Planning Commission Meeting
April 30, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Special Meeting - City Hall Council Chambers
AGENDA

I. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Public Participation Information

The City of Auburn Special Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 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. OTHER BUSINESS

A. **Presentation Overview (Steiner)**

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

B. **Parks and Recreation Element (Gouk)**

Staff presentation of the proposed changes to the Parks and Recreation Element.

C. **Climate Element (Tatro)**

Staff presentation on the proposed changes to the Climate Element.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Historic Preservation Element (Reed)

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

B. Economic Development Element (Francis)

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

VI. 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:
Presentation Overview (Steiner)

Date:
April 22, 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: April 30, 2024

Item Number:

CITY OF AUBURN WASHINGTON

Memorandum

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

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

Date: April 30, 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 Historic Preservation Element and Economic Development Element will be conducted. Additionally, staff will be presenting on the Climate Element and the Parks and Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Presentations will include a discussion of the proposed changes and the purpose and implication of the changes. This meeting is open to the public and has been advertised appropriately as a Special Meeting. Table 1 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	✓	***Tonight***	May 7
Economic Development	✓	***Tonight***	May 7
Climate	***Tonight***	May 7	May 21
Parks and Open Space	***Tonight***	May 7	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		

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 (v1)
Attachment C - Parks and Recreation Element (v2)
Attachment D – Climate Element Presentation
Attachment E – Climate Element (v2)
Attachment F – Climate Element Framework
Attachment G – Historic Preservation Element Presentation
Attachment H – Historic Preservation Element (v3)
Attachment I – Economic Development Element Presentation
Attachment J – Economic Development 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:
April 22, 2024

Department:
Community Development

Attachments:
Attachment A - Parks and Recreation Element Presentation
Attachment B - Parks and Recreation Element V1
Attachment C - Parks and Recreation Element V2

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: April 30, 2024

Item Number:

CITY DEPARTMENTS

2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PARKS ELEMENT

THANIEL GOUK, PARK PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 30, 2024

Department of Community Development

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

AUBURN VALUES

SERVICE

ENVIRONMENT

ECONOMY

CHARACTER

SUSTAINABILITY

WELLNESS

CELEBRATION

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

Table of Contents

Introduction....1
Vision....1
Goals and Policies....1

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~~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~~2B~~. 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-416F. 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.

City of Auburn

Parks and Recreation Element

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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.

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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.

AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:
Climate Element (Tatro)

Date:
April 22, 2024

Department:
Community Development

Attachments:
Attachment D - Climate Element Presentation
Attachment E - Climate Element V2
Attachment F - Climate Element Framework

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: April 30, 2024

Item Number:

CITY DEPARTMENTS

2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

ALYSSA TATRO, PLANNER II

PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 30, 2024

Department of Community Development

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

AUBURN VALUES

SERVICE

ENVIRONMENT

ECONOMY

CHARACTER

SUSTAINABILITY

WELLNESS

CELEBRATION

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

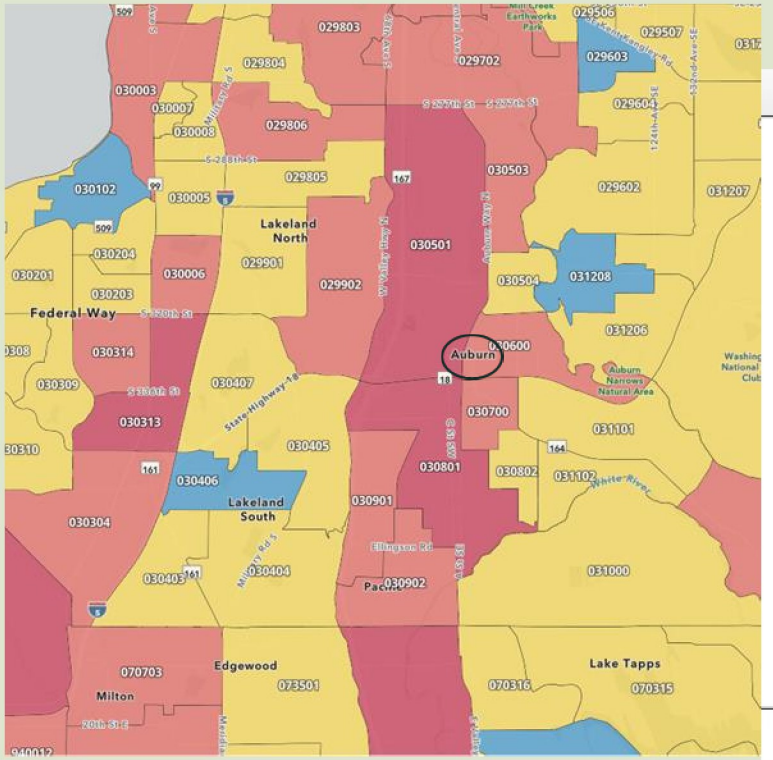


2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

Core Components to Climate Element

Climate Hazards and Risk Assessment

- Priority Climate Hazards Anticipated to Impact Auburn Most
  - Rising Temperatures and Extreme Heat
  - Severe Storms and Flooding
  - Drought and Wildfires



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 polices to improve climate preparedness, response and recovery efforts

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

Core Components to Climate Element

Sub-Elements Required

Goals, Policies, Actions are organized into two sub-elements:

Resilience

- Take stock of built and natural assets
- Identify and address vulnerabilities
- Assess Risks
- Support and enhance the environment
- Recommend Protections

Emissions Mitigation

- Identify community and municipal emissions
- Establish reduction targets
- Recommend methods to meet reduction targets



2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

Core Components to Climate Element

Resilience Sub-Element

Resilience sub-element will layout methods to address climate resilience, environmental justice, and equity.

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



Isaac Evans Park

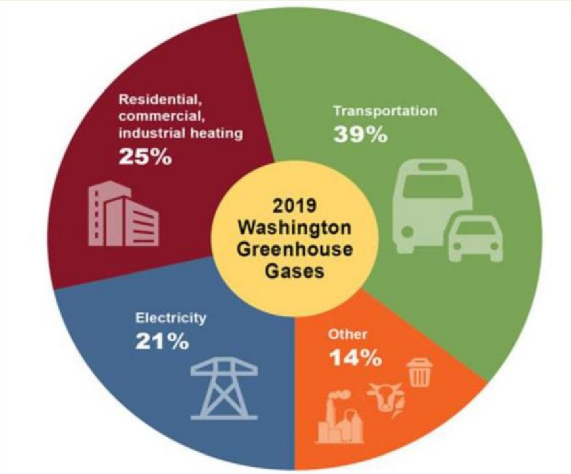
2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

Core Components to Climate Element

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigation Sub-Element

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.

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



Ecology-Statewide Emission Inventory 2019

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 7th Public Hearing
  - Requested updates based on feedback

- May 21st Deliberation and Action on Climate Element

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – CLIMATE ELEMENT

Questions, Discussion, and Feedback

City of Auburn

Climate Element

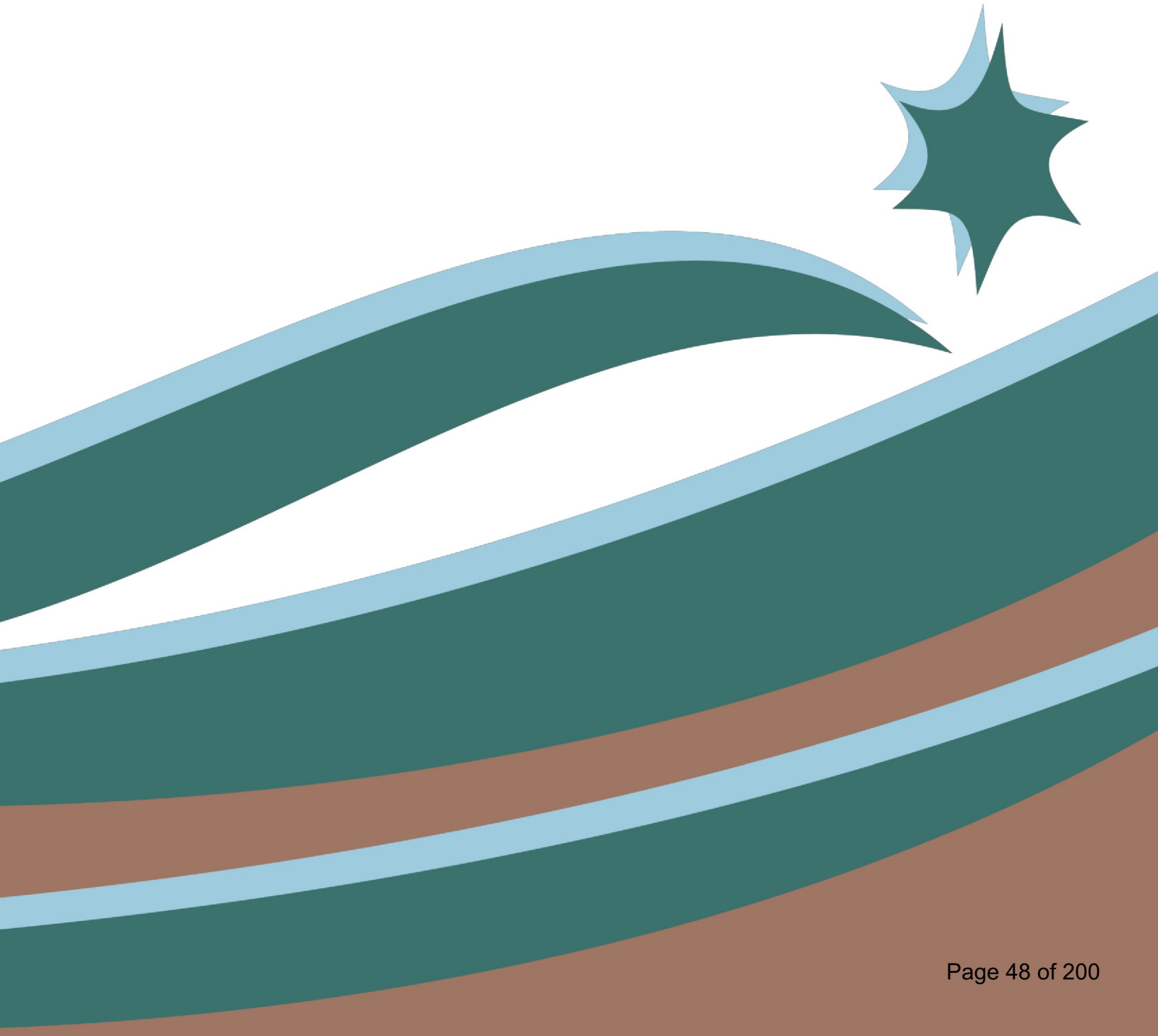


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Introduction

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 ($MTCO_2e$) 2015. Source: Climate Action Plan of the City of Auburn

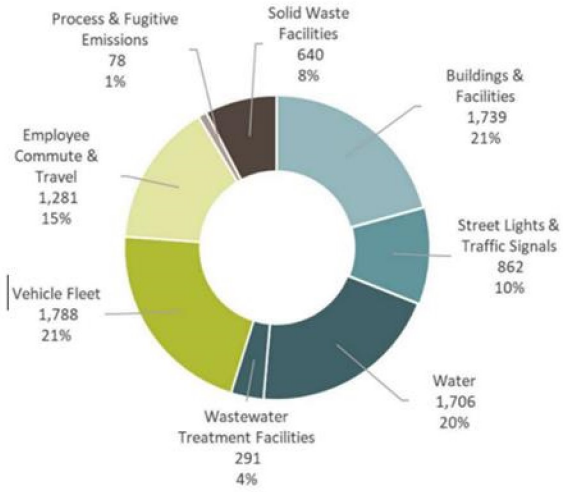
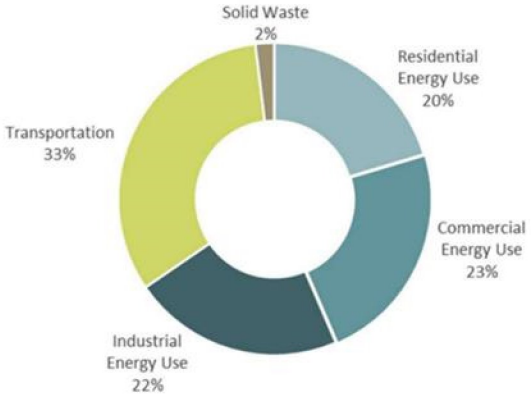


Figure 2 – Community Emissions Inventory by Sector ($MTCO_2e$) 2015. Source: Climate Action Plan of the City of Auburn



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

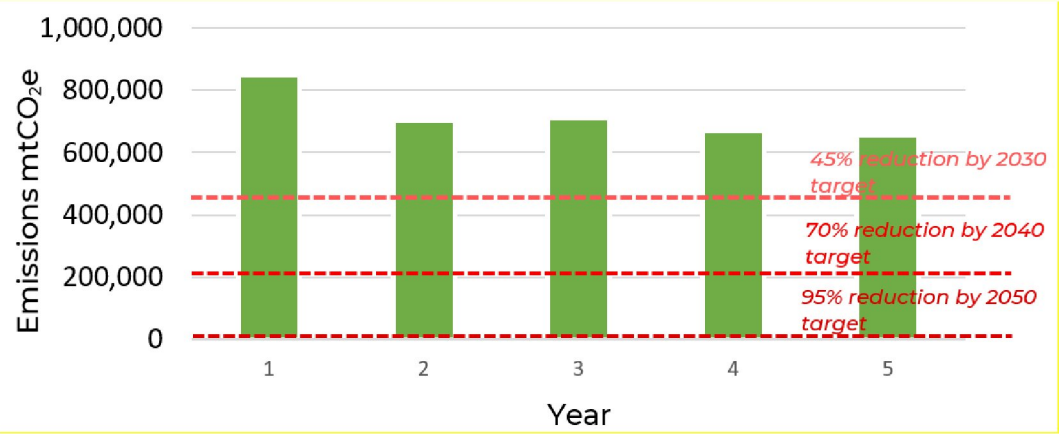
stance of curbing its emissions sources in order to meet its legally mandated reduction targets on time.

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

Priority Climate Hazards Anticipated to Impact Auburn Most

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

Rising Temperatures and Extreme Heat

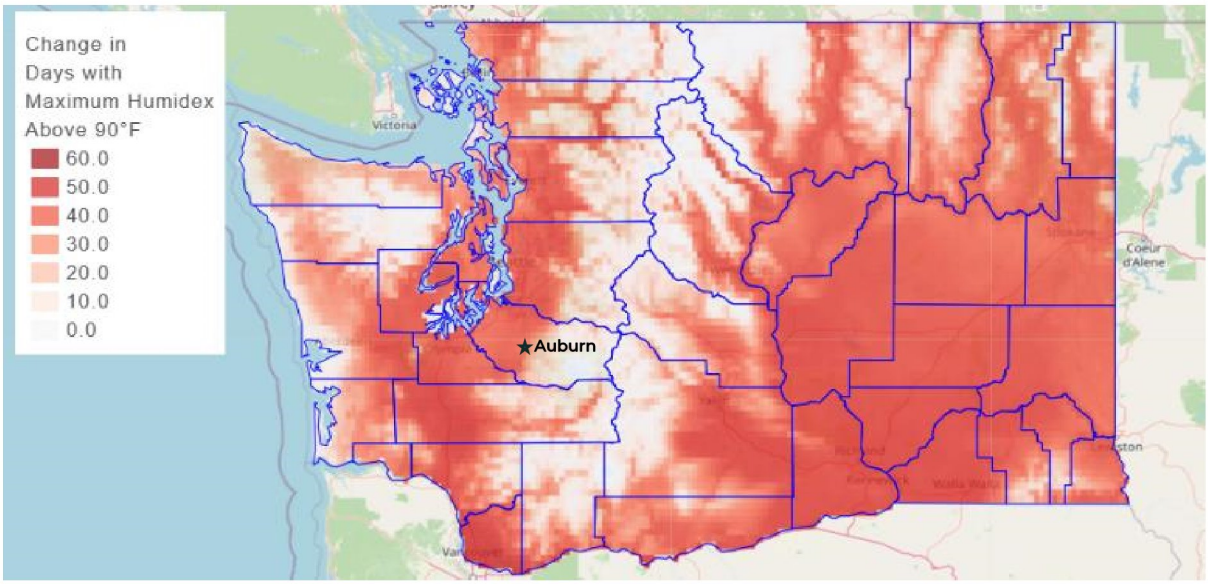
In the Pacific Northwest, average annual temperatures rose 1.5°F over the last century, resulting in a reduction of snowpack across the Cascade Mountains, more frequent droughts, and more extreme heat events. Left unaddressed, the impacts of rising temperatures will have tangible effects on public health 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

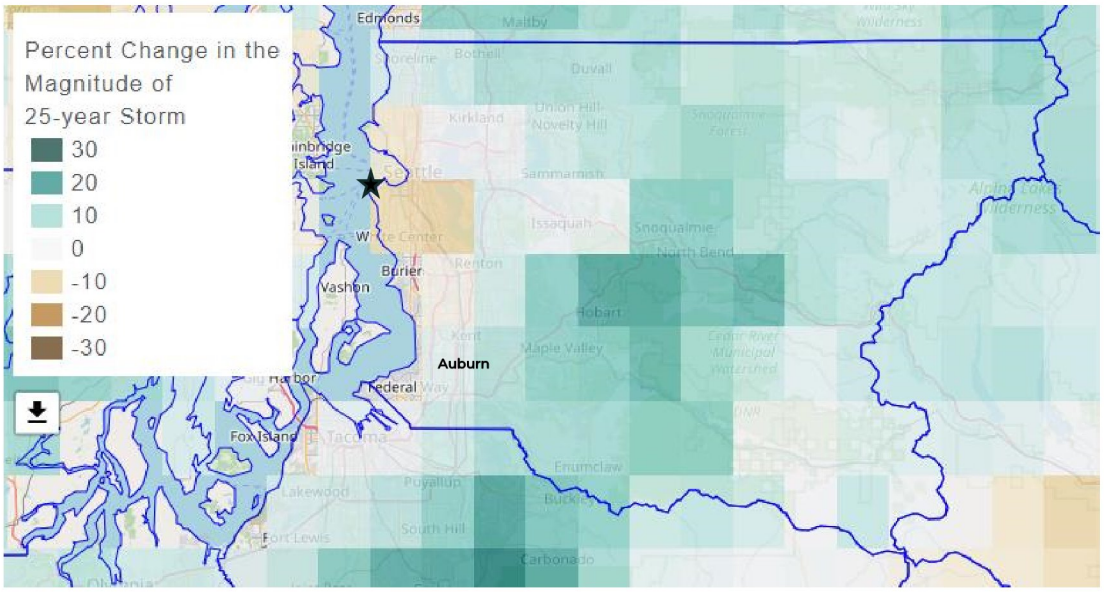


Figure 3 – Projected Percent Change in Magnitude of 25-year Storm inking County by 2020-2049. Source: University of Washington Climate Impacts Group (2023)

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)

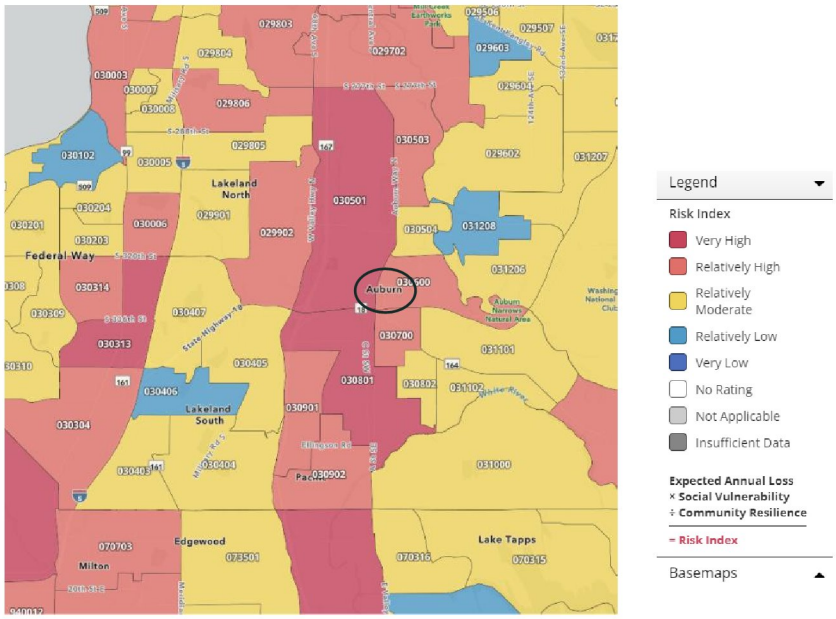


If current emissions trends continue, greater conservation of water during drought years will be necessary and increased demand on emergency services in response to reduced access to potable water will become more likely.

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 change[7].

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 l1Plan

*** Policy developed for concurrency with Washington Department of Commerce l11climate planning guidance

**** Policy developed for concurrency with Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 11112050

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, an 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

City of Auburn

Climate Element Comprehensive Plan Framework

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Climate Element Framework

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This Climate Element Framework serves as a foundation for City of Auburn staff to develop a Climate Element and recommends that additional effort be completed to engage key stakeholders and the community as goals and policies are finalized. Ultimately, the Climate Element will provide mitigation and resilience goals and policies to guide City planning efforts that will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and build climate resilience for Auburn residents.

THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT (CHAPTER 36.70A RCW) WAS AMENDED IN 2023 UNDER WASHINGTON HOUSE BILL 1181, REQUIRING CITIES AND COUNTIES TO INTEGRATE CLIMATE MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE POLICIES INTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATES. TO MEET THE NEW REQUIREMENTS, THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE RECOMMENDS JURISDICTIONS DEVELOP A CLIMATE ELEMENT THAT CONSISTS OF BOTH RESILIENCE AND GHG EMISSIONS MITIGATION GOALS AND POLICIES. GOALS AND POLICIES MAY BE CONSOLIDATED INTO A SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CLIMATE ELEMENT OR INTEGRATED ACROSS MULTIPLE ELEMENTS.

