	Planning Commission Meeting May 7, 2024 - 6:00 PM Special Meeting - City Hall Council Chambers AGENDA
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I. PUBLIC PARTICIATION

A. Public Participation Information

The City of Auburn Special Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. will be held in person and virtually. To attend the meeting virtually, click one of the links below, or call in at one of the phone numbers listed below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7999102307>

Meeting ID: 799 910 2307

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,7999102307# US (Tacoma)

+12532050468,,7999102307# US

Dial by your location

• +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

• +1 253 205 0468 US

• 888 475 4499 US Toll-free

• 877 853 5257 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 799 910 2307

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kbLsn6aJ7H>

II. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comment from the audience on any proposal for action by the Commission. If the comment is related to an action subsequently listed here as a public hearing, the comment should be provided at the time of the public hearing.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 16, 2024 Draft Minutes from the Special Planning Commission Meeting

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Presentation Overview (Steiner)

Staff will provide a brief overview of upcoming Element Presentations and Public Hearing schedule.

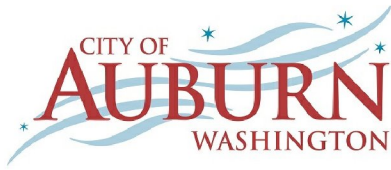
VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Parks and Recreation Element (Gouk)
Public Hearing for the public testimony and Planning Commission deliberation on the Parks and Recreation Element.
- B. Climate Element (Tatro)
Public Hearing for the public testimony and Planning Commission deliberation on the Climate Element.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Auburn Planning Commission is a seven member advisory body that provides recommendations to the Auburn City Council on the preparation of and amendments to land use plans and related codes such as zoning. Planning Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

Actions taken by the Planning Commission, other than approvals or amendments to the Planning Commission Rules of Procedure, are not final decisions; they are in the form of recommendations to the city council which must ultimately make the final decision.



AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:

April 16, 2024 Draft Minutes from the Special Planning
Commission Meeting

Date:

April 30, 2024

Department:

Community Development

Attachments:

[April 16, 2024 Draft Minutes](#)

Budget Impact:

Current Budget: \$0

Proposed Revision: \$0

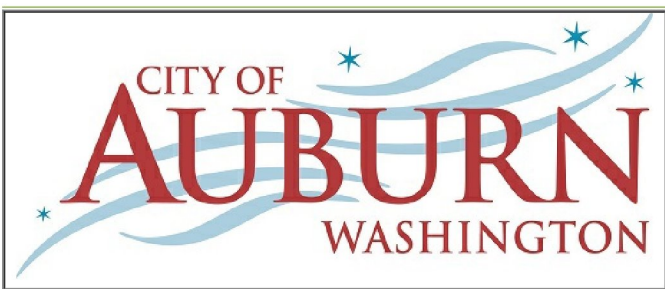
Revised Budget: \$0

Administrative Recommendation:**Background for Motion:****Background Summary:****Reviewed by Council Committees:****Councilmember:**

Meeting Date: May 7, 2024

Staff:

Item Number:

	Planning Commission Meeting April 16, 2024 - 6:00 PM Special Meeting - City Hall Council Chambers MINUTES
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I. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Participation Information

The City of Auburn Planning Commission Meeting was held in person and virtually.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Judi Roland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street.

A. ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Commissioners present: Chair Judi Roland, Vice Chair Phillip Stephens, Julie Berry, Kent Sprague, William Stewart, Aaron Vanderpol, and Lynn Walters.

Staff members present: Acting Planning Services Manager Alexandria Teague, Acting Assistant Director of Community Development Steve Sturza, Economic Development Manager Jenn Francis, Senior Planner Dinah Reed, Senior Planner Josh Steiner, Planner II Alyssa Tatro, Acting City Attorney Doug Ruth, and Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Wood-Pollock.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Roland led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Virginia Haugen, Auburn
Virginia shared thoughts about Historic Preservation Element 1 regarding the preservation and rehabilitation of historical sites in Auburn and Historic Preservation Element 13 regarding restoration of historic architectural features.

Linda Redman, Auburn
Linda expressed thoughts about checkerboard development in the rainforest.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. April 2, 2024 Draft Minutes from the Special Planning Commission Meeting

Vice Chair Stephens moved and Commissioner Walters seconded to approve the April 2, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

V. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. **Public Hearing and Deliberation Process Overview (Tate)**

Staff will provide an overview of the public hearing and deliberation process for the upcoming Planning Commission Public Hearings.

Acting Planning Services Manager Teague shared a presentation with the Commission on the Public Hearing and Deliberation Process Overview, including timeline, order of the process, notice of public comments received, and the steps in the process.

- B. **Historic Preservation Element (Reed)**

Staff presentation of the proposed changes to the Historic Preservation Element.

Senior Planner Reed shared a presentation with the Commission on the Historic Preservation Element, including the purpose and scope of the Comprehensive Plan Amendments, core changes for updated and consolidated policies, potential implications, and the next steps in the process.

The Commission discussed the process for conducting an inventory of historical properties in Auburn and the Neely Mansion.

- C. **Economic Development Element (Tate)**

Staff presentation on the proposed changes to the Economic Development Element.

Economic Development Manager Francis shared a presentation with the Commission on the Economic Development Element, including the purpose and scope, goals and policies, and the next steps in the process.

The Commission discussed Downtown storefront development, incentives and tax exemptions, school curriculums, missing and underrepresented industries, Costco recruitment, hotels, coordination with the Muckleshoot Tribe, and increasing job opportunities.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Land Use Element (Steiner)

Public Hearing for public testimony and Planning Commission deliberation on the Land Use Element.

Senior Planner Steiner provided the Commission with a presentation on the Land Use Element, including the purpose and scope, core changes, growth centers, potential implications, and the next steps in the process.

The Commission discussed density considerations for middle housing.

Chair Roland opened the Public Hearing at 7:27 p.m.

Written comments:

Linda Redman, Auburn

Linda shared her thoughts on environmental impacts and land use considerations.

David Toyer, Lake Stevens

David expressed support of the proposed rezoning in Lea Hill, the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), vertical and horizontal mixed use for the Mixed Use Land Use Designation, and the Multi Family Tax Exemption (MFTE).

Trish Borden and Lee Valenta

Trish and Lee shared support for open space and natural environment preservation.

Simon Uppal

Simon expressed support for the amended Land Use Designations for their property and the proposed expansion of the Multifamily Tax Exemption (MFTE) program.

In-Person Comments:

Linda Redman, Auburn

Linda expressed thoughts regarding low density housing, green space development, and pole shifting.

Virtual Comments:

David Toyer, Auburn

David expressed support of the Lea Hill parcel changes to land use designations and thanked staff for their considerations of his input on the policy amendments.

Chair Roland closed the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.

B. Housing Element (Steiner)

Public Hearing for public testimony and Planning Commission deliberation on the Housing Element.

Senior Planner Steiner provided the Commission with a presentation on the Housing Element, including the purpose and scope of the amendments, core changes and considerations, potential implications of the proposed changes, and the next steps in the process.

Chair Roland opened the Public Hearing at 8:10 p.m.

Written Comments:

David Toyer, Lake Stevens

David shared support for the proposed rezones in Lea Hill and edits in the Housing Elements.

Simon Uppal

Simon shared support for future land use and zoning maps and expansion of the MFTE multifamily tax exemption program

In-Person Comments:

Linda Redman, Auburn

Linda discussed uplifting landscapes to encourage walking, healthy food options in the Downtown area, green space near housing, the residential corridor near the Auburn Airport, and neighborhood development.

Chair Roland closed the Public Hearing at 8:16 p.m.

The Commission discussed the Comprehensive Plan process, zoning for the Downtown area, transit-oriented development, middle housing, Comprehensive Plan changes in other jurisdictions, parking requirements for middle housing, zoning capacity, housing availability, and street layouts.

Vice Chair Stephens moved and Commissioner Stewart seconded to accept the Land Use Element as presented.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

The Commission discussed different types of housing and accessory dwelling unit requirements.

Vice Chair Stephens moved and Commissioner Sprague seconded to accept the Housing Element as presented.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

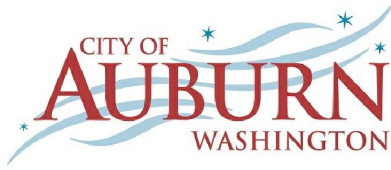
APPROVED this 7th day of May, 2024.

JUDI ROLAND, CHAIR

Rebecca Wood-Pollock,
Deputy City Clerk

The City of Auburn Planning Commission is a seven member advisory body that provides recommendations to the Auburn City Council on the preparation of and amendments to land use plans and related codes such as zoning. Planning Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

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AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:

Presentation Overview (Steiner)

Date:

May 1, 2024

Department:

Community Development

Attachments:

[2024 Comp Plan Memorandum](#)

Budget Impact:

Current Budget: \$0

Proposed Revision: \$0

Revised Budget: \$0

Administrative Recommendation:**Background for Motion:****Background Summary:**

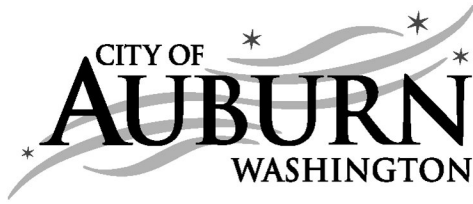
See attached Memorandum

Reviewed by Council Committees:**Councilmember:****Staff:**

Steiner

Meeting Date: May 7, 2024

Item Number:



Memorandum

To: Judi Roland, Chair, Planning Commission
Planning Commission Members

From: Josh Steiner, Senior Long-Range Planner, Comm. Dev. Dept.
Alyssa Tatro, Planner II, Comm. Dev. Dept.
Thaniel Gouk, Parks Planning and Development Manager, Parks, Arts, and Recreation Department

Date: May 7, 2024

Re: **Special Meeting: 2024 Comprehensive Plan - Planning Commission**

Each city and county in Washington state is required to conduct a periodic update of its comprehensive plan and development regulations per RCW 36.70A.130 (The Growth Management Act or GMA). In general, the purpose is to ensure consistency with the Puget Sound Regional Council Vision 2050, the Countywide Planning Policies (for Auburn this means both Pierce and King County), any changes in state laws over the intervening time, and to respond to changing conditions within the local community.

