



KING COUNTY
Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

May 10, 2011

Motion 13475

Proposed No. 2011-0116.2

Sponsors Phillips

1 A MOTION relating to comprehensive planning,
2 specifying the scope of work for the proposed amendment
3 to the King County Comprehensive Plan in 2012 in
4 accordance with K.C.C. 20.18.060.

5 WHEREAS, King County enacted the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan
6 (Plan) to meet the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act, and

7 WHEREAS, King County Code 20.18 establishes a process for amending the
8 Plan and a program for public participation and states that every four years, beginning in
9 2000, the county shall complete comprehensive review of the Plan and consider
10 substantive amendments to the Plan, and

11 WHEREAS, the year 2012 marks the fourth four-year review of the Plan, and

12 WHEREAS, the Washington State Growth Management Act requires King
13 County to review, and if needed revise at least every ten years, its designated urban
14 growth area boundaries in order to accommodate the urban growth projected for the
15 succeeding twenty years, and to review, and if needed revise at least every five years, the
16 comprehensive plan and development regulations to ensure they comply with the
17 requirements of the Growth Management Act, and

18 WHEREAS, in 1992 King County drew an urban growth area boundary and since
19 2000, approximately 96% of the countywide residential development occurred within the
20 urban growth area, and

21 WHEREAS, King County has worked hard to protect critical areas and
22 endangered species such as salmon, has constructed affordable housing, and has
23 committed resources to enrich its less advantaged communities, and

24 WHEREAS, King County must build on these successes and ensure that they
25 continue into the future;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

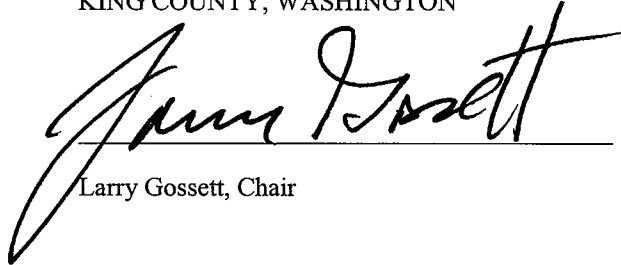
27 The scope of work for the 2012 King County Comprehensive Plan Update
28 contained in Attachment A of this motion and the work program for public involvement
29 contained in Attachment B of this motion are hereby approved as the basis for developing
30

31 the amendments for the King County Comprehensive Plan to be transmitted to the
32 council on March 1, 2012, and for performing the associated environmental analysis.
33

Motion 13475 was introduced on 3/14/2011 and passed as amended by the
Metropolitan King County Council on 5/9/2011, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,
Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr.
McDermott
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: A. 2012 King County Comprehensive Plan Update--Topical Areas (dated 05-09-11), B.
Work plan for public outreach and SEPA analysis, as required by KCC 20.18.60

**2012 King County Comprehensive Plan Update
Topical Areas (May 9, 2011)**

Updates related to All Chapters

In the past four years, significant changes have occurred in the policy environment related to the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP), including regional adoption of Vision 2040, pending updates to the Countywide Planning Policies, and adoption of the King County Strategic Plan. In the 2012 update, all chapters of the KCCP will be reviewed and updated to ensure consistency with federal, State, regional and county-adopted policies and plans.

1. Review and update the KCCP for consistency with State, regional, and countywide growth management policy documents, such as the Growth Management Act, Vision 2040, Transportation 2040, the Countywide Planning Policies, the King County Strategic Plan, the King County Energy Plan, the King County Board of Health "Planning for Healthy Communities Guidelines", and the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.
2. Develop performance measures for the KCCP that align with the King County Strategic Plan's performance and accountability framework.
3. Review and update the KCCP to address the King County Strategic Plan's "fair and just" principle and King County Ordinance 16948.
4. Update references to the County's public engagement strategy to reflect a new approach as required by King County Ordinance 16984.
5. Update and strengthen policies that call for better integration of land use and transportation to create sustainable communities by promoting walking and bicycling, greater transit use, access to a healthy food system, access to quality and affordable homes, and improved environmental outcomes.
6. Update demographic and economic information throughout the KCCP.