The Climate Element framework includes the following sections:

- Implementation Plan: Provides a guidance strategy for developing a final Climate Element and timeline
- Methodology: Reviews steps taken to complete the Regional and State Climate Change Policy Review and Gap Assessment and the Climate Change Policy Framework
- Regional and State Climate Change Policy Review and Gap Assessment: Includes the gap assessment for each key theme that was identified for policies related to climate mitigation, climate resilience, and climate equity to be included in a climate element
- Climate Change Policy Framework: Includes draft mitigation and resilience policies for the climate element

Intended User

City staff responsible for drafting the Climate Element for Auburn's next Comprehensive Plan update can use this framework as a starting point for mitigation and resilience goals and policies to include. Additional review and engagement with the city and community will be required to finalize policies.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Guidance Strategy

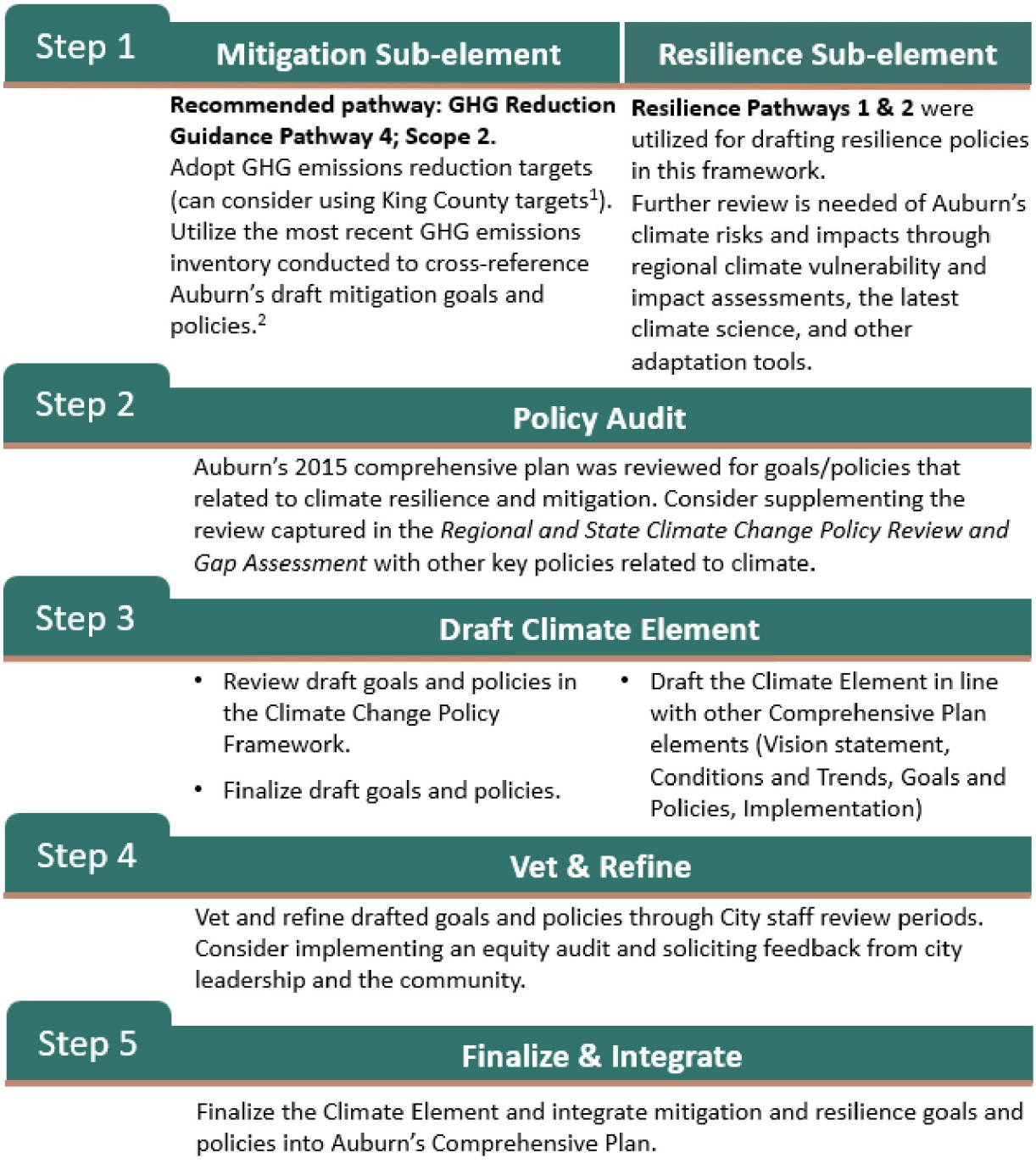
The Washington Department of Commerce (Commerce) published an "early version" Climate Element Planning Guidance in June 2023 that provides local governments with resources and detailed steps to complete a Climate Element under the Growth Management Act. This available guidance was incorporated into the Climate Element Framework; however, Commerce intends to publish an "intermediate version" of the guidance in December of 2023. As new guidance and information emerges, Auburn staff should stay informed and incorporate elements of the guidance as needed.

Commerce Guidance and Next Steps

As stated above, the available Commerce guidance was utilized during development of Auburn's Climate Element Framework. As a first phase in developing Auburn's Climate Element, the framework does not represent a complete product, rather it sets the development process in motion by ensuring requirements are understood and met within the policy recommendations included in final framework. See the Methodology section under 1. Evaluate state and regional guidance to identify key themes for compliance requirements.

In the next phase of the Climate Element development process, staff can review the Commerce Guidance and utilize Auburn's framework as a starting point and continue to refine, vet, and engage with the community to ensure compliance is met and city priorities are centered. The following figure outlines the steps Auburn can take to draft the Climate Element (Figure 1). See Commerce's step and pathway figures and descriptions in the guidance for more information.

Figure 1. Auburn's Climate Element development steps.



[1] King County targets: Reduce 2007 emissions 50%, 75%, and 95% by 2030, 2040, and 2050 respectively.
[2] Utilize Auburn draft CAP GHG inventory or the Puget Sound Regional Emissions Analysis Project planning tools

Recommended Timeline

Please note that the recommended timeline will depend on staff availability.

Date Range	Task
2023 July - August	• Review this document: the Climate Element Comprehensive Plan Framework report. • Determine department lead and roles.
2023 August – October	• Determine if additional plans/policies are required for policy audit. Complete supplemental audit if needed. • Finalize draft goals and policies in a language consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. • Engage with Planning Commission to introduce the Climate Element concept, if needed.
2023 - 2024 October – January	• Vet draft goals and policies with additional staff, leadership, and the community. ○ Community engagement could include attending in-person events, hosting a community survey, or publishing draft goals and policies on a platform that allows comments. • Draft the Climate Element to include a vision statement, conditions and trends, goals and policies, and implementation.
2024 February – Onward	• Finalize Climate Element (Planning Commission Recommendation and City Council adoption).

METHODOLOGY

Cascadia used a three-step process to complete the regional and state climate change policy review and gap assessment:

1. Evaluate state and regional guidance to identify key climate resilience and mitigation themes for climate integration in comprehensive plans. The key themes identify groupings for goals and policies to be developed that comply with the GMA and are within the 11 priority sectors identified in Commerce's Model Climate Element Guidance.

2. Identify potential comprehensive plan goals and policies for the Climate Element that relate to the key themes from Step 1. Cascadia reviewed the model climate element policies from the Department of Commerce and King County's K4C Model Policies, Auburn's unadopted Climate Action Plan (CAP), and Auburn's Comprehensive Plan to identify potential goals and policies.

3. Determine degree of alignment of Auburn's existing Comprehensive Plan with potential Climate Element goals and policies. Cascadia compared the

goals and policies currently in Auburn's Comprehensive Plan with potential goals and policies for the Climate Element. We labeled Auburn's existing alignment as either "good," "lacking," or a "policy gap," compared to the model climate goals and policies.

Cascadia then completed two additional steps to develop the Climate Element Framework:

4. Vet and prioritize draft goals and policies with City Staff and project team for inclusion in the Climate Element Framework. Following the completion of Step 3, Cascadia organized a workshop with Auburn City staff and the Comprehensive Plan update team to vet, refine, and prioritize identified policies under each key theme to include in a standalone climate element.
5. Develop Draft Climate Change Policy Framework by creating an implementation plan, guidance strategy, and suite of prioritized mitigation and resilience policies that can be used to develop a climate change element.

Each of these steps is outlined in more detail in the sections below.

1. Evaluate state and regional guidance to identify key themes.

Cascadia reviewed Washington House Bill 1181 that passed the Legislature in 2023 and will require the integration of climate mitigation and resilience policies into county and city comprehensive plans. These required policy changes will address climate emissions and impacts, while considering co-benefits and integration with other planning documents such as housing, transportation, and land use. The requirements outlined in the bill for the "climate change and resiliency element" are as follows:

- GHG emission reduction policies must:
  - Result in reductions in overall GHG emissions generated by transportation and land use within the jurisdiction but without increasing greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere in the state.
  - Result in reductions in per capita vehicle miles traveled within the jurisdiction but without increasing greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere in the state.
  - Prioritize reductions that benefit overburdened communities in order to maximize the co-benefits of reduced air pollution and environmental justice.

- Resilience policies must:
  - Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster resiliency to climate impacts, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe passage and species migration.
  - Identify, protect, and enhance community resiliency to climate change impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, that support adaptation to climate impacts consistent with environmental justice; and
  - Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, including landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke, wildfire, and other effects of changes to temperature and precipitation patterns.
- The bill also states that for mitigation and resilience policies, complying with any additional requirements from the Department of Commerce (Commerce) Model Climate Element guidelines that are developed in response to the bill would also be required.
  - According to Commerce guidance, the selection of at least one climate resilience goal and supportive policy must be developed within each of the model climate element's 11 sectors (see Table 1).

Table 1. Priority Sectors identified in Commerce's Model Climate Element Guidance

Priority Sector	Includes...
Zoning & Development	Site use, design, and other development facets
Buildings & Energy	Generation, transmission, and consumption
Cultural Resources & Practices	Historic sites and cultural resources and practices
Water Resources	Water quality and quantity
Transportation	Multimodal travel and infrastructure
Economic Development	Business continuity, opportunities
Ecosystems	Land and water species and habitat
Emergency Management	Preparedness, response, and recovery
Human Health	Community well-being and engagement
Waste Management	Materials recycling and disposal
Agriculture	Production and distribution

Cascadia evaluated additional climate change planning guidance documents to identify key themes that would encompass mitigation,[3] resilience,[4] and climate equity[5] goals and policies within the 11 priority sectors identified in Commerce's Model Climate Element Guidance.

The Washington State and regional guidance documents we reviewed included:

- WA Dept of Commerce's Climate Element Guidance and Menu of Measures.
- King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) Comprehensive Plan Model Climate Policies. *Will be available to the public in Summer 2023.*
- EcoAdapt's Climate Change Adaptation through Local Comprehensive Planning: Guidance for Puget Sound Communities

2. Identify climate element comprehensive plan goals and policies related to key themes.

Once key themes were identified using HB 1181 and climate change planning guidance documents, Cascadia identified goals and policies using Washington state specific model policies,[6] Auburn's Comprehensive Plan, and Auburn's unadopted CAP. Key themes and the goals capture the ways climate change can be integrated in comprehensive plans and cover all 11 Commerce priority sectors. The ten themes we identified are:

Mitigation Key Themes

Theme 1. Transportation and planned development: Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by prioritizing accessible multi-modal and low-carbon transportation options; increase the percentage of electric vehicles (EV) and other low-emission transportation modes operating within the City; decrease emissions that stem from fleet & freight

[3] Goals and policies to reduce the rate and extent of climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions. Mitigation can be achieved through approaches such as higher-density development, reducing vehicle miles traveled, non-motorized transit, green building techniques, reduced consumption and waste, and renewable energy sourcing.

[4] Goals and policies to address the effects of climate change by increasing resilience and/or decreasing vulnerability. Resiliency policies and goals can be achieved though approaches such as low-impact development; climate-certified zoning, permitting & procurement; and climate-savvy hazard mitigation.

[5] Goals and policies to address the disproportionate impacts of climate change on frontline communities due to existing and historic racial, social, environmental, and economic inequities. Climate equity can be achieved through approaches such as community engagement and partnerships with frontline communities, increasing access to healthy local food, and investing in anti-displacement programs. Climate equity policies will be integrated within the resilience and mitigation themes.

[6] Dept. of Commerce's Menu of Measures and King County's K4C Model Policies.

service vehicles and aviation; reduce GHG emissions by promoting densification and efficient land uses in mixed-use urban villages near transit corridors.

Theme 2. Renewable energy and energy efficiency: Reduce GHG emissions by transitioning to renewable energy sources, decarbonizing buildings, and increasing energy efficiency; promote a diverse, clean, efficient grid that increases the grid's reliability as demand increases.

Theme 3. Waste management and circular economy*: Reduce GHG emissions from materials and organic waste by minimizing waste generation and maximizing waste diversion; reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials by supporting a circular economy.

**Policies within this theme identified with the superscript $^{M+R}$ indicate that the policy falls under both mitigation and resilience categories.*

Theme 4. Natural habitats and urban green space: Protect and enhance land carbon sinks (e.g., trees, urban green space, soil) to mitigate GHG emissions; establish a green belt of parks to develop a non-motorized trail to connect housing, schools, and businesses across a community.

Resilience Key Themes

Theme 5. Public health and community resiliency: Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment; minimize disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable and frontline communities and focus/maximize associated benefits; prioritize green, affordable housing to meet projected growth and needs of the community.

Theme 6. Infrastructure and emergency preparedness: Protect public health and safety equitably by identifying and planning for risks associated with climate change; protect the community from extreme heat impacts and wildfire smoke; ensure that infrastructure (critical and noncritical) and utilities are resilient to climate change impacts (e.g., precipitation events and stormwater flooding); provide all residents an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions to enhance community resilience.

Theme 7. Cultural resources and practices: Protect and preserve cultural resources and practices to build resilient communities and ecosystems in the face of climate change.

Theme 8. Water conservation and stormwater management: Protect and preserve water quantity and quality from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change consistent with

Auburn's Comprehensive Water Plan; account for climate change impacts in planning, designing, and operating stormwater management approaches consistent with Auburn's Comprehensive Storm Drainage Plan.

Theme 9. Natural habitats and urban green space: Support preservation and access to green and open spaces; protect and enhance the climate resilience of urban forests by implementing climate-smart forest, park, and green space management; ensure the protection and recovery of ecosystems to provide healthy habitat in a changing climate.

Theme 10. Economic development: Increase access to green jobs, with special consideration for increasing access for frontline communities.

3. Determine the degree of alignment of Auburn's existing Comprehensive Plan with climate element policies.

Cascadia then cross walked Auburn's Comprehensive Plan to determine policy alignment with key themes and specific climate policies. With the potential goals and policies now organized by key theme, Cascadia compared the goals and policies currently in Auburn's Comprehensive Plan with each potential goal and policy for the Climate Element. We assessed whether the potential goal or policy was present in Auburn's Comprehensive Plan, the strength and completeness of the goal or policy in relation to what is in Auburn's Comprehensive Plan, and whether the goal or policy made sense to include for Auburn given local context. We labeled Auburn's existing alignment as either "good" alignment, "lacking" in alignment, or a "policy gap" compared to the model climate goals and policies. See Table 2 for how policies were coded.

Table 2. Policy Alignment Cell Coding

Cell Color	Level of Policy Alignment
Green	Good. The green cell color indicates that the current Auburn Comprehensive Plan effectively includes the potential Climate Element goal or policy already; however, additional policies/language could be considered to strengthen existing policy language.
Orange	Lacking. The orange cell color indicates that the current Auburn Comprehensive Plan includes language that is consistent with the potential Climate Element goal or policy but is not effectively integrating the potential climate element goal or policy. Or, it

Cell Color	Level of Policy Alignment
	indicates the potential Climate Element goal or policy was identified in Auburn's unadopted CAP, which is not being used to implement climate action or policies at this time.
Red	Policy Gap. The red cell color indicates a policy gap. The policy is not represented in Auburn's current Comprehensive Plan or unadopted CAP. Policy gaps are taken directly or modified from Commerce's menu or measures or the K4C model policies.

Once we determined the alignment of Auburn's existing Comprehensive Plan with climate element policies, our team drafted the Regional and State Climate Change Policy Review and Gap Assessment memorandum and shared with City staff for review (Step 4).

4. Prioritize Draft Policies with City Staff

Cascadia worked with the project team and City staff to further refine, vet, and prioritize climate goals and policies for inclusion into the Climate Element. A workshop was held on May 17, 2023, with City staff. City staff reviewed the project purpose, outputs, and timeline, then prioritized the draft climate mitigation and resiliency goals and policies for the Climate Element. See Appendix A for a detailed workshop summary.

Staff prioritized policies and provided feedback on goals and policies within the key theme(s) that best aligned with their expertise. City staff prioritized potential policies using these rankings:

- NA: Already represented within the current Comprehensive Plan. (Note element cited).
- Low: Not a priority to include in a Climate Element.
- Medium: Should consider inclusion in the Climate Element, but not a priority.
- High: Recommend inclusion in the Climate Element.

Cascadia revised policies using staff feedback. Policies ranked "Medium" and "High" were included in the Climate Change Policy Framework. We also included policies that did not receive a ranking because they require additional review and prioritization before determining whether they are included in the final Climate Element. See Appendix A for all draft policy rankings.

5. Develop Draft Climate Change Policy Framework

Cascadia then developed a Climate Element Framework that includes a recommended implementation plan, guidance strategy, and suite of prioritized mitigation and resilience policies that can be used to draft and finalize a climate change element. Auburn staff prioritized the preliminary climate goals and policies for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan's climate element and prioritized policies and included edits based on the feedback we received. Policies were also added when a gap was identified by staff.

Regional and State Climate Change Policy Review and Gap Assessment

This section includes the gap assessment summary for each key theme that was identified for policies related to climate mitigation, climate resilience, and climate equity to be included in a climate element. For a more detailed policy gap and alignment analysis, see the Regional and State Climate Change Policy Review and Gap Assessment (Task 1) Memorandum.

MITIGATION THEMES (1-4)

Theme 1*: Transportation and planned development*

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to transportation and building infrastructure and development. However, there is a lack of policies that link long-term planning strategies with GHG emissions reduction and climate equity. Additional policies related to electric vehicles (EVs) and EV infrastructure, reducing vehicle miles traveled, and preventing displacement from development should be considered.

Theme 2: Renewable energy and energy efficiency

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to land use and utility infrastructure, with some broad policies aimed at reducing energy consumption, practicing sustainable development, and reducing the impact of utilities. However, additional polices are needed that relate these strategies with GHG emissions reduction and climate equity. These include 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.

Theme 3: Waste management and circular economy

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to critical facilities (i.e., waste facilities), with some aimed at solid waste management. While the Comprehensive Plan encourages effective solid waste management and increased recycling efforts, additional policies are needed to relate these strategies with GHG emissions reduction and climate equity. Policies including supporting a circular economy, supporting urban agriculture and local food production, encouraging composting, enforcing sustainable construction and demolition (C&D) practices, and implementing environmentally friendly purchasing policies should be considered.

Theme 4: Natural habitats and urban green space

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to utilizing new development to contribute to new park developments, seeking land to establish a green belt for non-motorized travel, and implementing low-impact development and landscaping in parking lots. However, additional policies are needed that relate these long-term planning strategies with carbon sequestration (i.e., carbon storage). Policies related to managing and planning for carbon storage should be considered.

RESILIENCE THEMES (5-10)

Theme 5: Public health and community resiliency

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to housing. However, additional policies are needed that relate to climate resilience, public health, and equity. 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.

Theme 6: Infrastructure and emergency preparedness

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to housing and infrastructure resiliency. However, additional policies are needed that relate these long-term planning strategies with equity, emergency preparedness, and climate adaptation. 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.

Theme 7: Cultural resources and practices

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures the importance of historic preservation through policies related to developing a Historic Preservation Plan, planning for future development impacts to historic sites, and recognizing that the City should accord the same levels of promotion and protection to Native American sites and artifacts as to those of the more recent past. However, there are not specific policies that recognize the risks climate impacts pose to historic sites. 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.

Theme 8: Water conservation and stormwater management

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan has many policies related to preserving water quality and quantity through conservation efforts and includes policies related to stormwater planning. However, additional policies are needed that provide a connection between climate change impacts and planning for community water needs and stormwater management. Policies that link climate change with water conservation efforts and stormwater management should be considered.

Theme 9: Natural habitats and urban green space

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan includes policies protecting, enhancing, and restoring critical areas and natural resources. However, policies related to forest management and increasing the resilience of natural resources to climate change impacts are lacking. Additional policies that speak to tree management and link the protection of healthy habitats to climate resiliency should be considered.

Theme 10: Economic Development

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures the high-level policies related to local economic development. However, additional policies are needed that recognize climate and environmental justice considerations. Policies related to developing a green job strategy, an equitable green workforce (including education and workforce training), and a just transition should be considered.

Climate Change Policy Framework

Policies were revised using staff feedback received at the staff workshop. Policies ranked "Medium" and "High" were included in the Climate Change Policy Framework. Any policy that was not evaluated is also in the Framework so that it can be further evaluated by staff.

Each policy in the Framework has a parenthetical citation. This citation indicates where policy language originated. Language may have been edited to suit Auburn's specific needs.

- Corresponding policies included within Auburn's Comprehensive Plan (e.g., Comp Plan *LU-1*). LU-1 indicates the policy can be found in the 2015 comprehensive plan, Land Use section, Policy 1.
- Corresponding actions included within Auburn's Climate Action Plan (e.g., *CAP E-7*). CAP E-7 indicates the policy can be found in Auburn's CAP, Energy section, action 7.
- Policies sourced from the Department of Commerce's Menu of Measures (Commerce)
- Policies sourced from the K4C Comprehensive Plan Model Climate Policies (K4C Model Policies)

MITIGATION SUB-ELEMENT

Goals and policies included in the mitigation sub-element are focused on reducing GHG emissions.