Tonight, a public hearing on the Parks and Recreation Element and Climate Element will be conducted. This meeting is open to the public and has been advertised appropriately as a Special Meeting. The table below illustrates current, past, and upcoming Planning Commission meetings for the Comprehensive Plan update, as well as subject.

Subject	Public Meeting	Public Hearing	Deliberation and Action
Land Use	✓	✓	N/A
Housing	✓	✓	N/A
Historic Preservation	✓	✓	N/A
Economic Development	✓	✓	N/A
Climate	✓	Tonight	May 21
Parks and Open Space	✓	Tonight	May 21
Sewer System Plan	May 21	June 4	June 18
Transportation	June 4	June 18	July 2
PROS Plan	June 4	June 18	July 2
Stormwater Plan	June 4	June 18	July 2
Capital Facilities	June 18	July 2	If Needed
Water System Plan	July 2	July 16	If Needed
Utilities Element	July 2	July 16	If Needed

Planning Commission Comp Plan Action	July 16		
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For reference, the current adopted Comprehensive Plan Elements can be found [here](#).

Feel free to contact Josh Steiner, Senior Planner, at jsteiner@auburnwa.gov or 253-804-5064 with any questions.

Included Attachments:

Attachment A – Parks and Recreation Element Presentation

Attachment B - Parks and Recreation Element (v3)

Attachment C – Benchmark Parks Impact Fees

Attachment D – Climate Element Presentation

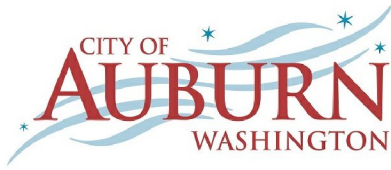
Attachment E – Climate Element (v3)

Note: V1 = Currently adopted Plan showing staff edits

V2 = Clean version of V1 with staff edits incorporated

V3 = Clean version of V2 with edits incorporated, showing edits in response to public comments, Planning Commission comments, and/or agency comments. May include maps or other figures that have been amended by staff since V2 in response to comments.

If V1 is not available, please see currently adopted Element via link above.



AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:

Parks and Recreation Element (Gouk)

Date:

May 1, 2024

Department:

Community Development

Attachments:

[Attachment A - Parks and Recreation Element](#)

[Presentation](#)

[Attachment B - Parks and Recreation Element V3](#)

[Attachment C - Benchmark Parks Impact Fees](#)

Budget Impact:

Current Budget: \$0

Proposed Revision: \$0

Revised Budget: \$0

Administrative Recommendation:**Background for Motion:****Background Summary:**

See Attachments.

Reviewed by Council Committees:**Councilmember:****Staff:**

Gouk

Meeting Date: May 7, 2024

Item Number:

PH.1

CITY DEPARTMENTS

2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PARKS ELEMENT

THANIEL GOUK, PARK PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

MAY 7, 2024

Department of Community Development

Planning • Building • Development Engineering • Permit Center
Economic Development • Community Services • Code Enforcement

AUBURN
VALUES

S E R V I C E
E N V I R O N M E N T
E C O N O M Y
C H A R A C T E R
S U S T A I N A B I L I T Y
W E L L N E S S
C E L E B R A T I O N

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – PARKS ELEMENT



Purpose and Scope of Comprehensive Plan Amendments

- A. The Parks Element will update the Goals and Policies**
- Provide long-term guidance for maintaining, enhancing, and providing additional high-quality park and recreation opportunities
 - The City uses the Element to guide parks, trails, and open space acquisition and development
 - Element supports the overall City of Auburn Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan
 - What is the PROS Plan:
 - Vision for the Future
 - Inventory
 - Goals & Objectives
 - Identify Short & Long-Term Projects
 - Funding Strategies

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – PARKS ELEMENT



Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan Update

A. Update of the **PROS** Plan will:

- Create a vision for the Parks system and needs of the community
- Inventory parks, recreation, trails, and open space facilities
- Establishes goals, objectives, recommendations and actions
- Identifies service levels, costs, and funding options (including Park Impact Fees)
- Recommend implementation strategies
- Review of **PROS** Plan will be in June

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – PARKS ELEMENT



Core Changes to Parks Element

○ Updated Goals and Policies

■ Updates based on:

- 2023 City of Auburn Parks, Recreation and Open Space Survey
- 2023 Washington State Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
- Park and Recreation staff meetings
- Participation rates and interests
- Evaluation of existing park conditions.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – PARKS ELEMENT



Potential Implications of Proposed Changes

- **Element Supports the overall Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan**
- **PROS Plan:**
 - Compliance required for State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grants
 - Guidance for the Department
 - Input on the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) for Parks, Golf Course, Museum and Farm, and Cemetery
 - Updates to Park Impact Fees (PIFs)

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – PARKS ELEMENT



Next Steps

- May 7th – Public Hearing on **Parks Element**
- May 21st – Action on **Parks Element**

- June 4th – Public Meeting on **PROS Plan**
- June 18th – Public Hearing on **PROS Plan**
- July 2nd – Action on **PROS Plan**

City of Auburn

Parks and Recreation Element



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Introduction

Adequate parks and recreation facilities are an essential amenity to maintain a suitable quality of life in the community. As the population of Auburn grows, the demand for its parks and recreational programs will increase. To maintain Auburn's quality of life, the supply of these parks and programs must keep pace with the demand placed on them by a growing population.

Open space also plays a key role in the quality of life in an area. While many understand the concept of the attraction of the western United States and its "open spaces," the concept of open space becomes less clear when it comes to open space and its appropriateness to a City such as Auburn. The policies below provide a definition of open space as applied to Auburn and its surroundings and provide a framework for the identification and preservation of these areas.

Vision

A diverse mix of park and recreation amenities, open spaces, and trails are distributed throughout the City and accessible to the majority of the population. Nonmotorized trails and paths connect residential neighborhoods, commercial centers, and other attractions. People are visiting Auburn because of the robust inventory and quality of park spaces and associated event programming. Community facilities are accessible and are serving the needs of our seniors, youth, and the rest of the community.

Goals and Policies

The mission of the Auburn Parks, Arts and Recreation Department is to "Protect the City of Auburn's natural beauty through a vibrant system of parks, open space, and trails while enhancing the quality of life for our residents by providing outstanding recreational and cultural opportunities."

The goals and policies outlined in this chapter were developed from the following resources:

- 2015 City of Auburn Park, Arts and Recreation Open Space Plan
- 2023 City of Auburn Parks, Recreation and Open Space Survey
- 2023 Washington State Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
- Park and Recreation staff meetings
- Participation rates and interests
- Evaluation of existing park conditions.

Goal 1: Serve all residents and provide a broad range of programs and facilities in order to serve all residents regardless of age or ability.

The Auburn Parks, Arts, and Recreation Department is committed to offering leisure and recreational programs and facilities that are accessible to all residents in our community. We recognize the unique needs of certain groups within our population and are dedicated to continually improving our facilities and programs to cater to these needs. This includes increasing awareness of our facilities and programs by incorporating both innovative and traditional methods to engage our citizens.

Policies

PR-1. Incorporate diverse activities: Offer a range of recreational facilities and programs that cater to different age groups, interests, and fitness levels to improve the physical and mental well-being of community members.

PR-2. Promote accessibility: Develop a comprehensive system of neighborhood and community parks ensuring that every resident lives within a half-mile walking distance to a developed park.

PR-3. Adapt to trends: Regularly survey community members to understand changing recreational trends and develop multi-use facilities that can be adapted to meet these evolving needs.

PR-4. Identify and serve: Continually identify under-served segments of the population and develop targeted programs to satisfy their unmet needs.

PR-5. Expand reach: Utilize both traditional and digital marketing strategies to ensure the widest possible distribution of information concerning park facilities and recreation programs.

PR-6. Affordability: Strive to provide programs and facilities that are affordable to local residents, considering tiered pricing structures or discounts for certain groups where appropriate.

PR-7. Expand financial aid: Continue to improve and expand the Fee Waiver and Scholarship Programs, exploring partnerships with local businesses or grants to allow more low-income youth and seniors to participate at reduced rates.

PR-8. Improve accessibility: Continue to improve access for the disabled and seniors by providing wheelchair ramps and other appropriate facilities in parks where they do not currently exist, and consider adding more sensory-friendly spaces.

PR-9. Encourage participation: Maintain an open decision-making process that allows for resident input, perhaps through regular town hall meetings or an online suggestion portal.

PR-10. Staffing and resources: Ensure that staffing levels are sufficient to maintain and improve existing cultural and recreation programs. As programs expand or additional parks are developed, evaluate the impact on current staff levels and the need for additional staff.

PR-11. The City shall evaluate the impacts of new development on parks and recreational resources through the SEPA environmental review process, and shall take appropriate steps to mitigate significant adverse impacts.

PR-12. New developments shall contribute to the development of new parks at a level commensurate with their share of new facility needs as established by the PROS Plan. If the City determines that the development does not contain an acceptable park site, the City shall require the payment of cash in lieu of land. The funds shall be used to acquire land and/ or develop recreational facilities at a location deemed appropriate by the City. Criteria for site acceptability and appropriateness shall be environmental limitations, accessibility, maintenance costs, consistency with the PROS Plan and the ability to meet more of the Community's recreational needs by the coordinated development of parks located elsewhere

PR-13. The City shall explore all means of funding the purchase of park land including, but not limited to, bond issuance, the collection of cash in lieu of land and federal, state, or county grants.

PR-14. Park impact fees will be established that help fund the future development of new parks, park facilities, trails, and acquisition of open space that meet the needs of an increasing population.

Goal 2: Provide a balanced mix of passive and active recreation opportunities to promote healthy and balanced activities.

