

## EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDED 2016 PLAN RELEASED

After more than a year of research and engagement with community members and stakeholders, King County is pleased to release the ***Executive Recommended 2016 King County Comprehensive Plan***. The 2016 update is a major (every four year) review of the Comprehensive Plan and the Executive Recommended 2016 Plan represents another important step in the update process. Some major themes in the 2016 Plan include:

- ★ **No Urban Growth Area expansions** are recommended
- ★ Defines King County **interests for potential future Four to One proposals**
- ★ **Incorporates recent environmental initiatives** such as the Strategic Climate Action Plan, the Green Building Handbook, the Stormwater Permit and the Local Food Initiative
- ★ Initiates the **new Community Service Area Planning Program**, the first major subarea planning program in almost two decades, and adopts the community-initiated **Skyway-West Hill Action Plan**
- ★ Updates **Transfer of Development Right** policies
- ★ Includes a **future review** of the Four to One program, and a **TDR amenity funding pilot study**
- ★ **Removes the mining site conversion demonstration project** program
- ★ Initiates an **alternative wastewater treatment study for Fall City**
- ★ Recommends **contraction of the Urban Growth Area** near East Cougar Mountain in Issaquah
- ★ **Strengthens equity and social justice** policies and information through the plan
- ★ **Incorporates recent equity and social justice initiatives** such as the Communities of Opportunity program and the Health and Human Services Transformation program
- ★ Includes a **new Housing and Human Services chapter** to highlight the human dimensions of planning
- ★ **Continues work on annexation**, including support for joint planning, support for **piloting the use of city regulations** in potential annexation areas
- ★ Future work on annexation to **revisit the potential annexation areas map** and annexation countywide planning policies
- ★ **Modernizes the document** with features such as a new Executive Summary, a Workplan section, consistent terminology, an improved mapping template and a full table of contents

With these proposed changes, the Executive Recommended 2016 Plan continues to build on King County's 25 years of success in implementing the Growth Management Act, and also responds to critical new challenges such as providing equitable access to opportunity, reducing carbon pollution, positioning the County to respond to a changing climate, and addressing housing affordability.



## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, TO DATE

Beginning a year ago with the release of the Executive's proposed Scope of Work, the update has included a robust outreach process:

- Comments were accepted throughout the process; a significant amount of early comments were submitted which allowed some issues to be resolved and addressed in the Public Review Draft.
- Approximately 560 participants attended meetings before the Public Review Draft was released. Approximately 300 participants attended the six Comprehensive Plan Community Meetings.
- The Comprehensive Plan website was updated to make commenting and joining an e-mail list easier; the *email list* grew to almost 600 contacts, including residents, community groups and a range of organizations.
- A series of *eNewsletters* were emailed and posted to the website to keep stakeholders informed of major milestones in the process.
- The Comprehensive Plan was shared at the Community Service Area Open Houses; these meetings allowed the Plan to be presented to a much wider audience.
- An extended 2-month public comment period was provided between November 6, 2015 and January 6, 2016. This comment period was extended to solicit public comment on one additional Area Zoning and Land Use Study that began later in the process.
- Nearly 90 comment letters/emails/comment cards were submitted, containing hundreds of individual comments, which were used in the development of the Executive Recommended Plan.

There were multiple opportunities to engage in the process... ***and it's not over yet.***

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, NEXT STEPS

The *Executive Recommended 2016 Plan* will now be considered by the King County Council, with adoption expected in the fall to winter of 2016. The Council's review will be coordinated through the Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee, and the link to the Council's Comprehensive Plan website is:



<http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/2016compplan.aspx>

The Council will establish a review schedule and mailing list. Please note that every person on the *eNewsletter* list will be added to the Council's list with an option to unsubscribe. Look for an email from the Council welcoming you to their mailing list.

The Council's review process is **very dynamic**, with amendments sometimes proposed and acted upon at the same Committee meeting. We encourage you to remain actively engaged over the coming months in the Council's process. Working together with the Council, we can ensure that our region continues to manage growth effectively while protecting thriving rural and resource lands, and remain in compliance with the Growth Management Act.

To unsubscribe, send an email to the address below.



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