Theme 1: Transportation and planned development

Draft policies related to electric vehicles (EVs) and EV infrastructure were typically ranked high-medium priority. Draft policies pertaining to reducing VMT were prioritized as "low" or noted as continuing efforts already covered in other elements within the Comprehensive Plan ("NA"). However, as a key compliance requirement, reducing per capita VMT will be important for the Climate Element to address these ongoing strategies and build upon them when appropriate. This includes policies such as:

- Partnering with agencies that support multimodal transportation infrastructure;
- Prioritizing dense, mixed use, transit-oriented development, and affordable housing in high use areas;
- Investigating opportunities to expand and implement multi-modal transportation options, including bicycling, walking, and transit;

- Maximize bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and other active-transportation systems.

Goal 1	Increase the percentage of EV and other low-emission transportation modes operating within the City.
Policy 1.1	Development incentives should be established that encourage the creation of electric car charging stations (*LU-57*). Work with utility providers and other partners (e.g. developers and EV companies) to ensure that there is access to EV charging where it is needed and expand EV charging readiness for buildings. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 1.2	Develop and implement an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan that: • Reviews current EV infrastructure in the city to identify gaps in charging locations. This review should be done with an equity lens and consider areas that are historically underserved and where the most benefit would be observed. • Identifies locations for chargers in commercial, multifamily residence areas, and city facilities. • Reviews feasibility of fast charging stations. • Addresses access issues and barriers to EV and charging stations for low-income homeowners, renters, and multifamily residents. • Identifies key stakeholders to EV infrastructure use and development. • Identifies partners in the region who can assist with charging station infrastructure to lower program and construction costs. (K4C Model Policies)
Goal 2	Decrease emissions that stem from fleet & freight service vehicles and aviation.
Policy 2.1	Support state-level policies and actions that incentivize and create requirements for clean fuels and electrification of private and commercial fleet vehicles. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 2.2	Convert public-owned fleets to zero-emission vehicles (e.g., electric or renewably produced hydrogen) as soon as feasible. (Commerce)

Theme 2: Renewable energy and energy efficiency

Staff noted that some of the draft policies related to energy had limitations to what a city can achieve and when the effort requires action by an industry or other regional partners. Additionally, budget limitations need to be considered when determining what is feasible in the next 20 years under this theme. Draft policies that were ranked “low” were noted to already be covered elsewhere in the Comprehensive Plan.

Goal 3	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by transitioning to renewable energy sources, decarbonizing buildings, and increasing energy efficiency.
Policy 3.1	Evaluate opportunities to retrofit municipal buildings for energy efficiency. (Commerce)
Policy 3.2	Optimize heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems at City facilities by installing more efficient equipment and technology and implementing operational changes to increase energy efficiency. Such efforts may include the following: • Conducting HVAC energy efficiency audits to identify cost-effective upgrades. • Installing building automation systems (BAS). • Installing high-efficiency motors, dampers, and multi-speed motors for air handling. • Phasing out chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment. • Educating staff to ensure and maintain peak efficiency and operating conditions. (*CAP E-2*)
Policy 3.3	Adopt performance standards for all City buildings, including renovations on existing buildings and design of new buildings, and establish a tracking system that makes the benchmarking scores of City buildings publicly available. Relevant building performance standards may include the following: • Standards from LEED-EB, the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system for Existing Buildings. • Building commissioning requirements. • Lighting power densities (LPDs) and controls that go beyond existing energy code requirements. • Wall insulation, window performance, and envelope air tightness standards that go beyond existing energy and building code requirements. • LEED and/or ENERGYSTAR certification for buildings larger than a specified size. (*CAP E-3*)
Policy 3.4	Optimize building envelope energy efficiency at City facilities by installing more efficient materials and technology. Relevant upgrades may include the following: • Conducting audits to identify cost-effective upgrades for weatherization and building envelope components. • Replacing single-pane windows with insulated glazing with low-e film. • Replacing or increasing interior wall insulation and roof insulation during major renovations.

	• Adding additional batt or rigid insulation and thermal barriers during interior renovations. (*CAP E-4*)
Policy 3.5	Implement audits and technical assistance to increase building energy efficiency. Such a program could address single-family, multifamily, and/or commercial buildings. Elements could include weatherization strategies, direct-installation of energy and water conservation materials, appliance trade-in/exchanges, home and business conservation kits, and rooftop solar and solar hot water projects – targeting support in low-income communities. (*CAP E-5*)
Policy 3.6	Adopt performance standards for residential and commercial building codes to increase building energy efficiency. The standards can address single-family, multifamily, and commercial renovations, existing buildings, and new buildings. The City can also require that building performance ratings be publicly available, to help inform prospective tenants and buyers about the energy performance status of buildings. (*CAP E-6*)
Policy 3.7	Pursue and advocate for federal and state funding and incentives to improve energy efficiency in existing commercial and residential buildings. (Commerce)
Policy 3.8	Maximize renewable energy sources for the supply of electricity and heat to new and existing residential and commercial building construction. (Commerce)
Policy 3.9	Retrofit publicly owned buildings with solar panels and electric heat pumps. (Commerce)
Policy 3.10	Support and expand building energy efficiency retrofit programs to reduce building energy use and improve energy resilience, including a focus on affordable housing. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 3.11	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 3.12	Develop energy efficiency outreach programs for residents and businesses by partnering with PSE and other local jurisdictions to identify and select appropriate and cost-effective energy improvements. This could involve supporting local schools in integrating climate and sustainability education into curriculum. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 3.13	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). (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 3.14	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 3.15	Support cleaner energy sources. Potential efforts include supporting community-scale renewable energy projects and efficient small-scale on-site power generation, working with local utilities to use cleaner energy sources, and encouraging Auburn businesses and residents to offset their energy use. *(CAP E-7)*
Policy 3.16	Develop low-energy-use requirements and building code compliance for residential buildings. (Commerce)
Policy 3.17	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Goal 4	Promote a diverse, clean, efficient grid that increases the grids reliability as demand increases.
Policy 4.1	Work with and encourage the utility provider 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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 4.2	Advocate for increased grid reliability through state and utility regulatory rulemaking and legislation that supports demand response and storage technologies that reduce peak load and provide grid flexibility. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 4.3	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. (K4C Model Policies)

Theme 3: Waste Management and Circular Economy

Staff feedback received confirmed inclusion of many of the draft policies, however, policies noted as "impractical", not feasible, or already a program that Auburn runs were omitted.

Goal 5	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials and organic waste by minimizing waste generation.

Policy 5.1	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 to provide healthy foods and promote food security. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 5.2	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 5.3	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 5.4	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 5.5	Implement solid waste management programs and services that provide ample opportunities and incentives to maximize the community's participation in local and regional waste reduction and recycling efforts. (CF-30)
Policy 5.6	Ensure that solid waste management programs shall be developed to make waste reduction and recycling efficient, reliable, cost-effective, and convenient for all residents and businesses. (CF-31)
Policy 5.7	Encourage and promote the use of products manufactured from recycled materials, and the use of materials that can be recycled. City Departments and contractors shall use recycled and recyclable products whenever and wherever feasible. (CF-32)
Policy 5.8	Implement solid waste reduction and recycling programs that have the cumulative effect maintaining the 50 percent waste reduction and recycling goal (recycling tons/total solid waste stream). (CF-33)
Policy 5.9	Promote the recycling of solid waste materials by providing opportunities for convenient recycling and by developing educational materials on recycling, composting and other waste reduction methods. (CF-35)
Goal 6	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials and organic waste by maximizing waste diversion.
Policy 6.1	Expand commercial recycling and organics collection and service, including making recycling and organics disposal as convenient as garbage 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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 6.2	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 6.3[M+R]	Continue to implement community outreach and education programs around proper waste reduction, recycling, and composting—with a focus on food waste. Provide outreach and program in multiple formats and languages as appropriate. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 6.4	Adopt standards for City buildings to use best practices for recycling, composting, reuse, and waste reduction. Standards can recommend practices such as placing more recycling bins at workstations, collecting organics more frequently and garbage less frequently, and installing more water bottle filling stations in facilities. (*CAP M-1*)
Policy 6.5[M+R]	Identify gaps in recycling and composting programs and take steps to expand service. The City can help identify locations, communities, and building types that are underserved by recycling and composting programs, such as multifamily apartment buildings. The City can work with haulers and through policies to improve service and increase recycling and composting. (*CAP M-3*)
Policy 6.6	Incentivize recycling of construction and demolition debris. (Commerce)
Policy 6.7	Use recycled materials in the construction of transportation and other infrastructure facilities. (Commerce)
Policy 6.8	Develop, implement, and enforce construction and demolition (C&D) recycling and deconstruction ordinances. (K4C Model Policies)
Goal 7	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials by supporting a circular economy.
Policy 7.1	Develop and adopt a citywide purchasing policy that includes environmental impacts. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) policies can prioritize reusing products and materials, purchasing durable goods, avoiding disposable goods, and reducing energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, and lifecycle costs and impacts. EPP policy may include targets, measures to track impacts, strategies for implementation, and references to existing standards (e.g., EPEAT, ENERGYSTAR, and LEED). (*CAP M-2*)

Policy 7.2[M+R]	Support "collaborative consumption" community projects that encourage shared use and exchanges. Examples projects may include tool libraries or repair cafes, which the City can support through partnerships or grants with nonprofit and community organizations. (*CAP M-4*)

Theme 4: Natural habitats and urban green space

Staff ranked all draft policies "Medium"- "High".

Goal 8	Protect and enhance land carbon sinks (e.g., trees, urban green space) to mitigate GHG emissions.
Policy 8.1	Require open space set-asides (such as parks) for new development. (Commerce) *(PR-2)*
Policy 8.2	Maximize tree canopy coverage in surface parking lots. (Commerce)
Policy 8.3	Improve and expand urban forest management to maximize or conserve carbon storage. (Commerce)
Policy 8.4	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. (Commerce)
Goal 9	Establish a green belt to develop a non-motorized trail to connect housing, schools, and businesses across a community.
Policy 9.1	Actively seek to acquire land along corridors identified for future trail development in the current Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Auburn Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan. *(NM-04)*

RESILIENCE SUB-ELEMENT

Goals and policies included in the resilience sub-element are focused on building community resilience and reducing community vulnerability to climate impacts.

Theme 5: Public health and community resiliency

Staff ranked many of the draft policies as "High" but noted they are covered by other plans and programs such as the Hazard Mitigation plan and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

Goal 10	Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment.
Policy 10.1	Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment that includes a focus on the built environment,

	communities, 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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 10.2	Promote the use of health impact assessments and other tools to address the potential impacts of health, equity, and climate change on vulnerable communities. (Commerce)
Policy 10.3	Integrate a climate impacts risk assessment and policies into the local hazard mitigation plan. (Commerce)
Policy 10.4	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. (Commerce)
Goal 11	Minimize disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable and frontline communities and focus/maximize associated benefits
Policy 11.1	Provide information in multiple languages to Auburn's diverse communities regarding services offered by local and regional governmental, educational, employment, health, and other providers to improve residents' quality of life and to promote resident engagement and household economic independence. (*H-38*)
Policy 11.2	Encourage and support human and health service organizations that offer programs and facilities for people with special needs. Support programs in particular that help people to remain within the community, including those that are veterans, disabled, seniors, single-parent households, and the homeless. (*H-31*)
Policy 11.3	Identify and address the disproportionate impacts of climate change on communities of color and lower-income communities when prioritizing investments, policies, programs, and projects. Prioritize investments, policies, and programs that address existing disparities in the distribution of environmental burdens and benefits. Ensure benefits are accessible to and focused on underserved communities. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.4	Invest in community-driven climate planning processes, share decision-making power, and co-develop and identify climate actions and priorities, particularly with frontline communities. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.5	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.6	Place special emphasis on extreme weather events that impact programs addressing those who are most vulnerable to homelessness. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.7	Prioritize investments, policies, programs, and projects that equitably reduce climate change impacts on vulnerable communities and increase resilience. This includes actions that address the impacts of extreme weather events on those experiencing homelessness. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.8	Identify 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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.9	Identify and expand community-centered anti-displacement strategies and climate-resilient infrastructure to mitigate housing insecurities exacerbated by climate change and/or gentrification. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 11.10	Link climate adaptation strategies with social equity and public health strategies. (Commerce)
Policy 11.11	Address the social and mental health needs of displaced populations following disasters. (Commerce)
Goal 12	Prioritize green, affordable housing to meet projected growth and needs of the community.
Policy 12.1	Support projects that bring renewable energy to communities of color, low-income populations, and members of limited-English speaking communities, based on evaluation and assessment of barriers and challenges. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 12.2	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 12.3	Give intentional consideration to a local community response to homelessness with affordable, green housing and supportive services provided. (K4C Model Policies)

Theme 6: Infrastructure and Emergency Preparedness

Staff ranked many of the draft policies as "High" but noted they are covered by other plans and programs such as the Hazard Mitigation plan and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

Goal 13	Equitably protect public health and safety by identifying and planning for risks associated with climate change.
Policy 13.1	Promote housing improvements by property owners and building managers. Seek available assistance for housing rehabilitation. Assistance will include the development of residential infrastructure and the rehabilitation of individual properties. (HO-20) a. Find public and private sources of capital and offer low-interest loans for rehabilitation. (Public Works, 2012) b. Continue to participate in the Emergency Home Repair Program and consider partnering with nongovernmental organizations to maximize funds. (Public Works, 2012) c. Encourage green lending for improved energy conservation, indoor air quality, and other measures. (Public Works, 2012) d. Help identify professional volunteers at educational or professional associations to plan redesign or architectural upgrades of the properties. (Public Works, 2012) e. Support additional healthy housing and preservation strategies, such as property tax exemptions to preserve affordable housing opportunities and utilizing community health workers to offer property owners and residents the education and resources needed to maintain housing. (*H-21*)
Policy 13.2	Ensure the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan incorporates considerations of climate change impacts on the Auburn community, including: 1) potential housing insecurities and displacement exacerbated by climate change, 2) chronic and acute heat risk in the community, 3) infrastructure and utility disturbances, and 4) plans and communication tools to help residents plan and practice actions that make responding to emergencies quicker and safer. (Commerce)
Policy 13.4	Develop resilience hubs — community-serving facilities augmented to support residents and coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, and after a hazard event. (Commerce)
Policy 13.5	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, affordable energy prices, and accountable utilities with consideration of climate impacts such as

	extreme heat, flooding, wildfire smoke, and drought. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 13.6	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. (Commerce)
Goal 14	Protect the community from extreme heat impacts and wildfire smoke
Policy 14.1	Work with partners, such as the Valley Regional Fire Authority, to 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. (Commerce)
Policy 14.2	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 14.3	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, landscaping, and green space should be implemented to help reduce the health effects of extreme heat on frontline communities and vulnerable population. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 14.4	Encourage the use of methods that contribute to improved indoor air quality during wildfire smoke events. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 14.5	Provide community education and outreach on wildfire mitigation best management practices and expand household-level wildfire mitigation assistance. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 14.6	Provide community education and outreach on wildfire smoke mitigation best management practices. Ensure outreach is accessible and prioritize frontline communities. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 14.7	Develop and implement a wildfire smoke resilience strategy in partnership with local residents, emergency management officials, regional clean air agency officials, and other stakeholders. (Commerce)

Policy 14.8	Develop and implement an urban heat resilience strategy that includes land use, urban design, urban greening, and waste heat reduction actions. (Commerce)
Policy 14.9	Ensure that all community members have equitable access to green space within a half-mile. (Commerce)
Policy 14.10	Develop a program to distribute cooling units and install heat pumps, prioritizing households with residents (e.g., low-income seniors) most vulnerable to extreme temperature events. (Commerce)
Policy 14.11	Support Valley Regional Fire Authority in the development of community wildfire protection plans. (Commerce)
Goal 15	Ensure that infrastructure (critical and noncritical) and utilities are resilient to climate change impacts (e.g., precipitation events and stormwater flooding).
Policy 15.1	Integrate local climate impacts risk assessment into hazard mitigation planning. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 15.2	Account for climate change impacts when planning, siting, designing, and operating capital facility, utility, and infrastructure projects. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 15.3	Factor climate impacts into the planning of operations and coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery activities. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 15.4	Coordinate 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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 15.5	Identify and reduce flooding through improvements to drainage and reductions in impervious surfaces and runoff, particularly in overburdened communities. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 15.6	Incorporate post-wildfire debris flow and flooding hazard information into critical area delineation in fire-prone communities. (Commerce)
Goal 16	Provide all residents an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions to enhance community resilience.
Policy 16.1	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. (Commerce)
Policy 16.2	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. (Commerce)
Policy 16.3	Cultivate relationships with climate justice coalitions that can help facilitate frontline community learning and engagement that links local issues with regional and statewide issues. (Commerce)

Theme 7: Cultural resources and practices

No feedback was received on theme 7 policies, all were kept for the framework.

Goal 17	Protect and preserve cultural resources and practices to build resilient communities and ecosystems in the face of climate change.
Policy 17.1	Ensure that cultural resources and practices — including historic sites and culturally important traditional foods and natural resources — are resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and other natural hazards worsened by climate change consistent with the Historic Preservation Element. (Commerce) *(HP-1)*
Policy 17.2	Consider climate impact vulnerability (e.g., flooding, landslides, etc.) as a factor in the Historic Preservation Plan to identify and protect City historic resources. *(HP-2)*
Policy 17.3	Establish or work with partners to establish a native plant nursery and seed bank to support long-term restoration and carbon sequestration efforts. (Commerce)
Policy 17.4	Establish and 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. (Commerce)

Theme 8: Water conservation and stormwater management

Staff ranked most policies “Medium”- “High” and noted there should be more emphasis on preparing for drought as this is an impact that will be exacerbated by climate change. Policy 18.1 was added to address this concern.

Goal 18	Protect and preserve water quantity and quality from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change consistent with the Utilities element.
Policy 18.1	Evaluate the long-term adequacy of water delivery infrastructure to ensure that changes in hydrological patterns (e.g., increases in flooding frequency or reduction of late-summer water availability associated with climate change) can be anticipated and managed effectively.

Policy 18.2	Reduce water consumption annually for the City of Auburn's public water supply by supporting water conservation efforts, such as addressing distribution leakage. *(CAP note; LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*
Policy 18.3	Promote water efficiency and conserve community water resources. Foster water conservation through incentives, information, and requirements that residents and business adopt water-efficiency practices and technologies. Help ensure that existing codes do not pose any barriers that discourage or prevent the use of water conservation practices on public and private property *(CAP E-8).*
Policy 18.4	Implement automated metering infrastructure (AMI), groundwater monitoring, and other proven measures to conserve water and enhance drought resilience. (Commerce) *(LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*
Policy 18.5	Utilize water conservation methods and technologies in development of irrigation infrastructure within parks and recreation areas to foster climate resilience. (Commerce) *(LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*
Policy 18.6	Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation and wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management. (Commerce) *(LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*
Goal 19	Account for climate change impacts in planning, designing, and operating stormwater management approaches consistent with the Comprehensive Storm Drainage Plan.
Policy 19.1	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 areas such as overburdened communities. (K4C Model Policies)

Theme 9: Natural habitats and urban green space

Staff ranked the majority of draft policies as "High" and noted they were aligned with Auburn's goals; however, determining leadership and budget to implement some actions were noted as barriers. Policies relevant to forestland were prioritized as a "Low" ranking since they may not be applicable to the City.

Goal 20	Support preservation and access to green and open spaces.
Policy 20.1	Ensure equitable access to parks, green space, and recreational services for all residents consistent with the Land Use Element. (K4C Model Policies) *(LU-96)*

Goal 21	Protect and enhance the climate resilience of urban forests by implementing climate-smart forest management.
Policy 21.1	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. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 21.2	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. (Commerce)
Policy 21.5	Prioritize urban forestry planning resources and funding for frontline communities that are hurt first and worst by climate change. (Commerce)
Goal 22	Ensure the protection and recovery of ecosystems to provide healthy habitat in a changing climate.
Policy 22.1	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. (Commerce) *(LU-132, LU-133, LU-134, LU-135)*
Policy 22.2	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. (Commerce)
Policy 22.3	Use an integrated approach to prevent the spread and establishment of invasive plant species and enhance the climate resilience of native plant communities. (Commerce)
Policy 22.4	Implement actions identified in restoration and salmon recovery plans to improve climate resilience of streams and watersheds. (Commerce)
Policy 22.5	Protect and restore riparian vegetation to reduce erosion, provide shade, and support other functions that improve the resilience of streams to climate change. (Commerce)
Policy 22.6	Increase resilience to flooding by protecting and, where possible, enhancing, and restoring existing flood storage, conveyance, and ecological functions and values of floodplains, wetlands, and riparian corridors. (K4C Model Policies)

Theme 10: Economic Development

Staff ranked all draft policies “High”.

Goal 23	Increase access of green jobs, with special consideration of increasing access for frontline communities.

Policy 23.1	Support economic development activity through workforce development programs to provide training and employment with private sector, school districts, Downtown Auburn Cooperative, and Green River College. Consideration of the special needs of economically disadvantaged residents and neighborhoods, and people with physical impairments and developmental disabilities, should be included in these programs. (*ED-11*)
Policy 23.2	Develop a green jobs strategy in partnership with community groups, frontline communities, and businesses that (1) supports sustainable practices, green skills development, and the low carbon transition of the City's impacted industries, (2) develops pathways for youth and impacted workers to transition into green jobs; (3) ensures opportunities (e.g., local hiring requirements) for these jobs, and 4) recruits sectors that can bring low-carbon emissions, like clean energy. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 23.3	Develop an equitable green workforce that is representative of the diversity of the city's communities and reflects the diverse skill sets, knowledge systems, and experiences communities through targeted hiring, workforce development, community agreements, and creating intentional pathways for frontline communities across sectors and seniority levels. (K4C Model Policies)
Policy 23.4	Ensure that the jurisdiction's 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. (Commerce)
Policy 23.5	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. (Commerce)
Policy 23.6	Promote local industrial development to support a circular economy that increases demand for recycled materials and reduces demand for new raw materials and their embodied carbon emissions. (Commerce)

Appendix A: Workshop Meeting Summary

Cascadia worked with the project team and City staff to further refine, vet, and prioritize climate goals and policies for inclusion into the Climate Element. A workshop was held on May 17th, 2023 with City staff that focused on reviewing the project purpose, outputs, timeline, and prioritizing the draft climate mitigation and resiliency goals and policies for the Climate Element.

