

**GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

AGENDA TITLE: 2012/ 2013 GMPC Work Plan

PRESENTED BY: Interjurisdictional Staff Team

SUMMARY

Revisions to the 1992 King County Countywide Planning Policies have given rise to a number of work plan items to ensure implementation of the 2011 King County Countywide Planning Policies. As introduced in the June 29, 2011 GMPC staff report, these work plan items are guided by CPP policy language and direction from VISION 2040. This report further refines the work plan items to include a general schedule for: those that require GMPC consideration and action in 2012; those that require GMPC consideration and action in 2013; and those that are best managed through ongoing and coordinated planning that is consistent with the CPPs.

Interjurisdictional Team (IJT) staff recognizes that responsibility for these action items will fall on multiple parties, *including* the GMPC, King County, and cities within the county. While IJT staff will take a lead role in managing these work plan items, they each require a collaborative effort involving staff from King County, interested cities, and representatives of other relevant agencies. Included in this staff report are the following work plan items.

For GMPC consideration in 2012:

- Affordable housing targets
- Benchmark Program revision
- Greenhouse gas target and measurement framework
- Regional Economic Strategies
- Urban Growth Area changes
- Health concepts in planning

For GMPC consideration in 2013:

- Water quality monitoring
- Climate change adaptation strategies

- Transfer of Development Rights incentives

Ongoing planning efforts:

- Critical areas coordination
- Habitat assessment
- Coordinated planning in Unincorporated Urban Areas
- Brownfield clean-up

2012 GMPC WORK PLAN

Affordable Housing Targets

Attachment B to Motion 11-1 establishes work plan to evaluate the methodology for allocating affordable housing targets to local jurisdictions and identify alternative approaches for consideration by Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC). The evaluation includes a) data collection and analysis; b) research on comparative best practices; c) development and presentation of alternatives; and d) recommendation of a replacement methodology and new affordable housing targets.

Staff work on the methodology will be undertaken as a collaborative effort involving staff from King County, interested cities, and representatives of other relevant agencies. IJT staff will lead the effort, which commenced during summer 2011. Staff will present an initial report to GMPC at its first meeting in 2012, and a draft recommendation is due to the GMPC in June 2012. The GMPC could take action to replace the interim affordable housing target methodology contained in Policy H-2 in September 2012.

Benchmark Program

The King County Benchmark Program, reflecting the intent and policy direction of the 1992 King County Countywide Planning Policies, will be restructured to appropriately monitor progress toward achieving the revised policy direction of the 2011 King County Countywide Planning Policies.

IJT staff will lead the effort, which will commence following adoption of the CPPs. Staff will present an initial measurement approach to GMPC at its first meeting in 2012, followed by a draft recommendation in September. The GMPC could take action to adopt the proposed Benchmark reporting in December 2012.

Greenhouse Gas Target and Measurement Framework

Policy EN-17 calls for the establishment of “a countywide greenhouse gas reduction target that exceeds the statewide reduction requirement that is stated as the 2050 goal of 50 percent reduction below 1990 levels.” In addition to the establishment of a greenhouse gas target, it is necessary (as per EN-18) to “establish a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and measurement framework for use by all King County jurisdictions.”

IJT staff will lead the effort, which will commence in winter 2011. Staff will present an initial report to GMPC at its first meeting in 2012, and a draft recommendation in June 2012. The GMPC could take action to establish a countywide greenhouse gas reduction target in September 2012.

Regional Economic Strategies

Policy EC-3 calls for the identification and support of “industry clusters and subclusters within King County that are components of the Regional Economic Strategy or that may otherwise emerge as having significance to King County’s economy.” Further, policy EC-1 calls for coordinated “local and countywide economic policies and strategies with VISION 2040 and the Regional Economic Strategy.”

