upper Preston Water Association
Washington Water Service
Westside Water Association
Wilderness Rim Association
Woodinville Water District

ii. Public Water System Coordination Act

Chapter 70.116 RCW, the Public Water System Coordination Act, was used by King County in the past to establish four planning areas -- East King County, Skyway, South King County, and Vashon. King County, the Washington State Department of Health, and water utilities have developed a Coordinated Water System Plan for each of these four areas. The plans establish service areas, provide water demand forecasts, and discuss minimum water system design requirements. Water system plans prepared by individual water utilities, such as those listed in the table above, must be consistent with all applicable Coordinated Water System Plans.

b. Sanitary Sewer

King County requires sewer utilities to prepare sewer comprehensive plans if they are located in King County and discharge to King County's system or serve unincorporated areas. A new sewer comprehensive plan is required every six years. The public sewer utilities serving unincorporated King County are as follows.

i. Public Sewer Utilities Serving Unincorporated King County

Work to review and update this list is ongoing

Algona, City of
Auburn, City of
Bellevue, City of
Black Diamond, City of
Bothell, City of
Carnation, City of
Cedar River Water and Sewer District
Coal Creek Utility District
Duvall, City of
Highlands Sewer District
Issaquah, City of
Kent, City of
Kirkland, City of
Lake Forest Park, City of
Lakehaven Utility District
Mercer Island, City of
Midway Sewer District
Muckleshoot Tribe
NE Sammamish Sewer & Water District
North Bend, City of
Northshore Utility District
Pacific, City of
Redmond, City of
Renton, City of
Ronald Wastewater District

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District
Seattle, City of
Skykomish, City of
Skyway Water and Sewer District
Snoqualmie, City of
Snoqualmie Pass Utility District
Soos Creek Water and Sewer District
Southwest Suburban Sewer District
Stevens Pass Sewer District
Tukwila, City of
Valley View Sewer District
Vashon Sewer District
Woodinville Water District

b. Schools

King County Code includes a method for school districts with territory in unincorporated King County to request the collection of an impact fee from new residential developments when the district is experiencing a lack of capacity due to growth. Districts must adopt a six-year capital facilities plan that provides for new capacity and submit the plan to King County for adoption as part of the capital facilities element of the King County Comprehensive Plan. King County's School Technical Review Committee (STRC) reviews each school district's capital facilities plan, enrollment projections, and standard of service. The STRC also reviews the district's overall capacity over a six-year time frame to ensure consistency with the King County Comprehensive Plan, adopted community plans, and the district's calculation and rationale for proposed impact fees.

School district capital facility plans are adopted annually by King County. Of the 20 districts in the County, 13 have plans currently adopted by the County. Because capital facilities plans are not mandatory for special districts under the Growth Management Act, King County has no way of compelling a school district to prepare a plan unless they intend to collect a school impact fee. The Seattle, Mercer Island and Tukwila school districts do not have any unincorporated territory and so are not eligible to collect school impact fees from King County. The Bellevue, Shoreline, Skykomish, and Vashon school districts have territory in unincorporated King County but have adequate capacity in existing facilities and therefore are not eligible for impact fees and are not required to submit a plan to King County.

In general, school districts obtain funds for new construction and improvements to existing facilities from voter-approved bonds. School districts may also qualify for state matching funds for new construction and for the renovation of capital facilities based on a formula that considers a number of factors, including the assessed valuation of the property within the particular school district. In addition, school districts have the authority to request one-year capital project levies and six-year renovation and modernization levies, with voter approval. Operating funds come from the state for "basic education." Programs that are not funded by the state are funded through maintenance and operation levies.

More information can be found in the capital facility plans for the following school districts, as well as the requirements in King County Code Chapter 21A.28.

i. Public Schools Serving Unincorporated King County

Auburn School District No. 408
Enumclaw School District No. 216
Federal Way School District No. 210
Fife School District No. 417
Highline School District No. 401
Issaquah School District No. 411
Kent School District No. 415
Lake Washington School District No. 414
Northshore School District No. 417
Renton School District No. 403
Riverview School District No. 407
Snoqualmie Valley School District No. 410
Tahoma School District No. 409

c. Fire Protection

Fire protection districts are responsible for delivering emergency services, including fire protection and emergency medical services countywide. They use response times as the level of service standard for judging when new facilities are needed. The majority of fire districts fund capital projects within their current year operating budget, or request bond issues for large capital projects.