Staff in attendance included representatives from the following departments:

- Community Planning
- Public Works
- Parks & Recreation
- Economic Development

The workshop began with project background, goals, final outputs, and an overview of the timeline. Climate element requirements outlined in HB 1181 and the Department of Commerce Climate Element Guidance was also reviewed.

Once climate element key themes from the Regional and State Climate Change Policy Review and Gap Assessment memo were reviewed, staff were organized amongst four breakout rooms where they were asked to prioritize policies and provide feedback on goals and policies within the key theme(s) that best aligned with their expertise. Prioritization of policies was done using the rankings:

- NA: Already represented within the current Comp Plan. (Note element cited).
- Low: Not a priority to include in a Climate Element.
- Med: Should consider inclusion in the Climate Element, but not a priority.
- High: Recommend inclusion in the Climate Element.

Policy feedback was integrated and rankings that were undetermined or ranked Med - High were to be included in the Climate Change Policy Framework.

BREAKOUT ROOM TAKEAWAYS

Group 1

Group 1 included staff from Community Planning and Public Works and reviewed the following themes:

- Theme 1: Transportation and planned development
- Theme 2: Renewable energy and energy efficiency
- A few policies in Theme 6: Infrastructure and emergency preparedness

Main Takeaways

- Many policies on multimodal transportation, transit-oriented development, and other vehicle miles traveled reduction policies were indicated as being represented elsewhere in the comprehensive plan.
- The Auburn Comprehensive Plan is currently undergoing an update, therefore the gap analysis/crosswalk that was conducted on the 2015 plan is not representative of those updates.
- HB 1110 will address many policies on housing policies in Theme 1.
- There are limitations to what a city is able to achieve on climate and when the effort requires action by an industry or regionally.
- Budget limitation need to be considered when determining what is feasible/achievable in the next 20 years.
- There is conflict/competition between natural areas and open space given demands of housing and employment targets. Space is a commodity and it's hard to achieve all the targets.

Group 2

Group 2 included staff from Public Works and reviewed the following themes:

- A few policies in Theme 6: Infrastructure and emergency preparedness
- Theme 8: Water conservation and stormwater management

Main Takeaways

- Currently, three utility systems (water, sewer, and stormwater) are developing/updating plans. Instead of referring to specific plans within an element, recommend keep policy language more general.
- There should be more emphasis on preparing for drought as this is an impact that will be exacerbated by climate change.

Group 3

Group 3 included staff from Parks & Recreation and reviewed the following themes:

- Theme 4: Natural habitats and urban green space (mitigation)
- Theme 9: Natural habitats and urban green space (resilience)

Main Takeaways

- Many of the policies were ranked "High" and inline with Auburn goals; however, determining leadership and budget to implement some actions were noted as a barrier.
- Policies relevant to forestland were noted as a "Low" ranking since it may not be applicable to the City.

Group 4

Group 4 included staff from Community Planning and Economic Development and reviewed the following themes:

- Theme 5: Public health and community resiliency
- Most of the policies in Theme 6: Infrastructure and emergency preparedness
- Theme 7: Cultural resources and practices
- Theme 10: Economic development

Main Takeaways

- Many of the policies were ranked "High" but are covered by other plans and programs such as the Hazard Mitigation plan and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.
- Identified Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) as a critical partner related to wildfire risks.
- Noted that the City should be recruiting sectors that bring low-carbon emissions, like clean energy.

Theme 3: Waste Management and Circular Economy

During the workshop, Theme 3 was not reviewed as the staff responsible for waste management were not present. Feedback on the goals and policies were collected following the workshop from the Finance Department, who oversees the City's waste management.

Main Takeaways

- It is important to keep policies feasible for the City (i.e., recycling all paper by a certain date is not practical).
- There are ongoing efforts to increase recycling/composting, education, and community gardens in Auburn.

Gap Assessment Findings and Goals & Policies Prioritization

This section includes a gap assessment for each key theme and a suite of accompanying goals and policies related to climate mitigation, climate resilience, and climate equity. Policy alignment per proposed policy also assessed to determine if current Auburn policy alignment is "good," "lacking," or was a "policy gap." See Table 2 for how policies were coded. Finally, each policy is cited to indicate where policy language was taken directly or tailored from, these include:

- Corresponding policies included within Auburn's Comprehensive Plan (e.g., *LU-1*)
- Corresponding actions included within Auburn's Climate Action Plan (e.g., *CAP E-7*)

- Policies sourced from the Department of Commerce's Menu of Measures (Commerce)
- Policies sourced from the K4C Comprehensive Plan Model Climate Policies (K4C Model Policies)

Theme Structure

Under each key theme, the relevant Auburn Comprehensive Plan elements and priority sector will be highlighted if represented by the theme goals and policies. (see Table 3 for figure abbreviations).

Example:

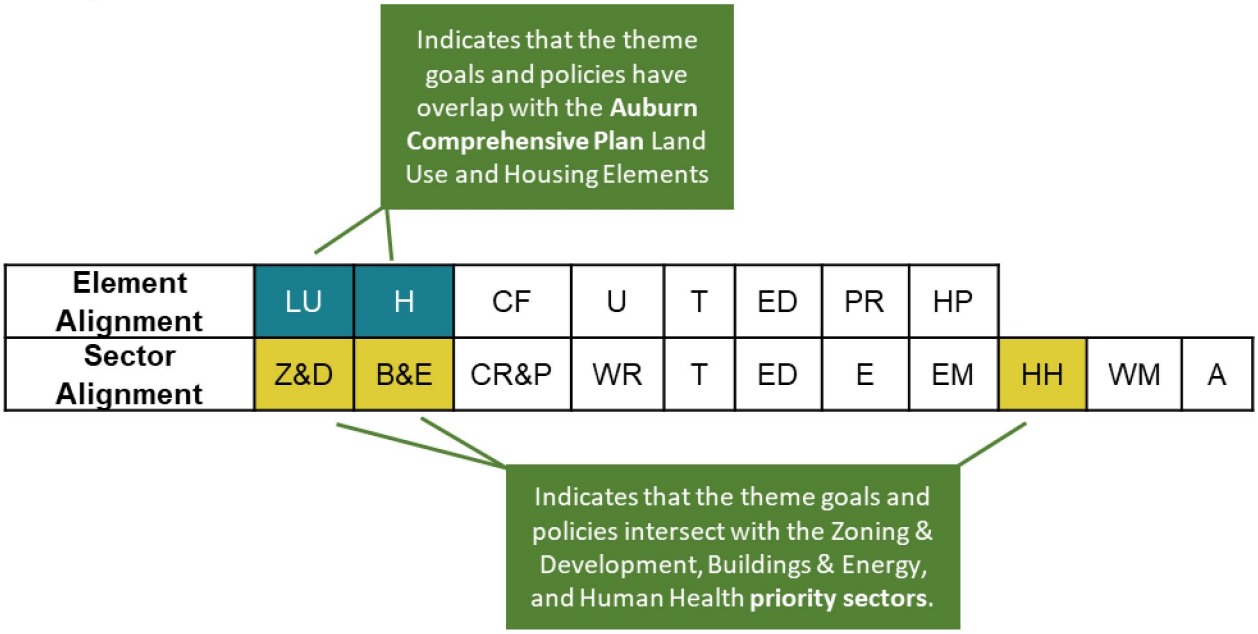


Table 3. Theme alignment abbreviations (abbr.).

Element Abbr.	Element (from Auburn's Comp Plan)	Priority Sector Abbr.	Priority Sector (from Commerce Guidance)
LU	Land Use	Z&D	Zoning & Development
H	Housing	B&E	Buildings & Energy
CF	Capital Facilities	CR&P	Cultural Resources & Practices
U	Utilities	WR	Water Resources
T	Transportation	T	Transportation
ED	Economic Development	ED	Economic Development

PR	Parks and Recreation	E	Ecosystems
HP	Historic Preservation	EM	Emergency Management
		HH	Human Health
		WM	Waste Management
		A	Agriculture

To ensure compliance with Commerce guidance, the resilience themes' priority sector alignment was reviewed to confirm at least one climate resilience goal and/or supportive policy were developed within each of the model climate element's 11 sectors. Table 4 shows the number of resilience themes that aligned within the identified 11 priority sectors.

Table 4. Number of resilience themes that align with Commerce priority sectors.

Priority Sector	Number
Zoning & Development	2
Buildings & Energy	1
Cultural Resources & Practices	1
Water Resources	1
Transportation	1
Economic Development	1
Ecosystems	1
Emergency Management	2
Human Health	3
Waste Management*	1
Agriculture	1

Mitigation

Goals and policies included in the mitigation gap assessment are focused on reducing GHG emissions.

Theme 1: TRANSPORTATION AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to transportation and building infrastructure and development. However, there is a lack of policies that link long-term planning strategies with GHG emissions reduction and climate equity. Additional policies related to electric vehicles (EVs) and EV infrastructure, reducing vehicle miles traveled, and preventing displacement from development should be considered.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 1	Reduce GHG emissions by prioritizing accessible multi-modal and low-carbon transportation options.		
Policy 1.1	Partner with agencies that support multimodal transportation infrastructure including Puget Sound Regional Council, Sound Transit, King Co. Metro and Pierce Transit. The City should continue to advocate for funding to support transportation improvements, such as better first-last mile access to transit, as an important means of expanding the City's and the region's economic base, consistent with the Economic Development element. *(ED-12)*	NA/Low (see notes)	Already covered in transportation plan.
Policy 1.2	Prioritize dense, mixed use, transit-oriented development, and affordable housing in high use areas in accordance with the Transportation, Land Use *(LU-148),* and Housing *(H-4)* elements.	NA/Low (see notes)	Already doing. Theme throughout: We want the Climate Element to point to other policies and elements that support climate policies (both current plans/policies AND plans/policies in progress or being updated). Important to focus on what's missing, how hard/easy it is, level of importance.

		Prioritization	Notes
			Another component: policies are currently being rewritten (so this crosswalk doesn't address upcoming transportation policies/updates). We want to keep connectivity between elements. Don't want/need to be repeating policies in the Climate Element.
Policy 1.3	Investigate opportunities to expand and implement multi-modal transportation options, including bicycling, walking, and transit. (Commerce; K4C Model Policies)	NA/Low	
Policy 1.4	Create a pedestrian and bicycle master plan to address mobility gaps, improve safety, and increase convenience by improving infrastructure, services, and community development for people walking and biking. Improvements may include: • Bike-sharing programs • Personal motor vehicle-free streets in the downtown area • "Complete Streets" • Infrastructure repairs and upgrades • Incentives for people biking and walking. *(CAP T-6)*	NA/Low	
Policy 1.5	Reduce and prevent displacement of households and businesses from transit-oriented locations, with a focus on low-income households and small businesses. (K4C Model Policies)	NA/Low	Embedded in HB 1110, so it'll find its way into Housing Element (no existing policies but working on it).
Policy 1.6	Consider congestion pricing and tolling or establishing parking maximums to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles and promote the use of alternative transit (Commerce)	Low (congestion pricing)	Not sure this would be considered, not sure how we'd do this. Maybe adjusting parking maximums.
Goal 2	Increase the percentage of EV and other low-emission transportation modes operating within the City.		
Policy 2.1	Support the transition to plug-in hybrids and electric vehicles within the community by facilitating the installation of EV-charging stations and requiring installation of charging stations in new multifamily housing developments. *(CAP T-5)*	NA/Low	Easy area to embrace with updated building code (higher requirements with EV infrastructure for new buildings). Implementing a building code automatically addresses this. In addition to residential, there's the opportunity for more public charging stations – off street, in parking lots. Complicated, challenges – cannot add

		Prioritization	Notes
			into right-of-way. Narrowing sidewalks takes away from other priorities. Competition within right-of-way for amenities (bike racks, wider ped areas, charging stations, etc.). Especially relevant in downtown. Promote charging within existing parking lots. Take policy a step further to focus on parking lots.
Policy 2.2	Development incentives should be established that encourage the creation of electric car charging stations (*LU-57*). Work with utility providers and other partners (e.g. developers and EV companies) to ensure that there is access to EV charging where it is needed and expand EV charging readiness for buildings. (K4C Model Policies)	High	1.1 and 2.2 blend together – notes above apply to both. Important and will evolve. PSE readiness – support their efforts.
Policy 2.3	Develop and implement an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan that: • Reviews current EV infrastructure in the city to identify gaps in charging locations. This review should be done with an equity lens and consider areas that are historically underserved and where the most benefit would be observed. • Identifies locations for chargers in commercial, multifamily residence areas, and city facilities. • Reviews feasibility of fast charging stations. • Addresses access issues and barriers to EV and charging stations for low-income homeowners, renters, and multifamily residents. • Identifies key stakeholders to EV infrastructure use and development. • Identifies partners in the region who can assist with charging station infrastructure to lower program and construction costs. (K4C Model Policies)	Med	More long-term – needed someday, but not a more immediate priority. Support KC if they are already leading the work. Need to keep an eye on evolving technology.
Goal 3	Decrease emissions that stem from fleet & freight service vehicles and aviation.		
Policy 3.1	Support state-level policies and actions that incentivize and create requirements for clean fuels and electrification of private and commercial fleet vehicles. (K4C Model Policies)	Med	State's requirements don't necessarily meet the needs (can we find clean fuels, electric fleet vehicles, etc.?). Industry needs to be ready before State forces requirements. Depends on how this policy is written.

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 3.2	Convert public-owned fleets to zero-emission vehicles (e.g., electric or renewably produced hydrogen) by 2040 (or other date). (Commerce)	Med/High	Tech isn't there to meet the needs, not possible. Convert portions of fleet that can be converted. Police fleet does not have time for charging so will not go fully electric. Large vehicles take a lot of energy to function. And it's a significant investment to get charging infrastructure in place. Rewrite 3.2 to be more realistic. Also not recognizing the budget as written. Can we write policy in a way that is optimistic about tech and cost advancements?
Policy 3.3	Partner with local organizations to identify funding sources and opportunities to electrify buses and heavy- duty vehicles. (K4C Model Policies)	Low	3.3 – 3.5 – happy to support efforts.
Policy 3.4	Increase the energy efficiency of city buses and vehicles, through adoption and promotion of innovative technology vehicles and greenhouse gas reducing fuels with a focus on electric vehicles, all electric battery buses and associated infrastructure, where appropriate. (K4C Model Policies)	Low	
Policy 3.5	Support state and regional requirements for electric delivery vehicles and Transportation Network Corporations (TNC's). (K4C Model Policies)	Low	
Policy 3.6	Promote coordinated planning and effective management to optimize the region's aviation system in a manner that minimizes air quality and noise impacts to communities, including historically marginalized communities. (Visions 2050, *Air-03*)	Low/NA	Air travel is in transportation element and airport master plan. Already work on air quality and noise impacts.
Policy 3.7	Support regional and industrial efforts to reduce regional aviation emissions by promoting the use of sustainable aviation fuel and adoption of aviation fuel efficiency measures.	Low	Industry needs to develop the fuels – until then, it's limited in what City can do. Low control.
Goal 4	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting densification and efficient land uses in mixed-use urban villages near transit corridors.		
Policy 4.1	Focus development within the Urban Growth Area and reduce development pressure on rural and natural resource lands consistent with the Land Use Element. *(LU-92, LU-120)*		Missing from the goal/theme: more explicit or direct VMT reduction policies. 4.1 and 4.4 relate to comments in goal 1 – easy, achievable, supported.

		Prioritization	Notes
			Policy is more about consistency with countywide policies. Potential policy broadly to comply with state regulations. Need more jobs/housing balance so that people can live closer to job locations to reduce travel. Plus expanded/extended transit options.
Policy 4.2	Use innovative zoning provisions to encourage infill development of underutilized parcels in zones that have been identified in the Comprehensive Plan as areas where infill residential development should be encouraged. Certain development requirements for infill development may be relaxed, while requiring adherence to specific design requirements to ensure compatibility with the character of nearby existing residential structures. [HO-27] (*H15*)	Low/NA	Addressed under missing middle housing.
Policy 4.3	Consider greenhouse gas emissions impacts and opportunities to reduce them when updating and implementing transportation and land use plans, codes, and zoning, as well as identifying and carrying out relevant projects (*CAP T-1*)	Low/NA	Building code updates also include energy code updates – which has been ambitious. Support the State's policy – and each energy code update adds significant housing costs (which does not support affordability). Policy is already happening because of State policy.
Policy 4.4	Prioritize dense, mixed use, transit-oriented development, and affordable housing in Auburn and city urban growth areas. (K4C Model Policies)	Low/NA	Downtown Urban Center Plan will further support this policy.
Policy 4.5	Adopt "missing middle" housing policies and codes to allow for broader housing types in single family zones, particularly near transit, while ensuring affordability for current and future residents. (K4C Model Policies)	Low/NA	Easy – HB 1110 will address.

Theme 2: Renewable energy and energy efficiency

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to land use and utility infrastructure, with some broad policies aimed at reducing energy consumption, practicing sustainable development, and reducing the impact of utilities. However, additional polices are needed that relate these strategies with GHG emissions reduction and climate equity. These include 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.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 5	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by transitioning to renewable energy sources, decarbonizing buildings, and increasing energy efficiency.		
Policy 5.1	Implement measures to promote buildings that conserve energy and water and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. *(LU-9)*	Low/NA (covered elsewhere)	Overarching Q: does the City want/need to do this faster than what the state has established? Overarching note: Main limitations are industry and budget limitations.
Policy 5.2	Public and institutional facilities should incorporate practices that reduce energy consumption, reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, conserve water, and preserve native vegetation. *(CF-62)*	Low/NA (covered elsewhere)	
Policy 5.3	Sustainable development practices will be incorporated into capital facility project design and construction. The City will support and implement efforts to promote climate action objectives by using low impact development techniques, energy and water conservation measures, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. *(CF-10)*	Low/NA (covered elsewhere)	Some components are already accounted for. Modify to incorporate as appropriate.
Policy 5.4	Identify and implement measures that reduce emissions and conserve energy and water at all park facilities. *(CF-9)*	Low/NA (covered elsewhere)	
Policy 5.5	Support the transition of utility energy fuel mixes to renewable sources, including through coordination with utility Integrated Resource Planning processes and state policy	Low	Not sure this feels relevant to City.

		Prioritization	Notes
	development/implementation. Work with utility provider and other stakeholders to establish a plan to have 100% renewable energy for the community (K4C Model Policies).		
Policy 5.6	Retrofit municipal buildings for energy efficiency (Commerce).	High, but needs wording adjustment/qualifiers – should be aspirational goal for City to pursue.	5.6, 5.8, 5.9, and 5.10 – not sure City can commit to this. Not simple, plus budget impact. Supportive of policy that incorporates more energy efficiency with new buildings, but retrofitting is hard and so unaffordable. And/or policy that looks for/evaluates opportunities for retrofitting.
Policy 5.7	Continue to update and retrofit traffic and street lights to increase energy efficiency. Upgrades may include converting traffic lights and street to light-emitting diode (LED) lighting and installing solar-powered fixtures for signage and lighting where appropriate. (*CAP E-1*)	Low/NA	Already done, so not a priority.
Policy 5.8	Optimize heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems at City facilities by installing more efficient equipment and technology and implementing operational changes to increase energy efficiency. Such efforts may include the following: • Conducting HVAC energy efficiency audits to identify cost-effective upgrades. • Installing building automation systems (BAS). • Installing high-efficiency motors, dampers, and multi-speed motors for air handling. • Phasing out chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment. • Educating staff to ensure and maintain peak efficiency and operating conditions. (*CAP E-2*)	High	

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 5.9	Adopt performance standards for all City buildings, including renovations on existing buildings and design of new buildings, and establish a tracking system that makes the benchmarking scores of City buildings publicly available. Relevant building performance standards may include the following: • Standards from LEED-EB, the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system for Existing Buildings. • Building commissioning requirements. • Lighting power densities (LPDs) and controls that go beyond existing energy code requirements. • Wall insulation, window performance, and envelope air tightness standards that go beyond existing energy and building code requirements. • LEED and/or ENERGYSTAR certification for buildings larger than a specified size. (*CAP E-3*)		(Another department is responsible for this so should be the ones weighing in). Challenge with LEED is annual certification and monitoring that continues after building is built. Staffing would be an issue. Massive budget challenges.
Policy 5.10	Optimize building envelope energy efficiency at City facilities by installing more efficient materials and technology. Relevant upgrades may include the following: • Conducting audits to identify cost-effective upgrades for weatherization and building envelope components. • Replacing single-pane windows with insulated glazing with low-e film. • Replacing or increasing interior wall insulation and roof insulation during major renovations. • Adding additional batt or rigid insulation and thermal barriers during interior renovations. • (*CAP E-4*)		(Another department is responsible for this so should be the ones weighing in).
Policy 5.11	Implement audits and technical assistance to increase building energy efficiency. Such a program could address single-family, multifamily, and/or commercial buildings. Elements could include weatherization strategies, direct-installation of energy and water conservation materials, appliance trade-in/exchanges, home and business conservation kits, and rooftop solar and solar hot water projects. (*CAP E-5*)		Big tradeoff with these policies and affordable housing. Want to be able to support, but all so expensive/require significant staffing.

