



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

March 5, 2018

### Ordinance

**Proposed No.** 2018-0153.1

**Sponsors**

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to comprehensive planning;  
2 amending Ordinance 263, Article 1 (part), as amended, and  
3 K.C.C. 20.08.060, Ordinance 263, Article 2, Section 1, as  
4 amended, and K.C.C. 20.12.010, Ordinance 12061, Section  
5 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.12.325, Ordinance 13147,  
6 Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.18.030, and  
7 Ordinance 13147, Section 20, as amended, and K.C.C.  
8 20.18.040, Ordinance 3688, Section 813, as amended, and  
9 K.C.C. 20.18.056, Ordinance 13147, Section 22, as  
10 amended, and K.C.C. 20.18.060, Ordinance 13147, Section  
11 23, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.18.070, Ordinance 13147,  
12 Section 24, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.18.080, Ordinance  
13 13147 Section 30, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.88.140, and  
14 Ordinance 14047, Section 9, as amended, and K.C.C.  
15 20.18.170 and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter  
16 20.08.

17 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

18 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

19 A. The 2017-2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18409, Section 19, as

20 amended by Ordinance 18062, Section 5, Proviso P2, requires the executive to transmit a  
21 plan to restructure the Community Service Area subarea planning program, a motion to  
22 approve the plan, and an ordinance that implements changes recommended by the plan to  
23 the King County Comprehensive Plan and the King County Code.

24 B. The 2017-2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18409, Section 88, as  
25 amended by Ordinance 18062, Section 47, Proviso P3, requires the executive to transmit  
26 a plan to restructure the Community Service Area subarea planning program, a motion to  
27 approve the plan, and an ordinance that implements changes recommended by the plan to  
28 the King County Comprehensive Plan and the King County Code.

29 C. This ordinance implements the changes recommended by the plan by  
30 amending the King County Code and amending the King County Comprehensive Plan.

31 D. The plan calls for the Community Service Area subarea planning program to  
32 complete one plan every two years with the exception of the year in which a major update  
33 to the King County Comprehensive Plan is completed.

34 E. RCW 36.70A.130(5)(a) requires King County, and the cities within King  
35 County, to complete a review of its comprehensive plan on or before June 30, 2015, and  
36 every eight years thereafter. This means the next major review and update of the King  
37 County Comprehensive Plan is to be completed by June 30, 2023.

38 F. The major update of the King County Comprehensive Plan is shifted to an  
39 eight-year cycle to expedite the subarea plans and to match the schedule established in  
40 RCW 36.70A.130(5)(a).

41 G. The shift to an eight-year cycle allows the county to more closely collaborate  
42 with the cities in King County, to implement VISION 2050, with an expected approval

43 date of May 2020, and to plan for growth in accordance with growth targets that will  
44 subsequently be established in the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

45 H. The King County Code allows annual amendments to the King County  
46 Comprehensive Plan in accordance with the Washington state Growth Management Act,  
47 chapter RCW 36.70A.

48 I. The 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan, adopted by King County  
49 Ordinance 18427, was a four-year cycle amendment, which was amended in 2017 by  
50 Ordinance 18623 adopting the Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea  
51 Plan.

52 J. The amendment to the Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area  
53 Subarea Plan contained in Attachment B to this ordinance shifts the transmittal date from  
54 December 31, 2018 to June 30, 2021 for Workplan Action 1, which involves the review  
55 of the property-specific development conditions and special district overlays on Vashon-  
56 Maury Island.

57 K. The amendments to policies and text contained in Attachments A and B to this  
58 ordinance constitute the 2018 annual amendment to the King County Comprehensive  
59 Plan.

60 SECTION 2. The amendments to the King County Comprehensive Plan 2016  
61 contained in Attachment A to this ordinance are hereby adopted as amendments to the  
62 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan as amended in 2017 by Ordinance 18623.

63 SECTION 3. Ordinance 263, Article 1 (part), as amended, and K.C.C. 20.08.060  
64 are hereby amended to read as follows:

65 "Subarea plan" means detailed local land use plan (~~(which)~~) that implements and

is an element of the ~~((e))~~Comprehensive ~~((p))~~Plan containing specific policies, guidelines and criteria adopted by the council to guide development and capital improvement decisions within specific subareas of the county. The subareas of the county shall consist of ~~((distinct communities, specific geographic areas or other types of districts having unified interests or similar characteristics within the county. Subarea plans may include: community plans, which have been prepared for large unincorporated areas;))~~ community service areas and potential annexation areas ~~((plans))~~, which ~~((have been prepared for))~~ are urban areas that are designated for future annexation to a city~~((; neighborhood plans, which have been prepared for small unincorporated areas; and plans addressing multiple areas having common interests))~~. The relationship between the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan and subarea plans is established by K.C.C. 20.12.015.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 20.08 a new section to read as follows:

"Subarea study" means a study that is required by a policy in the Comprehensive Plan to evaluate a proposed land use change. The Comprehensive Plan policies and accompanying text shall guide the scope and content of the subarea study.

SECTION 5. Ordinance 263, Article 2, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.12.010 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Under the King County Charter, the state Constitution and the Washington state Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW, King County adopted the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan via Ordinance 11575 and declared it to be the Comprehensive Plan for King County until amended, repealed or superseded. The Comprehensive Plan has been reviewed and amended multiple times since its adoption in

1994. Amendments to the 1994 Comprehensive Plan to-date are currently reflected in the 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan, as adopted in Ordinance 18427 (~~and~~), as amended by Ordinance 18623 and this ordinance. The Comprehensive Plan shall be the principal planning document for the orderly physical development of the county and shall be used to guide subarea plans, functional plans, provision of public facilities and services, review of proposed incorporations and annexations, development regulations and land development decisions.

SECTION 6. Ordinance 12061, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.12.325 are hereby amended to read as follows:

The 2017 Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan, dated December 4, 2017, in Attachment A to Ordinance 18623 and as amended by Attachment B to this ordinance, is adopted as a subarea plan and an element of the 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan and, as such, constitutes official county policy for the geographic area of unincorporated King County defined plan.

SECTION 7. Ordinance 13147, Section 19, and K.C.C. 20.18.030 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The King County Comprehensive Plan shall be amended in accordance with this chapter, which, in compliance with RCW 36.70A.130(2), establishes a public participation program whereby amendments are considered by the council no more frequently than once a year as part of the amendment cycle established in this chapter, except that the council may consider amendments more frequently to address:

1. Emergencies;

2. An appeal of the plan filed with the Central Puget Sound Growth

112 Management Hearings Board or with the court;

113           3. The initial adoption of a subarea plan, which may amend the urban growth  
114 area boundary only to redesignate land within a joint planning area;

115           4. An amendment of the capital facilities element of the Comprehensive Plan  
116 that occurs in conjunction with the adoption of the county budget under K.C.C.

117 4A.100.010; or

118           5. The adoption or amendment of a shoreline master program under chapter  
119 90.58 RCW.

120           B. Every year the Comprehensive Plan may be amended to address technical  
121 updates and corrections, and to consider amendments that do not require substantive  
122 changes to policy language, (~~changes to the priority areas map,~~) or do not require  
123 changes to the urban growth area boundary, except as permitted in subsection B.9. and  
124 11. of this section. This review may be referred to as the annual cycle. The  
125 Comprehensive Plan, including subarea plans, may be amended in the annual cycle only  
126 to consider the following:

127           1. Technical amendments to policy, text, maps or shoreline designations;

128           2. The annual capital improvement plan;

129           3. The transportation needs report;

130           4. School capital facility plans;

131           5. Changes required by existing Comprehensive Plan policies;

132           6. Changes to the technical appendices and any amendments required thereby;

133           7. Comprehensive updates of subarea plans initiated by motion;

134           8. Changes required by amendments to the ~~((e))~~Countywide ~~((p))~~Planning

135 ~~((p))~~ Policies or state law;

136           9. Redesignation proposals under the four-to-one program as provided for in  
137 this chapter;

138           10. Amendments necessary for the conservation of threatened and endangered  
139 species;

140           11. Site-specific land use map amendments that do not require substantive  
141 change to ~~((e))~~ Comprehensive ~~((p))~~ Plan policy language and that do not alter the urban  
142 growth area boundary, except to correct mapping errors;

143           12. Amendments resulting from subarea studies required by ~~((e))~~ Comprehensive  
144 ~~((p))~~ Plan policy that do not require substantive change to ~~((e))~~ Comprehensive ~~((p))~~ Plan  
145 policy language and that do not alter the urban growth area boundary, except to correct  
146 mapping errors;

147           13. Changes required to implement a study regarding the provision of  
148 wastewater services to a Rural Town. The amendments shall be limited to policy  
149 amendments and adjustment to the boundaries of the Rural Town as needed to implement  
150 the preferred option identified in the study; ~~((o#))~~

151           14. Adoption of community service area subarea plans;

152           15. Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan update schedule that respond to  
153 ordinances and improve alignment with the timing requirements in the Washington state  
154 Growth Management Act (GMA), chapter 36.70A RCW, and alignment with multicounty  
155 and countywide planning activities.

156           C. Every ~~((fourth))~~ eighth year beginning in ~~((2000))~~ 2023, the county shall  
157 complete a comprehensive review of the Comprehensive Plan in order to update it as

appropriate and to ensure continued compliance with the GMA. This review may provide for a cumulative analysis of the twenty-year plan based upon official population growth forecasts, benchmarks and other relevant data in order to consider substantive changes to policy language and changes to the urban growth area. This comprehensive review shall begin one year in advance of the transmittal and may be referred to as the ~~((four))~~ eight-year cycle. The urban growth area boundaries shall be reviewed in the context of the ~~((four))~~ eight-year cycle and in accordance with countywide planning policy G-1 and RCW 36.70A.130. If the county determines that the purposes of the Comprehensive Plan are not being achieved as evidenced by official population growth forecasts, benchmarks, trends and other relevant data, substantive changes to the Comprehensive Plan may also be considered ~~((on even calendar years))~~ at the midpoint of the eight-year cycle. This determination shall be authorized by motion. The motion shall specify the scope of the ~~((even-year))~~ midpoint amendment, and identify that the resources necessary to accomplish the work are available. An analysis of the motion's fiscal impact shall be provided to the council before to adoption. The executive shall determine if additional funds are necessary to complete the ~~((even-year))~~ midpoint amendment, and may transmit an ordinance requesting the appropriation of supplemental funds.

D. The executive shall seek public comment on the ~~((e))~~Comprehensive ~~((p))~~Plan and any proposed ~~((e))~~Comprehensive ~~((p))~~Plan amendments in accordance with the procedures in K.C.C. 20.18.160 before making a recommendation, in addition to conducting the public review and comment procedures required by SEPA. The public shall be afforded at least one official opportunity to record public comment before the



transmittal of a recommendation by the executive to the council. County-sponsored councils and commissions may submit written position statements that shall be considered by the executive before transmittal and by the council before adoption, if they are received in a timely manner. The executive's recommendations for changes to policies, text and maps shall include the elements listed in Comprehensive Plan policy I-207 and analysis of their financial costs and public benefits, any of which may be included in environmental review documents. Proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan shall be accompanied by any development regulations or amendments to development regulations, including area zoning, necessary to implement the proposed amendments.

SECTION 8. Ordinance 13147, Section 20, and K.C.C. 20.18.040 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Site-specific land use map or shoreline master program map amendments may be considered annually or during the ~~((four))~~ eight-year review cycle, depending on the degree of change proposed.

B. The following categories of site-specific land use map amendments or shoreline master program map may be initiated by either the county or a property owner for consideration in the annual review cycle:

1. Amendments that do not require substantive change to ~~((e))~~Comprehensive ~~((p))~~Plan policy language and that do not alter the urban growth area boundary, except to correct mapping errors; and

2. Four-to-one-proposals.

C. The following categories of site-specific land use map and shoreline master

program amendments may be initiated by either the county or a property owner for consideration in ~~((four))~~ eight-year review cycle:

1. Amendments that could be considered in the annual review cycle;
2. Amendments that require substantive change to Comprehensive Plan policy language; and
3. Amendments to the urban growth area boundary.

SECTION 9. Ordinance 3688, Section 813, and K.C.C. 20.18.056 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Shoreline environments designated by the master program may be considered for redesignation during the ~~((four))~~ eight-year review cycle.

B. A redesignation shall follow the process in K.C.C. 20.18.050.

SECTION 10. Ordinance 13147, Section 22, and K.C.C. 20.18.060 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Beginning in ~~((1999))~~ 2021, and every ~~((fourth))~~ eight year thereafter the executive shall transmit to the council by the ~~((first))~~ last business day of ~~((March))~~ June a proposed motion specifying the scope of work for proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan that will occur in the following year, which motion shall include the following:

1. Topical areas relating to amendments to policies, the land use map ~~((and/or))~~, implementing development regulations, or any combination of those amendments that the executive intends to consider for recommendation to the council; and

2. An attachment to the motion advising the council of the work program the executive intends to follow to accomplish state Environmental Policy Act review and

227 public participation.

228 B. The council shall have until ~~((April 30))~~ the first business day of September to  
229 approve the motion. In the absence of council approval, the executive shall proceed to  
230 implement the work program as proposed. If the motion is approved, the work program  
231 shall proceed as established by the approved motion.

232 C. Beginning in ~~((2000))~~ 2022 and every ~~((fourth))~~ eighth year thereafter, the  
233 executive shall transmit to the council by the ~~((first))~~ last business day of ~~((March))~~ June  
234 a proposed ordinance amending the Comprehensive Plan, except that the capital  
235 improvement program and the ordinances adopting updates to the transportation needs  
236 report and the school capital facility plans shall be transmitted no later than the biennial  
237 budget transmittal and shall be adopted in conjunction with the budget. However, in  
238 those years when there is only a midbiennium review of the budget, the ordinances  
239 adopting the capital improvement plan and the school capital facility plans shall be  
240 transmitted by October 1 and adopted no later than the midbiennium review under K.C.C.  
241 4A.100.010. All transmittals shall be accompanied by a public participation note,  
242 identifying the methods used by the executive to ensure early and continuous public  
243 participation in the preparation of amendments. The council shall have until June 30 of  
244 the following year to adopt the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, in accordance  
245 with RCW 36.70A.130.

246 SECTION 11. Ordinance 13147, Section 23, and K.C.C. 20.18.070 are hereby  
247 amended to read as follows:

248 A. The executive shall transmit to the council any proposed amendments for the  
249 annual cycle by the ~~((first))~~ last business day of ~~((March))~~ June, except that the capital

improvement program and the ordinances adopting updates to the transportation needs report and the school capital facility plans shall be transmitted no later than the biennial budget transmittal and shall be adopted in conjunction with the budget. However, in those years when there is only a midbiennium review of the budget, the ordinances adopting the capital improvement plan and the school capital facility plans shall be transmitted by October 1, and adopted no later than the midbiennium review under K.C.C. 4A.100.010.

B. All transmittals shall be accompanied by a public participation note, identifying the methods used by the executive to assure early and continuous public participation in the preparation of amendments.

C. Proposed amendments, including site-specific land use map amendments, that are found to require preparation of an environmental impact statement, shall be considered for inclusion in the next amendment cycle following completion of the appropriate environmental documents.

SECTION 12. Ordinance 13147, Section 24, and K.C.C. 20.18.080 are hereby amended to read as follows:

Initial subarea plans may be adopted by ordinance at any time. The ((S))subarea plan((s may be initiated by motion or by council action which preceded the adoption of Ordinance 13147. If initiated by motion, the motion shall specify the scope of the plan, identify the completion date, and identify that the resources necessary to accomplish the work are available. The executive will determine if additional funds are necessary to complete the subarea plan, and may transmit an ordinance requesting the appropriation of supplemental funds)) schedule is established in the Comprehensive Plan. Amendments to

or updates of existing subarea plans shall be considered in the same manner as amendments to the ~~((e))~~Comprehensive ~~((p))~~Plan and shall be classified ~~((pursuant to))~~ in accordance with K.C.C. 20.18.040~~((, except that comprehensive updates of subarea plans may be initiated by motion and the resulting amendments may be considered in the annual cycle))~~.

SECTION 13. Ordinance 13147, Section 30, and K.C.C. 20.18.140 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. In accordance with RCW 36.70A.470, a docket containing written comments on suggested plan or development regulation amendments shall be coordinated by the department. The docket is the means either to suggest a change or to identify a deficiency, or both, in the Comprehensive Plan or development regulation. For the purposes of this section, "deficiency" refers to the absence of required or potentially desirable contents of the Comprehensive Plan or development regulation and does not refer to whether a development regulation addressed a project's probable specific adverse environmental impacts that could be mitigated in the project review process. Any interested party, including applicants, citizens and government agencies, may submit items to the docket.

B. All agencies of county government having responsibility for elements of the Comprehensive Plan or implementing development regulations shall provide a means by which citizens may docket written comments on the plan or on development regulations. The department shall use public participation methods identified in K.C.C. 20.18.160 to solicit public use of the docket. The department shall provide a mechanism for docketing amendments through the Internet.

296           1. All docketed comments relating to the Comprehensive Plan shall be reviewed  
297 by the department and considered for an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

298           2. The deadline for submitting docketed comments is ~~((June 30))~~ December 31  
299 for consideration in the amendment cycle process for the following year.

300           3. By the ~~((first))~~ last business day of ~~((December))~~ April, the department shall  
301 issue an executive response to all docketed comments. Responses shall include a  
302 classification of the recommended changes as appropriate for either the annual or ~~((four))~~  
303 eight-year cycle, and an executive recommendation indicating whether or not the  
304 docketed items are to be included in the next ~~((year's))~~ executive-recommended  
305 ~~((e))~~Comprehensive ~~((p))~~Plan update. If the docketed changes will not be included in the  
306 next executive transmittal, the department shall indicate the reasons why, and shall  
307 inform the proponent that they may petition the council during the legislative review  
308 process.

309           4. By the ~~((first))~~ last business day of ~~((December))~~ April, the department shall  
310 forward to the council a report including all docketed amendments and comments with an  
311 executive response. The report shall include a statement indicating that the department  
312 has complied with the notification requirements contained in this section.

313           5. Upon receipt of the docket report, the council shall include all proponents of  
314 docketed requests in the mailing list for agendas to all committee meetings in which the  
315 Comprehensive Plan will be reviewed during the next available update. At the beginning  
316 of the committee review process, the council shall develop a committee review schedule  
317 with dates for committee meetings and any other opportunities for public testimony and  
318 for proponents to petition the council to consider docket changes that were not

recommended by the executive and shall attach the review schedule to the agenda whenever the Comprehensive Plan is to be reviewed.

6 Docketed comments relating to development regulations shall be reviewed by the appropriate county agency. Those requiring a Comprehensive Plan amendment shall be forwarded to the department and considered for an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. Those not requiring a Comprehensive Plan amendment shall be considered by the responsible county agency for amendments to the development regulations.

7. The docket report shall be made available through the Internet. The department shall endeavor to make the docket report available within one week of transmittal to the council.

C. In addition to the docket, the department shall provide opportunities for general public comments both before the docketing deadline each year, and during the executive's review periods before transmittal to the council. The opportunities may include, but are not limited to, the use of the following: comment cards, electronic or posted mail, Internet, public meetings with opportunities for discussion and feedback, printed summaries of comments received and twenty-four-hour telephone hotlines. The executive shall assure that the opportunities for public comment are provided as early as possible for each stage of the process, to assure timely opportunity for public input.

SECTION 14. Ordinance 14047, Section 9, and K.C.C. 20.18.170 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The total area added to the urban growth area as a result of this program shall not exceed four thousand acres. The department shall keep a cumulative total for all parcels added under this section. The total shall be updated annually through the plan

342 amendment process.

343           B. Proposals shall be processed as land use amendments to the Comprehensive  
344 Plan and may be considered in either the annual or ((~~four~~)) eight-year cycle. Site  
345 suitability and development conditions for both the urban and rural portions of the  
346 proposal shall be established through the preliminary formal plat approval process.

347           C. A term conservation easement shall be placed on the open space at the time  
348 the four to one proposal is approved by the council. Upon final plat approval, the open  
349 space shall be permanently dedicated in fee simple to King County.

350           D. Proposals adjacent to incorporated area or potential annexation areas shall be  
351 referred to the affected city and special purpose districts for recommendations.

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.



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Dow Constantine, County Executive

**Attachments:** A. 2018 Amendments to the 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan, B. 2018 Amendment to the Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area Subarea Plan