Historically, the Auburn Parks and Recreation Department placed an emphasis on sports and active recreation. While the Department and park facilities continue to be oriented towards active recreation, recent developments have included the addition of walking trails and appealing natural environments. These additions are more conducive to a quieter, more relaxed experience in our parks.

Policies

PR-11. Cultivate a comprehensive park system: Develop a park system that caters to a variety of needs by providing facilities for social gatherings, cultural events, and physical activities.

PR-12. Promote passive recreation: We aim to provide park areas that offer opportunities for passive recreation, such as picnicking, birdwatching, and walking, allowing residents to relax and enjoy nature.

PR-13. Facilitate active recreation: Our objective is to provide park areas equipped with facilities for active muscle-powered recreation, including ball fields, skate parks, spray parks, and sports courts, to promote physical fitness and community engagement.

PR-14. Adapt to changing trends: Annually review our recreation programs and compare them to evolving, state, and national trends. Respond with appropriate programs and facilities that meet these changing needs, within the constraints of available funding and budgets, and in line with the service expectations of Auburn’s residents.

PR-15. Encourage healthy eating: Provide access to healthy foods by continuing to operate the Auburn Farmer’s Market and Community Gardens, promoting local produce and encouraging sustainable living.

Goal 3: Establish a system of high-quality parks that are not only well-maintained but also aesthetically pleasing.

Ensure that Auburn’s parks, open spaces, and trails, as one of the most prominent public features in a city, contribute positively to the community’s perception. We are committed to the long-term maintenance, thoughtful design, and use of high-quality, durable materials in our parks. This commitment aims to create inviting, safe, and enjoyable spaces that appeal enduringly to all community members. Our overarching objective is to enhance the quality of life in our community through well-maintained and aesthetically pleasing parks.

Policies

PR-16. Develop Level of Service Standards: Establish standards that assure residents’ expectations are met. This could involve surveys or public forums to understand community needs and expectations.

PR-17. Intentional design: Design parks to require low maintenance, and low water and energy consumption. Reserve higher maintenance features like fountains or annual beds for high visibility locations.

PR-18. Sustainable materials: Select materials that are not only durable and aesthetically pleasing, but also environmentally friendly.

PR-19. Maintenance and appearance: Ensure parks exhibit a “cared for” appearance through close attention to maintenance, including regular cleaning, landscape updates, and prompt facility repair.

PR-20. Staff evaluation: Regularly evaluate maintenance staff levels, especially when new parkland or facilities are added, to ensure parks remain in a safe and attractive condition.

PR-21. Renovation and redesign: Identify deteriorating features and conditions that require redesign or construction of new facilities. Schedule and budget necessary changes in the City's Capital Facilities Plan.

PR-22. Regular inspections: Conduct regularly scheduled inspections to identify necessary repairs and upgrades, ensuring safe conditions in all park facilities.

Goal 4: Provide a park system that not only enhances the quality of life for our residents but also contributes positively to the city's image.

Strive to develop recreational spaces in Auburn that are well-maintained, accessible, and diverse. These spaces should reflect Auburn's dedication to the well-being of its community, environmental sustainability, and aesthetic appeal. Through thoughtful park design, aim to improve Auburn's image and identity, thereby contributing to a positive perception of the city by creating a visually pleasing environment.

PR-23. Enhance park visibility: Select new park sites that are highly visible. Position at least one side of larger parks along arterial streets, making them more accessible, both physically and visually, and known to the broader community.

PR-24. Boost aesthetics and environment: Increase the quantity of trees, shrubs, and ground covers in parks. Enhance the ambiance of our parks and public spaces that improves the overall aesthetics of the city.

PR-25. Promote urban forestry: Continue to work towards Tree City USA goals for improved urban forestry design and tree preservation.

PR-26. Revitalize the downtown core: Create green spaces in the downtown core that serve as focal points for community activities and stimulate economic growth.

PR-27. Incorporate artwork: Incorporate artwork as part of new park developments or when upgrading existing parks or other public facilities.

Goal 5: Identify, acquire, and effectively manage significant open spaces within the City of Auburn, preserving these areas for their environmental, recreational, and aesthetic value to the community.

Undeveloped open spaces are invaluable assets to the City of Auburn, contributing significantly to the well-being of our community. These spaces serve as protective buffers against urban encroachment, preserving the natural charm of our city while enhancing the quality of life for Auburn's residents.

Policies

PR-28. Preserve Natural Buffers: Maintain and protect a system of forested corridors and buffers to provide a natural separation between urban land uses and natural areas.

PR-29. Target Open Spaces: Prioritize significant open space areas in the city for planning and acquisition. These target areas include lands along the Green and White Rivers, steep hillsides, the Mill Creek Corridor, and the West Hill Watershed.

PR-30. Secure Funding: Explore all possible funding mechanisms to enable regular acquisition of open space, allowing for the identification and purchase of properties as they become available.

PR-31. Ensure Accessibility: Make city-owned open space lands accessible to the public wherever possible and appropriate, promoting community engagement with nature.

PR-32. Manage and Maintain Spaces: Provide adequate management and maintenance of public open spaces, ensuring their ability to provide environmental benefits and serve as wildlife habitats.

PR-33. Plan for Mitigation: Develop a monitoring and maintenance plan when mitigation is required, ensuring successful establishment and long-term sustainability.

PR-34. Engage the Community: Involve the community in habitat restoration activities through the city's annual Clean Sweep event, community service days, and the adopt-a-park program.

PR-35. Evaluate Ecosystem Services: Determine the ecosystem service value of each open space and park space, ensuring that these areas continue to address climate resiliency goals.

Goal 6: Develop an inclusive network of trails designed for all, accommodating pedestrians, cyclists, and individuals of all mobility levels.

To develop an inclusive network of trails, we will prioritize the needs of all residents. We will create a comprehensive multi-use trail system that facilitates movement throughout the city and region without the need for a car. This approach is not only environmentally friendly, reducing pollution and traffic congestion, but also promotes a healthier lifestyle. The objectives that follow are designed to enhance our trail system, transforming it into a truly multi-modal environment that caters to pedestrians, cyclists, and individuals of all mobility levels.

Policies

PR-36. Expand the trail network: Develop and extend a network of trails to provide comprehensive coverage for both commuting and recreational cyclists, while creating stronger East/West connections throughout the city.

PR-37. Prioritize the Green River Trail: Continue prioritizing the acquisition of land for the proposed Green River Trail.

PR-38. Leverage natural locations: Design and layout trails to take advantage of unique natural locations, providing access to a variety of landscapes and habitats.

PR-39. Regional collaboration: Actively participate in planning activities for regional trails in South King County and North Pierce County.

PR-40. Explore New Connections: Investigate possibilities for new trail connections between Auburn and neighboring communities.

PR-41. Ensure Accessibility: Develop and maintain trails in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, ensuring accessibility for all.

PR-42. Promote Safety: Foster a safe trail system by discouraging crime through environmental design concepts.

PR-43. Standardize Wayfinding: Continue to implement an interpretive and way-finding program for use throughout our trail system.

PR-44. Secure funding: Identify and secure funding to maintain existing trail systems.

Goal 7: Enhance our existing park portfolio by addressing areas where service standards are currently not met, prioritizing improvements, particularly in the West Hill and Lea Hill regions of the city.

Provide unique opportunities for the community to shape the city in ways that benefit everyone, especially the underserved areas.

Policies

PR-45. Prioritize community parks: Prioritize the development of community parks and linear parks with trail systems over small neighborhood parks when possible and appropriate.

PR-46. Secure funding: Apply for grants from King County Conservation Futures and the Recreation & Conservation Office, among other available funding sources, to acquire and preserve parkland and natural areas.

PR-47. Acquire community amenities: Emphasize the acquisition of community amenities, such as shoreline property, to preserve these special places and provide public access.

PR-48. Minimize land use conflicts: Minimize conflicts between parks and other land uses, and employ sensitive design measures when locating parks in residential neighborhoods.

PR-49. Ensure quality design: Establish criteria for new park development to ensure consistent high-quality design that meets the needs of the community.

PR-50. Develop master plans: Develop Master Plans for undeveloped park properties and incorporate future park development costs into the Capital Facilities Plan as appropriate.

PR-51. Engage the community: Schedule public meetings as part of the Master Planning process to ensure residents' voices are heard and their needs are met when developing new parks.

PR-52. Create public gathering spaces: Develop public gathering spaces in the downtown core to foster community interaction and engagement.

Benchmarking

Renton - \$2,915 SF; \$1,978 5+ multi-family; @,2,252/unit - 3-4 MF; \$2,366/unit duplex and ADU

Redmond - \$5,124 SF; \$3,557 MF; \$1,933 residential suite; per 1,000 sf GFA \$1,388 office, \$616 retail and \$625 manufacturing

Tukwila - \$3,006 SF; \$2,618 MF per 1000 sf GFA; \$1,239 office, \$1,375 retail, \$248 K-12, \$687 industrial
Sammamish \$6,739 SF, \$4,362 MF

Kent - no park impact fee located

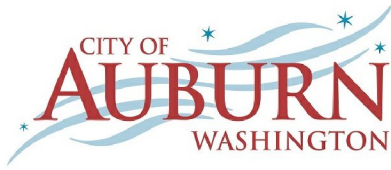
Bellevue - no park impact fee located

Auburn \$3,500 SF

City	Single-family fee	Multifamily fee
Renton	\$2,915	\$1,978
Redmond	\$5,124	\$3,557
Tukwila	\$3,006	\$2,618
Sammamish	\$6,739	\$4,362
Shoreline	\$4,692	\$3,077
Lynnwood	\$5,899	\$4,238
Kirkland	\$5,629	\$4,278
University Place	\$3,644	\$2,660
Issaquah	\$9,107	\$5,590
Woodinville	\$3,175	\$3,175
Puyallup	\$3,675	\$3,675
Auburn	\$3,500	\$3,500

Rate Study Key Steps

- Goals and objectives
 - Methodology and alternatives
 - (e.g., with or without commercial, variable by unit size, automatic indexing, etc.)
- Analysis
 - Growth estimates
 - Allocation
- Additional components
 - Peer city benchmarking
 - Developer interviews



AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:

Climate Element (Tatro)

Date:

May 1, 2024

Department:

Community Development

Attachments:

[Attachment D - Climate Element Presentation](#)

[Attachment E - Climate Element V3](#)

Budget Impact:

Current Budget: \$0

Proposed Revision: \$0

Revised Budget: \$0

Administrative Recommendation:**Background for Motion:****Background Summary:**

See Attachments

Reviewed by Council Committees:**Councilmember:****Staff:**

Tatro

Meeting Date: May 7, 2024

Item Number:

PH.2

CITY DEPARTMENTS

2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

ALYSSA TATRO, PLANNER II
PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

MAY 7, 2024

Department of Community Development
Planning • Building • Development Engineering • Permit Center
Economic Development • Community Services • Code Enforcement

AUBURN
VALUES

S E R V I C E
E N V I R O N M E N T
E C O N O M Y
C H A R A C T E R
S U S T A I N A B I L I T Y
W E L L N E S S
C E L E B R A T I O N

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Purpose and Scope of Comprehensive Plan Amendments

- A. Climate Element - New requirement from HB 1181**
- B. Identify priority hazards**
- C. Outline Auburn's community risk index**
- D. Incorporate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions mitigation sub-elements**
- E. Climate element must maximize economic, environmental, and social co-benefits and prioritize environmental justice**

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Core Components to Climate Element

● HB 1181 and Climate Planning Resources

- Growth Management Act (GMA) amended to include climate as the 14th planning goal
- 2029 deadline for adoption of Climate Element
- Inclusion in 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update
- Builds on existing climate planning resources and new County and State Goals/requirements

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Core Components to Climate Element

○ Auburn's Climate Planning Context

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories (2008 & 2015)
 - Tracks municipal and community emissions by source across two time periods
 - Provides forecasts for possible emissions levels in 2025, 2030
 - Transportation-related emissions are largest source of municipal and community emissions
- Climate Action Plan (2018)
 - Establishes existing context for emissions and quality of natural environment in Auburn
 - Identifies a vision for climate planning in Auburn
 - Recommends strategies and policies to reach resilience and mitigation goals
- Climate Element Framework (2023)
 - Developed in collaboration with city staff and consulting team
 - Recommends pathways and timeline to develop Climate Element
 - Identifies policy gaps and recommends strategies and actions

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Core Components to Climate Element

State and County Requirements

Strive toward emissions reductions of

- 45% reduction by 2030 (1990 levels)
- 70% reduction by 2040
- 95% reduction by 2050

	2030	2040	2050
Statewide*	-45%	-70%	-95%
PSRC**	-50%	-	-80%
King County**	-50%	-	-80%
Pierce County*	-45%	-70%	-95%

*Pierce county and statewide targets based on 1990 GHG emissions levels.

**PSRC and King County targets based on 2007 levels.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Core Components to Climate Element

State and County Requirements

- King County Requirements
 - Implement Washington State Energy Code by 2031
 - Reduce emissions associated with new construction
 - Strive toward emissions reductions of
 - 50% by 2030 (2007 levels)
 - 80% by 2050
 - Reduce single-occupancy vehicle miles travelled by
 - 20% by 2030 (2017 levels)
 - 27% by 2050
 - Reduce energy use in existing buildings by
 - 25% by 2030 (2017 levels)
 - 45% by 2050



2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Core Components to Climate Element

○ Sub-Elements Required

■ Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Sub-Element

Goals and policies to reduce GHG emissions and vehicle miles traveled

■ Resiliency Sub-Element

Goals and policies to improve climate preparedness, response and recovery efforts

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Potential Implications of Proposed Changes

- Negative impacts of climate change and the impacts to vulnerable communities
- Funding gaps
 - Ex. Budget for upgrades to City EV Infrastructure and other facility improvements
- Amendment of code to support plan
 - Development Regulations
 - Landscaping
 - Density and growth centers
- Accountable for various state and regional targets and policies

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Next Steps

- **May 21st Deliberation and Action on Climate Element**
- **Climate Program**
 - **Commerce Grant - Scope of Work**

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT



Questions, Discussion, and Feedback

City of Auburn

Climate Element



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Introduction

The Climate Element of the City of Auburn’s comprehensive plan is a strategic document to guide policy implementation in Auburn as it pertains to addressing anticipated climate-related changes to the city’s and region’s local environment. The city is undertaking planning for climate change as a response to House Bill 1181, passed by the Washington State Legislature in July 2023, and which requires that the city adopt climate planning goals, policies, and actions into its comprehensive plan by 2029.

The City of Auburn is choosing to proactively engage in planning for climate change now, as opposed to by 2029. This is in part due to the immediate importance of preparing for climate change, and in anticipation of the expected long-term timelines of a number of climate response strategies.

What does the Climate Element do?

- Identify priority climate-driven natural hazards anticipated to impact Auburn
- Determine community vulnerability, resilience, and risk
- Provide policy guidance for ensuing 20 years of planning for climate change

The Climate Element is organized by two overarching principles: Resilience and Mitigation. The resilience sub-element will lay out policies and strategies devised to improve the health of Auburn’s natural environment and citizens, while protecting local services and assets from negative impacts associated with climate change.

The mitigation sub-element will lay out policies and strategies directed at reducing city and community emissions contributions to global greenhouse gas levels and work to discourage other environmentally harmful actions.

Vision

Nestled in the heart of the Green River Valley with Mt. Rainer as a backdrop, Auburn is a historic and welcoming community with an innovative industrial-based economy and a wealth of outdoor and cultural activities at its doorstep. Yet the vitality, livelihoods, and surrounding environment that make up the fabric of Auburn’s community are threatened by human-driven climate change as concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere continue rising to levels not measured for millions of years. By taking action to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change, Auburn is living out its commitment to its core community values of sustainability, environmental stewardship, and economic vibrancy and ensuring that it remains a livable, sustainable, and safe place to live, work, and visit.

Values

Auburn is a dynamic community with much to offer both residents and visitors. Here, people understand the value of protecting cherished community assets, both urban and natural. With severe climate-driven changes expected to come to Auburn over the coming decades, Auburn's shared community values will stand as clear directions which will shape and guide municipal climate policy. These values are:

Character

Auburn's surrounding natural environment is restored and investments in Auburn's resilience enhance the aesthetic and social qualities of the built environment.

Wellness

Resilience and emissions mitigation investments are grounded in environmental justice and target front-line communities who are most at risk of suffering adverse health impacts as a result of climate-related hazards.

Service

The city ensures the long-term maintenance and protection of vital infrastructure and services in order for residents to continue to rely on them in the face of extreme weather events.

Economy

Auburn is a leader in providing green job opportunities and training and ensures that it remains a vibrant and supportive community in which to conduct business.

Celebration

Places and assets of communal value are protected from degradation under extreme weather events and worsening climatic conditions.

Environment

The natural environment is protected and restored and the built environment appropriately safeguards natural lands.

Sustainability

Activity in Auburn does not deteriorate the local natural environment and its emission contributions continue to decline.

Conditions and Trends

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In 2007 the City of Auburn joined the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, committing to reducing the city's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and subsequently conducted its first GHG emissions inventory, marking 2008 as the baseline year to compare future emissions against. That year, it was revealed that community activities in Auburn – transportation, residential and commercial building energy use, and waste – were responsible for 848,324 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide, CO₂ (mtCO₂e) emitted. Municipal emissions – emissions directly caused by City of Auburn activity – were revealed to contribute 10,373 mtCO₂e that year.¹

Figure 1 – Municipal Emissions Inventory by Sector (MTCO₂e) 2015. Source: Climate Action Plan of the City of Auburn

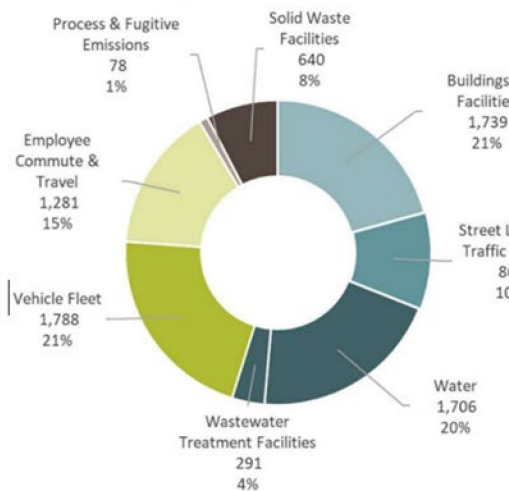
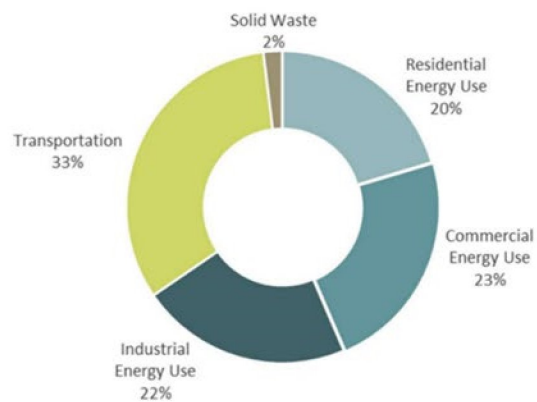


Figure 2 – Community Emissions Inventory by Sector (MTCO₂e) 2015. Source: Climate Action Plan of the City of Auburn



In 2018 the City commissioned its second greenhouse gas inventory and determined that community and municipal emissions had each declined since 2008 despite Auburn's population having grown during this same time period. Community emissions declined by 16% and municipal emissions declined by 19%.

Auburn was able to achieve these reductions through significant cuts to electricity demand on municipal buildings, lower diesel and gasoline community demand due to commute trip reduction plans, and the implementation of waste diversion programs.²

Nonetheless, the City's State and County partners have adopted ambitious emissions reductions timelines, and though Auburn has found success in its approach to emissions reduction, the City will have to take on a more aggressive

¹ Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc. Climate Action Plan of the City of Auburn, 2018

² Cascadia Consulting Group inc. Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the City of Auburn, Washington, 2018

stance of curbing its emissions sources in order to meet its legally mandated reduction targets on time.

