

KING COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA TITLE: 2014 GMPC Schedule and Work Plan

PRESENTED BY: Interjurisdictional Staff Team

Summary

The approval of the 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) has given rise to a number of work plan items to ensure successful and timely implementation. These work plan items are guided by CPP policy language and direction from VISION 2040.

Interjurisdictional Team (IJT) staff recognizes that responsibility for these action items falls on multiple parties, including the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC,) King County, and cities within the county. While IJT staff has taken a lead role in managing these work plan items, they each require a collaborative effort involving staff from King County, interested cities, and representatives of other relevant agencies. The IJT plans to bring several issues forward for consideration by the GMPC in 2014, as follows.

2014 Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at the PSRC.

Meeting #1 – February 26th

The focus of this meeting is to provide an orientation to new members and set the agenda for subsequent meetings. The members will receive a briefing on the status of the 2014 Buildable Lands Report. No action items are slated for this meeting.

Meeting #2 – May 21st

The focus of this meeting is to provide a first-reading, or introduction, to the substantive issues under consideration by the GMPC in 2014. No action items are slated for this meeting.

Meeting #3 – July 23rd

The focus of this meeting is to take action on items introduced at the May meeting.

Meeting #4 – September 24th

The focus of this meeting is affordable housing. When the 2012 Countywide Planning Policies were approved by the GMPC, the members requested that one meeting each year be dedicated to the topic of affordable housing. At this meeting, we will provide information on the need for affordable in King County, outline the progress that has been made on implementing the housing policies in the CPPs and set priorities for the coming year.

Meeting #5 – December 17th

The focus of this meeting will be a review of 2014 and look toward issues expected to come before the GMPC in 2015.

Issues to Come Before GMPC in 2014

1. 2014 Buildable Lands Report

King County's third Buildable Lands Report (BLR) is due on June 30, 2014, one year before the deadline for completion of comprehensive plans. The 2014 BLR will provide a review and evaluation of development activity from 2006-2011 along with an updated analysis of land supply and capacity as of January 2012. Recognizing the impacts of the Great Recession on development, the Washington State Department of Commerce authorized a streamlined approach to the 2014 BLR in counties where development activity fell off considerably or where there had been no major change in comprehensive plan policy in recent years. As these criteria apply to most King County jurisdictions, the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) approved the use of this streamlined approach at their May, 2013 meeting.

Next Steps: King County staff are working closely with staff from each of the 39 cities to compile the data for the 2014 BLR. The County has retained Community Attributes, Inc. as a consultant to help keep this work on track. A meeting of stakeholders is being planned for early May. At the May meeting of the GMPC, staff will brief the members on the BLR Public Review Draft and report on comments received. At the July meeting, the GMPC will have the opportunity to take action on the 2014 BLR.

2. Climate Change

Countywide Planning Policies EN-17 and EN-18 direct the GMPC to establish a countywide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target and a measurement framework to measure progress towards that target.

EN-17 Establish a countywide greenhouse gas reduction target that meets or exceeds the statewide reduction requirement that is stated as the 2050 goal of a 50 percent reduction below 1990 levels.

EN-18 Establish a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County jurisdictions to efficiently and effectively measure progress toward countywide targets established pursuant to policy EN-17.

Staff from the nine cities of the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (KC4), with support from interested non-member cities, have been collaborating with the IJT to provide relevant information and recommendations to support implementation of EN-17 and EN-18. The KC4 is a voluntary partnership between King County and the cities of Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Redmond, Renton, Seattle, Shoreline, Snoqualmie, and Tukwila. Staff from Climate Solutions' New Energy Cities Program are partners on this work and are helping integrate their experience working with communities across the Pacific Northwest on establishing meaningful GHG emission reduction targets.

Next Steps: At the May meeting of the GMPC, staff will present recommendations for GHG emissions reduction targets including long-term and intermediate targets in accordance with the CPPs.

3. School Siting

The GMPC approved the Final Report and Recommendations of the School Siting Task Force in June, 2012 and subsequently revised the CPPs to reflect the Task Force recommendations and to add the Report as an appendix to the CPPs. The 30-member Task Force represented a broad coalition of stakeholders from throughout the region and was chaired by former King County Councilmember, Louise Miller. The Task Force met regularly from December 2011 through March 2012. The Task Force concluded that future schools should be sited in the Urban Growth Area (UGA) or in rural towns. Further, the Task Force made recommendations as to the use or disposition of each of eighteen undeveloped school sites.

Next Steps: At the May meeting of the GMPC, staff will (1) provide examples of how a few King County cities and school districts are working together, and (2) present recommendations for policy amendments to encourage an ongoing process between school districts and cities to plan collaboratively on the siting of school facilities.

4. Technical Corrections

The 2012 CPPs were ratified just one year ago on March 4, 2013. In the intervening year, it has come to our attention that at least one policy is not consistent with the intent specified in another policy. This particular discrepancy concerns policies DP-16 and DP-17 regarding the expansion of UGA.

Next Steps: At the May meeting of the GMPC, staff will present recommendations for policy amendments to correct any errors in the 2012 CPPs to ensure that the policies are clear and are internally consistent.

5. Affordable Housing

The 2012 CPPs do not depend on explicit affordable housing targets. Instead of targets based on growth, as was used in the previous approach, a countywide need for affordable housing is established, which is specified within several income categories. All jurisdictions are working to achieve a proportional share of these needs through strategies tailored to local conditions. The CPPs prescribe a four-step process for cities to address housing needs:

1. Conduct an inventory and analysis of housing needs and conditions;
2. Implement policies and strategies to address unmet needs;
3. Measure results; and
4. Respond to measurement with reassessment and adjustment of strategies.

Next Steps: Staff is working to make sure each of the cities is conducting the inventory of affordable housing, as required by GMA. Additionally, at the September meeting of the GMPC, staff will work with stakeholders to prepare a more in-depth briefing of affordable housing