



**King County**

**Technical Appendix S: Public  
Participation Summary for 2020 Update**

**2020 Update to 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan**

July 17, 2020

## **Overview of Public Outreach**

Outreach for the Executive's Recommended 2020 update of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan (2020 Update) was focused on three bodies of work: scoping for the 2020 Update, development of the Skyway-West Hill Land Use Subarea Plan, and development of the Public Review Draft plan. Targeted outreach to develop the plan update's scope of work took place in late 2018. Outreach for the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan took place from October 2018 to June 2019, with extensive community involvement. Outreach on the Public Review Draft Plan to stakeholders took place in spring 2019, while broader public outreach occurred during the public comment period open from July 1 to 31, 2019.

### **Phase 1: Outreach During Scoping**

Scoping for the Executive's Recommended 2020 Comprehensive Plan update occurred over the last eight weeks of 2018. The Executive initiated a process to develop and transmit a Scope of Work, guided by the adopted Comprehensive Plan Workplan 14, with initial and primary outreach to internal county agencies to identify topics that needed to be addressed in the 2020 Plan update. Engagement with stakeholders from outside the county was focused on groups such as affected property owners, community groups, state agencies, the County's Agricultural and Rural Forest Commissions, developers, environmental organizations, and municipal planners in affected Potential Annexation Areas. The Executive transmitted the proposed scoping motion to the Council in January 2019. The Council discussed the scoping motion at one Mobility and Environment Committee, where there was opportunity for public comment. The Council adopted the scoping motion (Motion 15329) on February 27, 2019.

### **Phase 2: Outreach on the Public Review Draft Plan**

#### **A. Outreach on Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan**

The public engagement process for developing the Executive's Recommended Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan was led by subarea planning staff in the Permitting Division of the Department of Local Services, assisted by communications staff from the Department of Local Services Director's Office, and included stakeholder interviews with 22 community leaders, four focus groups with 62 residents, two public surveys, and two community forums bookending the Subarea Plan process. Planning staff also provided regular briefings at West Hill Community Association and Skyway Solutions meetings, and held open office hours at the Skyway Water and Sewer District's offices during the Subarea Plan's development. Formal community engagement began in the summer of 2018, and wrapped with a June 2019 community forum to review the draft Subarea Plan.

#### **B. Outreach on Draft Comprehensive Plan**

The Executive's Public Review Draft 2020 Update Plan was released on July 1, 2019. An informational flier was sent to almost 7,400 property owners, including affected properties and the surrounding parcels, in proximity to proposed plan components, in order to make them aware of proposed changes and the plan update schedule, inviting them to public meetings, and to detail how to engage with the update process. A webpage devoted to the updated plan components was

created, and an email was sent to the comprehensive plan interested parties mailing list informing them of the update and how to engage with the process, review plan documents, and make comments. This information was also shared through the Comprehensive Plan mailing list, the Unincorporated Area News email newsletter, and the Office of Equity and Social Justice's email list.

Press releases about the 2020 Plan Update were sent to eight media outlets, and seven news articles were published by a variety of local media during the public review period.

Five community meetings were held around King County to solicit comment on the Public Review Draft Plan, plus an additional meeting on Vashon-Maury Island focused on the proposed Sea Level Rise regulations. The meetings were advertised in traditional print and online media, and via social media sites including Facebook, Instagram, and Nextdoor. Based on the sign-in sheets, approximately 310 people attended the community meetings, although it is likely that not every attendee signed in. Information about the community meetings is shown listed below.

| <b>Community Meeting</b>                                 | <b>Date</b> | <b>Location</b>  | <b>Attendance</b> |
|--|-------------|--|-------------------|
| Vashon-Maury Island Sea Level Rise Special Topic Meeting | July 2      | McMurray Middle School, 9329 SW Cemetery Road, Vashon WA, 98070          | 49                |
| Bear Creek/Sammamish/Snoqualmie Valley Areas             | July 9      | 11530 320th Avenue NE<br>Carnation, WA 98014                             | 25                |
| Skyway-West Hill Area                                    | July 11     | Albert Talley High School<br>7800 S 132nd Street<br>Seattle, WA 98178    | 104               |
| Four Creeks/Maple Valley/SE King County Areas            | July 16     | Maple Valley Library<br>21844 SE 248th Street<br>Maple Valley, WA 98038  | 17                |
| Vashon-Maury Island Area                                 | July 18     | Vashon High School<br>9600 SW 204th Street,<br>Vashon, WA 98070          | 54                |
| North Highline Area                                      | July 25     | Seola Gardens Community Room<br>11215 5th Avenue SW<br>Seattle, WA 98146 | 54                |

The community meetings were held in an “open house” format, where attendees visited six topically oriented tables to speak with King County staff on topics of interest during the first half hour and last hour of each meeting. A 20-minute presentation was provided after the first open house half hour, followed by 10-minutes of question and answers.

### C. Summary of Comment

As a result of the public processes described above, nearly 400 written comments from individual residents and organizations were received during the July Public Review Draft public comment period. The majority of comments (274) received were in support of regulating fossil fuel facilities. The next most mentioned topics were the proposed Vashon-Maury Island sea level rise buffer (28), the Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan (18), and proposed zoning for the Bear Creek Urban Planned Development (14).

### Phase III: Council Review and Adoption

This process has included and/or is anticipated to include the following components:

- Distribution of newsletters to dedicated Comprehensive Plan email list (1,621 subscribers as of January 27, 2020) to inform the public of Comprehensive Plan committee briefings, schedule updates, news, and public comment opportunities.
- Utilization of the Council's Comprehensive Plan website to provide:
  - Opportunity to sign-up for the Comprehensive Plan email list,
  - Ability to submit written online public testimony, and
  - Up-to-date information on the schedule, committee agendas and staff reports, news, proposed Comprehensive Plan and land use amendments, and public hearing notices.
- A public comment period from time of transmittal (September 30, 2019) through adoption (scheduled for June 2020), including:
  - Receipt of written comments via letters, emails, or online testimony.
  - Verbal testimony in committee and before the full Council, as follows:

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| October 15, 2019 at Mobility and Environment Committee  | June 9, 2020 at full Council – publicly advertised formal public hearing |
| November 5, 2019 at Mobility and Environment Committee  | July 7, 2020 continued public hearing at full Council                    |
| December 3, 2019 at Mobility and Environment Committee  | July 21, 2020 continued public hearing at full Council                   |
| February 12, 2020 at Mobility and Environment Committee |  |

- Inclusion of received written comments in the published committee packets as part of the Comprehensive Plan staff reports.
- State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review and public comment period prior to final adoption at the full Council.
- Published advertisement in newspapers for formal public hearing prior to final adoption at full Council.

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- Mailed notice of public hearing to property owners adjacent to parcels proposed for land use designation and zoning changes prior to final adoption at full Council.