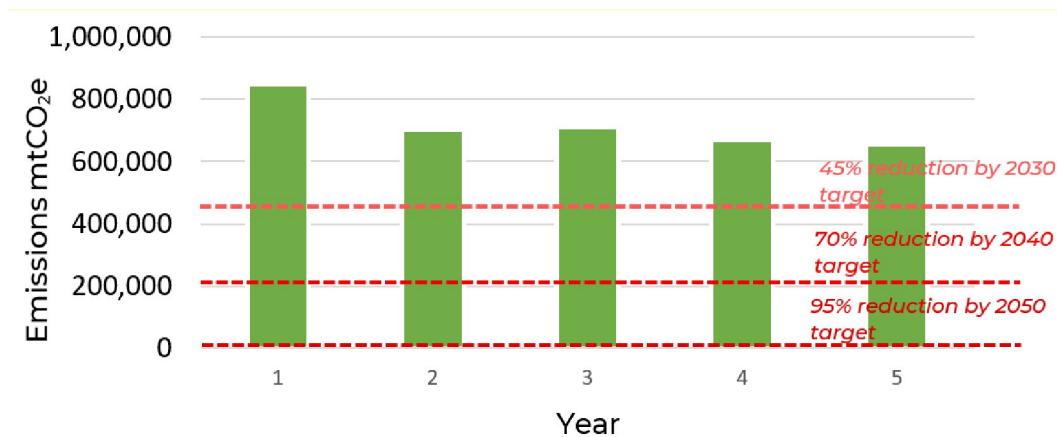
Table 1 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Targets

	2030	2040	2050
Statewide*	-45%	-70%	-95%
PSRC**	-50%	-	-80%
King County**	-50%	-	-80%
Pierce County*	-45%	-70%	-95%

*Pierce county and statewide targets based on 1990 GHG emissions levels.

**PSRC and King County targets based on 2007 levels.

Figure 3 – Auburn Community Emissions Forecast and Reduction Goals. Source: Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the City of Auburn, Washington (2018)



Identified Priority Climate Hazards

Climate change-related hazards are not expected to impact communities and regions uniformly, some communities may get wetter, others drier, some may be impacted by significant sea-level rise while others will not. Some communities are also going to be more vulnerable to particular climate change-related hazards than others due to the presence or absence of particular infrastructure, its state of repair, and exposure to risk. A community's demographic characteristics may also contribute to its vulnerability; for example, a community with a notable degree of respiratory illness may find it valuable to prioritize preparing for worsening air quality. Each of these are things to keep in mind when identifying priority climate hazards of which are most important to prepare for.

The process of identifying priority climate hazards projected to afflict Auburn relied on the University of Washington's Climate Mapping for a Resilient Washington tool, a climate analysis tool developed to help jurisdictions across Washington

understand and visualize various climate change impacts and vulnerabilities across the next century and determine the specific affects.

Given the regional context, the characteristics of the city’s infrastructure, and the economic and public health vulnerabilities of Auburn at large, the climate-change related hazards which are expected to present the greatest concern for the Auburn

Priority Climate Hazards Anticipated to Impact Auburn Most

- ❖ Rising Temperatures and Extreme Heat
- ❖ Severe Storms and Flooding
- ❖ Drought and Wildfires

community are rising temperatures and exposure to extreme heat, increasingly severe storms and flooding, and more frequent droughts and wildfires.³

Rising Temperatures and Extreme Heat

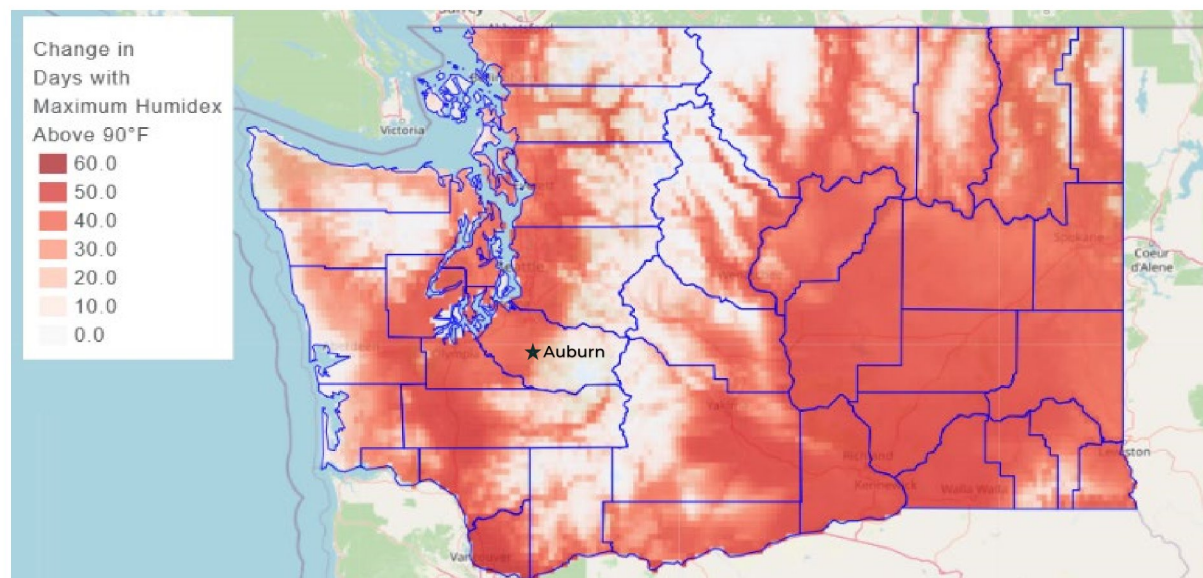
In the Pacific Northwest, average annual temperatures rose 1.5°F over the last century, resulting in a reduction of snowpack across the Cascade Mountains, more frequent droughts, and more extreme heat events. Left unaddressed, the impacts of rising temperatures will have tangible effects on public health and quality of life in Auburn. Warmer temperatures and extreme heat can increase heat stress and worsen air quality, heighten allergy symptoms, and exacerbate respiratory illness. Greater average annual temperatures are also expected to coincide with an increase in the number of very hot days – days over 90°F – which may result in greater health risks to those who work outdoors or vulnerable populations such as the elderly.

Rising temperatures also carry the potential to affect our region’s bodies of water and negatively impact the quality of Auburn’s natural environment. Warmer streams and lakes can harm fish stocks and produce harmful algal blooms; in 2012 for example, over 80 percent of surveyed streams in King County exceeded state standards for salmon habitat protection. Meanwhile higher temperatures can intensify droughts by reducing snowpack and water storage, leading to a drier landscape in and around Auburn.⁴

³ Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc. Climate Element Comprehensive Plan Framework, 2023

⁴ University of Washington Climate Impacts Group. Climate Mapping for a Resilient Washington, 2022

Figure 2 – Projected Change in Days with Maximum Humidex Above 90° in Washington by 2050-2079. Source: University of Washington Climate Impacts



Severe Storms and Flooding

Climate change is expected to cause precipitation patterns to shift into the extremes, with far less rainfall occurring in the summer months resulting in drought-like conditions for portions of the year, while heavier-than-normal rains are expected to increase the likelihood and frequency of flooding events the rest of the year.⁵

In Auburn this means greater likelihood for floods in low-lying areas surrounding the Green and White Rivers during severe storms, more potential for landslides along sloped areas of the city as a result of erosion and soil displacement caused by heavy rains, and water quality concerns in the event that runoff exceeds the capacity of existing stormwater management facilities and infiltrates polluted lands. Each of these potential impacts also carry additional concerns for public health, economic activity, the quality of Auburn's natural environment, and produce direct financial costs to Auburn residents.

⁵ University of Washington Climate Impacts Group

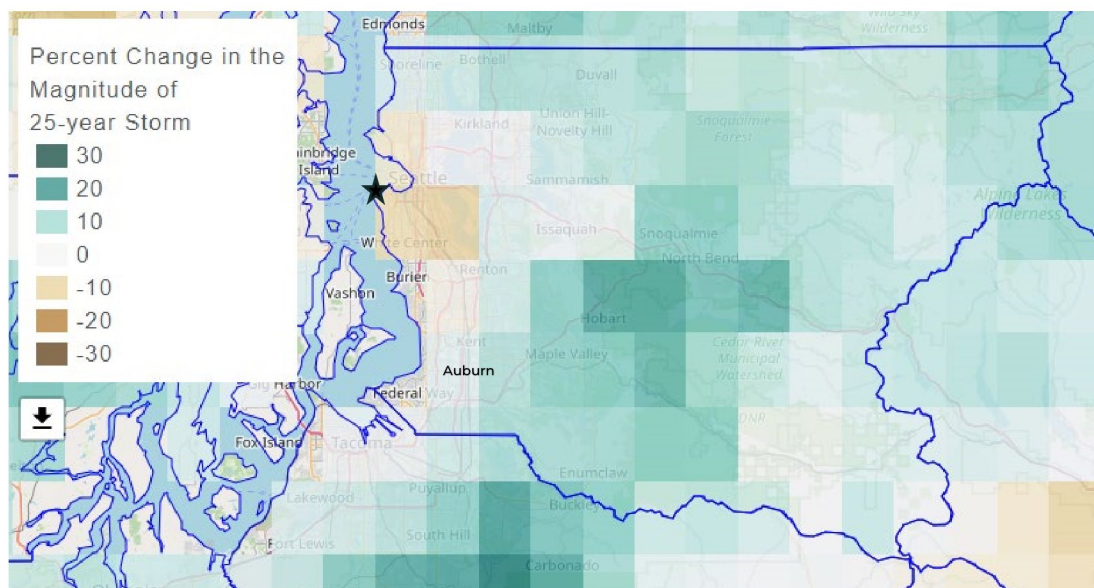


Figure 3 – Projected Percent Change in Magnitude of 25-year Storm in King County by 2020-2049. Source: University of Washington Climate Impacts Group (2023)

Drought and Wildfires

Places in Washington once thought to have minimal wildfire risk are increasingly becoming less so as global average annual temperatures continue to rise, drying out more and more Washington land which in turn serves as greater reserves of potential fuel for wildfires to spread.