		Prioritization	Notes
			(Notes apply to a lot of these policies). Policy edit/addition: high priority: Home repair program – importance of weatherization, esp. for low-income households, often mobile homes – so there are elements to this policy that could be incorporated elsewhere (like weatherization, water conservation, energy efficiency).
Policy 5.12	Adopt performance standards for residential and commercial building codes to increase building energy efficiency. The standards can address single-family, multifamily, and commercial renovations, existing buildings, and new buildings. The City can also require that building performance ratings be publicly available, to help inform prospective tenants and buyers about the energy performance status of buildings. (*CAP E-6*)		
Policy 5.13	Provide incentives to improve energy efficiency in existing commercial and residential buildings. (Commerce)		Financial costs here. Could add or focus more on an advocacy policy – to pursue incentives from State/federal.
Policy 5.14	Maximize renewable energy sources for the supply of electricity and heat to new and existing residential and commercial building construction. (Commerce)		
Policy 5.15	Retrofit publicly owned buildings with solar panels and electric heat pumps. (Commerce)		Budget issue, some infrastructure issues.
Policy 5.16	Support and expand building energy efficiency retrofit programs to reduce building energy use and improve energy		

		Prioritization	Notes
	resilience, including a focus on affordable housing. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 5.17	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. (K4C Model Policies)		Could add or focus more on an advocacy policy – to pursue incentives from State/federal.
Policy 5.18	Develop energy efficiency outreach programs for residents and businesses by partnering with 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. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 5.19	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). (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 5.20	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. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 5.21	Support cleaner energy sources. Potential efforts include supporting community-scale renewable energy projects and efficient small-scale on-site power generation, working with local utilities to use cleaner energy sources, and encouraging Auburn businesses and residents to offset their energy use. *(CAP E-7)*		
Policy 5.22	Require additional net-zero greenhouse gas emission features of all new residential and commercial structures. (Commerce)	Low/NA	Already accounted for in State requirements.
Policy 5.23	Require electric heat pumps and restrict natural gas in new commercial and residential construction. (Commerce)	Low/NA	Already underway.
Policy 5.24	Phase out natural gas use in existing publicly owned facilities by 2040 and retrofit with electric heat pumps. (Commerce)	Low	Not simple. High cost.

		Prioritization	Notes
			Easier to support these actions in new buildings. Not feasible given budget, age of facilities.
Policy 5.25	Require that all publicly owned buildings are powered 100% by renewable energy. (Commerce)	Low	Not simple. High cost.
Policy 5.26	Develop low-energy-use requirements and building code compliance for residential buildings. (Commerce)		
Policy 5.27	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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Doable.
Goal 6	Promote a diverse, clean, efficient grid that increases the grids reliability as demand increases.		
Policy 6.1	The City shall consider the environmental impacts of proposed utility facilities as a part of its environmental review process. When requested by the City, the utility provider shall furnish documentation of current research results and/or provide additional information related to determination of the potential environmental impacts, if any, from the proposed facilities. *(PU-7)*	Low/NA	Already do this.
Policy 6.2	Work with and encourage Puget Sound Energy 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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Interesting, but not sure how impactful City would be in this. But happy to support.
Policy 6.3	Advocate for increased grid reliability through state and utility regulatory rulemaking and legislation that supports demand response and storage technologies that reduce peak load and provide grid flexibility. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Interesting, but not sure how impactful City would be in this. But happy to support.

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 6.4	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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Interesting, but not sure how impactful City would be in this. But happy to support. Broad note: Conflict/competition between natural areas and open space given demands of housing and employment targets. Space is a commodity and it's hard to achieve all the targets. Housing/jobs come at the expense of natural areas.

Theme 3: Waste management and circular economy (waste management, finance department)

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to critical facilities (i.e., waste facilities), with some aimed at solid waste management. While the Comp Plan encourages effective solid waste management and increased recycling efforts, additional policies are needed to relate these strategies with GHG emissions reduction and climate equity. These include supporting a circular economy, supporting urban agriculture and local food production, encouraging composting, enforcing sustainable construction and demolition (C&D) practices, and implementing environmentally friendly purchasing policies should be considered.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM*	A

**Theme 3 captures both mitigation and resilience policies related to Waste Management.*

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 7	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials and organic waste by minimizing waste generation.		

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 7.1	The City shall implement solid waste management programs and services that provide ample opportunities and incentives to maximize the community's participation in local and regional waste reduction and recycling efforts. (*CF-30*)		
Policy 7.2	The City's solid waste management programs shall be developed to make waste reduction and recycling efficient, reliable, cost-effective, and convenient for all residents and businesses. (*CF-31*)		
Policy 7.3	The City encourages and should promote the use of products manufactured from recycled materials, and the use of materials that can be recycled. City Departments and contractors shall use recycled and recyclable products whenever and wherever feasible. (*CF-32*)		
Policy 7.4	The City shall implement solid waste reduction and recycling programs that have the cumulative effect maintaining the 50 percent waste reduction and recycling goal (recycling tons/total solid waste stream). (*CF-33*)		
Policy 7.5	The City shall promote the recycling of solid waste materials by providing opportunities for convenient recycling and by developing educational materials on recycling, composting and other waste reduction methods. (*CF-35*)		
Policy 7.6	The City will coordinate with solid waste providers and King County to ensure the provision of adequate and mandatory waste and recycling service throughout Auburn. The City will continue to create, support, and implement efforts that expand recycling and reuse. (*CF-5*)		
Policy 7.7	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 to provide healthy foods and promote food security. (K4C Model Policies)		This could be added since we have a Community Garden Program (Parks), Farmer's Market (Parks), and Blue Ribbon Committee (Mayor).
Policy 7.8	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. (K4C Model Policies)		We do all of this except our hauler has CNG vehicles for collection. King County is piloting an electric transfer truck right now.

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 7.9	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. (K4C Model Policies)		We do this and the Auburn Food Bank has relationships with many of the local grocery stores.
Policy 7.10	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. (K4C Model Policies)		We are members of the Northwest Product Stewardship Association.
Goal 8	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials and organic waste by maximizing waste diversion.		
Policy 8.1	Reduce municipal solid waste disposed of in landfills by (insert percentage) by (insert target date). (Commerce)		This is not realistic for Auburn at this point. Two-thirds of our tonnage is from our business sector, so it fluctuates with the economy. Also, our city continues to grow in population, and we've had large multifamily developments open recently. Even with waste reduction/recycling efforts, our disposal tonnage has been increasing each year.
Policy 8.2	Recycle all paper, food, textile, and metal waste by (date). (Commerce)		This seems impractical as written. We have recycling available for all those waste types, but we rely on the public to put things where they should go.
Policy 8.3	Expand commercial recycling and organics collection and service, including making recycling and organics disposal as convenient as garbage 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. (K4C Model Policies)		Yes, we are developing a plan to meet the requirements of HB1799 (Organics Management Law). The disposal ban/service requirement is something that would need to come from King County. Auburn has mandatory garbage service,

		Prioritization	Notes
			recycle is no additional cost and unlimited (not required though), and organics is offered but not required (we only have about a 60% residential subscription rate, so we continue to keep it optional).
Policy 8.4	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. (K4C Model Policies)		We offer free technical assistance and plan on expanding outreach efforts as we meet the requirements of HB1799. Ban/service requirement would need to come from King County.
Policy 8.5[M+R]	Build and implement community outreach and education programs around proper waste reduction, recycling, and composting—with a focus on food waste. (K4C Model Policies)		Already do this.
Policy 8.6	Adopt standards for City buildings to use best practices for recycling, composting, reuse, and waste reduction. Standards can recommend practices such as placing more recycling bins at workstations, collecting organics more frequently and garbage less frequently, and installing more water bottle filling stations in facilities. (*CAP M-1*)		We work with our facilities Department to make sure everyone has access to recycle/compost at City buildings where applicable. We have used grant funds for water bottle filling stations in schools, so if that is something the City wanted to do in our buildings, we could help with that.
Policy 8.7[M+R]	Identify gaps in recycling and composting programs and take steps to expand service. The City can help identify locations, communities, and building types that are underserved by recycling and composting programs, such as multifamily apartment buildings. The City can work with haulers and through policies to improve service and increase recycling and composting. (*CAP M-3*)		We are always looking for ways to improve service/programs. We rotate our focus for projects between residential, multifamily, schools, and business. We will be taking a closer look at composting while implementing the requirements of HB1799. Almost all multifamily housing has recycling (for those that don't we have a recycling station at the WM facility

		Prioritization	Notes
			that is available 24/7). The major limiting factor in multifamily buildings is space for organics collection containers.
Policy 8.8	Incentivize recycling of construction and demolition debris. (Commerce)		What is meant by incentivize? Who would be incentivizing?
Policy 8.9	Create a business technical assistance program to increase recycling and reduce waste. (Commerce)		We already provide free assistance and WM staff visit Auburn businesses every-other-year to offer outreach.
Policy 8.10	Use recycled materials in the construction of transportation and other infrastructure facilities. (Commerce)		Is this something Community Development can require?
Policy 8.11	Develop a program that will enable recycling of all construction and demolition debris (include target date). (Commerce)		King County is leading this. Doesn't seem like a City policy.
Policy 8.12	Develop, implement, and enforce construction and demolition (C&D) recycling and deconstruction ordinances. (K4C Model Policies)		There are cities who have adopted ordinances that we could use for examples.
Policy 8.13	Increase staff and facility capacity for composting programs to achieve (insert percentage) of community waste. (Commerce)		We are told there is plenty of capacity in King County. Doesn't seem like this should be a City policy.
Goal 9	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from materials by supporting a circular economy.		
Policy 9.1	Adopt a citywide purchasing policy that includes environmental impacts. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) policies can prioritize reusing products and materials, purchasing durable goods, avoiding disposable goods, and reducing energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, and lifecycle costs and impacts. EPP policy may include targets, measures to track impacts, strategies for implementation, and references to existing standards (e.g., EPEAT, ENERGYSTAR, and LEED). (*CAP M-2*)		Who would lead this? Would need support/buy-in from City leadership to accomplish.
Policy 9.2^{M+R}	Support "collaborative consumption" community projects that encourage shared use and exchanges. Examples projects may include tool libraries or repair cafes, which the City can support		Kathleen and I are on the steering committee for South King Tool Library's expansion into Auburn.

		Prioritization	Notes
	through partnerships or grants with nonprofit and community organizations. (*CAP M-4*)		

Theme 4: Natural habitats and urban green space

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to utilizing new development to contribute to new park developments, seeking land to establish a green belt for non-motorized travel, and implementing low-impact development and landscaping in parking lots. However, additional policies are needed that relate these long-term planning strategies with carbon sequestration (i.e., carbon storage). Policies related to managing and planning for carbon storage should be considered.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 10	Protect and enhance land carbon sinks (e.g., trees, urban green space) to mitigate GHG emissions.		
Policy 10.1	Require open space set-asides (such as parks) for new development. (Commerce) *(PR-2)*	High	If it's a subdivision and 1 lot is set aside as green space want to ensure the HOA is owning that and not City parks (planning usually does this but just want to make sure) Planning/Zoning code policy
Policy 10.2	Maximize tree canopy coverage in surface parking lots. (Commerce)	High	Parks department doesn't build too many parking lots (maybe not relevant for this department's opinion)
Policy 10.3	Improve and expand urban forest management to maximize or conserve carbon storage. (Commerce)	Med	Unless it's a hazard, trees are not removed
Policy 10.4	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. (Commerce)	High	May not be relevant – if we're talking about street trees that belongs to Transportation. Open spaces are maintained by Parks dept.

Goal 11	Establish a green belt of parks to develop a non-motorized trail to connect housing, schools, and businesses across a community.		Recommend to take "of parks" out of the goal
Policy 11.1	Actively seek to acquire land along corridors identified for future trail development in the current Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Auburn Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Plan. *(NM-04)*	High	No obvious language edits

Resilience

Goals and policies included in the resilience gap assessment are focused on building community resilience and reducing community vulnerability to climate impacts.

Theme 5: Public health and community resiliency

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to Housing. However, additional policies are needed that relate to climate resilience, public health, and equity. 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.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 12	Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment.		
Policy 12.1	Conduct, and periodically update, a climate vulnerability and risk assessment that includes a focus on the built environment, communities, 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	High	Hazard plan has risk assessment component, but may not address climate vulnerability thoroughly.

		Prioritization	Notes
	comprehensive plan goals and policies and enhance resilience. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 12.2	Promote the use of health impact assessments and other tools to address the potential impacts of health, equity, and climate change on vulnerable communities. (Commerce)	High	More Public Health's realm, though there is an Emergency Mgmt. component. Also not reflected in Econ development.
Policy 12.3	Integrate a climate impacts risk assessment and policies into the local hazard mitigation plan. (Commerce)	High	Hazard plan has risk assessment component but may not address climate vulnerability thoroughly.
Policy 12.4	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. (Commerce)	High	Don't currently have system in place. Not something the City leads, but do report info to County after storms occasionally (thought inconsistent). Need clarity on what this means and what is entailed but agree it's important.
Policy 12.5	Promote the use of health impact assessments and other tools to address the potential impacts of health, equity, and climate change on vulnerable communities. (Commerce)	See 12.2	Same as 12.2
Goal 13	Minimize disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable and frontline communities and focus/maximize associated benefits		
Policy 13.1	Provide information in multiple languages to Auburn's diverse communities regarding services offered by local and regional governmental, educational, employment, health, and other providers to improve residents' quality of life and to promote resident engagement and household economic independence. (*H-38*)	High	Supportive but note it's covered elsewhere. Joint effort: Housing would distribute and lead; language support comes from Communications; emergency mgmt. and econ development. plan for these communities as well.
Policy 13.2	Encourage and support human and health service organizations that offer programs and facilities for people with special needs. Support programs in particular that help people to remain within the community, including those that are veterans, disabled, seniors, single-parent households, and the homeless. (*H-31*)	High	Supportive but note it's covered elsewhere. Joint effort: Unsure which dept would lead; health, human services, community services, emergency mgmt., parks, and econ development plan for these communities as well.

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 13.3	Identify and address the disproportionate impacts of climate change on communities of color and lower-income communities when prioritizing investments, policies, programs, and projects. Prioritize investments, policies, and programs that address existing disparities in the distribution of environmental burdens and benefits. Ensure benefits are accessible to and focused on underserved communities. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Should be happening in every project, not just within one group or dept. Public Works lead.
Policy 13.4	Invest in community-driven climate planning processes, share decision-making power, and co-develop and identify climate actions and priorities, particularly with frontline communities. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Should be happening with every planning process.
Policy 13.5	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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	
Policy 13.6	Place special emphasis on extreme weather events that impact programs addressing those who are most vulnerable to homelessness. (K4C Model Policies)	Medium	Also in CEMP but broadened to include all hazards.
Policy 13.7	Prioritize investments, policies, programs, and projects that equitably reduce climate change impacts on vulnerable communities and increase resilience. This includes actions that address the impacts of extreme weather events on those experiencing homelessness. (K4C Model Policies)	Medium	Covered by other policies but should be mentioned here. Include working with Mayor's office, which has an anti-homelessness strategy. Emergency Mgmt. works with Housing Authority (lead), Mayor's office (anti-homeless division), and Public Health to respond to extreme weather events for homeless population.
Policy 13.8	Identify 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. (K4C Model Policies)	Medium	Also in CEMP, but broadened to include all hazards
Policy 13.9	Identify and expand community-centered anti-displacement strategies and climate-resilient infrastructure to mitigate housing	High	If gentrification is not addressed elsewhere, should be High

		Prioritization	Notes
	insecurities exacerbated by climate change and/or gentrification. (K4C Model Policies)		(emergency mgmt. doesn't address). Similar org structure as Policy 13.7
Policy 13.10	Link climate adaptation strategies with social equity and public health strategies. (Commerce)	High	Should be happening with every planning process.
Policy 13.11	Address the social and mental health needs of displaced populations following disasters. (Commerce)	Medium	Should be happening with every planning process. Main focus of this work should be in emergency mgmt. plans and disaster recovery plans.
Goal 14	Prioritize green, affordable housing to meet projected growth and needs of the community.		
Policy 14.1	Support projects that bring renewable energy to communities of color, low-income populations, and members of limited-English speaking communities, based on evaluation and assessment of barriers and challenges. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 14.2	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. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 14.3	Give intentional consideration to a local community response to homelessness with affordable, green housing and supportive services provided. (K4C Model Policies)		

Theme 6: Infrastructure and emergency preparedness (P.J., except Goal 17; AF/NG Goal 17)

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures key policies for long-term planning related to housing and infrastructure resiliency. However, additional policies are needed that relate these long-term planning strategies with equity, emergency preparedness, and climate adaptation. 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.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 15	Equitably protect public health and safety by identifying and planning for risks associated with climate change.		
Policy 15.1	Promote housing improvements by property owners and building managers. Seek available assistance for housing rehabilitation. Assistance will include the development of residential infrastructure and the rehabilitation of individual properties. [HO-20] a. Find public and private sources of capital and offer low-interest loans for rehabilitation. [Public Works, 2012] b. Continue to participate in the Emergency Home Repair Program and consider partnering with nongovernmental organizations to maximize funds. [Public Works, 2012] c. Encourage green lending for improved energy conservation, indoor air quality, and other measures. [Public Works, 2012] d. Help identify professional volunteers at educational or professional associations to plan redesign or architectural upgrades of the properties. [Public Works, 2012] e. Support additional healthy housing and preservation strategies, such as property tax exemptions to preserve affordable housing opportunities and utilizing community health workers to offer property owners and residents the education and resources needed to maintain housing. (*H-21*)		
Policy 15.2	Create evacuation plans and outreach materials to help residents plan and practice actions that make evacuation quicker and safer. (Commerce)	High	Already in Comprehensive Emergency Mgmt. Plan (CEMP), so describe briefly in Climate Element

		Prioritization	Notes
			and refer to CEMP for details.
Policy 15.3	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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Already in Comprehensive Emergency Mgmt. Plan (CEMP), so describe briefly in Climate Element and refer to CEMP for details.
Policy 15.4	Develop resilience hubs — community-serving facilities augmented to support residents and coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, and after a hazard event. (Commerce)	Medium	Have other policies that get resources to people; use a trusted partner network.
Policy 15.5	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, affordable energy prices, and accountable utilities with consideration of climate impacts such as extreme heat, flooding, wildfire smoke, and drought. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Important to make policies that get out to people and effectively reach them
Policy 15.6	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. (Commerce)	High	Important to make policies that get out to people and effectively reach them
Goal 16	Protect the community from extreme heat impacts and wildfire smoke		
Policy 16.1	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. (Commerce)	High	Should involve Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA). Doing a lot of work on smoke and WUI laws.
Policy 16.2	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,	High	Very important – noting KC report that identified Auburn and Kent as heat sinks.

		Prioritization	Notes
	and energy grid resilience. Utilize the King County Extreme Heat Mitigation Strategy to align with county planning efforts. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 16.3	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, landscaping, and green space should be implemented to help reduce the health effects of extreme heat on frontline communities and vulnerable population. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Outside of emergency mgmt. so curious about what building folks think of this policy
Policy 16.4	Include messages on the impacts of climate change on health and safety, including information to help residents plan and practice actions to protect themselves from these impacts, in outreach efforts. Outreach and materials should be provided in languages representative of community needs. (K4C Model Policies)	Low	Already in outreach planning
Policy 16.5	Work with community partners to establish resilience hubs that can serve as clean air shelters for use by the public during wildfire smoke events, particularly in areas that experience poor air quality due to transportation emissions. (K4C Model Policies)	Low	People don't use clean air shelters as much as you think. Same for cooling centers. More bang for buck to focus on things people can do at home.
Policy 16.6	Encourage the use of methods that contribute to improved indoor air quality during wildfire smoke events. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Helps people at home
Policy 16.7	Develop community wildfire preparedness, response, and recovery plans. (K4C Model Policies)	Medium	Already in Comprehensive Emergency Mgmt. Plan (CEMP), so describe briefly in Climate Element and refer to CEMP for details.
Policy 16.8	Develop and implement notification alerts within the community to reduce the risk of exposure to wildfire smoke and particulate matter. (Commerce)	Medium	Already in Comprehensive Emergency Mgmt. Plan (CEMP), so describe briefly in Climate Element and refer to CEMP for details. Idea to have a

		Prioritization	Notes
			Climate Element statement about "alignment and support with CEMP"
Policy 16.9	Provide community education and outreach on wildfire mitigation best management practices and expand household-level wildfire mitigation assistance. (K4C Model Policies)	Medium	Not Auburn's biggest hazard
Policy 16.10	Provide community education and outreach on wildfire smoke mitigation best management practices. Ensure outreach is accessible and prioritize frontline communities. (K4C Model Policies)	Medium	Indirectly covered in CEMP, but it's not specific to wildfire smoke
Policy 16.11	Develop and implement a wildfire smoke resilience strategy (if absent) in partnership with local residents, emergency management officials, regional clean air agency officials, and other stakeholders. (Commerce)	High	Don't have this yet
Policy 16.12	Develop and implement an urban heat resilience strategy (if absent) that includes land use, urban design, urban greening, and waste heat reduction actions. (Commerce)	High	Don't have this yet
Policy 16.13	Ensure that all community members have equitable access to green space within a half-mile. (Commerce)	High	Would be great!
Policy 16.14	Develop a program to distribute cooling units and install heat pumps, prioritizing households with residents (e.g., low-income seniors) most vulnerable to extreme temperature events. (Commerce)	Medium	Not a high priority for emergency mgmt. cooling response – would do other things first (quicker or more efficient), but not unhelpful. Human Services or Community Resources would distribute these.
Policy 16.15	Support the development of community wildfire protection plans. (Commerce)	High	Valley Regional Fire Authority doing this – new reports.
Goal 17	Ensure that infrastructure (critical and noncritical) and utilities are resilient to climate change impacts (e.g., precipitation events and stormwater flooding).		
Policy 17.1	Integrate local climate impacts risk assessment into hazard mitigation planning. (K4C Model Policies)		KC runs hazard mitigation process for the

		Prioritization	Notes
			whole county. Auburn prepares annex and Emergency Mgmt. leads it. Work detail is covered elsewhere so Karissa recommends Medium.
Policy 17.2	Account for climate change impacts when planning, siting, designing, and operating capital facility, utility, and infrastructure projects. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 17.3	Factor climate impacts into the planning of operations and coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery activities. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 17.4	Coordinate 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. (K4C Model Policies)		
Policy 17.5	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 areas that are historically under-resourced. (K4C Model Policies)	Same	
Policy 17.6	Review and update development codes and design standards to increase requirements for stormwater facility sizing, low-impact development, adopt nature-based solutions, and minimize impervious surface areas in private development and city capital improvements. (K4C Model Policies)	Theme 8	
Policy 17.7	Account for climate change impacts in planning, designing, and operating stormwater management approaches, including stormwater infrastructure and stormwater best management practices. (K4C Model Policies)	Low	SWIM Plan? Stormwater management plan This is something we could consider once we know what the target is. Would need specific BMPs
Policy 17.8	Identify and reduce flooding through improvements to drainage and wastewater systems and reductions in impervious surfaces and runoff, particularly in traditionally underserved areas. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Remove wastewater systems. Disadvantaged communities

		Prioritization	Notes
			We are doing this. Reductions in impervious surfaces in a stretch
Policy 17.9	To help 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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Belong in natural system/greenspace resiliency. Existing protections in place to promote
Policy 17.10	Map transportation infrastructure that is vulnerable to repeated floods, landslides, and other natural hazards, and designate alternative travel routes for critical transportation corridors when roads must be closed. (Commerce)		Already in Comprehensive Emergency Mgmt. Plan and map is updated through that planning process. Karissa recommends Low.
Policy 17.11	Analyze how the municipal water system maintains adequate pressure during a major wildfire event (e.g., multiple structures burning) and how it will look under current and projected drought conditions. (Commerce)	Low	Auburn – not at a high risk for Wildfires Well-worn communities – emergency water systems
Policy 17.12	Incorporate post-wildfire debris flow and flooding hazard information into critical area delineation in fire-prone communities. (Commerce)		
Goal 18	Provide all residents an equitable opportunity to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions to enhance community resilience.		
Policy 18.1	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. (Commerce)	High	High b/c culturally contextualized. Not necessarily an Emergency Mgmt. role but would support. Not sure who would lead.
Policy 18.2	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. (Commerce)	High	No clear lead dept. Emergency Mgmt. would support. Would likely integrate across departments.

