

2044 Comprehensive Plan Update

PLANNING COMMISSION | APRIL 28, 2022

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Regulatory Requirements for Update

- Comprehensive Plans must be **updated by December 2024 (2022-2024)**
 - **Plan for horizon year of 2044**
 - **Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) Goals** – amendments since the last update
 - **Washington State Department of Commerce (DOC)** – review checklists for cities to address state law, policy, and regulatory updates required under new state laws
 - **Puget Sound Regional Council Vision 2050 Regional Growth Strategy** – must be consistent with Vision 2050 multi-county planning policies
 - **King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs)** – must be consistent with King County planning policies, and plan for County-allocated employment and housing growth targets
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Kirkland's Growth Targets



Existing Housing Units 2018*	K2035 Plan existing remaining housing unit capacity (2015-2035)	Target K2044 <u>new housing units</u> (2019-2044)	Existing Jobs 2018*	K2035 Plan existing remaining jobs capacity (2015-2035)	Target K2044 <u>new jobs</u> (2019-2044)
38,656	13,352	13,200	49,280	18,139	26,490

Local Needs-Key Themes for Update

- **Advance social justice, equity, inclusivity and belonging**
 - **Sustainability**
 - **Housing options for all and housing affordability**
 - **Mobility connections to regional transit system and accessibility**
 - **Resiliency** (*future emergencies, pandemic response, economic and fiscal planning*)
 - **Smart City Initiatives** (*transportation, mobility, infrastructure, digital transformation, built environment, community/civic engagement*)
 - **Consistency with City Council goals**
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2022-2024 Update Objectives

- Use the **current plan as the foundation for update**; not a complete re-write of plan;
 - **Plan for our housing and employment growth targets**; City will likely have zoning capacity to meet targets
 - **City can be very intentional where it chooses to create additional capacity** to achieve community goals like increasing affordable housing
 - **Conduct a visioning process** to re-assess if the Vision Statement and Guiding Principles express the community's values and embody the desired future
 - **Revise General Elements** to comply with State, Regional requirements and Countywide Policies, City Council goals; interdepartmental staff team approach; equity scan to remove exclusionary text
 - **Incorporate updated functional plans into the related General Elements** (PROS Plan, Surface Water Master Plan, Sustainability Master Plan, Transportation Master Plan, etc.)
 - **EIS will allow us to study options for growth** in Land Use, Transportation Master Plan/Transportation Elements with EIS Consultant Services
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Community Engagement Plan

- **Planning staff will partner with the City Manager's Office** to develop an innovative community engagement plan
- **Build on engagement strategies from K2035 update** to create equitable and inclusive outcomes; community participation with those who have not traditionally participated
- **Use existing City outreach platforms, methods, and networks, explore other techniques:** in-language events, honoraria payments, and trusted messenger outreach
- **Provide a variety of in-person or virtual options:** workshops, open houses, town halls, focus group stakeholder meetings, surveys, project webpages, interactive portals for comments, community events, virtual City Hall lobby
- **Meetings with:** Boards and Commissions, Neighborhoods, civic organizations, special purpose districts
- **Consultant Services:**
 - design a robust community engagement strategy that is equitable and inclusive; City staff implements
 - review Plan policies for consistency with the draft Roadmap; initiatives related to equity including R-5240 (Safe, Inclusive, and Welcoming) and R-5434 (Black Lives Matter)

Council Comments

- **Key Themes**

- Adjust themes as we hear more from the community during the process
- Add to the sustainability theme the concept of balancing growth with creating and preserving open/green spaces/natural areas for the future

- **Objectives for planning process additions**

- Emphasize the historic and future plan to concentrate growth around commercial centers, transportation connections, and existing infrastructure
 - Continue to observe changes resulting from the pandemic in areas like transportation, parks, and commercial uses and how they might influence key themes and objectives (see Resiliency theme)
 - Emphasize affordable housing policies to support future residents who may want to live in Kirkland, not just those who live here now
 - Encourage increasing access to reliable, affordable, quality childcare options
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Council Comments

- **Community engagement process**
 - Involve the new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging (DEIB) Manager in the engagement process and in designing the Community Engagement Plan
 - Important to reach out to people with disabilities in the engagement process
 - Improve on the feedback loop used in 2015 to report to the community what we heard, how that influenced policy, and how the major changes will impact them on a day- to -day basis. Should be in plain language

Council Comments

- **Miscellaneous**

- Go beyond adding a Land Acknowledgement in the Plan and add text to recognize our First People contributions, historical places, and community names.
- Include HB 1099 recommendations to improve the state's climate response through updates to Comprehensive Plans (HB 1099 did not pass the Washington State House of Representatives. Will do as part of incorporating the Sustainability Master Plan (SAP) into the Plan.)
- Evaluate existing Implementation Strategies for what we have accomplished; how are we doing, and what do we still need to do?
- What are our next steps to become a "Complete City", i.e., completing all sidewalks; underground overhead utilities; improve aesthetics and art in community?
- How do we look at standardizing our approach to neighborhood centers to have what they need for success and establish consistent urban design principles?
- From a property rights issue, what can the City (or legislature) do eliminate or reduce restrictive covenants or home- owners association restrictions that may be contrary to City policies like encouraging ADU units and missing middle housing.

Neighborhood Plans Discussion

K2044 Update Recommendations:

- review all neighborhood plans for consistency with equity & inclusion efforts, city-wide policies
- only conduct a major update of Juanita and Kingsgate neighborhood plans in 2023

Long Term Recommendations:

- retain neighborhood plans in the Comprehensive Plan; update only with 8 yr. Comprehensive Plan update cycle
- in between cycles, neighborhood could request special consideration for an update w/Planning Work Program
- in between cycles, property owners could seek community-initiated amendment requests (CAR's)
- community feedback on this change will be essential (separate work program task)

City Council supports this approach



Project Phases

Timeline and Project Phasing 2022-2024



Questions for Planning Commission

1. Does the Commission **agree with the key themes** for the K2044 process?
2. Are there particular **issues or topics** that the Commission would like to include in the Plan update?
3. What expectations does the Commission have for the **community engagement process**?
4. Does the Commission have feedback on staff's recommendations to:
 - **Limited updates to neighborhood plans**? Complete major updates for Juanita and Kingsgate neighborhood plans in 2023.
 - Initiate community outreach to update **neighborhood plans to the 8-year comprehensive plan cycle**?