Wildfire risk is expected to grow significantly in many neighboring counties, including King County, increasing the intensity and frequency of days with unhealthy levels of air quality in Auburn due to smoke. This will exacerbate respiratory illness, limit outdoor activities, and harm the natural environment.⁶

Likelihood of drought in any given year by 2100 (High Global Emissions Scenario)

- Auburn – 32%
- King County – 34%
- Pierce County – 34%

⁶ King County Wildfire Risk Reduction Strategy

Figure 4 – Wildfire Smoke Seen in Seattle. Source Getty Images (2020)

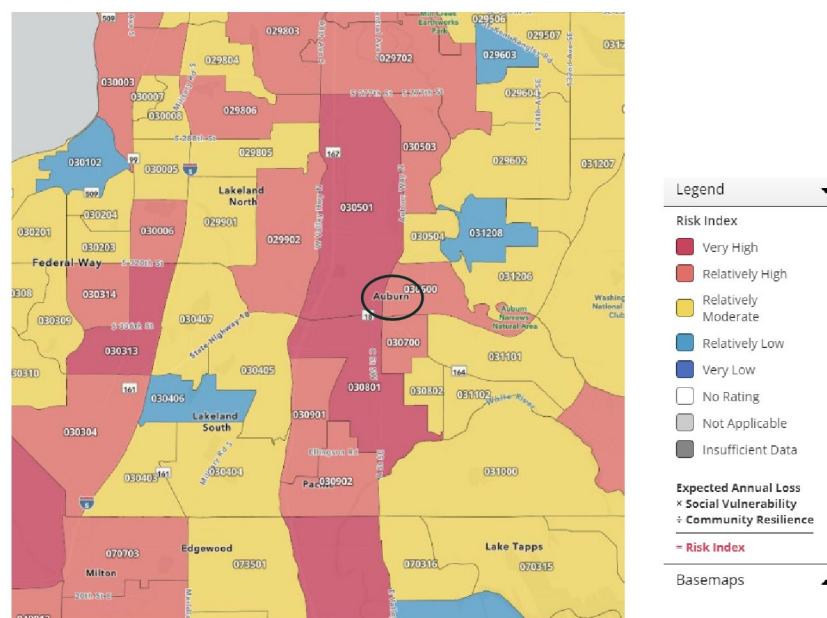


If current emissions trends continue, greater conservation of water during drought years will be necessary and increased demand on emergency services in response to reduced access to potable water will become more likely.

Risk Index

These identified priority climate hazards are expected to interact with Auburn’s prevailing resiliency and vulnerability characteristics in such a way that FEMA has determined that much of Auburn is at relatively high or very high risk of negative impacts from climate change, underscoring the necessity to plan for climate change⁷.

Figure 5 – Risk Index for Auburn and South King County. Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (2023)



⁷ Federal Emergency Management Agency. National Risk Index, 2023

Climate Policy at a Glance

The state legislature requires that Auburn’s Climate Element include several components in order to be in compliance with the Growth Management Act. Likewise, the Climate Element will reflect the requirements set by the Puget Sound Regional Council and Auburn’s King and Pierce County partners.

Sub-Elements

The Climate Element will feature goals, policies, objectives, and implementation strategies which will be organized into two sub-elements, one which addresses resilience and one which addresses greenhouse gas emissions mitigation.

Resilience Sub-Element

The first of two sub-elements, the Resilience sub-element will layout methods to address climate resilience, environmental justice, and equity. This section of the Climate element will also identify natural hazards which will be exacerbated by climate change, and the potential approaches to assess community vulnerability. The sub-element will also address conservation of natural areas and the introduction of green infrastructure investments, which will allow Auburn to overcome future hazards.

The Resilience Sub-Element will:

- Take Stock of Assets
- Identify Vulnerabilities
- Assess Risks
- Recommend Protections

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigation Sub-Element

The Emissions Mitigation sub-element will identify significant sources of emissions, establish methods of measuring municipal and community emissions, and set emissions reduction targets to work toward. This is an important aspect of planning for climate change as greenhouse gas emissions are largely contributing to the projected change in global climate.

The Emissions Mitigation Sub-Element will:

- Identify Community and Municipal Emissions
- Establish Reduction Targets



- Recommend Mitigation Efforts

RESILIENCE SUB-ELEMENT

The Washington State Department of Commerce defines resilience as, “...the ongoing process of anticipating, preparing for, and adapting to changes in climate and minimizing negative impacts to our natural systems, infrastructure, and communities.” Auburn can improve its resilience by introducing mitigation efforts against natural hazards, adapting to unpreventable impacts, protecting and restoring natural areas, and developing recovery responses. The goals, policies, and implementation strategies of the Resilience sub-element are organized into six key themes:

1. Public Health and Community Resilience
2. Infrastructure and Emergency Preparedness
3. Cultural Resources and Practices
4. Water Conservation and Stormwater Management
5. Natural Habitats and Urban Green Space
6. Economic Development

* Policy developed for concurrency with King County’s Strategic [Climate Action Plan](#)

** Policy developed for concurrency with Washington Department of Commerce [Climate Planning guidance](#)

*** Policy developed for concurrency with Puget Sound Regional Council’s [Vision 2050](#)

Goals, Policies, and Actions

Theme 1. Public Health and Community Resilience

Policies related to identifying climate vulnerable communities, investing in programs and services that reduce vulnerability in vulnerable and frontline communities, and prioritizing green affordable housing should be considered.

Goal 1. Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment

C-1 * Integrate a climate impacts risk assessment and policies into the local hazard mitigation plan.

C-2 ** Support enhanced data collection for hazard events of all magnitudes to provide a fuller understanding of the community’s hazard characteristics — including those affected by climate change.

C-3 *** Promote the use of health impact assessments and other tools to address the potential impacts of health, equity, and climate change on vulnerable communities.

Goal 1 Actions

Action 1.1 *** Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment that includes a focus on the built environment, community, and natural systems. Support enhanced data collection for hazard events to provide a fuller understanding of the community's hazard characteristics—including identifying demographic groups/community members most vulnerable to climate impacts. Use assessment findings to evaluate changes to comprehensive plan goals and policies and enhance resilience.

Goal 2. Minimize disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable and frontline communities and focus/maximize associated benefits

C-4 * Improve access to services throughout the community by investing in partnerships with frontline communities to co-identify and remove systemic and physical barriers to services that increase climate resilience such as green living environments and adequate public facilities.

C-5 * Identify those communities disproportionately impacted by extreme heat events and prioritize equitable access to emergency preparedness resources for vulnerable populations and areas. Develop and distribute tools and resources for the community to stay safe during extreme heat events.

Goal 3. Prioritize green, affordable housing to meet projected growth and needs of the community

C-6 Support projects that bring renewable energy and/or higher standard of energy efficiency to communities of color, low-income populations, and members of limited-English speaking communities, based on evaluation and assessment of barriers and challenges.

C-7 *** Uphold the Growth Management Act to prioritize dense, mixed use, transit-oriented development (TOD) and affordable housing by encouraging integrated site planning and green building, with a focus on early consideration of these in the site development process. Encourage the location of new green, affordable housing units near community amenities and services, such as transit and green space.

C-8 * Give consideration to and promote a local community response to homelessness with affordable, green housing and those which include supportive services.

Theme 2. Infrastructure and Emergency Preparedness

Policies related to and offering equitable access to adaptation resources (i.e., resilience hubs), developing strategies to aid community members ability to respond to extreme weather events (i.e., extreme heat, wildfire smoke events), and ensuring critical and non-critical infrastructure is resilient in the face of climate change should be considered.

Goal 4. Equitably protect public health and safety by identifying and planning for risks associated with climate change.

C-9 *** Ensure that people, including the community's most vulnerable groups, are resilient to climate and weather-related hazards by better understanding hazard type and impact and equipping people and the community to prepare for and respond to emergency situations.

C-10 *** Develop community-serving facilities augmented to support residents and that coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, and after a hazard event.

C-11 *** Work toward a distribution of growth that promotes equitable access for frontline communities and reduces the potential for displacement through program services such as municipal emergency preparedness with consideration of climate impacts such as extreme heat, flooding, wildfire smoke, and drought.

C-12 *** Factor climate impacts into the planning of operations and coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery activities among first responders and partners, including public health, law enforcement, fire, school, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel.

Goal 4 Actions

Action 4.1 ** Create evacuation plans and outreach materials to help residents plan and practice actions that make evacuation quicker and safer.

Goal 5. Protect the community from extreme heat impacts and wildfire smoke

C-13 ** Prioritize at-risk community members for actions that mitigate wildfire smoke, including providing filter fans or incentivizing infrastructure updates that protect against wildfire smoke (e.g., HVAC updates and MERV 13 filters for air intake) for facilities that serve high-risk populations.

C-14 * Review and update land use and development codes to encourage the use of passive cooling approaches to reduce urban heat island effects. Utilizing energy efficient cooling technologies, reflective and/or vegetated roofs, and the integration of trees where appropriate, landscaping, and green space should be implemented

to help reduce the health effects of extreme heat on frontline communities and vulnerable populations.

C-15 * Encourage the use of methods that contribute to improved indoor air quality during wildfire smoke events.

C-16 ** Develop and implement notification alerts within the community to reduce the risk of exposure to wildfire smoke and particulate matter.

C-17 ** Promote equitable access to green space within a half-mile of all community members.

C-18 ** Support programs to distribute cooling units and install heat pumps, prioritizing households with residents (e.g., low-income seniors) most vulnerable to extreme temperature events.

Goal 5 Actions

Action 5.1 * Develop and implement an urban heat resilience plan or strategy that includes heat mitigation and management actions to prepare for and respond to chronic and acute heat risk in the community. The strategy should be informed by urban heat island mapping and may include coordinated efforts such as cooling centers, early warning systems, development/land use codes, and energy grid resilience. Utilize the King County Extreme Heat Mitigation Strategy to align with county planning efforts.