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 18.3	Cultivate relationships with climate justice coalitions that can help facilitate frontline community learning and engagement that links local issues with regional and statewide issues. (Commerce)	High	No clear lead dept. Emergency Mgmt. would support. Would likely integrate across departments.

Theme 7: Cultural resources and practices

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures the importance of historic preservation through policies related to developing a Historic Preservation Plan, planning for future development impacts to historic sites, and recognizing that the City should accord the same levels of promotion and protection to Native American sites and artifacts as to those of the more recent past. However, there are not specific policies that recognize the risks climate impacts pose to historic sites. 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.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP		
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 19	Protect and preserve cultural resources and practices to build resilient communities and ecosystems in the face of climate change.		
Policy 19.1	Ensure that cultural resources and practices — including historic sites and culturally important traditional foods and natural resources — are resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and other natural hazards worsened by climate change consistent with the Historic Preservation Element. (Commerce) *(HP-1)*		
Policy 19.2	The City should consider climate impact vulnerability (e.g., flooding, landslides, etc.) as a factor in the Historic Preservation Plan to identify and protect City historic resources. *(HP-2)*		

Policy 19.3	Establish or work with partners to establish a native plant nursery and seed bank to support long-term restoration and carbon sequestration efforts. (Commerce)		
Policy 19.4	Establish and 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. (Commerce)		

Theme 8: Water conservation and stormwater management

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan has many policies related to preserving water quality and quantity through conservation efforts and includes policies related to stormwater planning. However, additional policies are needed that provide a connection between climate change impacts and planning for community water needs and stormwater management. Policies that link climate change with water conservation efforts and stormwater management should be considered.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 20	Protect and preserve water quantity and quality from drought, extreme heat, and other hazards exacerbated by climate change consistent with the Utilities element. ~~consistent with the Comprehensive Water Plan~~.	Public Works – water, sewer, storm	Water chapter to the water system plan (what will be reference in the utilities element) All three utilities will have their own system plan
Policy 20.1	Reduce water consumption ~~by 1%~~ annually for the City of Auburn's public water supply by supporting water conservation efforts. *(CAP note; LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*	High	We are already working to reduce consumption. 172/g/connection – 1% goal Once this is reached, we will reevaluate. Address distribution leakage goal (DSL under 10%)

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 20.2	Promote water efficiency and conserve community water resources. Transporting and treating drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater requires energy and generates pollution. The City can foster water conservation through incentives, information, and requirements that residents and business adopt water-efficiency practices and technologies, in addition to Low-Impact Development that it already requires. The City can also help ensure that existing codes do not pose any barriers that discourage or prevent the use of water conservation practices on public and private property *(CAP E-8).*	Low – stormwater Med/High – water and sewer	All three utilities are grouped. Reduce the number of pump stations. Development/manage stormwater on the site. Goal is to be efficient as possible. Located in a valley and limited by terrain. Separate incentives from operations - Water = tiered water rate system - Toilet rebate program (low flow) - Auburn does not treat wastewater, but they do transport it
Policy 20.3	Implement automated metering, groundwater monitoring, and other proven measures to conserve water and enhance drought resilience. (Commerce) *(LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*	High (water)	AMI – implement water metering. Should be covered in water and sewer plans. Cover all three utilities – try not toget too specific
Policy 20.4	Utilize water conservation methods and technologies in development of irrigation infrastructure within parks and recreation areas to foster climate resilience. (Commerce) *(LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*	Med	AMI School education/programs – water efficiency May be more appropriate somewhere else (some parks use turf, water reuse TBD, water audits – landscape irrigation)
Policy 20.5	Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation and wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management. (Commerce) *(LU-93, CF-20, CF-21)*	Med	Landscape management – lots of grasses are “useless grass” Stormwater management = uses LID

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 21	Account for climate change impacts in planning, designing, and operating stormwater management approaches consistent with the Comprehensive Storm Drainage Plan.		
Policy 21.1	The Storm Drainage Utility shall work with other jurisdictions and agencies to address regional water quality issues exacerbated by climate change, consistent with the Capital Facilities Element. *(CF-50, CF-51, CF-52, CF-53)*	NA	Regional water quality issues – what is meant in this policy Not general Utilities Element
Policy 21.2	Require the use of green infrastructure and low-impact development to address increased storm intensities and stormwater runoff. (Commerce) *(CF-38)*	NA	Utilities Element (stormwater comprehensive plan)
Policy 21.3	Review and update development codes and design standards to increase requirements for stormwater facility sizing, low-impact development, adopt nature-based solutions, and minimize impervious surface areas in private development and city capital improvements. (K4C Model Policies) (*CF-39, CF-40, CF-44)*	Low Supportive, but this will be covered by other standards provided by Ecology	Sizing = 100 year storm events There are other regional efforts going on at the state level/county level that will push the direction here
Policy 21.4	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 areas that are historically under-resourced. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Stormwater comp plan Make more broad – still related to stormwater

Theme 9: Natural habitats and urban green space

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan includes policies protecting, enhancing, and restoring critical areas and natural resources. However, policies related to forest management and increasing the resilience of natural resources to climate change impacts are lacking. Additional policies that speak to tree management and link the protection of healthy habitats to climate resiliency should be considered.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP

Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 22	Support preservation and access to green and open spaces.		
Policy 22.1	Ensure equitable access to parks, green space, and recreational services for all residents consistent with the Land Use Element. (K4C Model Policies) *(LU-96)*	High	
Goal 23	Protect and enhance the climate resilience of urban forests by implementing climate-smart forest management.		Be sure to use "urban" before forest when referring to urban forestry.
Policy 23.1	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. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Strong language (good). Planning and public works policy for implementation.
Policy 23.2	Adopt a 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. (Commerce)	Med	Not sure what a forest master plan would like (who would own this?)
Policy 23.3	Reduce loss of private forestland through forest stewardship education and identify opportunities to expand incentives for forest landowners. (Commerce)	Low	May not be applicable to a city
Policy 23.4	Encourage participation in Washington's small forest landowner assistance cost-share and stewardship programs. (Commerce)	Low	May not be applicable to a city
Policy 23.5	Prioritize urban forestry planning resources and funding for frontline communities that are hurt first and worst by climate change. (Commerce)	High	Prioritize may not be the right word for it. Implementation considerations – would need to hire a consultant for this, consider what this means for budget
Goal 24	Ensure the protection and recovery of ecosystems to provide healthy habitat in a changing climate.		
Policy 24.1	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. (Commerce) *(LU-132, LU-133, LU-134, LU-135)*	High	Good – strong language

		Prioritization	Notes
Policy 24.2	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. (Commerce)	High	Good strong language
Policy 24.3	Use an integrated approach to prevent the spread and establishment of invasive plant species and enhance the climate resilience of native plant communities. (Commerce)	High	Good strong language
Policy 24.4	Implement actions identified in restoration and salmon recovery plans to improve climate resilience of streams and watersheds. (Commerce)	High	Good strong language
Policy 24.5	Protect and restore riparian vegetation to reduce erosion, provide shade, and support other functions that improve the resilience of streams to climate change. (Commerce)	High	Good strong language

Theme 10: Economic Development

Gap Assessment: The current Auburn Comprehensive Plan captures the high-level policies related to local economic development. However, additional policies are needed that recognize the need for climate and environmental justice considerations. Policies related to developing a green job strategy, an equitable green workforce (including education and workforce training), and a just transition should be considered.

Element Alignment	LU	H	CF	U	T	ED	PR	HP			
Sector Alignment	Z&D	B&E	CR&P	WR	T	ED	E	EM	HH	WM	A

		Prioritization	Notes
Goal 25	Increase access of green jobs, with special consideration of increasing access for frontline communities.		
Policy 25.1	The City should support economic development activity through workforce development programs to provide training and employment with private sector, school districts, and Green River College. Consideration of the special needs of economically disadvantaged residents and neighborhoods, and people with physical impairments	High	Add stakeholder: Downtown Auburn Cooperative. Economic development Department is lead; shared with Community development Dept

		Prioritization	Notes
	and developmental disabilities, should be included in these programs. (*ED-11*)		
Policy 25.2	Develop a green jobs strategy in partnership with community groups, frontline communities, and businesses that (1) supports sustainable practices, green skills development, and the low carbon transition of the city's impacted industries, (2) develops pathways for youth and impacted workers to transition into green jobs; and (3) ensures opportunities (e.g., local hiring requirements) for these jobs. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Try to recruit sectors that can bring low-carbon emissions, like clean energy. Economic development Department is lead; shared with Community development Dept
Policy 25.3	Develop an equitable green workforce that is representative of the diversity of the city's communities and reflects the diverse skill sets, knowledge systems, and experiences communities through targeted hiring, workforce development, community agreements, and creating intentional pathways for frontline communities across sectors and seniority levels. (K4C Model Policies)	High	Pair with Policy 25.2 – need the opportunity and environment to work. Next 10-year economic strategic development plan should include Policies 25.2, 25.3, and 25.6 – will start renewal process in 2024; include support for the High policies in Goal 25. Economic development Department is lead; shared with Community development Dept
Policy 25.4	Ensure that the jurisdiction's 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. (Commerce)	High	CEMP has boiler plate language on climate change (need to update to be more specific; it's on its own 5-year update cycle).
Policy 25.5	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. (Commerce)	High	City-private grant partnership to share costs? Would need to work with PSE. Encourage for new buildings in particular. Economic development Department is lead; shared with Community development Dept
Policy 25.6	Promote local industrial development to support a circular economy that increases demand for recycled materials and reduces demand for new raw materials and their embodied carbon emissions. (Commerce)	High	Economic development Department is lead; shared with Community development Dept

AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:
Historic Preservation Element (Reed)

Date:
April 22, 2024

Department:
Community Development

Attachments:
Attachment G - Historic Preservation Element Presentation
Attachment H - Historic Preservation 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: Reed

Meeting Date: April 30, 2024

Item Number: PH.1

CITY DEPARTMENTS

2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT

DINAH REED, SENIOR PLANNER

PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 30, 2024

Department of Community Development

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

AUBURN VALUES

SERVICE

ENVIRONMENT

ECONOMY

CHARACTER

SUSTAINABILITY

WELLNESS

CELEBRATION

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT

Purpose and Scope of Comprehensive Plan Amendments

1) Policies have been updated.

2) Encourage the establishment of an Historic Preservation Committee.

3) Photographs of each of the six properties listed on the King County Landmarks List or the National Register of Historic Places were added to the element.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

- **Historic Registry Update**
  - Photographs have been added to the Element.

Auburn Masonic Temple



Auburn Pioneer Cemetery



2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT

IMAGINE AUBURN
~COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2024~

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

Auburn Post Office



Mary Olson Farm



Oscar Blomeen House

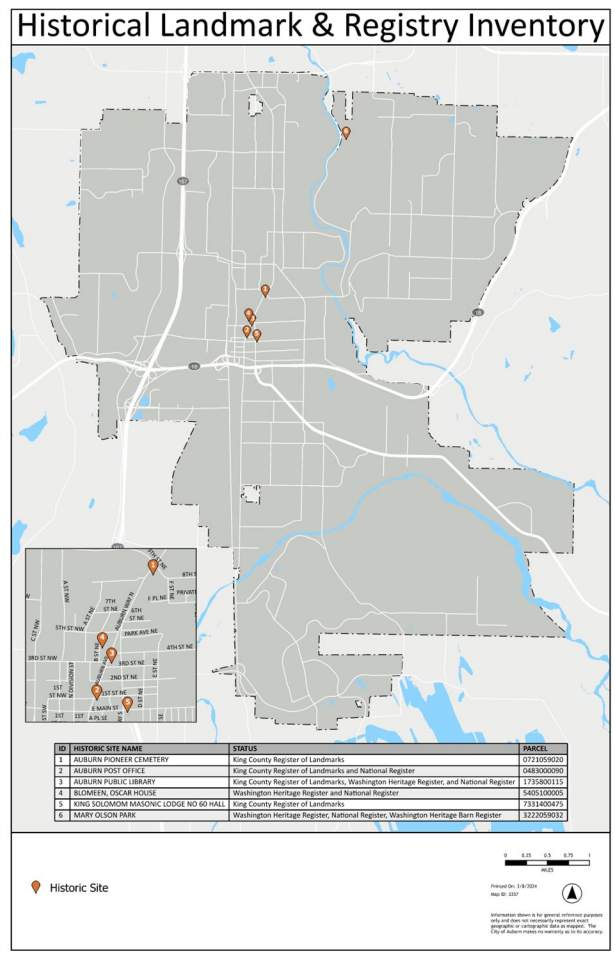


Auburn Public Library



2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT

IMAGINE AUBURN
~COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2024~



ID	HISTORIC SITE NAME	STATUS	PARCEL
1	AUBURN PIONEER CEMETERY	King County Register of Landmarks	0721059020
2	AUBURN POST OFFICE	King County Register of Landmarks and National Register	0483000090
3	AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY	King County Register of Landmarks, Washington Heritage Register, and National Register	1735800115
4	BLOMEEN, OSCAR HOUSE	Washington Heritage Register and National Register	5405100005
5	KING SOLOMOM MASONIC LODGE NO 60 HALL	King County Register of Landmarks	7331400475
6	MARY OLSON PARK	Washington Heritage Register, National Register, Washington Heritage Barn Register	3222059032

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

- **Updated and Consolidated Policies.**

GOAL 1. To enhance and maintain the quality of historical resources in the region.

- HP-1 Encourage the protection, preservation, recovery and rehabilitation of significant archaeological resources and historic sites in Auburn.
- HP-2 – Educate City staff to recognize significant resources and structures or provide City staff with access to professionals who specialize in historic preservation.
- HP-3 – Work with the King County Preservation Office and Department of Archeological and Historic Preservation to apply and help fund a survey of historic building inventories of neighborhoods.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

- **Updated and Consolidated Policies to include Action Items**

- HP-4 – Develop an Historic Preservation Plan to identify and protect Auburn's historic resources.

- HP-5 - Update the historic site and building inventory as part of this plan to include additional buildings, signage, corridors, and public spaces of historical significance.

- HP-6 - Amend existing historic preservation codes and incentives as needed to implement an Historic Preservation Plan.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

Updated and Consolidated Policies to include Action Items

- HP-7 – The City should consider the impacts of new development on existing historic buildings and resources as a part of its environmental review process and encourage alternatives to demolition.
- HP-8 - Propose adaptive reuse ideas to encourage the rehabilitation of sites and buildings with unique or significant historic characteristics.
- HP-9 - Archival quality historical documentation should be required when a historical building cannot be preserved. Buildings eligible for landmark status shall require the most detailed level of archival documentation and/or measured drawings.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

- **Updated and Consolidated Policies to include Action Items**

- HP-10 – Require appropriate mitigation measures if demolition is imminent, such as establishing a mitigation fund that could be used to further preservation elsewhere in the City.

- HP-11 Future development in the Downtown area should be sensitive to the character of surrounding buildings and the historical context of the area.

- HP-12 - Retain existing buildings with historic characteristics and research the potential for placing additional buildings on the historic register.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

- **Updated and Consolidated Policies to include Action Items**

- HP-13 - Modifications of existing buildings shall consider the appropriate treatment or restoration of historic architectural features.

- HP-14 - Make restoration of historic buildings known to the public through publication of projects to foster pride in downtown Auburn.

- HP-15 The White River Valley Historical Museum is recognized as the primary repository of historic artifacts which relate to the City's historical and cultural heritage.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Core Changes to Historic Preservation Element

Updated and Consolidated Policies to include Action Items

- HP-16 - Promote activities that create awareness and support cultivating the heritage of Auburn by offering walking or biking tours, festivals, and other means.
- HP-17 - Recognize Auburn's past prior to the arrival of settlers by promoting Native American sites and artifacts.
- HP-18 - Market the economic benefits to business owners and community groups when promoting cultural and historical events to gain a variety of involvement from various sectors in the City.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Potential Implications of Proposed Changes

- Forming an Historic Preservation Committee
- Writing an Historic Preservation Plan
  - Conducting an inventory of the City's structures, corridors, signage and places that have historical merit.
- Amendment of zoning code to support plan
- How to establish a mitigation fund if historical properties are demolished.

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – LAND USE ELEMENT

Next Steps

- May 7th – Action and Deliberation on Element

City of Auburn

Historic Preservation Element

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Historic Registry 3
GOALS AND POLICIES 6

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Through the recognition and preservation of its past, Auburn can ensure its uniqueness and strengthen its identity as it moves into the future. The City recognizes the importance of maintaining this connection with its past by including policies which address the enhancement and maintenance of historic resources within this Comprehensive Plan. This importance is also recognized by both the State and the County by the inclusion of historic preservation as one of the goals of the Growth Management Act (GMA) and in the King County Countywide policies.

Planning Approach to maintain, preserve, and enhance the City's historic, cultural and archaeological resources to provide a sense of local identity and history to the visitors and residents of the community.

In 2010 the United States Census Bureau identified Auburn's population as being 70,180 residents. Auburn grew in population to 84,858 residents in 2022, a 20% increase in 12 years but has since gone down in population to 82,657 in 2024... The growth applied substantial development pressure onto the city and enabled new businesses and services to prosper, but without the proper management of growth and development, these forces have potential to negatively impact the historic sites and cultural practices that exist in Auburn, and which contribute to the reason why residents and visitors are drawn to Auburn in the first place.

Proper identification and stewardship of historic and cultural assets is critical as the city works to balance competing demands on space, housing, services, and resources, because said assets help to create an identifiable identity for Auburn and often enable residents to better connect with their community. These assets may be historically significant structures, landmarks, and places and practices of tribal importance.

Vision

Unlike many cities within the Puget Sound Region, Auburn has a long and established history. Auburn has been a vibrant and freestanding community for over 100 years. As a result, Auburn developed its own downtown as the focus of business and community life. The downtown in particular, and the community as a whole, were linked to the railroads, which were the major mode of transportation throughout the region for decades. In the past several decades, the region has experienced significant population growth. Due to the nature of this growth, the differences between one community and another have blurred, and communities are becoming more and more alike. If Auburn is to retain its identity as a unique community, it must seek to emphasize its differences and celebrate them. Auburn's history is a part of its identity that is unique to Auburn.

VALUES

Auburn's history is identifiable and unique, contributing to an evident community identity. By preserving where this community has already been, we better inform where it's going. Under pressure to grow its economy while simultaneously meeting the emerging needs of its residents, Auburn's municipal policies aimed at preserving the city's historic and cultural assets will be shaped by our shared values. These values are:

Character

Historic structures and culturally significant sites are protected, ensuring that Auburn's community identity is grounded in its historic legacy.

Wellness

Efforts to support the livability of historic neighborhoods and structures are supported through city programs, projects, and collaboration with communities.

Service

The ongoing function and operations of historic structures and places are supported through the investment into, and maintenance of, the utilities that serve them.

Economy

One-of-a-kind historic structures and places are revitalized, enhancing property values, and encouraging consumers to remain in place and purchase goods.

Celebration

Auburn's history and local culture is actively promoted to residents and visitors in collaboration with city-supported organizations and official programs.

Environment

Investment, maintenance, and restoration of existing buildings and places are prioritized, disincentivizing urban sprawl into natural and open spaces.

Sustainability

Growth and business activity in Auburn does not damage local historic sites and culturally important practices continue to be emphasized and supported.

CONDITIONS AND TRENDS

Main Street

In 2017 the Heritage Building, a structure which housed apartments and local storefronts since 1924, tragically burned down, creating a gap in Auburn's otherwise well-defined and preserved Main Street. Four years later, in 2021, the Max House Apartments, another mature Main Street-defining structure also caught fire, eventually spreading to the historic and beloved Auburn Avenue Theater, rendering both buildings unsalvageable. Today, the city and stakeholders continue work to reimagine the sites of the three lost Main Street structures, and though their absence serve as an opportunity to imagine a new direction, their loss nonetheless remains an important reminder of the importance of historic preservation, because many culturally and historic assets cannot be replaced so easily once gone.

Historic Registry

There are currently six properties in the city of Auburn listed on either the King County Landmarks List or the National Register of Historic Places. When a property is added to either of these lists it means that their historic status is secured and they are now subject to a number of legal protections to prevent their removal, destruction, or alteration.

