

King County
GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL

September 18, 2024

Remote Meeting via Zoom Webinar

A recording of the meeting can be found on the
[GMPC Materials](#) Page

Meeting Summary

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representing King County:

Dow Constantine, Chair
Claudia Balducci
Rod Dembowski

Representing Seattle:

n/a

Representing Bellevue:

Jared Nieuwenhuis

Representing Sound Cities Association (SCA):

Kelli Curtis – Kirkland
Syd Dawson – Maple Valley
Satwinder Kaur – Kent
Mayor Salim Nice – Mercer Island
Kent Treen – Sammamish
Ryan McIrvin – Renton
*Lydia Assefa-Dawson – Federal Way
*Melissa Stuart – Redmond
*Suzan Torguson – North Bend

**Alternates*

Other GMPC Members:

Nav Otal – Sammamish Plateau Sewer and Water District

AGENDA TOPICS:

I. Welcome and Introductions

King County Executive and Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) Chair Dow Constantine convened the hybrid meeting.

II. Action Item: Approval of Meeting Summary from July 24, 2024

The summary was moved by Mayor Nice and seconded by Mayor Assefa-Dawson. The summary was unanimously approved by voice vote.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Action: GMPC Motion 24:1 Amending the Urban Growth Area Boundary

King County staff Ivan Miller summarized the motion, noting that this amendment has been under consideration for a number of years and in two comprehensive plan cycles. After additional study and outreach in the 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan update, it was recommended for approval. Also, the proposal was reviewed by the Interjurisdictional Team (IJT) and GMPC earlier this year and no concerns or questions were raised. The motion was moved by City of Maple Valley Councilmember Dawson and seconded by City of Mercer Island Mayor Nice. The motion was approved unanimously on voice vote.

V. Action: GMPC Motion 24-2: Amendment the Countywide Center Planning Expectations in the Countywide Planning Policies

King County staff Ivan Miller summarized the motion, noting that this amendment has been under consideration throughout this year by IJT and GMPC. He noted that the motion provides flexibility for jurisdictions in how they meet the planning expectations, but that no substantive changes to the expectations are being made. The motion was moved by City of Renton Councilmember McIrvine and seconded by City of Federal Way Councilmember Assefa-Dawson. The motion was approved unanimously on voice vote.

VI. Growth Target Reconciliation Process

King County staff Rebecca Maskin updated the GMPC on the Growth Targets Reconciliation Process. She was joined by City of Snoqualmie Mayor Katherine Ross and City of Carnation Mayor Jim Ribail and City Manager Rhonda Ender. ⁱ

Rebecca provided an overview of the purpose, scope, and process used to develop growth targets in King County. She noted that the expectation for a reconciliation process is part of the Puget Sound Regional Council's VISION 2050 strategy as is therefore included in the King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs). King County has not had a reconciliation process before.

Rebecca summarized the requests from Snoqualmie and Carnation and discussed how they aligned with the guiding principles established by GMPC and how housing need would be affected by a growth target reconciliation for these two cities. She also summarized the discussions of the IJT.

Mayor Ross discussed the rationale for their request to reduce the City of Snoqualmie's housing growth target, noting environmental conditions, infrastructure deficiencies, floodplain and water availability issues, the buildout of their master planned development, and other factors – all of which relate to their development capacity for accommodating growth targets.

Following this, City Manager Rhonda Ender discussed the rationale for their request to reduce the City of Carnation's housing growth target, noting transportation safety on the city's sole access route, pass-through traffic, flooding risk from the nearby dam and lack of sufficient evacuation routes, lack of transit options, and other factors – all of which relate to the scale of development in the city.

Rebecca then shared the IJT recommendation which could be brought back to GMPC in the form of a motion at their October meeting, if members concurred and gave staff that direction.

GMPC members engaged in a robust discussion of the two components of the IJT Recommendation – the first being the request reduction for the two cities, the second being the reduction of the overall countywide housing need number.

Multiple GMPC members expressed a level of support for the reduction at the city level. GMPC members also expressed interest in a detailed explanation of how the requests satisfied the guiding principles. There was a range of opinions on whether the countywide need number should be reduced or, instead, if there were options for shifting the growth to other cities.

Following discussion, staff indicated they would return at the next GMPC with additional potential options.

VII. GMPC Affordable Housing Committee Update

King County staff McCaela Daffern provided an overview of the GMPC's Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) work over the past five years, noting that its five year charter is ending this year and that the AHC will bring potential charter amendments to the GMPC next year for their review and adoption.

Carson Hartmann continued the presentation and focused on the Draft Comprehensive Plan Review program. Carson provided background information on the program, as well as a status report. He noted that as of the September GMPC meeting, the AHC had issued sixteen comment letters of jurisdictions that represent 77% of the region's population. Twelve additional plans are in the process for review and these represent an additional 8% of the region's

population. Carson ended by discussing the protocol for plans submitted late or not submitted in 2024.

VIII. Adjourn

Executive Constantine thanked the GMPC for their time and work. The next meeting is October 23 at which time the GMPC will begin to discuss their 2025 Work Program. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 pm.

ⁱ Letters to GMPC from both cities are included in the Staff Report for this agenda item [[LINK](#)]