Overview

The Economy chapter of the Countywide Planning Policies (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.

Policy Changes

Proposed updates to the CPPs in the Economy chapter address updates to regional policy, state law, and equity in the countywide economy.

These proposed updates address equity by strengthening economic resiliency, protecting culturally significant businesses, and preventing and mitigating against economic displacement, especially in Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color.

Updates to the CPPs also encourage workforce development, partnerships with educational programs, and support the creation and retention of middle-wage jobs across the county.

The updated policies will guide local jurisdictions to create a stronger connection between employment and housing, ensuring more residents have options to access to well-paying jobs, reducing commute times, and creating vibrant business communities across the county.

Impacts of Policy Changes

- Supports the creation and preservation of a diverse economy focused on middle-wage jobs.
- Solidifies connection between employment and housing by encouraging a range of job opportunities near housing.
- Directs public investment decisions to protect and consider impacts to culturally significant business districts.
- Emphasizes support for jobs most in need of protection, including key industry clusters and small businesses vulnerable to change.
- Encourages planning for economic downturns and providing direct resources to reduce inequities.

We Need Your Input!

If you would like to provide public comment, have questions about the CPPs or growth management, or want to get involved, please send an email to gmpc@kingcounty.gov or contact Ben Larson by calling (206) 263-9560.