i. Fire Districts Serving Unincorporated King County

Fire District Number	Locally known as
King County Fire Protection District No. 10	Eastside Fire & Rescue
King County Fire Protection District No. 11	North Highline Fire District
King County Fire Protection District No. 13	Vashon Island Fire & Rescue
King County Fire Protection District No. 20	Skyway Fire
King County Fire Protection District No. 25	Renton Regional Fire Authority
King County Fire Protection District No. 27	Fall City Fire Department
King County Fire Protection District No. 28	Enumclaw Fire Department
King County Fire Protection District No. 31	Valley Regional Fire Authority
King County Fire Protection District No. 34	Redmond Fire
King County Fire Protection District No. 36	Woodinville Fire & Rescue (serviced by Eastside Fire and Rescue)
King County Fire Protection District No. 37	Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority
King County Fire Protection District No. 38	North Bend (serviced by Eastside Fire and Rescue)
King County Fire Protection District No. 39	South King Fire & Rescue
King County Fire Protection District No. 40	Renton Fire
King County Fire Protection District No. 43	Maple Valley Fire (serviced by Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority)
King County Fire Protection District No. 44	Mountain View Fire & Rescue
King County Fire Protection District No. 45	Duvall Fire
King County Fire Protection District No. 47	Kangley-Palmer Fire
King County Fire Protection District No. 50	Skykomish Fire Department

Fire District Number	Locally known as
King County Fire Protection District No. 51	Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue

Locations of the service areas of these districts can be found in King County's iMap GIS database.

d. Libraries

Libraries in King County are maintained by the King County Library System (KCLS), which is not part of King County government. KCLS serves residents in both incorporated and unincorporated areas. The system of capital facilities owned and operated by KCLS consists of community libraries listed in the following table. The program for library building and renovation is detailed in the KCLS Capital Investment Program.

i. King County Library System Facilities in Unincorporated King County

Fairwood
Fall City
Greenbridge
Redmond Ridge
Skyway
Vashon
White Center
Woodinville

e. Other Parks

Parks services in King County are provided by the King County Parks Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, the State of Washington and the federal government. Public park districts also serve unincorporated King County. The parks land offered by these entities help provide green infrastructure as defined by the Growth Management Act.

i. Public Park Districts Serving Unincorporated King County

Fall City Metropolitan Park District
Northshore Park and Recreation Service Area
Si View Park District
Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District
Vashon-Maury Island Park and Recreation District

II. Utilities

A. Introduction

The utilities element of the King County Comprehensive Plan is comprised of two parts: Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities and this Appendix A. Chapter 9: Services, Facilities and Utilities establishes policy regarding planning for and siting of utilities to serve the needs of existing and new residents. This section of Appendix A consists of a review of public electrical,

natural gas, and telecommunications utility systems.

B. State Requirements

The Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.070 and WAC 365-196-420) requires that comprehensive plans include a utilities element consisting of the general location, proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities including, but not limited to, electrical, telecommunications, and natural gas systems.

C. Utilities Facilities Inventories

Electric, gas, and telecommunications utilities facilities are not provided by King County. Instead, they are a mix of private and non-County public ownership, subject to varying levels of regulatory oversight from local, state, and federal agencies. King County's local oversight is limited to permit review of proposed utility development projects as guided in the Comprehensive Plan and as outlined in the King County Code. Local regulation of these facilities is often preempted by state or federal law.

For facilities provided by other public entities, RCW 36.70A.070(3) requires the County to:

1. identify all public entities that own capital facilities; and
2. endeavor in good faith to work with other public entities, such as special purpose districts, to gather and include within the capital facilities element the information required for such facilities. A good faith effort must, at a minimum, include consulting the public entity's capital facility or system plans and emailing and calling the staff of the public entity.

Publicly accessible information about these facilities and associated future planning is limited, as they are owned and operated by non-County entities and the Growth Management Act does not require those entities to plan in accordance with the Act. Summarized below is information about these facilities is based on County research of online information and inquiries with applicable entities. Additionally, WAC 365-196-420 encourages that information about proposed utilities include those awaiting approval as of the date of the applicable Comprehensive Plan update. As such, information about pending King County permits for utilities facilities in the unincorporated area is also provided below.

