KING COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA TITLE:	Growth Target Reconciliation Process
PRESENTED BY:	Interjurisdictional Team (IJT)

Today's Meeting

The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) will be briefed on developing a reconciliation process to resolve jurisdictional inconsistencies between growth assumptions used in comprehensive plans and growth targets adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies.

Overview

Growth Targets are policy statements about the number of housing units and jobs each urban jurisdiction is planning for within their comprehensive plan. The Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) related to growth targets were amended in 2021 and 2022 to adopt targets for the 2024 comprehensive plan periodic update and to update and clarify how jurisdictions plan for their growth targets. CPP DP-14(a) states that all jurisdictions shall accommodate housing and employment by using the adopted growth targets as the land use assumptions for their comprehensive plans. Additionally, CPP DP-14(d) states that jurisdictions shall provide sufficient capacity at appropriate densities for the targets and allocated housing need, consistent with the VISION 2050 Regional Growth Strategy.

Coordination among jurisdictions in developing and planning for growth targets is essential to achieving shared countywide and regional planning goals. An individual jurisdiction's planning for housing and employment, transportation, and public services demand affects neighboring communities and the county and region as a whole. In the spirt of countywide coordination, in 2021 CPP DP-13(c) was amended to allow GMPC to create a process to amend growth targets after the periodic plan update, reconciling them with plan growth assumptions to ensure consistency between plans and the CPPs. The policy states:

> *DP-13 The Growth Management Planning Council shall:…*
> *c) Create a coordinated countywide process to reconcile and set growth targets that implements the Regional Growth Strategy through countywide shares of regional housing and job growth, countywide shares of statewide housing needs, allocations to Regional Geographies, and individual jurisdictional growth targets.*

GMPC has duly followed policy DP-13(c) in creating a coordinated process to set growth targets for at least two decades but, as reconciliation is new component of the policy, GMPC has not previously elected to reconcile growth targets with plan growth assumptions after plans have been adopted. A reconciliation process could increase consistency between comprehensive plans and the CPPs, and potentially help jurisdictions achieve certification during the Puget

Sound Regional Council's plan review process. It also has the potential to disrupt local planning for growth targets already underway in the 2024 periodic update.

Jurisdictions are currently completing required land capacity analyses and other planning for the 2024 periodic update. The City of Snoqualmie sent a formal communication to GMPC to express interest in planning for growth assumptions significantly lower than their adopted target after analyzing development capacity within their city and the adjacent unincorporated urban growth area. Snoqualmie's letter to GMPC and an adopted resolution expressing their interest and rationale are attached to this report as Attachment A.

Future Activity

The Interjurisdictional Team will continue to work in April and May to understand the scope and scale of the need for a reconciliation process. In June, the Interjurisdictional Team will present a staff recommendation that may include a potential approach and guiding principles for a reconciliation process. GMPC is scheduled act on whether to pursue a reconciliation process in July. If GMPC chooses to initiate a process, it will be developed in the second half of 2024.

For More Information

Please contact Rebeccah Maskin, Demographic Planner, at rmaskin@kingcounty.gov or 206-263-0380.

Attachment

A. City of Snoqualmie Letter to GMPC and Adopted Resolution