

KING COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA TITLE: Growth Target Reconciliation Process
PRESENTED BY: Rebeccah Maskin, Demographic Planner

Today's Meeting

At today's meeting, the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) will review and potentially act on a motion to resolve the 2024 growth target reconciliation process.

Overview

GMPC began its consideration of a growth target reconciliation process in March 2024, upon request of the City of Snoqualmie. After setting principles to guide decision making and canvassing King County jurisdictions to understand the scale of need for reconciliation, GMPC received formal reconciliation requests from the cities of Carnation and Snoqualmie to lower their housing growth targets from 799 to 350 and from 1500 to 719 housing units, respectively. Housing need for both cities would also be adjusted in a manner consistent with the Department of Commerce's [minimum standards for allocating projected housing needs](#) and the allocation [equity principles](#) identified by the Affordable Housing Committee.

The June 2024 GMPC [staff report](#) on growth targets reconciliation contains background on the policy framework for reconciliation. The September 2024 [staff report](#) includes a detailed evaluation of how reconciliation requests meet GMPC's guiding principles for reconciliation, and how housing need [would be adjusted](#) should growth targets be amended.

At its November and December 2024 meetings, GMPC provided the Interjurisdictional Team with specific direction on resolving the cities' reconciliation requests. GMPC directed the Interjurisdictional Team to prepare a motion to amend the growth targets in the countywide planning policies:

- reducing Carnation and Snoqualmie's housing targets and housing need,
- maintaining the county's collective commitment to plan for housing need prioritizing where need is greatest, and
- offering a "hybrid" reconciliation option that creates opportunity for another jurisdiction to step forward to increase their housing growth target and need in the amounts removed by other cities in this reconciliation process.

After the December 2024 meeting, the Interjurisdictional Team drafted GMPC Motion 25-1 which resolves the reconciliation requests and presents the hybrid option. The motion details GMPC's consideration of reconciliation throughout 2024 and resolves to act on three points:

- Proposing amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies that reduce Carnation and Snoqualmie’s housing targets and housing need.
- Committing GMPC staff to support a jurisdiction seeking to increase housing growth targets and housing need in the amounts removed as a part of reconciliation process, so long as the proposal comports with the guiding principles for reconciliation. Staff support would include ensuring alignment with regional and countywide policy and pursuing available grant funding opportunities through 2026.
- Committing GMPC staff to reviewing and analyzing adopted comprehensive plans for growth and land capacity assumptions that will inform monitoring and future growth targets.

Future Activity

Next steps include County Council consideration and potential adoption of the motion and CPP amendments. Should that occur, the CPP amendment would be sent to the cities and towns in King County for ratification, per the provisions of CPP FW-1. No further GMPC action on this topic is planned unless a jurisdiction takes advantage of the motion’s “hybrid option”.

In 2026, Interjurisdictional Team staff will present notable growth-target and capacity related findings from jurisdictions’ adopted comprehensive plans.

For More Information

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

Attachment

A. Draft GMPC Motion 25-1