Chapter One – Regional Planning

Our region's prosperity and sustainability rely on local governments working in partnership to plan for the future. The 2012 update to the Regional Planning Chapter of the KCCP will seek to strengthen the county's commitment to regional partnerships and public engagement in order to ensure the most efficient and effective use of public funds and a high quality of life for all residents in King County.

1. Review and update policies to strengthen the County's commitment to regional partnerships and public engagement.
2. Consolidate all KCCP implementation guidance by moving amendment and process elements from this chapter to Chapter Eleven, Implementation.

Chapter Two – Urban Communities

The 2012 update to the Urban Communities chapter will focus on the sustainability and social equity of all King County’s unincorporated urban communities by strengthening the nexus of land use and housing with public transportation, jobs, schools, and social services.

1. Update growth targets adopted in the Countywide Planning Policies.
2. Ensure that the annexation policies and related text are up-to-date and reflect a spirit of partnership in working with cities and unincorporated area residents.
3. Strengthen policies that link housing (particularly lower-income housing) to jobs and transportation.
4. Strengthen policies to integrate mixed-income housing of diverse types into smaller centers and neighborhood commercial areas that are linked for walking, biking, and access to transit and are designed to be safe for all ages and special needs-groups.
5. Update policies to support special needs housing, sustainable and innovative types of housing, accessible housing, and universal design.
6. Improve and expand policies that support a strong continuum of affordable housing from housing for homeless and very low-income households through moderate- and median-income housing.
7. Strengthen policies to encourage housing developments in areas that have access to social, educational, and health services. Support partnerships with service providers, especially in areas with very low- to moderate-income housing.
8. Strengthen policies that support community gardening and access to healthy foods.
9. Consider inclusion of a policy regarding receiving sites for the transfer of development rights.
10. Consider whether Four-to-One program should be extended; the program is designated to end in December 2011.
11. *Consider not requiring conditional use permits for small non-residential uses allowed in the R-12 to R-48 zones.*

Chapter Three – Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands

Rural and resource lands in King County contribute to the region’s economic and environmental prosperity. The 2012 update to the Rural Area and Natural Resource Lands chapter will help to provide the flexibility needed for rural landowners and business owners to pursue rural- and resource-based livelihoods:

1. Develop policy to address rural service delivery standards.
2. Review agriculture text and policies and revise to reflect findings and recommendations in the FARMS Report (2010).
3. Review forestry text and policies and revise to reflect findings and recommendations in the “Actions Required for King County to Conserve Rural Forests” Report (2009).

4. Review and update policies related to implementation of restoration projects and/or water quality improvements on properties within the Agriculture Production Districts or enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program to help prevent conflicts between long-term agricultural production and habitat restoration needs.
5. Evaluate the policies and implementation of the Equestrian Communities section.
6. Strengthen policies governing the development of non-residential uses in the rural area to better prevent the siting of uses that primarily serve the needs of urban residents
7. Evaluate the sustainable development section to better reflect the county's ability to provide stewardship planning and other services that promote sustainable development in the Rural Area.
8. Explore opportunities to promote or coordinate stewardship planning with other local, regional, and Puget Sound-wide services.
9. Evaluate and update policies related to rural commercial centers to help support a robust, rural-based economy that is consistent with rural character.
10. Consistent with state and federal codes, determine whether permits for some agriculture, forestry, and rural uses may be evaluated based on rural standards, rather than at urban development standards.
11. Strengthen policies that allow for pre-approved building designs to include uses such as pole barns and other standardized structures used on agriculture, forestry, and rural lands.
12. Review and strengthen policies to encourage value-added production and small-scale tourism businesses while maintaining size and scale appropriate to the rural area.
13. Consider addition of a new definition in the Comprehensive Plan for the term "long term commercial significance" (WAC 365-190-030)

Chapter Four – Environment

The sustainability of King County's natural environment requires a long-term commitment to environmental monitoring and adaptive management that highlights changing environmental conditions, evaluates the effectiveness of county actions, and influences policy decisions and investments. The 2012 update to the Environment chapter will improve the policy framework that supports the stewardship, protection, and restoration of water quality, biodiversity, and ecosystems while facilitating adaptation to changing conditions.

1. Review Wildlife Habitat Network, Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, and biodiversity policies to address effectiveness and to reflect relevant Washington State requirements and policies.
2. Review and update alluvial fan policies.
3. Review and update policies for lakes, wetlands and groundwater to ensure consistency with State and federal requirements and policies such as Water Quality Standards, Total Maximum Daily Loads, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System requirements; add policies for fish and sediment quality.
4. Review and update policies to support environmental monitoring, including status and trends monitoring, and adaptation of policies and regulations.

5. Review and update policies related to Water Resource Inventory Areas, Salmon Recovery, and Puget Sound Partnership.
6. Add policies to reflect new federal rules for wetland and wetland buffer mitigation opportunities such as In Lieu Fee.
7. Review and update policies related to the Framework for Stewardship: Final Report on the Work of the Agriculture and Critical Areas Committee and related State legislation.
8. Review and update policies for soil, organics capacity and livestock waste management consistent with the King County Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan.
9. Review and update climate policies to reflect changes in federal and state requirements, climate inventories, and activities of regional bodies regarding tracking of climate emissions.
10. Review and revise emissions reductions targets for consistency with State goals and adopted updates to the Countywide Planning Policies; establish short term goals to achieve 2050 goal.
11. Review and update policies related to volcanic hazard areas to address current information from the USGS on the risks posed to county residents from lahars.
12. Review recommendations of the Ruckelshaus Center's Agriculture and Critical Areas Committee and update policies if necessary to participate in the proposed voluntary stewardship program.
13. *Update policies, codes, and incentives for consistency with appeals court ruling in CAPR v. Sims (145 Wn.App. 649) related to clearing limits in the Rural Area.*

Chapter Five – Shoreline Master Program

Consistent with the goal of integrating and streamlining county policies, the 2012 update to the Shoreline Master Program chapter will integrate King County's Shoreline Master Program policies adopted in October 2010.

1. Update policies as needed to reflect changes required by the Washington State Department of Ecology as part of their final review and approval of King County's 2010 Shoreline Master Program Update.
2. *Review the policies that apply all shoreline management provisions to the floodplain. For example, preserving shoreline areas for "water oriented uses" or, specifically, not allowing non-water oriented active recreation may jeopardize the use of existing county-owned athletic fields in the Snoqualmie and Sammamish valleys and the site of cirque de Soleil in Marymoor Park.*
3. *Consider an amendment to KCC 21A.25.210C which prohibits expansion of structures in the shoreline if a property has a rural stewardship plan, to allow it with a conditional use permit versus an outright ban (as allowed in KCC 21A.25.210A)*

Chapter Six– Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources

The 2012 update to the Parks, Open Space and Cultural Resources chapter will better reflect King County’s regional role in protecting natural resources, providing recreational opportunities, and preserving historical and cultural heritage for all people in King County.

1. Review Parks and Open Space text and policies and update to align with the “2010 King County Open Space Plan: Parks, Trails and Natural Areas”.
2. Update the Regional Trails Needs Report.
3. Update the Open Space System map; consider including parks, Farmland Preservation Program properties, and Transfer of Development Rights easements.
4. Review Parks inventory for potential Comprehensive Plan Map Amendments. Consider redesignation of rural parcels at Taylor Mountain Forest and other areas to Forest zoning.
5. Update and strengthen Historic Preservation policies to support programs necessary to identify and preserve the county’s archaeological, cultural, and historic resources.
6. Develop and incorporate policies to better support heritage activities throughout the county and to better coordinate such activities with historic preservation.

Chapter Seven – Transportation

The 2012 update to the Transportation chapter will further refine the policy framework that guides efficient provision of vital transportation infrastructure and services that support thriving communities and the county’s participation in critical regional transportation issues. The 2012 update will also reflect the county’s continuing transition to becoming a road service provider for a primarily rural roads system.

1. Review and update the transportation and rural character policies to reflect the County’s ongoing transition to responsibility for a primarily rural road system, including policies related to urban connector roads, level of service and impact mitigation policies, the Transportation Concurrency Management program and Mitigation Payment System, and siting or expansion of road maintenance facilities.
2. Review policies and update to provide guidance regarding partnerships to advance regional transportation infrastructure.
3. Review and update transportation policies addressing green house gas emissions reduction goals, performance and operation of the HOV/HOT lane system to ensure efficiencies for transit and other vehicles, the implementation of tolling and the use of toll revenues, and freight mobility.
4. Review and update policies to strengthen coordinated planning among transportation and land use, health and energy to promote the creation of sustainable transportation hubs in key locations.

5. Review and update policies to reflect adopted functional plans such as the Strategic Plan for Road Services and Metro Transit's 2011 update of the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation.
6. Review and update environmental and stormwater management policies to facilitate efficient and cost-effective maintenance and preservation of transportation infrastructure and respond to emergency situations.
7. Develop new policies related to closure or relocation of road/bridge facilities due to safety/structural condition issues or vulnerability to flooding, landslides, or other hazards.
8. Review policies, maps and land use designations related to arterial and local roads located on or adjacent to the urban growth boundary to ensure that they are appropriately designated.
9. Develop new policies related to King County Heritage Corridors and to Washington State Scenic Byways as appropriate.
10. Review and update policies as needed to ensure that land uses in the vicinity of public and private airports in King County are compatible with airport use and safety.

Chapter Eight – Services, Facilities and Utilities

The 2012 update to the Services, Facilities and Utilities chapter will focus on strengthening regional cooperation and coordination around critical community infrastructure including water supply, wastewater treatment, flood management, jail capacity, and solid waste. Policies will be updated to reflect new and innovative approaches to energy efficiency, green building and environmental sustainability and will reinforce the important social and economic role King County's facilities, services and utilities play in the region.

1. Review and update solid waste management and recycling policies including siting, transfer and disposal as reflected in the adopted transfer system plan.
2. Review and update policies regarding methane generation at sewage treatment plants and landfills as a potential source of energy.
3. Add additional text and policies related to the role of the King County Flood Control District in providing regional flood hazard management services.
4. Review and update policies related to regional wastewater treatment and associated resource recovery efforts such as reclaimed water, biosolids recycling, and energy recovery.
5. Review and update policies and text to reflect the outcomes of the county's stakeholder process with water and sewer utilities related to: the Utilities and Technical Review Committee, county review of water and sewer comprehensive plans and the county's role in regional water supply planning.
6. Develop policies for replacing and repairing failing septic systems with innovative design and techniques that improve environmental quality and protect public health.
7. Develop policies that encourage health and mental wellbeing through efficient access to health and human service facilities and design of public buildings and spaces that contribute to a sense of community.

8. Develop policies that support the county's participation in a well-coordinated system of jails that meet the region's long-term jail capacity needs and that foster communication and cooperation among the county, cities and jail entities in order to efficiently use jail capacity.

Chapter Nine – Economic Development

The 2012 update to the Economic Development chapter will recognize that sustainable economic development benefiting all people in King County requires visionary policies and strong partnerships to grow businesses, educate and train workers, and maintain and expand infrastructure while supporting the health of the natural and built environment.

1. Develop policies and text that articulate the roles King County plays in creating economic growth and development that benefits all people in King County.
2. Strengthen policies to support the creation of jobs that provide a living wage and a healthy and safe work environment.
3. In partnership with cities and unincorporated area communities, investigate ways to facilitate annexation by increasing economic development opportunities within potential annexation areas.
4. Investigate adding policy to ensure rural businesses and home-based businesses are an appropriate size and scale for the area in which they are being located.

Chapter Ten – Community Plans

The 2012 updates to Community Plans will enhance the applicability of the community plan policies by focusing on specific community issues and eliminating those policies that relate to areas that have annexed to cities.

1. Vashon: Update Strategies for sustainability of water resources; nitrogen (nutrient) management, contaminate control (groundwater and surface water), and water use. Review and evaluate community-generated amendments to the Vashon Town Plan for inclusion in the KCCP.
2. Enumclaw: Review and evaluate the Enumclaw Area Vision Report to determine whether policy amendments are needed.
3. Update policies to remove site specific references to areas that have been annexed to cities.