This work plan item will follow the work of the Prosperity Partnership’s Regional Economic Strategy Advisory Group, which is engaging in the creation of a new Regional Economic Strategy. Based on the results of this effort, IJT staff will present to GMPC an initial report of the Regional Economic Strategy and its components of greatest significance to King County in June 2012. Staff will present a draft recommendation in December. The GMPC could take action to adopt industry clusters and subclusters within King County at its first meeting in 2013.

Urban Growth Area Changes

Every four years, the Urban Growth Area (UGA) may be addressed as part of a major update of the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP). The next major update of the KCCP will occur in 2012. IJT staff will report to the GMPC the UGA changes under consideration by King County in February 2012. The GMPC will consider these proposed UGA changes at their July meeting and make recommendations to the King County Council. King County Council action on the 2012 update of the KCCP is expected in the fall of 2012.

Health Concepts in Planning

A number of policies in the CPP update reflect the integration of planning practices with public health concepts. Specific projects, programs, and actions will be needed to implement these policies. IJT staff will present to GMPC an initial report in December 2012, followed by recommendations to integrate public health concepts into planning practices and possible action by GMPC in 2013.

2013 GMPC WORK PLAN

Water Quality Monitoring

Policy EN-15 calls for the establishment of “a multi-jurisdictional approach for funding and monitoring water quality, quantity, biological conditions, and outcome measures and for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of monitoring efforts.” This is supported by En-Action-10 in VISION 2040, calling for counties and cities, together with water providers, to “develop standards and targets to monitor the region’s waterways.” IJT staff will refine this work plan item in 2012 for consideration in 2013.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategies

Policy EN-21 calls the formulation and implementation of “climate change adaptation strategies that address the impacts of climate change to public health and safety, the economy, public and private infrastructure, water resources, and habitat.” This is supported by En-Action-7 in VISION 2040, calling for a regional Climate Change Action Plan. Following GMPC adoption of a countywide greenhouse gas reduction target, IJT staff will refine this work plan item in 2012 for consideration in 2013.

Transfer of Development Rights Incentives

Policy DP-62 calls for the identification of incentives to encourage cities to participate in transfer of development rights programs that allow receiving sites to be located within the cities. IJT staff will refine this work plan item in 2012 for consideration in 2013.

ONGOING EFFORTS

The 2011 King County Countywide Planning Policies include a number of action items that are most appropriately managed as a function of ongoing and coordinated planning, not needing oversight from the GMPC. IJT staff recognize these as important activities to achieve the CPP goals. Collaboration between individual jurisdictions will continue.

Critical Areas Coordination

Policy EN-6 calls for coordinated “approaches and standards for defining and protecting critical areas.” This is supported by En-Action-8 in VISION 2040, calling for counties and cities to “coordinate their work to designate and protect critical areas.”

Habitat Assessment

Policy EN-8 calls for development of an “integrated and comprehensive approach to managing fish and wildlife habitat conservation.” This is supported by En-Action-9 in VISION 2040, calling for counties and cities to “develop common methodologies for assessing the habitat needs of critical and sensitive species.”

Coordinated Planning in Unincorporated Urban Areas

Policy DP-26 calls for King County and cities with Potential Annexation Areas to “develop agreements... [that] apply city-compatible development standards that will guide land development prior to annexation.” This is supported by DP-Action-15 in VISION 2040, calling for “countywide planning bodies, in cooperation with their cities, [to] develop approaches to reconcile different standards for development and infrastructure in unincorporated urban areas.”

Brownfield Clean-up

DP-Action-14 in VISION 2040 calls for the development of “strategies for cleaning up brownfield and contaminated sites.” The action also calls for identification of “redevelopment sites.”

Buildable Lands Analysis

Policy DP-16 requires King County jurisdictions to collaborate to meet the “review and evaluation” (Buildable Lands) requirements of the Growth Management Act. Cities and the county continue to gather data on urban land development and capacity, and are working toward a report to the state due in June 2014.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Interjurisdictional Staff Team recommends approval of the 2012 and 2013 GMPC work plan items as proposed in this staff report.