



HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Why is this important?

The City recognizes that each community member needs to have a sense of belonging, support in their community, and access to opportunities that fulfill the basic needs of life. Being inclusive means demonstrating a recognition that our community is enriched by people from a diversity of racial and ethnic groups and faith traditions and from all socioeconomic levels.

How is Kirkland doing now?

The City addresses basic human services needs through regional facilitation and a grant program supporting local nonprofits. The City has issued a Proclamation of Kirkland being a safe, inclusive, and welcoming place for all people and a supporting Ordinance prohibiting City staff from inquiring about immigration status unless required by law, and signed on as a member city to the Welcoming America Network and Cities for Citizenship.

What key goals are included?

Key healthy community goals include:

- Increase access to fresh food through more community gardens and farmers markets
- Reduce how much potable water people use
- Address homelessness
- Support and include immigrants and refugees
- Foster community leadership, especially among historically unrepresented groups
- Make Kirkland an inclusive, welcoming place for all
- Dismantle institutional and structural racism
- Expand housing options for all income levels
- Expand recreation options and ensure we're providing the facilities wanted by the public

What is the Sustainability Master Plan?

The Sustainability Master Plan is a ten-year planning document that outlines community-level goals and actions intended to help Kirkland meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Major community needs are:

- clean air and water
- healthy food to eat
- safe ways to get around
- more housing options that allow people of all economic means to live and thrive
- a more equitable and socially just city that is welcoming and inclusive of all people



How can you help meet these goals?

- Participate in racial equity workshops and community initiatives
- Use less water by growing drought tolerant plants and follow best watering practices
- Harvest rainwater for use in your garden
- Add an Accessory Dwelling Unit on your property to provide more housing options
- Volunteer for local organizations working for environmental justice and a healthy community
- Advocate for code updates and policy changes that make progress towards identified goals with the Planning Commission, Human Services Commission, and City Council

For all goals and actions, see the Sustainability Master Plan.