1. Electric

Electric utilities in King County share what is described as an "integrated regional electric system." Regardless of ownership, all elements of the system are designed and operated to work in a complementary manner. The system includes transmission lines, substations, and generation facilities. Current facilities and services are provided by Bonneville Power Administration, Puget Sound Energy, and Tanner Electric Cooperative.

Locations of Bonneville Power Administration Transmission Assets are available in ArcGIS Online.² Additional information from Bonneville Power Administration has been requested.

As of 2022, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) had 2,840 miles of overhead wire, 6,187 miles of

² Transmission Assets – arcgis.com; accessed 4/4/23 [\[LINK\]](#)

underground cable, and 155 substations countywide; PSE' service area is available online.^{3,4} PSE's Integrated Resource Plan provides a 20-year view of Puget Sound Energy's energy resource needs, and the Clean Energy Implementation Plan outlines how they are planning to achieve Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) benchmarks. According to PSE, publicly available detailed information about the current and future locations of this infrastructure is unavailable due to security concerns.

Tanner Electric Cooperative serves Ames Lake and greater North Bend and Snoqualmie communities.⁵ Additional information from Tanner Electric Cooperative has been requested.

Additional geospatial information about locations of electric utilities facilities can be found in the Transmission Lines, Substations, and Power Plants layers of the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data GeoPlatform in ArcGIS Online.⁶

As of April 1, 2023, there are no pending King County permits for proposed electric utilities facilities.

2. Natural Gas

Puget Sound Energy is the major supplier of natural gas to King County. The City of Enumclaw operates a local distribution system that serves local customers in unincorporated King County.

As of 2022, PSE has 6,876 miles of gas main countywide.⁷ Their Integrated Resource Plan provides a 20-year view of PSE's energy resource needs, and the Clean Energy Implementation Plan outlines how they are planning to achieve Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) benchmarks. According to PSE, more detailed information about the current and future locations of this infrastructure is unavailable due to security concerns.

Additional geospatial information about locations of natural gas facilities can be found in the Oil and Natural Gas Wells and Natural Gas Pipelines layers in the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data GeoPlatform in ArcGIS Online.⁸

As of April 1, 2023, there are no pending King County permits for proposed natural gas utilities facilities.

3. Telecommunications

Telecommunications services include both switched and dedicated voice, data, video, and other communication services delivered over the telephone and cable network on various mediums, including, but not limited to, wire, fiber optic, or radio wave. Either regulated or non-regulated companies may provide these services. Cable service includes communication, information and entertainment services delivered over the cable system whether those services are provided in video, voice, or data form.

Geospatial information about locations of telecommunications facilities can be found in the FM

³ 2022 Puget Sound Energy Community Profile – King County; Puget Sound Energy online; accessed 4/4/23. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁴ Service Area Map – Puget Sound Energy; accessed 4/4/23 [\[LINK\]](#)

⁵ BPA Utility Customer Service Areas - [arcgis.com](#); accessed 4/4/23 [\[LINK\]](#); Service Territory Maps – Tanner Electric Cooperative; accessed 4/4/23 [\[LINK\]](#)

⁶ HIFLD Open Data – [arcgis.com](#); accessed 4/4/23 [\[LINK\]](#)

⁷ 2022 Puget Sound Energy Community Profile – King County; Puget Sound Energy online; accessed 4/4/23. [\[LINK\]](#)

⁸ HIFLD Open Data – [arcgis.com](#); accessed 4/4/23 [\[LINK\]](#)

Transmission Towers, Cellular Towers, Microwave Service Towers, Paging Transmission Towers, Land Mobile Commercial Transmission Towers, AM Transmission Towers, Antenna Structure Registrars, TV Analog Station Transmitters, and TV Digital Station Transmitters layers of the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data GeoPlatform in ArcGIS Online.⁹

In 2020, King County completed a Broadband Access Study that evaluated the availability and accessibility of Broadband internet services for King County residents. The study identifies incorporated and unincorporated areas served, unserved, or underserved by Broadband internet services.