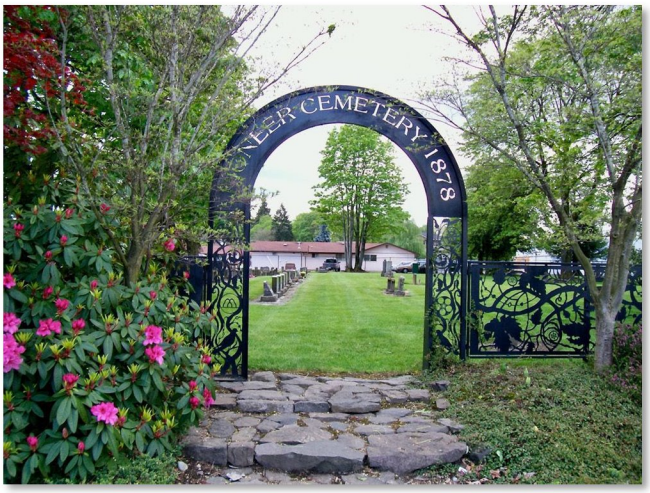
The six properties are:

- *Auburn Masonic Temple* – Designated 2002

  In the late 1800s, settlers in Auburn formed King Solomon Lodge No. 60, becoming the town's second fraternal order. They built the Auburn Masonic Temple in 1924, a historic Italian Renaissance Revival-style building listed on the King County Landmarks List in 2002 and National Register of Historic Places in 2015. It is located at 10 Auburn Way S.



- ***Auburn Pioneer Cemetery*** – Designated 2016



Auburn Pioneer Cemetery, established in the 1860s, is the city's oldest cemetery. It underwent various name changes and was designated a landmark in 2016. In 2019, the restored cemetery was officially dedicated, featuring new walkways, signage, and the Tora Kato monument's restoration. It is located at 850 Auburn Way N.

- ***Auburn Post Office*** – Designated 2000



Built in 1937, the Auburn Post Office transitioned to King County's use in the 1960s. In 2016, the City of Auburn acquired the building to create the Auburn Postmark Center for the Arts & Culture Center preserving its character for diverse community arts activities. It is located at 20 Auburn Ave.

- ***Auburn Public Library*** – Designated 1995



- In 1914, Auburn celebrated the opening of its Carnegie Library, located at 3rd Street NE and Auburn Avenue. Designed by architect David J. Myers and funded by a $9,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation, the 5,000 square-foot brick building featured a central librarian's desk, a children's section, and an adult section, serving the city for 50 years. It is located at 306 Auburn Ave.

- ***Mary Olson Farm*** – Designated 2000



Mary Olson Farm, a partnership between the White River Valley Museum and City of Auburn, is a fully restored 1880s subsistence farm, known for its preservation and conservation awards. This historic 67-acre site includes seven wooden buildings, an orchard, and meadows, offering a glimpse into early 1900s farm life. It is located at 28728 Green River Road.

- ***Oscar Blomeen House*** – Designated 1991



Built by owner Oscar Blomeen in 1914, the Oscar Blomeen House features a corner turret and a rich history. It served as Auburn's first hospital during the 1917-1919 influenza epidemic, a maternity hospital, and a surgical center. It's also an example of post-Victorian architecture with Craftsman influences. It is located at 324 B St NE.

GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal 1. To enhance and maintain the quality of historical resources in the region.

HP-1 - Encourage the protection, preservation, recovery and rehabilitation of significant archaeological resources and historic sites in Auburn.

HP-2 – Educate City staff to recognize significant resources and structures or provide City staff with access to professionals who specialize in historic preservation.

HP-3 - Seek grant opportunities to conduct historic building inventories of neighborhoods.

HP-4 - Develop an Historic Preservation Plan to identify and protect Auburn's historic resources.

HP-5 - Update the historic site and building inventory as part of this plan to include additional buildings, signage, corridors, and public spaces of historical significance.

HP-6 - Amend existing historic preservation codes and incentives as needed to implement the Historic Preservation Plan.

HP-7 - The City should consider the impacts of new development on existing historic buildings and resources as a part of its environmental review process and encourage alternatives to demolition.

HP-8 - Propose adaptive reuse ideas to encourage the rehabilitation of sites and buildings with unique or significant historic characteristics.

HP-9 - Archival quality historical documentation should be required when a historical building cannot be preserved. Buildings eligible for landmark status shall require the most detailed level of archival documentation and/or measured drawings.

HP-10 - Require appropriate mitigation measures if demolition is imminent, such as establishing a mitigation fund that could be used to further preservation elsewhere in the City.

HP-11 - Future development in the Downtown area should be sensitive to the character of surrounding buildings and the historical context of the area.

HP-12 - Retain existing buildings with historic characteristics and research the potential for placing additional buildings on the historic register.

HP-13 - Modifications of existing buildings shall consider the appropriate treatment or restoration of historic architectural features.

HP-14 - Make restoration of historic buildings known to the public through publication of projects to foster pride in Auburn.

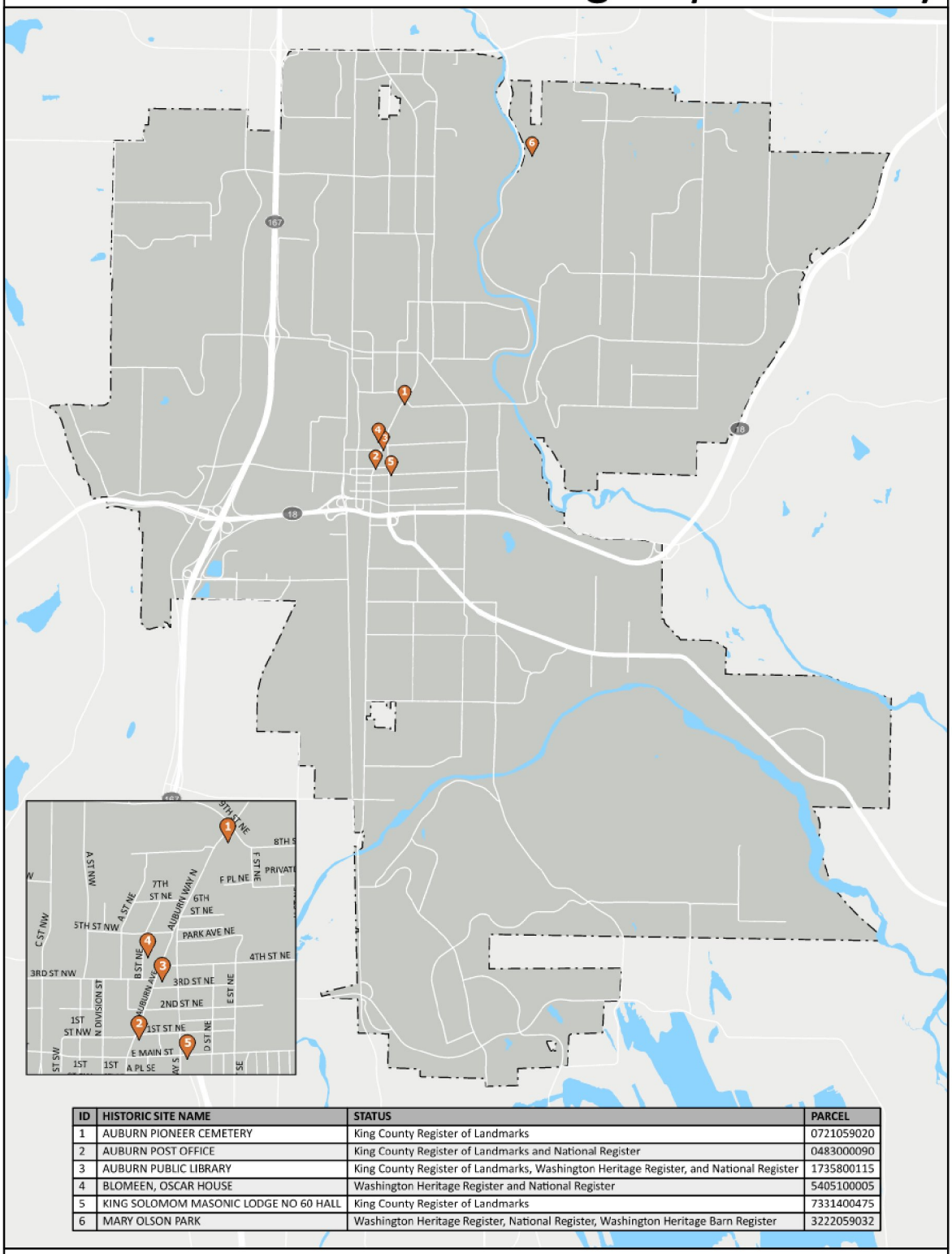
HP-15 - The White River Valley Historical Museum is recognized as the primary repository of historic artifacts which relate to the City's historic and cultural heritage.

HP-16 - Promote activities that create awareness and support cultivating the heritage of Auburn by offering walking or biking tours, festivals, and other means.

HP-17 - Recognize Auburn's past prior to the arrival of settlers by promoting Native American sites and artifacts.

HP-18 - Market the economic benefits to business owners and community groups when promoting cultural and historical events to gain a variety of involvement from various sectors in the City.

Historical Landmark & Registry Inventory



ID	HISTORIC SITE NAME	STATUS	PARCEL
1	AUBURN PIONEER CEMETERY	King County Register of Landmarks	0721059020
2	AUBURN POST OFFICE	King County Register of Landmarks and National Register	0483000090
3	AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY	King County Register of Landmarks, Washington Heritage Register, and National Register	1735800115
4	BLOMEEN, OSCAR HOUSE	Washington Heritage Register and National Register	5405100005
5	KING SOLOMOM MASONIC LODGE NO 60 HALL	King County Register of Landmarks	7331400475
6	MARY OLSON PARK	Washington Heritage Register, National Register, Washington Heritage Barn Register	3222059032

Historic Site

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1
MILES

Printed On: 3/8/2024
Map ID: 3337

Information shown is for general reference purposes only and does not necessarily represent exact geographic or cartographic data as mapped. The City of Auburn makes no warranty as to its accuracy.

AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM

Agenda Subject:
Economic Development Element (Francis)

Date:
April 22, 2024

Department:
Community Development

Attachments:
Attachment I - Economic Development Element Presentation
Attachment J - Economic Development 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: Francis

Meeting Date: April 30, 2024

Item Number: PH.2

CITY DEPARTMENTS

2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

JENN FRANCIS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 30, 2024

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

AUBURN VALUES

SERVICE
ENVIRONMENT
ECONOMY
CHARACTER
SUSTAINABILITY
WELLNESS
CELEBRATION

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

Purpose and Scope of Comprehensive Plan Amendments

A. Provide zoned capacity for 12,000 new housing units and 19,520 new jobs by 2044

B. Incorporate Middle Housing (HB 1110)

C. Land Use and Zoning Updates

D. Opportunities to simplify land use and zoning

E. Approaches for density in Growth Centers

F. Zoning changes in Downtown

G. Goals and Policies Updates

H. Other clean-up items

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

Element Overview:

- Introduction
- Vision
- Conditions and Trends
- Planning Approach
- Values
- Goals and Policies

Goals and Policies

Retention of Business

- Supporting growth and expansion
- Stronger connection between schools and industry workforce needs
- Advocacy for existing businesses
- Connecting businesses and sectors with each other
- Providing regulatory assistance

Attracting New Business

- Targeted recruitment of new businesses or brands
- Identify businesses that have a positive revenue, social, or climate impact
- Market the city and what it has to offer

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

IMAGINE AUBURN
~COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2024~

Goals and Policies

Missing & Under - represented Industry

- Identify sectors that are missing within our profile
- Select industries that could benefit from, or provide benefit to locating in Auburn
- Build incentive programs to aid in marketing

Supporting Industry Clusters

- Target strategies that support the existing aero-space industry
- Overcome the negative impacts of logistics and distribution
- Partner with school districts to build out curriculum that creates a ready work force

Goals and Policies

Downtown Auburn

- Reduce the number of empty storefronts
- Increase amenities (plazas, art installation, lighting)
- Concentration of housing units
- Support façade improvement program

High Standards

- Enhanced architectural style and appearance
- High quality landscaping and greenery
- Attention to detail for signs, and lighting
- Strong connections to non-motorized infrastructure

Goals and Policies

Incentives

- Workforce development
- Regulatory efficiencies
- Engagement amongst the business community
- Targeting financial incentives

Partnership

- Between businesses and through organizations
- Between businesses and residents
- Events and connections
- Sharing resources

Goals and Policies

Tourism

- Hotel stays = spending
- Marking events and attractions
- Tourism workplan and strategy
- Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

Diversity

- Economic
- Cultural
- Socio-economic
- Removing barriers

Goals and Policies

Displacement

- Economic development not intended to wipe out housing and communities
- Soften impacts of industry on communities
- Increased supply of housing creates stability and options

2024 PERIODIC COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT

Next Steps

- Tonight's Public Hearing
- May 7th Deliberation

City of Auburn

Economic Development Element

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Introduction

Economic development is a crucial aspect of the City of Auburn's overall well-being and quality of life. A strong and diverse economy provides opportunities for residents through job creation, business growth and a robust tax base that funds essential services such as police, streets, and parks.

The Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan serves as a guide to attract, retain and grow businesses in the city, expand economic opportunity for everyone, ensure that economic expansion is carried out in a sustainable fashion, and drive regional economic growth. It recognizes that economic development is not a standalone endeavor but is closely linked to other key elements of the plan, including land use, infrastructure, transportation, housing, and sustainable resource management.

The Economic Development Element is designed to establish policies and strategies that promotes the implementation of Auburn's vision for a strong, inclusive, and diverse local and regional economy. The Economic Development Element therefore provides a comprehensive overview of Auburn's economy, sets policy direction for economic growth, and identifies strategies, programs, and projects to improve the local and regional economy

Vision

The City of Auburn is a diverse and inclusive economy that promotes prosperity for all members of the community. New business and industry desire to locate in Auburn and existing businesses are able to grow and prosper. The economic landscape is welcoming to large and small businesses as well as an array of different industry sectors. Economic growth is carried out in a climate friendly manner that effectively weathers economic volatility. A pathway to success exists for all residents and business owners regardless of their background or socioeconomic status.

Planning Framework

Vision for 2044

To achieve this vision, the city will focus on strategic partnerships, targeted investments, and inclusive policies and programs. In 2044, Auburn will be a city where people want to start their careers, raise their families, and enjoy all that life has to offer. It will be a place where businesses want to locate and visitors want to spend time.

Our vision for the future is one in which Auburn is a model of sustainable living, where residents, business owners, and workers enjoy a high quality of life while also

reducing their impact on the planet. We are working to create an efficient economy that minimizes waste and maximizes resource efficiency.

Conditions and Trends

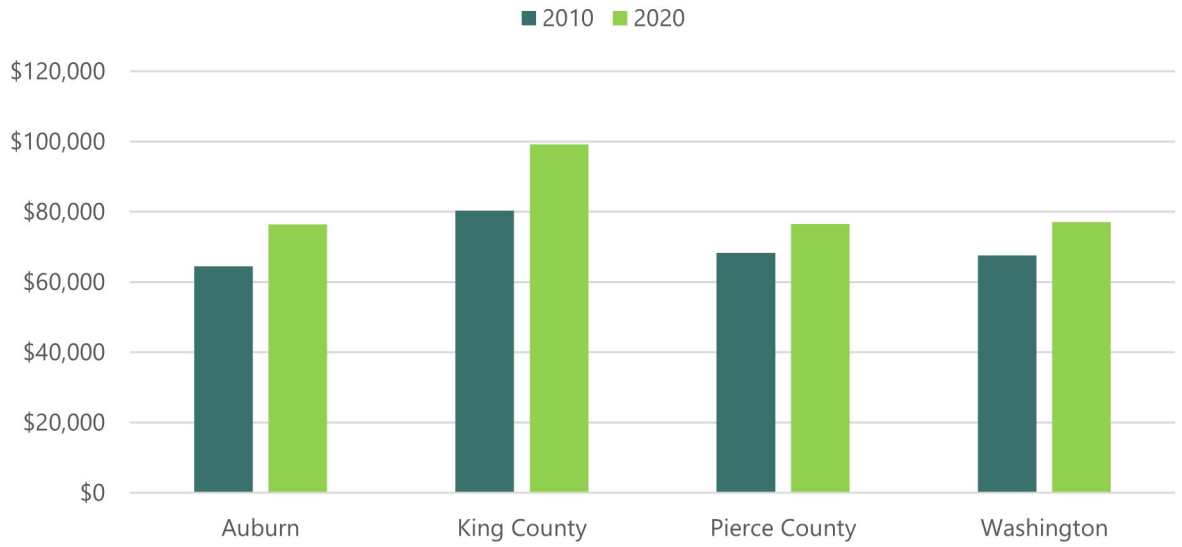
Auburn Profile

Auburn is a vibrant and growing city located in the Pacific Northwest region, situated about 15 miles north of Tacoma and 20 miles south of Seattle and is part of the greater Seattle metropolitan area. Most of the city is in King County, with a small portion extending into Pierce County. Auburn is currently ranked as the 14th largest city in Washington State and shares its borders with Federal Way, Kent, Pacific, Algona, Sumner and unincorporated King County. The Muckleshoot Indian Reservation lies partly within and partly adjacent to the City. Auburn is known for its natural beauty, strong economy, and diverse community, offering residents and visitors a high quality of life and a sense of belonging. The city boasts a thriving business community, top rated schools, and ample recreational opportunities, including access to the Green River, White River and the Cascade Mountains. Auburn also has a rich history and cultural diversity reflected in its many festivals, events, and community organizations. Auburn is a city that is constantly evolving and improving, yet always maintains its small-town charm and is a place where people come to start their careers, raise their families, and enjoy all that life has to offer.

Household and Income Characteristics

In 2020, Auburn was estimated to have 29,220 households, an increase of 12% since 2010. The average household size was 2.75, larger than the King County average of 2.43. This is likely due to the larger share of family households in Auburn, at 68%, compared with 59% in King County, and a smaller share of householders living alone. This reflects Auburn's suburban development patterns compared with some of the denser urban areas in Seattle and its closer-in suburbs. About 60% of Auburn's households are homeowners and 40% are renters, a slightly lower share of homeowners than Washington as a whole, but higher than the King County average.

Figure 1 - Inflation-Adjusted Median Household Income in Auburn with Regional Comparison (2020)

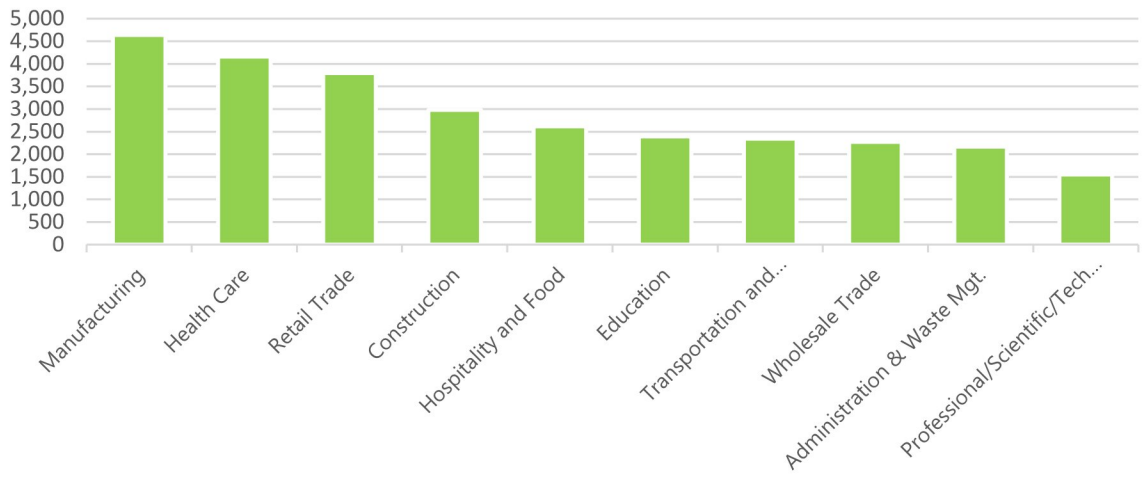


Source: 2020 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2503, CPI Inflation Index

Auburn's median household income was $76,410 in 2020, an increase of 19% from $64,443 in 2010 (adjusted for inflation). As shown in Figure 1, Auburn's incomes are on par with statewide and Pierce County averages but lag behind the higher incomes of King County households primarily as a result of Seattle and Eastside residents. Rental households in Auburn earn significantly less than ownership households – the average renter household earns $54,396 compared with $98,153 for ownership households. Auburn's BIPOC households are more likely to be renters. Around 46% of renters are non-white residents, compared to 33% of homeowners. These types of intersections of income, race, access to housing and wealth-building are important considerations when planning to accommodate the needs of all Auburn residents.

Resident Labor Force and Employment Characteristics

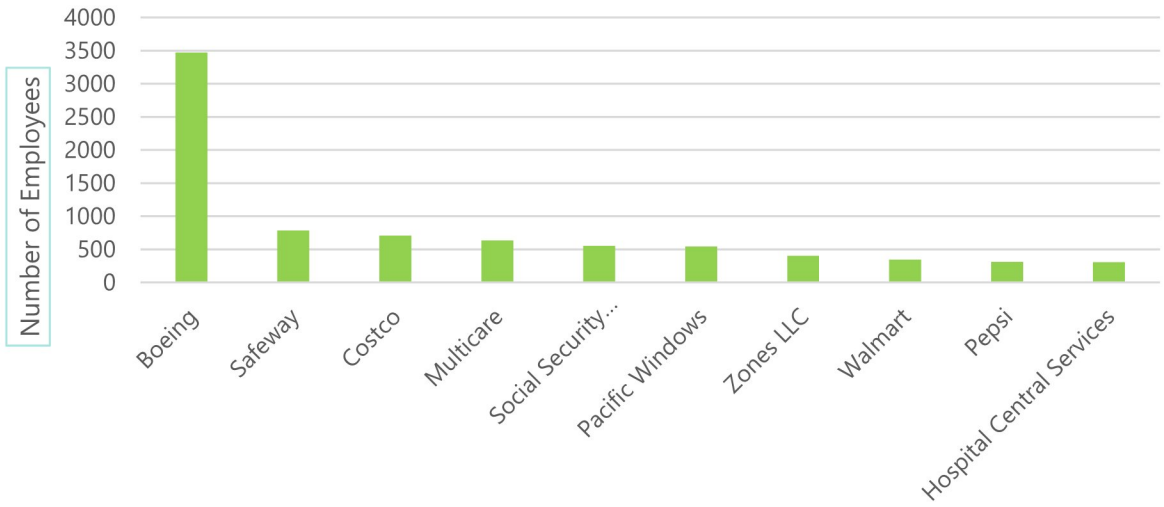
Figure 2 - Auburn Workforce Top Industry Sectors (2019)



Source: US Census On The Map

The top ten industry sectors in which Auburn residents were employed in 2019 is shown in Figure 2. Auburn has traditionally been a blue-collar community since its initial early 20th century population boom stemming from the construction of a railroad freight terminal. Despite a decrease in manufacturing employment in the 1990s and early 2000s, 13% of Auburn residents were currently employed in the industry in 2019. Since the recession of 2008, the number of Auburn residents employed in health care, retail, and construction have increased substantially and the overall diversity of jobs worked by Auburn residents has increased, reflecting the rapidly increasing population and shifts in demographics discussed previously.

