



# Countywide Planning Policies

## Housing



### Overview

The Housing chapter of the **Countywide Planning Policies** (CPPs) provides a framework for all jurisdictions to plan for and promote a range of affordable, accessible, and healthy housing choices for current and future residents. These policies envision local jurisdictions following a four-step process:

1. Conduct an inventory and analysis of housing needs and conditions;
2. Implement policies and strategies to address unmet needs;
3. Measure results; and
4. Respond to measurement with reassessment and adjustment of strategies.

The existing CPPs address housing supply, affordability, and diversity, as well as support housing development in proximity to transit and job centers. They also support regional collaboration as a mechanism to address housing issues countywide.

### Policy Changes

Proposed updates to the Housing chapter align with existing plans, including VISION 2050 and the [2018 Regional Affordable Housing Task Force report](#), strengthen methods of local and regional accountability, and achieve health and equity outcomes. This includes a more robust focus on meeting the growing housing needs of extremely low-, very low-, and low-income populations, particularly through income-restricted affordable housing, as well as incorporating key equity concepts like preventing and mitigating displacement and expanding equitable access to housing and neighborhood choice.

The proposed policy updates also guide local jurisdictions to further embed equity and health outcomes into their comprehensive plans. They build on the 2012 CPPs to establish a monitoring program for local and regional housing data. The proposed amendments clarify housing needs analysis and reporting requirements at the local and regional level to help better assess progress toward addressing the regional affordable housing crisis.

### Impacts of Policy Changes

- Prioritizes the need for housing affordable to people with extremely low-, very low-, and low-incomes.
- Evaluates the effectiveness of housing strategies to meet countywide needs.
- Requires jurisdictions to document local history of racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing practices and implement strategies to address those impacts and repair past harms.
- Increases housing choices for everyone, particularly those earning lower wages, near transit and employment.
- Promotes adoption of anti-displacement policies.
- Monitors progress towards meeting countywide housing targets and provides information related to housing measures on the [King County Affordable Housing Dashboard](#).

### 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](mailto:gmpc@kingcounty.gov) or contact Ben Larson by calling (206) 263-9560.

### What are the Countywide Planning Policies?

The Countywide Planning Policies or CPPs are a series of policies that address growth management issues in King County. The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) brings together elected officials from King County and the cities and jurisdictions within it to develop the CPPs.

The CPPs provide a countywide vision and serve as a framework for King County and every city in King County to develop its own comprehensive plan, which must be consistent with the CPPs and [VISION 2050](#).

For more on CPPs, Comprehensive Plans, and other growth management related information, please visit the King County Regional Planning page by clicking [this link](#).