Chapter Eleven – Implementation

The 2012 update to the Implementation chapter will consolidate implementation elements of the KCCP and establish the link between the KCCP and the King County Strategic Plan through the creation of a performance measurement system that will be based on measurable goal statements to be added to each chapter.

1. Move implementation and process elements from the Chapter One, Regional Planning Chapter to this chapter to consolidate all implementation guidance.
2. Enhance the review and evaluation section (now in Chapter One) to provide linkages to the King County Strategic Plan.

Area Zoning and Land Use Proposals

1. **Snoqualmie Interchange** (docket): Revisit the issue of whether or not to convert land on the north side of Interstate 90 at Highway 18 from Rural to Urban.
2. **Maple Valley** (docket): Review several parcels that are split by the Urban Growth Area boundary to determine whether or not the entire parcel should have the same land use designation.
3. **Ravensdale Silica Mine** (docket): Determine whether land currently designated as Mining should be redesignated as Rural.
4. **West Hill** (docket): Evaluate whether to expand the community business area by at least one parcel.
5. **Vashon Town Plan** (docket): Incorporate the recommendations of an ongoing citizen-driven plan update into an updated Vashon Town Plan.
6. **Fall City**: Work with the community to develop a subarea plan to determine whether a demonstration project to allow more flexible land uses within downtown Fall City is warranted.
7. **Taylor Mountain Forest**: Consider redesignation of rural parcels at Taylor Mountain Forest and other areas to Forest zoning
8. **Pacific Raceways**:
Conduct an area zoning study of parcels 102105-9002, 102105-9008 and 032105-9190 as follows:
 - (1) establish a conservation easement that averages at least 300 feet from the ordinary high watermark along the east side of Little Soos Creek. In establishing the conservation easement, ensure that areas of high ecological value are given special consideration;*
 - (2) if necessary, modify the underlying zoning in the area of the conservation easement to be consistent with the purposes of the easement;*
 - (3) consider rezoning of a small portion of northwest corner of parcel 102105-9002 from RA-5 to Industrial, consistent with conservation easement along the Little Soos Creek and consistent with the Industrial zoning on the rest of the parcel; and*
 - (4) consider rezoning parcel 032105-9190 from RA-5 to Industrial, if necessary to allow for an ingress and egress easement to access parcel 102105-9002.*

9. *Conduct a zoning study for the following parcels 1526059056, 1526059052, 1526059051, 1026059031, 1026059171, 1026059094, 1026059166, 102605TRCT, 1026059032, 1026059158, 1026059099, 1026059166, 102605UNKN in the Sammamish Valley for potential inclusion into the city of Woodinville UGA in order to coordinate with and facilitate that city's comprehensive planning effort.*

Technical Appendices

1. Update technical appendices as needed.

Development Code

1. *Consider addition of general code standards in KCC Title 21A for tree houses.*
2. *Review SMP standards relating to tree houses for potentially increased flexibility.*

Work plan for public outreach and SEPA analysis, as required by KCC 20.18.60

Discussions with the Unincorporated Area Councils and advisory commissions about the scope of work for the 2012 update of the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP) took place as follows:

- Greater Maple Valley Area Council – January 3, 2011
- North Highline UAC – January 6
- West Hill UAC – January 12
- Agriculture Commission – January 13
- Vashon-Maury Community Council – January 17
- Four Creeks UAC – January 19
- Rural Forest Commission – January 20
- Upper Bear Creek UAC – January 25
- Fall City Public Meeting – January 31

Approximately 250 citizens attended these outreach meetings.

A second round of discussions with these groups will take place in the Fall, 2011, after the release of the public review draft of the 2012 update of the King County Comprehensive Plan.

A final round of discussions will take place in early 2012, prior to the release of the Executive Recommended 2012 update of the KCCP.

SEPA analysis for the comprehensive plan update will commence with the release of the public review draft in the Fall of 2011 and continue through Council Committee review of the Executive Recommended 2012 KCCP update.