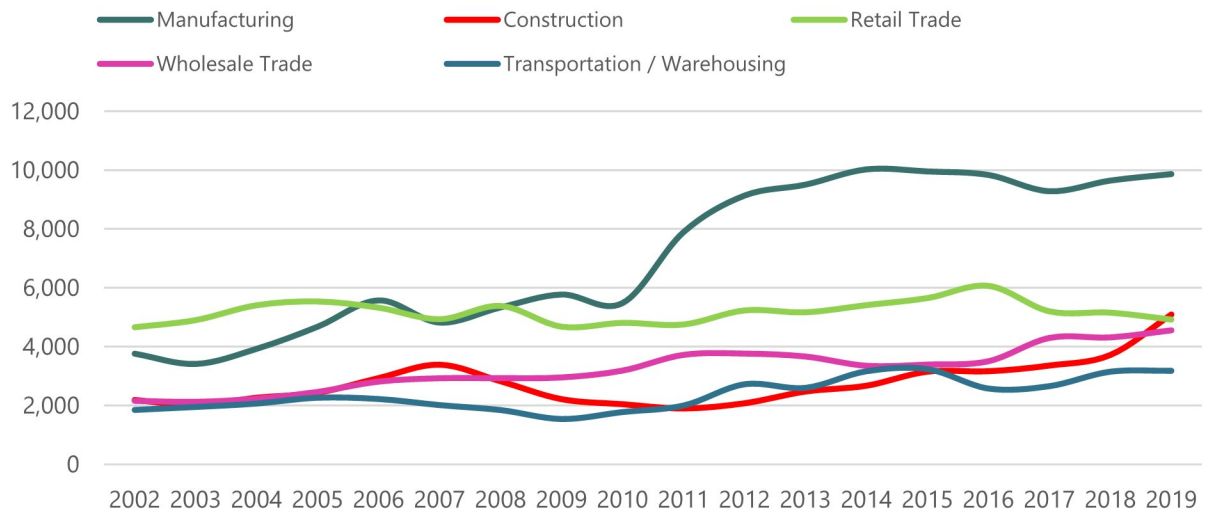
Figure 3 - Top Ten Employers in Auburn (2022)



Source: Washington Employment Security Department

The top employers in Auburn are shown in Figure 3. Boeing is the largest employer in the City, as it has been several decade, followed by a variety of retail, manufacturing, and wholesale businesses, as well as Multicare, the regional hospital and health care center in Downtown Auburn. The top ten employers in Auburn currently account for about 23% of the jobs in the City, down from 55% in 2011 and 85% in 2002, further demonstrating the increasing diversity of business activity in Auburn in recent decades

Figure 4 - Top Industry Sectors in Auburn (2002-2019)



Source: US Census On The Map

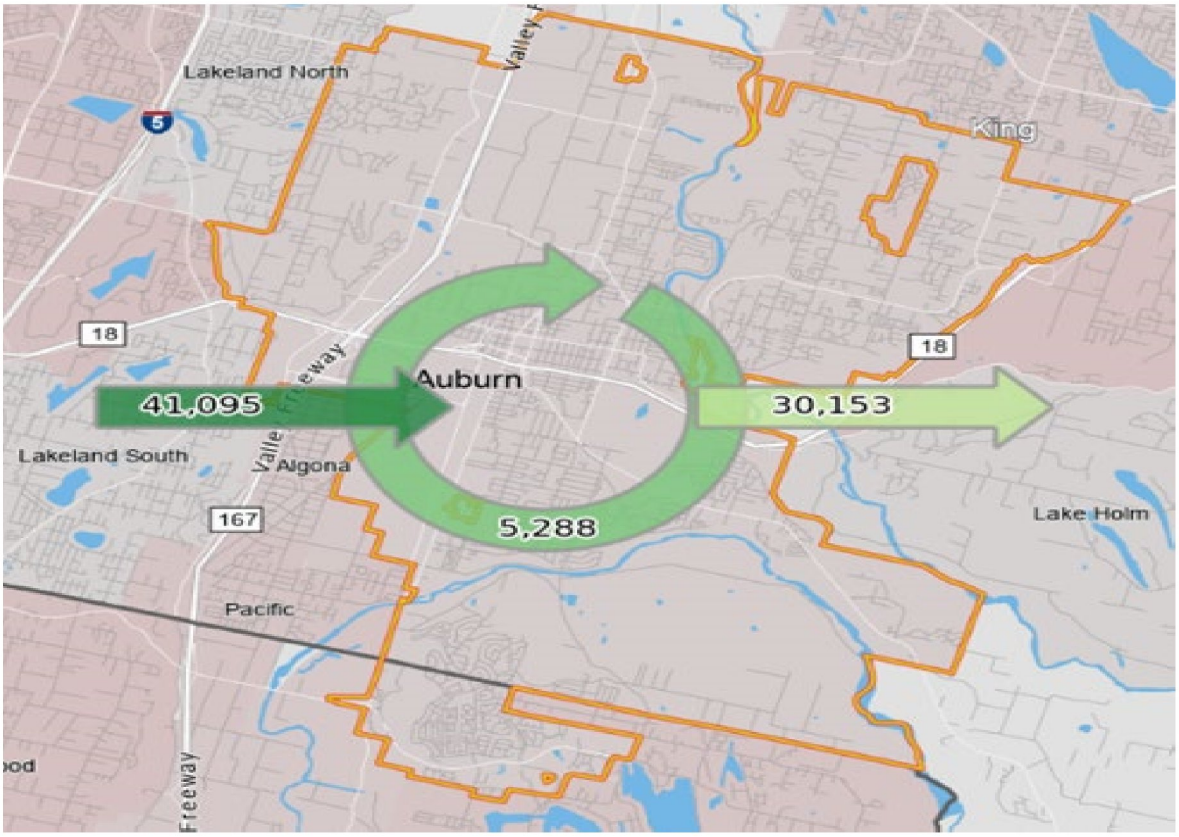
As of 2019, there were about 46,383 jobs located in Auburn. The top sectors are shown in Figure 4 along with their change over the past two decades. Despite decreases in the manufacturing industry from 1990 and 2000 noted in Auburn's previous (2014) comprehensive plan, the sector has seen rapid increases since the 2008 financial crisis and now accounts for over 20% of jobs in the City. Other notable shifts include a rapid increase in construction jobs over the past several years as well as a decrease in retail which corresponds to an increase in wholesale trade, perhaps reflecting increasing patterns of online rather than in-store shopping.

Daily Inflow and Outflow

As of 2019, 5,288 Auburn residents, or 15% of the population both lived and worked in the City. The remaining 85% of those who worked in Auburn commuted from outside the City. As shown in Figure 5, there are more people who work in Auburn

and live elsewhere than those who live in Auburn and work elsewhere. This results in an increased pool of residents and employees who engage with City services and businesses. Although this data predates the COVID-19 pandemic, the relatively large share of in-person manufacturing and retail jobs in the City suggests that the commuting patterns may have been less affected by the pandemic in Auburn compared with other areas which have a higher share of office jobs.

Figure 5 - Auburn Daily Commuting Patterns (2019)



Source: US Census On The Map

Growth Projections

Understanding future population and employment growth is essential for planning. King County, Pierce County, the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) and the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) are each involved in forecasting population and job growth in Auburn over the coming decades, and this section summarizes the current forecasts from these agencies which can be

used to inform future actions on land use, infrastructure, housing, economic development, and transportation in Auburn.

Planning Approach

Values

Character: Our community values the unique perspectives and experiences that our diverse population brings, and we strive to create inclusive spaces that celebrate our differences and foster a sense of belonging for all.

Wellness: We are a secure community with walkable commercial districts where the perception and reality are that crime activity is low.

We prioritize the health and well-being of our residents by investing in programs and infrastructure that promote active living, access to healthy food, and mental health support for all residents.

Service: Our economic development strategies are guided by a commitment to equitable growth, which means ensuring that all businesses and entrepreneurs have equal access to resources and opportunities to succeed.

Economy: We are working to create a resilient and equitable economy that benefits all members of our community, including those who have historically been marginalized or underrepresented.

Celebration: We actively promote our local businesses and have been successful at making our residents more aware of what is available locally as well as attracting visitors from beyond our City.

We take pride in our vibrant arts and culture scene, which serves as a cornerstone of our community and attracts visitors from around the region. We are committed to supporting and promoting local artists and cultural institutions.

Environment: Our economy is growing and diversifying because of our efforts to protect our rivers, streams, wetlands, and other environmental resources.

Sustainability: Residents are staying in Auburn to work and shop, and we are widely considered a regional dining, shopping, and entertainment destination.

Goals and Policies

Goal # 1 – Retention of Existing Businesses

Retain existing businesses by developing growth opportunities, cultivating local talent, promoting safety measures, and facilitating supportive expansion and relocation options.

Policies:

ED-1. Collaborate with local educational partners (e.g. Green River College & Auburn School District) and vocational centers to develop programs that are aligned with the skills needed by businesses in Auburn. This will necessitate a deep understanding of employer needs and educational/employment pipelines and includes fostering partnerships with businesses to provide internships, apprenticeships, and job placement opportunities for local talent.

ED-2. Implement and promote security measures in commercial areas, including physical improvements such as enhanced lighting, surveillance, and landscaping as well as strengthening communication amongst the business community and the City in order to create a secure environment that encourages businesses to succeed.

ED-3. Nurture/foster a collaborative environment by conducting regular gatherings and forums for businesses, community leaders and local government representatives to share their ideas, needs, strategies, and concerns.

ED-4. Develop and implement a support system for existing businesses within the city by assisting them in optimizing their operations and addressing challenges they may encounter during expansion or relocation within the city. Provide comprehensive information on available commercial properties, zoning regulations, and necessary permits. Offer proactive assistance to navigate local government procedures, ensuring a seamless transition for businesses committed to staying and growing in Auburn.

ED-5. Promote diversity and inclusion within the local business community by supporting initiatives that encourage greater participation and inclusion of minority owned businesses. Create resources and programs that provide equitable opportunity for businesses owned by underrepresented groups to be fully engaged in the local business community and the full array of resources and partnerships that exist.

ED-6. Establish a dedicated business retention program that proactively engages with local businesses to understand their needs, challenges, and opportunities. Identify and provide resources and support to address issues before they become significant barriers to continued operation and/or expansion.

Goal # 2 – Attract New Businesses

Attract new, high performing businesses by identifying market gaps, precisely defining the types of businesses Auburn seeks, strategically marketing Auburn's advantages, and optimizing available land and space.

ED-7. Perform regular market analyses to identify emerging trends, gaps, and opportunities in the local and regional markets. Conduct periodic research and collaboration with local education centers, research institutions and industry experts in order to stay updated on emerging needs and opportunities. Emphasize efforts and prioritize opportunities that attract businesses that are positively contributing to a more sustainable and climate-friendly operation. This can be in the form of businesses that are designing, creating, selling and distributing climate-friendly products and approaches or businesses that are seeking to incorporate sustainable development or building management practices.

ED-8. Clearly define the types of businesses that align with the city's economic development strategies, considering local strengths and market demands. Engage with local business associations and community stakeholders to gather input on desired business types. Develop industry profiles to guide prospective businesses in understanding the local market.

ED-9. Implement targeted marketing campaigns to showcase the city's advantages and attract businesses that fit the defined criteria. This includes developing a comprehensive marketing strategy highlighting Auburn's infrastructure, workforce, incentives, and quality of life. Leverage digital platforms, industry conferences, and targeted events to reach potential businesses and investors.

ED-10. Establish incentive programs to encourage desired businesses and industries to choose Auburn as their location. Collaborate with local and state governments to create tax incentives, grants, and other financial support mechanisms. Develop customized incentive packages based on the specific needs of target businesses. Build out a set of incentives that are specifically targeted towards attracting climate-friendly businesses to locate and grow in Auburn.

ED-11. Foster collaboration between the public and private sectors to create a supportive environment for attracting high-performing businesses. This includes establishing a platform for ongoing dialogue and collaboration between local government and business leaders and encouraging private sector participation in infrastructure development, workforce training, and other initiatives.

Goal # 3 – Missing or Underrepresented Industries

Identify and support emerging high performing business sectors with growth potential, contributing to a resilient and dynamic economic landscape, particularly in industries that are currently underrepresented.

Policies

ED-12. Identify and analyze emerging high performing business sectors with growth potential through ongoing collaboration with industry professionals, research institutions, and local business leaders. Develop a systematic process for monitoring market trends and assessing the viability of missing new economic sectors.

ED-13. Direct strategic investments and resources towards industries that are currently underrepresented in the local economy but show potential for growth. This involves creating incentive programs and support mechanisms tailored to the specific needs of these industries to foster their development.

ED-14. Establish programs to support entrepreneurs and startups within the identified high potential sectors. Provide mentorship, access to resources, and networking opportunities to nurture the growth of emerging businesses in underrepresented industries.

ED-15. Collaborate with educational institutions and industry partners to develop training programs and educational initiatives that align with the needs of emerging sectors. This ensures a skilled workforce is ready to contribute to the growth and development of underrepresent industries.

ED-16. Foster a collaborative economic ecosystem by encouraging partnerships between local businesses, startups, research institutions, and government agencies within the identified sectors. Facilitate networking events, conferences, and collaborative projects to strengthen the overall business environment.

Goal #4 – Supporting Industry Clusters

Implement strategies that support local and regional industry clusters which includes approaches that support Auburn specific clusters as well as regional clusters that represent the Highway 167 Corridor clusters, King and Pierce County identified clusters, and regionally identified Puget Sound clusters.

ED-17. Retain and recruit businesses that support an already robust aerospace industry by encouraging establishment and growth of manufacturing, innovation and design, and transport of materials and goods.

ED-18. Seek legislative solutions and private partnerships that are designed to offset the local impacts that occur as a result of logistics uses that are space consumptive, have high impacts on local street conditions, and that result in low performing ratio of jobs to square footage.

ED-19. Upon successful completion of Policy P.2, support the logistics needs that exist along the Highway 167 Corridor between the Port of Seattle and the Port of Tacoma.

ED-20. Expand upon opportunities to build out the local educational systems with the intention to create a stronger and more targeted employment pipeline that supports local industry clusters.

Goal #5 – Downtown Auburn

Develop downtown as a livable, walkable and drivable destination by fostering an active community through art, entertainment, and evening activity. Enhance building design, amenities and safety measures to create a welcoming environment that encourages residents and visitors to explore Auburn.

Policies:

ED-21. Implement public art initiatives and cultural programs in downtown Auburn to enhance the aesthetic appeal and cultural vibrancy of the area. This includes installing public art installations, organizing cultural events, and collaborating with local artists and performers.

ED-22. Foster an active downtown community by organizing regular events, festivals, and markets in downtown Auburn. This involves collaborating with local businesses, community groups, and event organizers to create a diverse calendar of activities that attract residents and visitors.

ED-23. Offer incentives for mixed use developments in the downtown area, encouraging the combination of residential, commercial, and entertainment spaces. This policy aims to create a vibrant and dynamic urban environment that supports both daytime and evening activities.

ED-24. Develop comprehensive parking and transportation plans to ensure convenient access to downtown. This involves strategically placing parking facilities, promoting public transportation options, and encouraging alternative modes of transportation to make the area both drivable and accessible.

ED-25. Enhance security measures, including increased police presence, improved lighting and surveillance systems, to ensure a secure environment for residents and visitors, especially during evening activities. Collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to address security concerns proactively.

ED-26. Improve and expand the existing facade improvement program to support local businesses in upgrading their storefronts, signage, and exterior aesthetics. This not only contributes to the overall visual appeal of downtown but also encourages economic growth.

ED-27. Develop a mix of incentives and penalties that seek to eliminate ongoing vacancy of ground floor commercial spaces.

Goal # 6 – High Standards

Promote high quality architectural design, pedestrian circulation, landscaping, lighting, public amenities, security investments, and signage that are customized to the various commercial and mixed-use areas of the city.

Policies:

ED-28. Implement lighting standards that contribute to the security and quality of commercial areas. This involves strategically placed lighting fixtures, street lighting, and architectural lighting to enhance visibility and create a secure and attractive environment during both day and night.

ED-29. Invest in infrastructure, such as improved multimodal transportation systems, electric vehicle charging stations, rideshare features, parks and open space, and enhanced security measures, to ensure the well-being of pedestrians and cyclists in commercial and mixed-used zones.

ED-30. Establish design standards and procedures within commercial and mixed-use areas. This ensures that development plans align with the preferences and needs of the local community.

ED-31. Establish a mechanism for regular design reviews to assess ongoing and proposed developments in commercial and mixed-use areas. This process ensures that projects align with established design standards and contribute positively to the overall urban beauty.

Goal #7 – Incentives

Develop and implement a comprehensive incentive program designed to attract and support business recruitment and retention. Incentives will include financial benefits, ease of access, community acceptance, strong connections to local goals, and maintaining support beyond initial opening.

Policies:

ED-32. Routinely provide workforce development, business assistance, and business development programs.

ED-33. Implement a streamlined permitting and approval process for businesses, reducing bureaucratic hurdles and ensuring a swift and efficient process. This policy aims to enhance ease of access for both new and existing businesses.

ED-34. Develop incentives that encourage businesses to actively engage with the local community. This includes supporting community events, participating in local initiatives, and fostering a positive relationship with residents to enhance community acceptance.

ED-35. Establish economic incentives that are geographically targeted and intended to attract specific businesses, brands, sectors, and amenities within the community.

Goal #8 – Partnership

Facilitate dynamic partnerships between the city, business community, educational institutions, event organizers and lodging providers.

Policies.

ED-36. Develop a comprehensive framework for promoting dynamic partnerships between the city, business community, educational institutions, and business associations. This framework will outline strategies for collaboration, communication channels, and shared goals.

ED-37. Conduct regular meetings and forums to bring together representatives from the city, business community, educational institutions, DAC, chamber. These meetings will serve as platforms for discussing opportunities for collaboration, addressing challenges, and sharing best practices.

ED-38. Encourage the development of collaborative initiatives that leverage the strengths and resources of each stakeholder group. This will include joint marketing campaigns, workforce development programs, community events, and infrastructure projects that benefit all parties involved.

ED-39. Collaborate with event organizers and lodging providers to coordinate and support events that drive economic activity and tourism in the city. This will involve providing logistical support, marketing assistance, and facilitating partnerships to enhance event experiences.

ED-40. Facilitate resource sharing and support services among stakeholders to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. This will involve sharing facilities, equipment, expertise, and access to networks to support mutual goals and initiatives.

ED-41. Acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of stakeholders in fostering dynamic partnerships and collaborative efforts. This could include awards, acknowledgments, and public recognition for exemplary partnerships and initiatives that benefit the city and its community.

Goal #9 – Tourism

Drive the growth of tourism by strategically investing in tourism related initiatives, fostering partnerships with key stakeholders and implementing effective promotional campaigns that are collectively designed to increase the number and length of hotel stays.

Policies

ED-42. Identify and prioritize strategic tourism initiatives, such as the development of tourist attractions, cultural events, and recreational facilities. Ensure these initiatives align with the city's unique offerings and contribute to an attractive and memorable visitor experience.

ED-43. Foster public private partnerships in the tourism sector to leverage the expertise and resources of both the public and private sectors. Encourage collaboration with local businesses, event organizers, and attractions to create a unified and compelling tourism experience,

ED-44. Develop and implement effective promotional campaigns and marketing strategies to increase the visibility of the city as a tourist destination. Utilize digital platforms, social media, and traditional marketing channels to reach target audiences and showcase the city's attractions.

ED-45. Maintain a strong level of communication and coordination with the lodging industry in order to cross promote events and amenities within the city and build Auburn's reputation as a destination.

Goal #9 – Diversity

All members of the community operate on a level playing field with equal access to services and where their participation is welcome and heard.

ED-46. All economic development goals, policies, and strategies will be designed around inclusiveness and with an intention to reach the entire business community.

ED-47. Intentionally identify and recruit missing or underrepresented ethnic and cultural groups to serve on economic development, tourism and downtown boards and commissions.

ED-48. Establish opportunities that enable broader engagement and listening from underserved communities within the city in the development of plans, strategies and decision making.

ED-49. Identify and eliminate barriers that have traditionally made it difficult to start or grow a business due to language. This includes providing translation and interpretation for non-English speaking people and accommodating individuals where a physical disability is eliminating adequate access to services.

Goal #10 – Displacement

In support of a stronger and more diverse economy the city will plan, protect, preserve and produce housing options that are intended to be attainable to all members of the community where the primary goal is to ensure that residents' choices about when, whether and under what circumstances to remain in their home or move.

ED-50. While the Economic Development Element places a heavy emphasis on the attraction of new businesses it is not the intent of this Plan to displace people, communities, populations, or affordable housing. Nor is it the intent of this Plan or any specific Goal or Policy to be considered higher priority in the event that there are conflicts.

ED-51. Establish zoning district boundaries that avoid a result where residential communities are designated as a non-conforming use.

ED-52. Avoid issuance of conditional use permits, variances, and other special land use approvals that convert existing residential uses into new commercial uses. This does not include the allowance of home based businesses.

ED-53. Establish development standards that mitigate the impacts of noise, light, odor, and building massing generated on commercial sites that are adjacent to existing residential communities.

ED-54. Embrace housing policies that support the creation of more housing across the full spectrum of affordability ranges in order to stabilize housing prices and avoid rapid volatility in the housing market. A strong and stable housing market in all sectors of affordability is an important element of a strong, local, and diverse workforce.