



## Quality of Life

### Objective:

Support a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy

### Strategy:

Promote a quality of life that attracts a talented workforce and businesses to the region

### Why is this strategy important?

Quality of life is ranked first among benefits of doing business in the Puget Sound area, according to local companies. King County contributes to our quality of life in a way that supports economic development in several ways.

### How is our performance?

King County is a growing region. Jobs, mobility, growing businesses, and a healthy environment are the priorities of a growing population. King County government contributes to the quality of life by providing consistent services that we all require on to go to work and live safely every day, including wastewater treatment plans and a high performing E-911 system and large parks system. King County has increased ridership on Metro Transit and will continue to contribute to King County's quality of life in the future.

### Moving forward

King County is committed to creating a climate for communities to prosper. Great prosperity really matters if it is also broad prosperity, with policies and initiatives that support a three-pronged view of prosperity.

- Thriving, growing, innovative businesses
- Education and job opportunities for all residents, especially in aerospace and in support of dislocated workers and low-income residents
- Clean, healthy natural environment and energy-efficient built environment

### Related Links

[Puget Sound Business Barometer, 2011: Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce](#)

## Technical Notes

Quality of Life: Out of 1,153 respondents, 573 (49.7%) selected Environmental Surroundings/Quality of life as being in the top three primary benefits of doing business in the four county region (King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish counties).

## Charts and Maps

**Quality of Life as a Primary Benefit of Doing Business in the Region**  
**Environmental Surroundings/Quality of Life is the highest-ranked benefit of doing business in the region according to a survey of metro area businesses.**

- #1 Environmental Surroundings/Quality of Life**
- #2 Networking Opportunities
- #3 Economy
- #4 Skilled Labor Force
- #5 Creative Energy
- #6 Entrepreneurial Spirit
- #7 Proximity to Universities/Training Programs
- #8 Technology Focus
- #9 Transportation Infrastructure
- #10 Public Safety
- #11 Labor/Management Relations
- #12 Access to Venture Capital

Data Source: Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, 2011

King County Efforts Towards High Quality of Life			
Product/Service	Impact	2010 Performance	2011 Performance
Transit Service	Workforce Mobility	109.6 Million Riders	112.7 Million Riders
Wastewater Treatment Plants	Enables Business Operation and Expansion	74,700 Businesses with employees served countywide	74,700 Businesses with employees served countywide
E-911 System	Contributes to the quality of life that attracts businesses and workforce	1.756 Million Callers Served	1.755 Million Callers Served
Regional Parks, Open Space & Trails	Contributes to the quality of life that attracts businesses and workforce	26,282 Acres	26,282 Acres