Action 5.2 * Develop community wildfire preparedness, response, and recovery plans as part of local hazard mitigation plans.

Action 5.3* Provide community education and outreach on flood mitigation best management practices and expand household-level wildfire mitigation assistance.

Action 5.4 * Provide community education and outreach on wildfire smoke mitigation best management practices. Ensure outreach is accessible and prioritize frontline communities.

Action 5.5 ** Develop and implement a wildfire smoke resilience strategy in partnership with local residents, emergency management officials, regional clean air agency officials, and other stakeholders.

Action 5.6 ** Develop and implement an urban heat resilience strategy that includes land use, urban design, urban greening, and waste heat reduction actions.

Goal 6. Ensure that infrastructure (critical and noncritical) and utilities are resilient to climate change impacts (e.g., precipitation events and stormwater flooding)

C-19 * Integrate local climate impacts risk assessment into hazard mitigation planning.

C-20 *** Factor climate impacts into the planning of operations and coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

C-21 * Encourage coordination and support public education by utility providers that raises awareness of the need for water and energy conservation and empowers individuals across diverse audience segments to take action.

C-22 *** Account for climate change impacts in planning, designing, and operating stormwater management approaches, including stormwater infrastructure and stormwater best management practices.

C-23 * Identify areas prone to flooding and encourage the reduction of flooding through improvements to drainage systems, particularly in traditionally underserved areas.

C-24 ** Incorporate post-wildfire debris flow and flooding hazard information into critical area delineation in fire-prone communities.

Goal 6 Actions

Action 6.1 ** Develop and improve transportation network with consideration of infrastructure within floodplains and other critical areas to provide for alternate routes and network resiliency.

Action 6.2 ** Analyze how the municipal water system maintains adequate pressure during major drought events as well as under reasonably forecasted drought conditions.

Goal 7. Provide all residents an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take action to enhance community resilience through community engagement efforts.

C-25 ** Create and implement culturally contextualized outreach and education initiatives and materials that will inform the community about near-term and longer-term climate change threats and ways that the community can prepare and build resilience to these changes.

C-26 ** Build and support partnerships with community organizations with the capacity and relationships to convene diverse coalitions of residents and to educate and empower them to implement climate resilience actions.

C-27 ** Cultivate relationships with climate justice coalitions that can help facilitate frontline community learning and engagement that links local issues with regional and statewide issues.

Theme 3. Cultural Resources and Practices

Additional policies related to assessing climate vulnerability of the city's historic resources and establishing and maintaining government-to-government relations with tribes related to preserving sites should be considered.

Goal 8. Protect and preserve cultural resources and practices to build resilient communities and ecosystems in the face of climate change

C-28 ** Promote or work with partners to establish a native plant nursery and seed bank to support long-term restoration and carbon sequestration efforts.

C-29 ** Maintain government-to-government relations with Native American tribes for the preservation of archaeological sites and traditional cultural properties that are vulnerable to climate impacts.

Theme 4. Water Conservation and Stormwater Management

Policies that link climate change with water conservation efforts and stormwater management should be considered.

Goal 9. Protect and preserve water quantity and quality from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change consistent with the Utilities element

C-30 ** Utilize water conservation methods and technologies in development of irrigation infrastructure within parks and recreation areas to foster climate resilience.

C-31 *** Promote water conservation through management of water resources, including efficient irrigation, preventative maintenance, efficient plant selection, and landscape management. Goal 10. Account for climate change impacts in planning, designing, and operating stormwater management approaches consistent with the Comprehensive Storm Drainage Plan

C-32 *** Identify opportunities to retrofit undersized stormwater infrastructure and areas with uncontrolled runoff to improve flow control and water quality, with a priority on locations providing the most benefit, are identified to be most vulnerable to extreme precipitation climate impacts, and are communities that have been historically under-resourced.

Goal 9 Actions

Action 9.1 * Review and update development codes and design standards for requirements for stormwater facility sizing, low-impact development, adopt

nature-based solutions, and minimize impervious surface areas in private development and city capital improvements to be consistent with the requirements of the City's NPDES Phase 2 Permit.

Theme 5. Natural Habitats and Urban Green Space

Additional policies that speak to tree management and link the protection of healthy habitats to climate resiliency should be considered.

Goal 10. Support preservation and access to green and open spaces

C-33 * Ensure equitable access to parks, green space, and recreational services for all residents consistent with the Land Use Element.

Goal 11. Protect and enhance the climate resilience of urban forests by implementing climate-smart forest management

C-34 ** Encourage participation in Washington's small forest landowner assistance cost-share and stewardship programs.

Goal 11 Actions

Action 11.1 * Review, update, and implement tree protection codes to increase tree retention. Encourage the protection, maintenance, and expansion of tree canopy throughout the community, prioritizing residential and mixed-use areas with the least current tree canopy to equitably distribute benefits.

Action 11.2 ** Adopt an urban forest master plan and implementing ordinances to maintain and expand tree canopy cover, improve tree and watershed health, prioritize carbon sequestration, and build climate resilience.

Goal 12. Ensure the protection and recovery of ecosystems to provide healthy habitat in a changing climate

C-35 ** Ensure no net loss of ecosystem composition, structure, and functions, especially in Critical Areas, and strive for net ecological gain to enhance climate resilience in accordance with the Land Use Element and as may be feasible.

C-36 ** Identify opportunities to expand habitat protection and improve habitat quality and connectivity to foster climate resilience using conservation area designations, buffers, and open space corridors.

C-37 ** Commensurate with resources provided the city should implement actions identified in restoration and salmon recovery plans to improve climate resilience of streams and watersheds.

C-38 ** Commensurate with resources provided the city should protect and restore riparian vegetation to reduce erosion, provide shade, and support other functions that improve the resilience of streams to climate change.

Theme 6. Economic Development

Policies related to developing a green job strategy, equitable access to green job training (including education and workforce training), and a just transition should be considered.

Goal 13. Increase access of green jobs, with special consideration to increasing access for frontline communities.

C-39 *** Develop a green workforce that is representative of the diversity of the city's communities and reflects the diverse skill sets, knowledge systems, and experiences of communities through targeted hiring, workforce development, community agreements, and creating intentional pathways for frontline communities across sectors and seniority levels. A Green Workforce refers to jobs that help advance toward a more sustainable society and help to transition from over-dependence on oil industries and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

C-40 ** Ensure that the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan responds to the impacts of climate change and identifies roles and responsibilities to support a sustainable economic recovery after a disaster.

C-41 ** Support local businesses' efforts to generate and store renewable electricity on-site, which can provide back-up power during emergencies and help ensure continuity of operations.

C-42 *** Promote local industrial development to support a circular economy that increases demand for recycled materials and reduces demand for new raw materials and their inherent carbon emissions.

Goal 13 Actions

Action 13.1 * Develop a green jobs strategy in partnership with community groups, community resources such as Green River College, frontline communities, and businesses that:

- (1) supports sustainable practices, green skills development, and the low carbon transition of the city's impacted industries.
- (2) develop pathways for youth and impacted workers to transition into green jobs.
- (3) ensures opportunities (e.g., local hiring requirements) for these jobs.

EMISSIONS MITIGATION SUB-ELEMENT

Global climate change and its localized effects are an immediate consequence of overabundant levels of greenhouse gases permeating Earth's atmosphere and causing heat to be retained on our planet rather than radiate outward. This is why it is critical to eliminate the emission of greenhouse gases as part of widespread human activity. Actions taken to reduce or eliminate the emission of greenhouse gases constitute emissions mitigation. To mitigate its emissions, Auburn must update its municipal and community emissions inventories, identify reduction targets, and target policies and investments to meet them, considerate of available resources. The goals, policies, and implementation strategies of the Emissions Mitigation sub-element are organized into four key themes:

7. Transportation and Planned Development
8. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
9. Waste Management and Circular Economy
10. Natural Habitats and Urban Green Space

* Policy developed for concurrency with the King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, including the City of Auburn annex

**Policy developed for concurrency with King County's [Strategic Climate Action Plan](#)

*** Policy developed for concurrency with Washington Department of Commerce [climate planning guidance](#)

**** Policy developed for concurrency with Puget Sound Regional Council's [Vision 1112050](#)

Goals, Policies, and Actions

Theme 7. Transportation and Planned Development

Additional policies related to electric vehicles (EVs) and EV infrastructure, reducing vehicle miles traveled, and supporting increased density in transit-oriented areas.

Goal 14. Reduce GHG emissions by prioritizing accessible multi-modal and low-carbon transportation options

C-43 *** Prioritize investments that expand and implement active transportation options, including bicycling and walking, that improve access to transit.

C-44 * Encourage the prevention of displacement of households and businesses from transit-oriented locations, with a focus on low-income households and small businesses, as appropriate.

Goal 14 Actions

Action 14.1 * Encourage increased density near transit-oriented locations to allow for a variety of housing types that support local business and residents. This can be accomplished through zoning regulations.

Goal 15. Increase the percentage of EV and other low-emission transportation modes operating within the city

C-45 * Work with utility providers and other partners (e.g. developers and EV companies) to encourage increased access to EV charging where it is needed and expand EV charging readiness for buildings by administering and enforcing the Washington State Building Code. Achievement will be commensurate with financial resources and availability of the vehicles, and associated infrastructure, where appropriate. Expansion of access and opportunity for EV charging will be achieved in part through enforcement of Washington State Building Code requirements. These requirements include:

- Installation of a dedicated circuit for EV charging at the time of construction of all new dwelling units
- Installation of EV Charging Stations, EV-Ready Parking Spaces, and EV-Capable Parking Spaces as a proportional quantity of total parking required for new commercial development projects
- Installation of EV Charging Stations, EV-Ready Parking Spaces, and EV-Capable Parking Spaces as a greater proportional quantity of total parking required for new developments that include multiple residential or sleeping units such as apartments, hotels, and congregate living facilities

C-46 *** Support state and regional requirements for electric delivery vehicles and Transportation Network Corporations (TNC's).