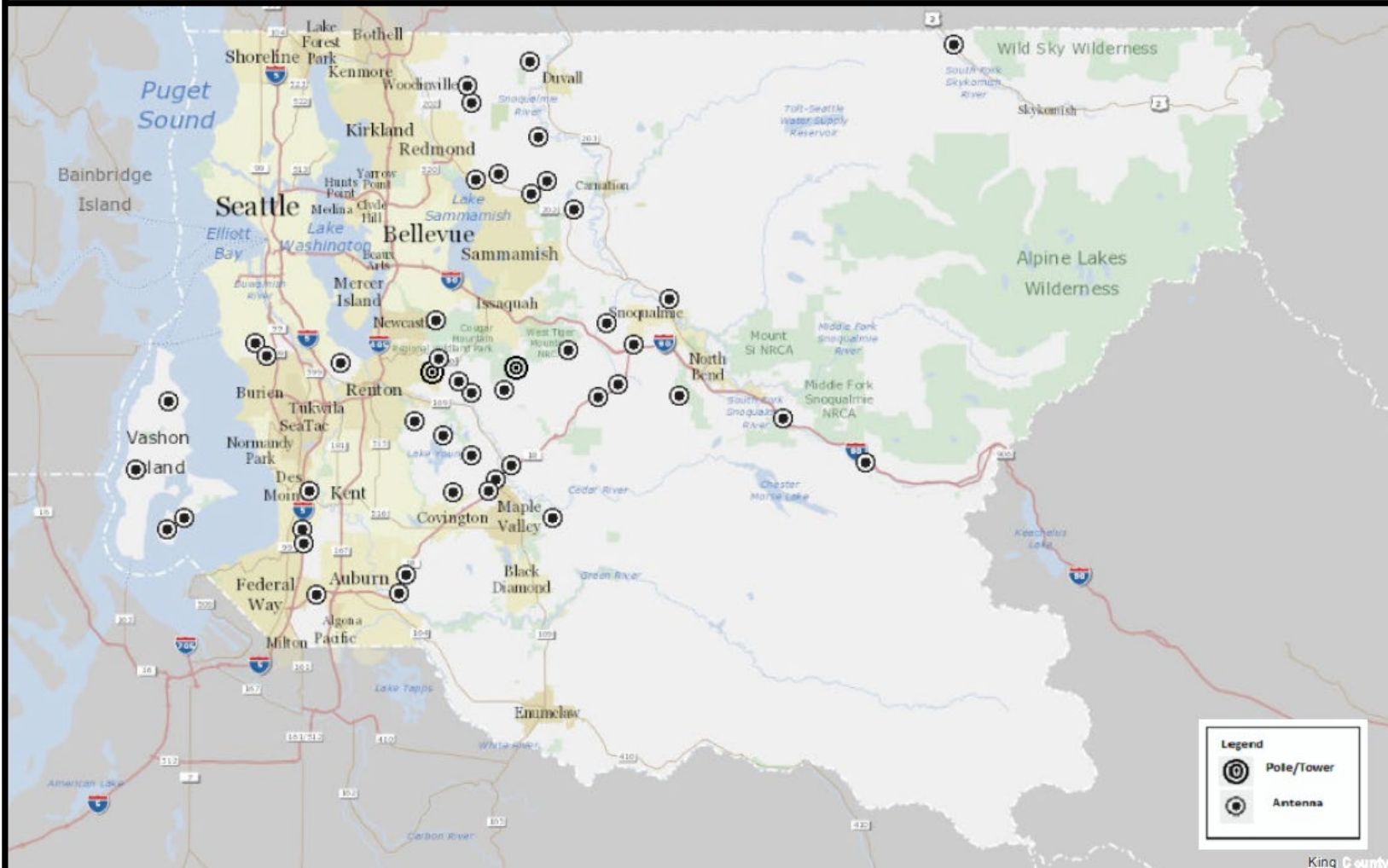
As of April 1, 2023, there are 53 pending King County permits for proposed telecommunications facilities. The general vicinity of their proposed locations are as follows.¹⁰

DRAFT

⁹ IBID

¹⁰ Because of the scale of the map, some locations have more than one antenna proposed but only one dot on the map.

Pending Unincorporated King County Telecommunications Facilities



The information included on this map has been compiled by King County staff from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. King County makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a survey product. King County shall not be liable for any general, special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages including, but not limited to, lost revenues or lost profits resulting from the use or misuse of the information contained on this map. Any sale of this map or information on this map is prohibited except by written permission of King County.

Date: 4/5/2023

Notes:

