



State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

Determination of Significance, Notice of Adoption of Existing Environmental Documents, and 2021 Addendum to Existing Environmental Documents

Date of Issuance:	May 31 2021
Lead Agency:	King County on behalf of the King County Growth Management Planning Council.
Agency Contact:	Karen Wolf Senior Policy Analyst 206-263-9649 karen.wolf@kingcounty.gov
Name of Proposal:	Proposed Motion 21-1 Recommending Amendments to the King County Countywide Planning Policies to the King County Council, and Proposed Motion 21-2 Recommending Approval of the 2021 King County Urban Growth Capacity Report to the King County Council.
Summary of Proposal:	<p>Adoption of the 2021 King County Countywide Planning Policies and Appendices in accordance with the state Growth Management Act. The Countywide Planning Policies implement the Washington State Growth Management Act, and the VISON 2050 Multicounty Planning Policies as adopted by the Puget Sound Regional Council in 2020. The comprehensive plan for King County and city comprehensive plans are developed from the framework that the Countywide Planning Policies create. Countywide Planning Policies are being updated in advance of the 2024 periodic update of comprehensive plans to reflect a number of changes to the regional policy framework and to reflect new priorities addressing equity and social justice within our communities. The policies and growth targets in the Countywide Planning Policies are informed by the Urban Growth Capacity Report.</p> <p>The adoption of the 2021 King County Countywide Planning Policies and Appendices and Urban Growth</p>

Capacity Report is a non-project action under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act.

Location of Materials: Materials can be found on the King County website at:

<https://kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/CPPs.aspx>

Affected Geographic Area: Unincorporated King County
Zoning All zones
Drainage Subbasin All drainage subbasins
Section/Township/Range All STR's

Proponent: King County on behalf of The King County Growth Management Planning Council

Agency Preparing Document: King County
Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 810, Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 263-8494

SEPA Contact: Ivan Miller, AICP
Comprehensive Plan Manager and SEPA Responsible Official for Comprehensive Planning
206-263-8297

Approvals Required: The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC), which brings together elected officials from King County and the cities, develops and recommends the CPPs to the King County Council. The GMPC is expected to act on the CPPs at their meeting on June 23, 2021.

Adoption by the King County Council, and ratification by cities and towns in conformance with procedures specified in the Countywide Planning Policies. Per Multicounty Planning Policy RC-13, CPPs are to be updated, where necessary, prior to December 31, 2021, to address the multicounty planning policies in VISION 2050.

Threshold Determination

The responsible official finds that the above-described proposal poses a probable significant adverse impact to the environment and is therefore issuing a Determination of Significance. This finding is made pursuant to RCW 43.21C, KCC 20.44 and WAC 197-11.

After an independent review of the documents being adopted, including the Puget Sound Regional Council's Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for VISION 2050, and the Final EIS for VISION 2040, and other information in the file, the responsible official has identified and adopted them as being appropriate for this proposal.

An addendum to the EISs for VISION 2040 and VISION 2050 and the other documents is also being prepared to add information and analysis about the amendments being proposed to the currently adopted 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies. The Addendum does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts and alternatives in the adopted environmental documents. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. The responsible official finds this information reasonably sufficient to evaluate the environmental impact of this proposal.

Documents Adopted and Addended

Multicounty Planning Policies

- Puget Sound Regional Council, VISION 2050 – Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Appendices, March 2020
- Puget Sound Regional Council, VISION 2040 – Final Environmental Impact Statement and Appendices, April 2008 (which combines the information found in the Draft and Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statements, which were released in May 2006 and July 2007)

Countywide Planning Policies

- King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, Addendum to Existing Environmental Documents, November 2016, 2012
- King County Parks, Planning and Resources Department, Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Countywide Planning Policies, May 18, 1994, prepared by Henigar & Ray
- King County Parks, Planning and Resources Department, Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Countywide Planning Policies, January 12, 1994, prepared by Henigar & Ray

Description of Adopted and Addended Documents

Multicounty Planning Policies. The VISION 2050 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) includes a Preferred Growth Alternative and three distinct alternatives that initially were reviewed in a Draft SEIS. The strategy for accommodating growth asserts that the region will sustain and grow a variety of places, such as centers and central cities, small towns, and rural areas, into the future. Other than in natural resource lands and military installations, all growth alternatives assumed that all types of communities will grow and accommodate forecast growth (1.8 million additional people and 1.2 million additional jobs), though at different rates by

geography and by county. Specific allocations were made to King County at the countywide level and at the regional geography level which groups cities, towns, and areas together.

The Draft SEIS alternatives were developed after a public comment and scoping process, extensive review by Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) Growth Management Policy Board, and input from regional staff and other stakeholders. The three alternatives allowed the environmental analysis to consider the effects of extending the growth strategy to 2050 and the potential effects of changes to that strategy. Based on extensive outreach and analysis, the PSRC developed a Preferred Growth Alternative that was analyzed in the Final SEIS and adopted.

Implementation of VISION 2050 is enabled by its multicounty planning policies and regional growth strategy. As stated at RCW 36.70A.210 and WAC 365-196-305, multicounty planning policies are adopted by two or more counties and establish a common region-wide framework that ensures consistency among county and city comprehensive plans adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.070, and countywide planning policies adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.210.

Countywide Planning Policies. The currently adopted 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies and appendices were developed to ensure consistency with the regional growth strategy and multicounty planning policies in VISION 2040. The 2012 update included SEPA review and the release of a SEPA Addendum. Prior to that, the Countywide Planning Policies and appendices were updated in 1994 and underwent environmental review, including the release of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. These documents are informed by the data and analysis in the Urban Growth Capacity Report, formerly known as the Buildable Lands Report.

Public Comments

Pursuant to KCC 20.44.120 there is no administrative appeal of this Threshold Determination. Written comments should be addressed to the listed SEPA contact.

Comment deadline: 11:59 PM on Sunday, June 20, 2021

Address for comment: King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 810
Seattle, WA 98104

Comments accepted at GMPC@kingcounty.gov. Due to COVID-19, hard copy materials will not be accepted.

Public Hearing: The Growth Management Planning Council is scheduled to act on the 2021 Update of the Countywide Planning Policies and 2021 Urban Growth Capacity Report in June 2021. Their action is to recommend amendments to the King County Council for consideration, possible revision, and approval, per the process described in the CPPs. Following this, the King County Council will consider action on the

CPPs and Urban Growth Capacity Report and may at such time
schedule a public hearing or hearings.

Responsible Official:



Ivan Miller

May 31 2021

Date

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King County

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

Addendum to Existing Environmental Documents for the 2021 King County Countywide Planning Policies

May 31 2021

Prepared in Compliance with

The Washington State Environmental Policy Act of 1971
Chapter 43.21C, Revised Code of Washington
Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code
Revised SEPA Guidelines, Effective April 4, 1984
and King County Code Chapter 20.44

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Fact Sheet

Project Title and Description: Proposed Motion 21-1 Recommending Amendments to the King County Countywide Planning Policies to the King County Council, and Proposed Motion 21-2 Recommending Approval of the 2021 King County Urban Growth Capacity Report to the King County Council. The Countywide Planning Policies serve as a framework for each King County jurisdiction's comprehensive plan and ensure countywide consistency with respect to land use planning efforts.

Name and Address of Proponent King County on behalf of the King County Growth Management Planning Council.
Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 810
Seattle, WA 98104

Proposed date for implementation: The effective date is established during County Council adoption. Typically, the effective date will be within a month of adoption.

Name and Address of Lead Agency Responsible Officials: Ivan Miller, AICP
Comprehensive Plan Manager and SEPA Responsible Official for Comprehensive Planning
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401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 810
Seattle, WA 98104
206-263-8297

List of Permits and Approvals: The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC), which brings together elected officials from King County and the cities, develops and recommends the CPPs to the King County Council. The GMPC is expected to act on the CPPs at their meeting on June 23, 2021.

Adoption by the King County Council, and ratification by cities and towns in conformance with procedures specified in the Countywide Planning Policies. Per Multicounty Planning Policy RC-13, CPPs are to be updated, where necessary, prior to December 31, 2021, to address the multicounty planning policies in VISION 2050. Per state law, the Urban

Growth Capacity Report is also adopted by the King County Council.

Authors and Contributors:	King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget on behalf of the King County Growth Management Planning Council
Date of Issuance:	May 31 2021
Agency Action and projected date for action:	Adoption by Metropolitan King County Council.
Public Comments Due:	Comments accepted at GMPC@kingcounty.gov . Due to COVID-19, hard copy materials will not be accepted. Comments must be received no later than 11:59 PM on Sunday, June 20, 2021.
Public Hearing:	The Growth Management Planning Council is scheduled to act on the 2021 Update of the Countywide Planning Policies and 2021 Urban Growth Capacity Report in June 2021. Their action is to recommend amendments to the King County Council for consideration, possible revision, and approval, per the process described in the CPPs. Following this, the King County Council will consider action on the CPPs and Urban Growth Capacity Report and may at such time schedule a public hearing or hearings.
Subsequent Environmental Review:	None
Location of Background Data & Supporting Documents:	Materials can be found on the King County website at: https://kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/CPPs.aspx

Overview and Summary of Proposal

The Washington State Growth Management Act, adopted by the state legislature in 1990, established an overall framework for cooperative and coordinated planning in Washington State. This includes multicounty planning policies in the central Puget Sound region, Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) at the countywide level, and Comprehensive Plans and implementing development regulations at the jurisdiction level. The King County CPPs address those issues that benefit from consistency across jurisdictions and those that are of a countywide or regional nature.

The King County CPPs sit midstream in the planning process: implementing the multicounty planning policies for the central Puget Sound region contained in the Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) VISION 2050 plan and informing how local comprehensive plans are developed. As a mid-cycle product, the CPPs are heavily influenced by the multicounty planning policies to ensure consistency from the regional to the local level. The policies and growth targets in the Countywide Planning Policies are informed by the data and analysis in the Urban Growth Capacity Report, formerly known as the Buildable Lands Report.

Mirroring VISION 2050, the CPPs have six chapters covering the required elements of comprehensive plans, a framework chapter detailing the document's purpose and internal processes, and numeric guidance for future growth that forms the basis for the land use assumptions in comprehensive plans. This hierarchy ensures that the impacts of the CPPs are consistent with those discussed in the PSRC's environmental review for VISION 2050 and VISION 2040.

In 1992 and 1994, the jurisdictions in King County complied with the Growth Management Act through its adoption of CPPs. These were comprehensively updated in 2012 following the adoption of VISION 2040 in 2008. The CPPs are being updated again following the adoption of VISION 2050 in 2020.

The adoption of the 2021 King County CPPs and the Urban Growth Capacity Report is a non-project action under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Environmental review was conducted on both VISION 2040 and VISION 2050. This Addendum, issued pursuant to RCW 43.21C, KCC 20.44 and WAC 197-11, finds that the 2021 CPP update fits within the range of past environmental reviews and does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts and alternatives in the environmental documents listed in the Determination of Significance and Notice of Adoption of Existing Environmental Documents. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. The responsible official finds this information reasonably sufficient to evaluate the environmental impact of this proposal.

Prior Environmental Review

Multicounty Planning Policies

The VISION 2050 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) includes a Preferred Growth Alternative and three distinct alternatives that initially were reviewed in a Draft SEIS. The strategy for accommodating growth asserts that the region will sustain and grow a variety of places, such as centers and central cities, small towns, and rural areas, into the future. Other than in natural resource lands and military installations, all growth alternatives assumed that all types of communities will grow and accommodate forecast growth (1.8 million additional people and 1.2 million additional jobs), though at different rates by geography and by county. Specific allocations were made to King County at the countywide level and at the regional geography level which groups cities, towns, and areas together.

The Draft SEIS alternatives were developed after a public comment and scoping process, extensive review by PSRC's Growth Management Policy Board, and input from regional staff and other stakeholders. The three alternatives allowed the environmental analysis to consider the effects of extending the growth strategy to 2050 and the potential effects of changes to that strategy. Based on extensive outreach and analysis, the PSRC developed a Preferred Growth Alternative that was analyzed in the Final SEIS and adopted. The potential environmental effects of the Preferred Growth Alternative, for impacts that could be differentiated among the alternatives, were better on nearly every measure than the No Action alternative, known as Stay the Course.

These measures included the following: population and employment growth in proximity to urban growth boundary; acres of developed land; population and employment growth in Regional Growth Centers and in proximity to high-capacity and all transit service; average daily drive time and drive distance, per person; average annual time spent in congestion, per person; annual transit boardings; average jobs accessible by walking, biking, or transit per person; multiple measures related to environmental justice including job-housing balance and access to transit in areas with diverse demographics; tons per day CO₂e (measure of GHG emissions); acres of land developed; development in areas likely to have regionally significant habitat; total impervious surface added through new development and redevelopment; population growth in Urban Unincorporated and Rural areas, which are more likely to need new or extended infrastructure; urban population growth in proximity to parks providing local urban access.

Countywide Planning Policies

The currently adopted 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies and appendices were developed to ensure consistency with the regional growth strategy and multicounty planning policies in VISION 2040. The 2012 update included SEPA review and the release of a SEPA Addendum. Prior to that, the Countywide Planning Policies and appendices were updated in 1994 and underwent environmental review, including the release of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

Chapter Environmental Review

The 2021 update builds on the 2012 CPPs and the foundational components are left unchanged, such as the location of the urban growth area boundary, the designation of regional centers, the direction to focus growth into cities and centers within the urban growth area, the protection of rural areas through growth targets and provision of infrastructure, the coordinated approach to environmental protection, the shared responsibility for addressing affordable housing needs, the collaborative approach to planning through the Growth Management Planning Council, and more.

While the foundations and structure remain unchanged, VISION 2050 provided direction for strengthening and refining some provisions and therefore amended and new CPPs are proposed. Shown below by chapter are the key themes for the changes, and where relevant to the environmental review, discussion of specific policy changes.

Framework Chapter

The chapter begins with a Land Acknowledgement that calls for a livable, equitable, and sustainable region. This is followed by a Vision Statement that calls for critical areas to be protected and restored, accessible open spaces, permanent protection of rural areas, and bountiful and productive natural resource lands. Changes to policies in this chapter are limited except for the inclusion of a new section that addresses equity in planning.

- New policies call for integrating equity into planning processes, plans, and outcomes through increased involvement of community.

While these policies do not directly affect environmental topics, they do promote an integrated and consistent framework that helps ensure alignment between implementation and the CPPs as a whole. These changes are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts.

Environment Chapter

The Environment chapter emphasizes environmental sustainability to strengthen the region's economic, social, and environmental resiliency, while enhancing our ability to cope with adverse trends, including the challenges associated with climate change. The focus of the Environment Chapter is on those issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries, have cross-jurisdictional impacts, or require a strong policy foundation for continued coordination across the County.

The policies in the Environment chapter are supported by additional environmental policies in the Development Patterns, Transportation and Public Services chapters. The 2012

Environment chapter includes policies that address:

- Environmental Sustainability
 - Collaborative approaches to integrate development with ecological, social, and economic concerns to maintain healthy ecosystems and environments. Sustainable development is grounded in the Environment chapter and echoed as a theme throughout the CPPs.

- Recognizing the importance of environmental justice principles.
- Earth and Habitat
 - Multi-jurisdictional coordination in designating and protecting critical areas, developing common methodologies for assessing habitat needs, and planning for open space and greenbelts that cross jurisdictional boundaries.
- Flood Hazards
 - Recognizing the role of King County Flood Control District and calls for coordinated flood hazard management efforts throughout the District.
 - Encouraging multi-jurisdictional approaches that balance regional levee maintenance standards with public safety and habitat protection objectives.
- Water Resources
 - Supporting the protection of water resources by calling on jurisdictions to coordinate land use and transportation plans and actions for the benefit of Puget Sound and its watershed.
 - Calling for the establishment of a multi-jurisdictional approach to water quality funding and monitoring.
 - Calling for water conservation efforts to protect natural resources and support a sustainable water supply.
- Air Quality and Climate Change
 - Encouraging land use patterns and transportation systems that minimize air pollution and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Relevant policies are found in the Environment, Development Patterns, and Transportation chapters.
 - Calling for a countywide GHG reduction target and establishment of a countywide measurement framework to monitor progress toward that target.
 - Recognizing the role of energy efficiency in climate change reduction strategies.
 - Calling for a climate change adaptation strategy.

Building on the 2012 CPPs, the proposed changes in the 2021 CPP Update include the following:

- Environmental Sustainability
 - Supporting addressing climate action, mitigation, and resilience into local comprehensive plans.
 - Calls for use of integrated and interdisciplinary approaches for environmental assessment and planning.
 - Supporting incorporation of appropriate low impact development approaches as developed using a watershed planning framework.
 - Supporting a sustainable energy future through planning for efficiency and new technologies.
- Earth and Habitat
 - Supporting work to enhance species habitat to improve species recovery.
 - Calling for alignment of development practices with the State's streamflow restoration law.
 - Supporting enhancement of urban tree canopy.
- Flood Hazards
 - Supporting funding holistic flood hazard management efforts.

- Water Resources
 - Supporting environmental stewardship on private and public lands.
- Open Space
 - Supporting implementation of the Puget Sound Regional Open Space Plan.
 - Supporting preservation of native vegetation and tree canopy.
 - Supporting open space access within walking distance of urban area residents.
- Restoration & Pollution
 - Promoting alternatives to pesticides and fertilizers, such as integrated pest management strategies.
 - Supporting restoration of ecological function and value to the region's freshwater and marine waterbodies.
 - Supporting addressing environmental pollutants and hazards.
 - Supporting adoption of provisions related to new or existing fossil fuel facilities.
- Climate Change
 - Supporting adoption of provisions that align countywide GHG emissions reduction goals and targets with the latest international climate science.
 - Calling for reducing countywide sources of GHG emissions compared to a 2007 baseline by 50% by 2030, 75% by 2040, and 95% and net zero emissions by 2050.
 - Supporting work to develop city specific emissions inventories and data.
 - Directing that rising sea water be addressed by siting and planning for relocation of hazardous industries and essential public services away from the 500-year floodplain.
 - Supporting protection of forests, farmland, wetlands, estuaries, and urban tree canopy, which sequester and store carbon.
 - Supporting the production and storage of clean renewable energy.

This is the chapter with the most significant nexus with elements of the natural environment. Throughout the chapter, policies have been strengthened and refined, particularly in relationship with the myriad aspects of climate change. The policies are intended to result in reduced impacts to specific resources, as well tighter coordination and integration of environmental planning efforts. Collectively, these changes are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts and may be anticipated to result in a reduction of any adverse environmental effects than would be expected under the existing adopted 2012 CPPs.

Development Patterns Chapter

The Development Patterns chapter addresses the location; types; design and form; and intensity of land uses throughout King County and its cities. The policies describe and implement a vision for future growth within the County, including its relationship to other functional elements of the CPPs such as transportation, public services, the environment, affordable housing, and public health. Development Patterns policies are at the core of growth management efforts in King County, in furtherance of the goals and objectives of VISION 2050, and with recognition of the variety of local communities within which those goals and objectives are realized. The 2012 Development Patterns chapter includes policies that address:

- Urban Growth Area

- Calling for the designation of all land within King County as either Urban Land within the Urban Growth Area (UGA), Rural Land, or Resource Land.
- Promoting a pattern of growth within the UGA that is consistent with the regional vision.
- Establishing housing and employment growth targets for the 2006 – 2031 planning period.
- Identifying the review and amendment processes for monitoring the UGA.
- Reaffirming the buildable lands program pursuant to the GMA.
- Calling for joint planning, especially with regard to the annexation of unincorporated Urban Lands.
- Centers
 - Promoting centers (countywide designated Urban Centers and Manufacturing/Industrial Centers as well as locally designated centers) and compact development. Policy DP-28 requires that a proposed Urban Center meet the criteria of designation by the PSRC as a Regional Growth Center as well as additional countywide-established criteria (beyond those required by the PSRC) regarding geographic size, zoning regulations, and infrastructure plans to accommodate certain densities of job activity and housing units.
- Urban Design and Historic Preservation
 - Including elements of urban design and form intended to integrate urban development into existing built and natural environments in ways that enhance both the urban and natural settings.
- Rural Area and Resource Lands
 - Minimizing negative environmental impacts to Rural Lands; call for appropriate character and location of development in Rural Areas; and identification of strategies to permanently protect such lands.
 - Limiting nonresidential uses located in the Rural Area to those that are demonstrated to serve the Rural Area unless the use is dependent upon a rural location.

Building on the 2012 CPPs, the proposed changes in the 2021 CPP Update include the following:

- Urban Growth Area
 - Calling for a stable urban growth area boundary with capacity increasing within it over time to accommodate growth.
 - Adding a focus for growth in designated countywide centers and local transit station areas.
 - Supporting land use and community investment strategies that address racially and ethnically disparate health outcomes and promote access to opportunity.
 - Supporting increasing access to healthy food.
 - Prohibiting the approval of new Fully Contained Communities and directing collaboration when large developments occur in cities in the rural area.
- Growth Targets
 - Supporting consideration of social equity in the target setting process.
 - Clarifying that adopted targets are to be used as the land use assumption for local comprehensive plans.

- Clarifying that service plans are to be consistent with adopted local targets.
- Amendments to the Urban Growth Area
 - Clarifying the role for GMPC is for all amendments to the Urban Growth Area boundary.
 - Clarifying provisions of the Four to One program, consistent with existing practice, and adding new criteria such as not allowing development until the property is annexed by the city, requiring a tri-party agreement as part of approval, and considering the impact on road networks in the Rural Area.
- Review and Evaluation Program
 - Updating urban growth capacity policies for consistency with state law changes.
 - Establishing reasonable measures policies for consistency with state law changes.
- Joint Planning and Annexation
 - Supporting expansion of joint planning policies to include other key stakeholders such as tribal governments, ports, airports, and others.
 - Clarifying annexation policies related to affiliation, holistic approaches, and pre-annexation agreements.
 - Expanding annexation criteria to include social equity and timeliness.
- Centers and Station Areas
 - Reiterating and strengthening focus on multiple center types and ensuring growth levels consistent with regional policies.
 - Adopting a King County Centers Designation Framework that establishes designation processes and timelines, minimum existing and planned density thresholds, and subarea planning expectations.
 - Supporting consideration of physical, economic, and cultural displacement of residents and businesses in regional growth centers and high-capacity transit station areas.
- Urban Design and Historic Preservation
 - Adding social equity concepts throughout these policies.
 - Filling in the sets of examples for how to address these policies.
 - Supporting addressing the need for green infrastructure and urban tree canopy.
- Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands
 - Calling for a stable rural area geography.
 - Addressing the important role of Cities in the Rural Area, consistent with adopted growth levels.
 - Supporting mitigation of the impacts of industrial-scale development in the Rural Area.
 - Supporting protection of natural resource lands from redesignation and supporting collaborative watershed processes that balance the needs of resource-based industries with habitat and species protection.
 - Supporting addressing the need for mine reclamation as part of a redesignation process.

This chapter has a significant nexus with the elements of the built environment. Throughout the chapter, policies have been strengthened and refined, consistent with the multicounty planning policies, to focus growth into already urbanized areas – including areas with sufficient zoning capacity as informed by the data and analysis in the Urban Growth Capacity Report, to protect

and support rural areas and resource lands, to improve access to and the presence of open spaces within the urban area and cities, and to link land use and transportation. As described in the aforementioned adopted environmental review documents, the outcomes will be less growth in more pristine environmental areas, reduced transportation and infrastructure impacts, and fewer pollutants and emissions. Collectively, these changes are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts and may be anticipated to result in a reduction of any adverse environmental effects than would be expected under the existing adopted 2012 CPPs.

Housing Chapter

The Housing chapter addresses countywide affordable housing needs; local housing inventory and analyses; regional collaboration; policies and strategies to meet housing needs equitably; and measuring results, accountability, and strategy adjustments. The policies set forth a vision for providing a full range of affordable, accessible, healthy, and safe housing choices to every resident in King County. Further, they respond to the legacy of discriminatory housing and land use policies and practices (e.g. redlining, racially restrictive covenants, exclusionary zoning, etc.) that have led to significant racial and economic disparities in access to housing and neighborhoods of choice. These disparities affect equitable access to well-funded schools, transportation, healthy environments, open space, and employment. The 2012 Housing Chapter includes policies that address:

- Countywide housing need and the need for housing affordable to households at less than 30 percent of area median income (AMI).
- Housing inventory and needs analysis, as required by the Growth Management Act (GMA).
- Strategies to meet housing needs, including:
 - Providing zoning capacity in the Urban Growth Area for a range of housing types;
 - Adopting policies, strategies, actions, and regulations at the local and countywide levels that promote housing supply, affordability, and diversity;
 - Preserving affordable homes and maintenance of housing stock;
 - Promoting jobs-housing balance and housing with transit and active transportation access;
 - Planning for healthy housing and communities; and
 - Promoting fair housing and diverse communities.
- Regional cooperation, including sub-regionally and with the Puget Sound Regional Council to meet countywide housing need.
- Measuring results by:
 - Monitoring housing supply, affordability, and diversity, and progress toward meeting countywide housing need; and
 - Reviewing and amending countywide and local policies and strategies.

Building on the 2012 CPPs, the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Report, and VISION 2050, the proposed changes in the 2021 CPP Update focus on achieving equitable outcomes and include the following:

- Adjusting the countywide need in line with findings of the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force. The countywide need for housing in 2044 by percentage of AMI is:
 - 30 percent and below AMI (extremely low) - 15 percent of total housing supply;
 - 31-50 percent of AMI (very low) - 15 percent of total housing supply; and
 - 51-80 percent of AMI (low) - 19 percent of total housing supply.
- Enhancing the required housing inventory and needs analysis by:
 - Specifying data points to include;
 - Evaluating the effectiveness of existing housing policies and strategies; and
 - Examining and documenting past and current racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing practices and current policies to overcome them.
- Encouraging collaboration with public and private sector partners in the region.
- Adjusting strategies and policies to meet housing needs equitably, including:
 - Requiring collaboration with populations most disproportionately impacted by housing cost burden;
 - Requiring adoption of targeted actions that repair harms to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) households from past and current racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing practices;
 - Including emergency shelter, emergency housing, and permanent supportive housing among the uses for which jurisdictions must identify sufficient land capacity;
 - Prioritizing public resources, including land and subsidy, for housing that serves those with disproportionately greater needs;
 - Ensuring that jobs-housing balance includes attention to needs of low wage workers;
 - Expanding affordable housing and densities to maximize the benefits of transit investments;
 - Adopting inclusive planning tools and policies to increase the ability of all residents to live in the neighborhood of their choice, reduce disparities in access to opportunity areas, and meet the needs of the region's current and future residents;
 - Lowering barriers to affordable homeownership;
 - Promoting equitable development and mitigating displacement risk;
 - Enhancing protections and supports for renters and low-income tenants; and
 - Incorporating equitable access to amenities that support human health into approaches for healthy homes and communities.
- Adjusting the methods for measuring results and providing accountability that specify data reporting requirements for jurisdictions and the County.
- Considering adjustments to land use policies and the land use map when monitoring indicates that adopted strategies are not resulting in adequate affordable housing to meet countywide need.

While some of the provisions in this chapter are procedural and programmatic, they are grounded in the place-based policies in the Development Patterns chapter to focus housing growth into cities, centers and areas served by transit, and avoid growth in outlying areas. The policies are refined to address clarifying the housing need at multiple income levels, specifying data collection and monitoring processes, and refining policies to ensure housing needs are met equitably. These policies are intended to result in appropriate and planned for levels of growth in locations best suited to address the growth. Collectively, these changes are consistent with

those described in the Development Patterns section, are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts, and may be anticipated to result in a reduction of any adverse environmental effects than would be expected under the existing adopted 2012 CPPs.

Economy Chapter

The policies within the Economy chapter are consistent with the VISION 2050 framework and Regional Economic Strategy. VISION 2050 integrates the RES with growth management, transportation, and environmental objectives that are:

- Supporting fundamental economic foundations, such as education, technology, infrastructure, and quality of life.
- Promoting the region's specific economic clusters: aerospace, clean technology, information technology, life sciences, logistics and international trade, military, and tourism.

The Economy chapter of the CPPs supports a thriving, robust, and diverse economy throughout the county. These policies support and implement the Regional Economic Strategy, the region's comprehensive economic development strategy. The CPPs in the Economy chapter address local government's roles and responsibilities supporting business formation, retention, and expansion. The CPPs also encourage actions to reduce and mitigate economic inequities and ensure that the economy provides fair opportunities for all, particularly during downturns and recoveries. In addition to supporting the economic health of jurisdictions countywide, the policies support related goals to improve quality of life, create a healthy environment, and retain natural resources and related jobs.

The 2012 Economy chapter includes policies that address:

- Business Development
 - Supporting business retention and development, including local government actions, such as predictability of local regulations, and public-private partnerships.
 - Integrating the healthy communities concept into the Economy chapter, calling for support of the regional food economy, including production, processing, wholesaling and distribution of the region's agricultural food and food products.
- People
 - Supporting education and workforce training, celebrating the economic advantage of cultural diversity, and addressing disparity in income and employment for those that are economically disadvantaged.
- Places
 - Reinforcing the centers-oriented approach of the region's growth strategy and supports infrastructure investments that are aligned with the region's economic strategy.
 - Guiding economic activity in Rural Cities.

Building on the 2012 CPPs, the proposed changes in the 2021 CPP Update include the following:

- Overall

- Focusing economic planning on prioritizing a diversity of middle wage jobs.
- Supporting industry clusters and defining criteria for their support.
- Business Development
 - Recognizing that community engagement must include a focus on social equity.
 - Supporting manufacturing related clusters in the Regional Economic Strategy.
 - Supporting public-private partnership and the focus on shared decision-making and shared benefits.
 - Recognizing the importance of key assets such as the international gateway location, ports, education, research and more.
 - Supporting the region's food economy and improving food access.
- People
 - Supporting a focus on middle wage jobs and the sectors that support these types of jobs.
 - Supporting social capital, arts and culture, and social equity as key components of a healthy economy.
 - Focusing investments and initiatives to eliminate and correct for historical and ongoing disparities.
- Places
 - Supporting economic growth in urban areas and centers, as guided by the Development Patterns chapter.
 - Recognizing that subregions in the County have unique clusters and sectors, including a focus on manufacturing trades that provide middle-wage jobs.
 - Promoting a clean and healthy natural environment as a key economic asset and directing work to improve access as an economic driver.
 - Encouraging environmental stewardship and social responsibility in business practices, and jobs in sectors that promote environmental sustainability, climate change, and resilience.
 - Supporting manufacturing industrial center policies, as guided by the Development Patterns chapter, which protect these lands, while recognizing that a mix of uses may be appropriate in targeted areas and circumstances.
 - Encouraging a range of job opportunities throughout the region to create a closer balance and match between the location of jobs and housing.
 - Calling for the development of systems that provide financial safety nets and directing resources to reduce inequities and build resiliency.
 - Directing that public investment decisions protect culturally significant economic assets and advance social equity.
 - Supporting protection of small culturally relevant businesses and business clusters.

While some of the provisions in this chapter are procedural and programmatic, they are grounded in the place-based policies in the Development Patterns chapter to focus growth into cities, centers and areas served by transit, and avoid growth in outlying areas. The policies are further refined to address clean energy sectors, support a jobs-housing balance that will reduce transportation emissions, and address equity issues. Collectively, these changes will be consistent with those described in the Development Patterns section, are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts, and may be anticipated to result in a reduction

of any adverse environmental effects than would be expected under the existing adopted 2012 CPPs.

Transportation Chapter

The Transportation chapter of the CPPs guides jurisdictions to create an efficient, reliable, safe, and integrated transportation network for the movement of people and goods on a local and regional scale. Proposed updates encourage alternatives to driving alone including transit and active transportation, minimizing displacement and impact on affected communities, strengthening connections between land use and transportation, and promoting a sustainable transportation system by encouraging transit use, active transportation, and alternative fuels. Goals and policies in the Transportation chapter build on the existing CPPs and the Development Patterns chapter policies. The policies also support Transportation 2050, the region's functional transportation plan that identifies priorities for the region's major investment decisions. The 2012 Transportation chapter includes policies that address:

- Supporting Growth
 - Emphasizing transit and other modes that provide alternatives to driving alone within and between centers, supporting the Regional Growth Strategy as described in VISION 2040.
 - Reinforcing the critical relationship between land use and transportation and guiding the decisions made at the state, regional and local levels that affect that relationship.
- Mobility
 - Promoting the mobility of people — including transit-dependent populations—through a multi-modal transportation system that supports access and connectivity for all users.
 - Recognizing the County's regional economic value by supporting the effective management of the freight-mobility transportation system.
- System Operations
 - Protecting public investments through maintenance, preservation, and safety improvements of the existing transportation system to avoid costly replacement projects.
 - Promoting the identification of reliable financing methods and capabilities, coordination of transportation investment opportunities, and monitoring of transportation investment performance over time.
 - Promoting public health and safety by minimizing human exposure to vehicle emissions; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; integrating the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists in the local and regional transportation plans; and developing coordinated prevention and disaster response plans.
 - Encouraging technologies, programs, and other strategies to optimize the existing infrastructure and promote clean transportation opportunities.

Building on the 2012 CPPs, the proposed changes in the 2021 CPP Update include the following:

- Supporting Growth

- Encouraging cooperation to develop an equitable and sustainable multimodal system.
- Supporting tools and strategies that reduce the need for new capacity.
- Prioritizing investments that increase multimodal travel options.
- Supporting transportation programs and projects that address social equity and support people with special transportation needs.
- Mobility
 - Supporting advocacy for innovative and sustainable, and progressive transportation funding methods.
 - Focusing investments on a variety of tools and strategies prior to implementing major roadway capacity expansion projects.
 - Promoting coordination to optimize the movement of people and goods in the region's aviation system.
 - Linking investments so that industries and workers are retained and attracted to the region.
- System Operations
 - Supporting a reduction in stormwater pollution from transportation facilities and improve fish passage.
 - Supporting a resilient transportation system that is protected against major disruptions and climate change impacts.
 - Supporting achieving the state goal of zero deaths and serious injuries.

Like the Development Patterns chapter, this chapter has a significant nexus with the elements of the built environment. Updates in this chapter are more modest than other chapters and fill in gaps and supportive concepts rather than creating major new policy areas. Updates continue to tie transportation decisions to the policies in the Development Patterns chapter, continue to support alternatives to single-occupant vehicle, and support linking land use and transportation. The policies support reducing stormwater pollution and planning for resiliency in the face of climate change impacts. Collectively, these changes are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts and may be anticipated to result in a reduction of any adverse environmental effects than would be expected under the existing adopted 2012 CPPs.

Public Facilities and Services Chapter

The Public Facilities and Services chapter guides local jurisdictions to provide public services such as water, sewer, telecommunications, and schools in a manner that is consistent with plans for growth and provides services equitably and efficiently. Proposed updates include increasing affordable and equitable access to public services, especially in historically underserved communities, investing in low-carbon energy alternatives to meet long-term energy needs and reduce environmental impacts, requiring planning for providing affordable, convenient, and reliable broadband internet access to businesses and homes of all income levels, with emphasis on underserved areas, consideration of climate change, economic, and health impacts when siting public services and facilities, and encouraging disaster preparedness

and recovery planning to ensure resiliency in public facilities, utilities, and infrastructure. The 2012 Public Facilities and Services chapter includes policies that address:

- Collaboration among jurisdictions
 - Recognizing cities as appropriate providers of services to the UGA, either directly or by contract.
- Utilities
 - Calling for cost-effective provision of utility services including water supply; sewage treatment and disposal; solid waste; energy; and telecommunications.
 - Promoting conservation and efficient use of resources to sustain those resources for use by future generations.
 - Promoting alternative technologies as appropriate to improve service delivery and protect public health and safety.
 - Prohibiting sewer service in the Rural Area and on Resource Lands except when needed to address health and safety, or as an extension through the Rural Area only when necessary, or to serve existing school sites as provided in the School Siting Task Force Report.
- Human and Community Services
 - Encouraging location and provision of human, community, and educational services and facilities in a manner to support the Regional Growth Strategy and distinguish urban communities from rural communities.
- Siting Public Capital Facilities
 - Encouraging all jurisdictions to work collaboratively and consider environmental justice principles when siting regional capital facilities to avoid disproportionate effects on the communities in which they are located.
 - Directing schools, institutions, and other community facilities and services that primarily serve urban populations be located within the UGA except as provided in the School Siting Task Force Report.

Building on the 2012 CPPs, the proposed changes in the 2021 CPP Update include the following:

- Collaboration among jurisdictions
 - Avoiding locating urban serving facilities in the Rural Area.
 - Providing affordable and equitable access to public services to all communities, especially the historically underserved.
- Utilities
 - Directing planning for equitable provision of telecommunication and broadband infrastructure.
 - Encouraging collaboration between jurisdictions and school districts on urban school siting and using best practices.
- Siting Public Capital Facilities
 - Supporting inclusion of historically marginalized communities in the siting process for public capital facilities of regional or statewide importance.
 - Considering climate change, economy, equity, and health impacts when siting and building essential public services and facilities.

- Supporting coordinated planning for public safety services and programs, including emergency management.
- Establishing new or expanded sites for public infrastructure that ensures disaster resiliency and public service recovery.

Recognizing the key role infrastructure plays in guiding growth, there a strong linkage between the policies in this chapter and the Development Patterns chapter, and they are grounded in the place-based policy direction to provide facilities and services in a manner consistent with the goals of focusing growth into cities, centers and areas served by transit, and avoiding growth in outlying areas. The policies are further refined to support equitable access to infrastructure, encouraging additional collaboration on urban school siting, and making siting processes more inclusive and holistic. Collectively, these changes will be consistent with those described in the Development Patterns section, are not anticipated to have significant adverse environmental impacts, and may be anticipated to result in a reduction of any adverse environmental effects than would be expected under the existing adopted 2012 CPPs.

Conclusion

As noted previously, the VISION 2050 FSEIS evaluated alternatives and a Preferred Growth Alternative, also known as the Regional Growth Strategy, was chosen that includes a compact growth pattern based on an update to the VISION 2040 Regional Growth Strategy. The potential environmental effects of the Preferred Growth Alternative were better on nearly every measure than the No Action alternative, known as Stay the Course.

The CPPs build from this updated framework. The policies and numeric growth targets that will guide comprehensive plan and implementing development regulation updates are designed to be fully consistent with the Preferred Growth alternative.

As such, and as discussed in the preceding analysis of the polices in each of the chapters of the CPPs, the updates fall within the range of past environmental reviews and do not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts and alternatives in the environmental documents listed in the Determination of Significance and Notice of Adoption of Existing Environmental Documents.

Appendix A: Distribution List

Tribes

Snoqualmie Tribe
Puyallup Tribe
Muckleshoot Tribe
Tulalip Indian Tribe
Suquamish Indian Tribe

State Agencies

WA State Department of Archaeology
WA State Department of Wildlife
WA State Department of Ecology
WA State Department of Transportation
WA State Department of Commerce – Growth Management

King County Agencies

King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
King County Metro
King County Department of Local Services

Regional Agencies

Puget Sound Regional Council