Goal 16. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting densification and efficient land uses in mixed-use urban villages near transit corridors

C-47 *** Prioritize dense, mixed use, transit-oriented development, and affordable housing in Auburn and the downtown regional growth center.

Goal 16 Actions

Action 16.1 * Adopt “missing middle” housing policies and codes to allow for broader housing types in single family zones, particularly near transit, to promote affordability for current and future residents.

Theme 8. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Policies aimed at transitioning to renewable energy sources, promoting energy conservation and efficiency measures, building grid resilience, and educating homeowners about energy efficiency upgrades should be considered.

Goal 17. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by transitioning to renewable energy sources, decarbonizing buildings, and increasing energy efficiency

C-48 ** Retrofit municipal buildings for energy efficiency, as resources allow.

C-49 ** Promote improved energy efficiency in existing commercial and residential buildings by offering expedited permitting process, limiting administrative barriers, and reducing costs for residential solar projects.

C-50 *** Maximize renewable energy sources for the supply of electricity and heat to new and existing residential and commercial building construction through administration and enforcement of the Washington State Energy Codes, both commercial and residential. This will also ensure new development accounts for future solar systems and include solar readiness zones, structural integrity, and electrical service capacity in the design and planning of new commercial buildings.

C-51 ** Retrofit publicly owned buildings with solar panels and electric heat pumps, as structural stability and resources allow.

C-52 *** Support and expand building energy efficiency retrofit programs to reduce building energy use and improve energy resilience, including a focus on affordable housing.

C-53 * Explore and promote low interest loan options and incentive programs to finance energy efficiency upgrades for commercial and residential buildings, while seeking other finance mechanisms to fill in potential funding gaps. Investments and programs should be prioritized in historically underserved areas.

C-54 * Develop energy efficiency outreach programs for residents and businesses by partnering with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and other local jurisdictions with the goals to identify and select appropriate and cost-effective energy improvements. This could involve supporting local schools in integrating climate and sustainability education into curriculum.

C-55 * Building on proposed WA state policy, strengthen energy efficiency codes to reflect best practices and meet established energy targets (e.g., require energy use disclosure and benchmarking for buildings, starting with commercial and multifamily buildings over a size threshold).

C-56 *** Expand local onsite renewable energy production, such as through installation at municipal facilities, support of incentive programs, and coordination of community-based partnership projects and programs.

C-57 ** Encourage additional net-zero greenhouse gas emission features in all new residential and commercial structures.

C-58 * Incentivize electric heat pumps and restrict natural gas in new commercial and residential construction through administration and enforcement of the Washington State Energy Code.

C-59 ** Phase out natural gas use in existing publicly owned facilities by 2040 and retrofit with electric heat pumps as resources allow.

C-60 ** Encourage all new publicly owned buildings to be powered 100% by renewable energy as availability and resources allow, and evaluate opportunities to retrofit municipal buildings for energy efficiency as resources allow.

C-61 ** Develop low-energy-use requirements and building code compliance for residential buildings as incorporated in state building codes.

C-62 *** Educate community members about incentives for emerging alternative energy technology, such as tax exemptions for solar installations, and increase community awareness of existing solar arrays and water heating systems in the city.

Goal 18. Promote a diverse, clean, efficient grid that increases the grids reliability as demand increases

C-63 * Work with and encourage Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to plan, site, build and maintain an electrical system that meets the needs of existing and future development, and provides highly reliable service for City customers and coordinate with non-city utility providers to ensure planning for system growth consistent with the city's Comprehensive Plan and growth forecasts.

C-64 * Advocate for increased grid reliability through state and utility regulatory rulemaking and legislation that supports demand response and environmentally responsible storage technologies that reduce peak load and provide grid flexibility.

C-65 * Advocate for energy utilities to adopt efficient practices and explore alternative energy resources, in order to help meet long-term energy needs and reduce environmental impacts associated with traditional energy supplies.

Theme 9. Waste Management and Circular Economy

Policies aimed at supporting a circular economy, supporting urban agriculture and local food production, encouraging composting, enforcing sustainable construction

and demolition (C&D) practices, and environmentally friendly purchasing policies should be considered.

Goal 19. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials and organic waste by minimizing waste generation

C-66 * Encourage local food production, processing, and distribution through the support of home and community gardens (i.e., P-Patches), farmers' markets, community kitchens, and other collaborative initiatives which provide healthy foods and promote food security.

C-67 * Promote prevention and redistribution of food waste, such as through expanding and encouraging community and school gardens, urban agriculture, and farmers markets and working with local grocery stores to support a food donation program to send surplus food.

C-68 * Support extended producer responsibility (EPR) related policies and actions that require companies that make consumer products fund the residential recycling system and that ensure that packaging and paper products actually get recycled.

Goal 19 Actions

Action 19.1 * Update municipal solid waste contract policies and programs to encourage waste prevention and take-back programs, maximize diversion, ensure efficient collection routes, and promote hybrid and electric vehicles to transport and collect waste.

Goal 20. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials and organic waste by maximizing waste diversion

C-69 ** Encourage recycling of construction and demolition debris.

C-70 ** Use recycled materials in the construction of transportation and other infrastructure facilities, as resources allow and to the extent feasible.

Goal 20 Actions

Action 20.1 * Expand commercial recycling and organics collection and service, including making recycling and organics disposal as convenient as garbage service and adequate to serve the number of tenants. Implement compost requirements for food businesses in accordance with HB 1799. Consider the implications of implementing an organics disposal bans and/or requiring services.

Action 20.2 * Expand recycling and compost service for single-family and multifamily properties and provide technical assistance to help compost successfully. Consider the implications of implementing an organics disposal bans and/or requiring services.

Action 20.3 ** Support a business technical assistance program to increase recycling and reduce waste.

Action 20.4 ** Support a program that will enable recycling of all construction and demolition debris.

Action 20.5 * Support development, implementation, and enforcement of construction and demolition (C&D) recycling and deconstruction ordinances.

Theme 10. Natural Habitats and Urban Green Space

Protect and enhance carbon sinks like forests and urban green spaces, establish green belt of parks with connections to housing, schools, and businesses.

Goal 21. Protect and enhance land carbon sinks (e.g., trees, urban green space) to mitigate GHG emissions

C-71 ** Require open space set-asides (such as parks) for new development when appropriate.

C-72 *** Maximize tree canopy coverage in surface parking lots to mitigate the negative impacts of urban heat islands caused by excessive impervious surfacing.

C-73 ** Improve and expand urban forest management to maximize or conserve carbon storage.

C-74 *** Manage natural lands (forests, grasslands, wetlands) to maintain and/or increase their carbon concentrations. Avoid the conversion of carbon-rich ecosystems. Prioritize increasing tree canopy cover and open space in overburdened frontline communities.

C-75 * Increase resilience to flooding, protect, and where possible, enhance, and restore existing flood storage, conveyance, and ecological functions and values of floodplains, wetlands, and riparian corridors as resources allow.

Glossary of Terms

Algal bloom

A rapid growth of microscopic algae or cyanobacteria in water. Algal blooms can often be harmful to the surrounding environment and human health.

Adaptation

The process of adjusting to new (climate) conditions in order to reduce risks to valued assets.

Assets

People, resources, ecosystems, infrastructure, and the services they provide. Assets are the tangible and intangible things people or communities value.

Climate change

A change of climate attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere.

*RCW 28B.30.640(3)

Drought

In Washington, the legal definition of drought is based on water availability. A drought emergency is declared when water supply conditions are expected to fall below 75 percent of average, and there is potential for undue hardships due to low water supply.

Ecosystem

A biological environment consisting of all the living organisms or biotic component in a particular area, and the nonliving, or abiotic component, with which the organisms interact such as air, soil, water, and sunlight.

Environmental justice

The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Erosion

The wearing away of rock or soil and the movement of the resulting particles by wind, water, ice, or gravity, usually excluding mass movements.

Exposure

The presence of people, assets, and ecosystems in places where they could be adversely affected by hazards.

Extreme heat

Summertime temperatures that are much hotter and/or humid than average.

Extreme weather event

A time and place in which weather, climate, or environmental conditions – such as temperature, precipitation, drought, or flooding – rank above a threshold value near the upper or lower ends of the range of historical measurements.

Frontline community

People who experience the first and worst consequences of climate change. Such residents' health and livelihoods are often highly vulnerable to climate-exacerbated hazards and economic disruptions, and their communities often lack basic support infrastructure and suffer disproportionately from the compounding impacts of pollution, discrimination, racism, and poverty.

Greenhouse gas

Gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and certain synthetic chemicals which trap some of the Earth's outgoing energy, retaining heat in the atmosphere.

Hazard

An event or condition that may cause injury, illness, or death to people or damage to assets.

Mitigation

Actions taken to reduce or eliminate the emissions of greenhouse gases (present and future) in order to reduce the rate and extent of climate change damage.

Resilience

The ongoing process of anticipating, preparing for, and adapting to changes in climate and minimizing negative impacts to our natural systems, infrastructure, and communities.

Risk

The potential for negative consequences where something of value is at stake. In the context of climate change, this term is often used to refer to the potential for adverse consequences of a climate-related hazard. Risk can be assessed by multiplying the probability of a hazard by the magnitude of the negative consequences or loss.

Severe storm

A storm is classified as 'severe' when it produces hail one inch in size or greater, winds in excess of 57.5 miles per hour, or a tornado.

Stormwater runoff

Water originating from rainfall and other precipitation becomes surface flow or interflow.

Vulnerability

The propensity of predisposition of assets to be adversely affected by hazards. Vulnerability encompasses exposure, sensitivity, potential impacts, and adaptive capacity.

Acronyms

CO2	Carbon Dioxide
C & D	Construction and Demolition
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
EV	Electric Vehicle
MERV	Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value
mtCO2e	Metric Ton CO2 Emission
TNC	Transportation Network Corporation
TOD	Transportation Oriented Development