



**King County**

**KING COUNTY  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
~~2012~~2016**

**Technical Appendix A  
Capital Facilities**

**~~March 1, 2012~~**

**King County Department of Development and Environmental Services**  
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## Technical Appendix A

# Capital Facilities

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# I. Introduction

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The capital facilities element of the King County Comprehensive Plan is comprised of two parts- the Facilities and Services section contained in Chapter (8) of the Plan and Technical Appendix A.

The Facilities and Services section of the plan identifies the key issues regarding planning for and financing of capital facilities to serve the needs of existing and new residents. Included are discussions and specific policies directing how King County should meet its capital facilities responsibilities.

This Technical Appendix to the Facilities and Services section consists of a review of the current status of planning and financing in King County for a broad range of facilities and services. The range of facilities and services includes the “full range” identified in the state Growth Management Act. The facilities are organized into two sections, those owned by King County and those owned by other entities.

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## II. State Requirements

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The development of this Technical Appendix was guided by an integrated set of state and local policies and plans. The Facilities and Services section of the Comprehensive Plan, which includes this Technical Appendix, implements the requirements of the directives listed below. These requirements are met in the documents referenced in Section III.

### A. Growth Management Act Goals and Requirements

The Growth Management Act [(GMA)(RCW 36.70A.020)], states as a goal: "Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards."

The GMA requires that comprehensive plans include a capital facilities plan element consisting of:

- An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities;
- A forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities;
- The proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities;
- At least a six-year plan that will finance such capital facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes; and
- A requirement to reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.

### B. GMA Definitions

The GMA provides the following definitions to be considered in the capital facilities element of comprehensive plans:

- Public Facilities, including streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, solid waste transfer and disposal facilities, parks and recreational facilities, and schools.
- Public Services, including fire protection and suppression, law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, environmental protection, and other governmental services.
- Urban Governmental Services, including those governmental services historically and typically delivered by cities, which include storm and sanitary sewer systems, domestic water systems, street cleaning services, fire and police protection services, public transit services, and other public utilities

associated with urban areas and normally not associated with non-urban areas.

### **C. State Department of Community Development Procedural Criteria**

*The Procedural Criteria for Adopting Comprehensive Plans and Development Regulations, 1992*, clarify the above-described requirements by saying that the capital facilities element should serve as a check on the practicality of achieving other elements of the plan. The following steps are recommended in preparing the capital facilities element:

- Inventory of existing capital facilities showing locations and capacities, including an inventory of the extent to which existing facilities possess presently unused capacity. Capital facilities involved should include water systems, sanitary systems, storm-water facilities, solid waste transfer and disposal facilities, schools, parks and recreational facilities, police and fire protection facilities.
- The selection of levels of service or planning assumptions for the various facilities to apply during the planning period (twenty years or more) and which reflect community goals.
- A forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities based on the levels of service or planning assumptions selected and consistent with the growth, densities and distribution of growth anticipated in the land use element.
- The creation of a six-year capital facilities plan for financing capital facilities needed within that time frame. Projected funding capacities are to be evaluated, followed by the identification of sources of public or private funds for which there is reasonable assurance of availability. The six-year plan should be updated at least biennially so that financial planning remains sufficiently ahead of the present for concurrency to be evaluated.

### **D. King County Countywide Planning Policies**

The GMA (RCW 36.70A.210) requires counties and the cities to coordinate developing and adopting a set of mutually agreed upon planning policies to guide the development of local comprehensive plans. In response to this requirement, elected officials representing the county and the cities and towns of King County joined together to cooperatively develop and adopt the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

The Countywide Planning Policies provide a framework for developing the comprehensive plans in King County. The framework provides a mechanism for achieving consistency among comprehensive plans. Jurisdictions must develop comprehensive plans according to policies addressing capital facilities issues, including siting of facilities and the timing and phasing of land development in concert with facilities and services.

The Countywide Planning Policies adopted by the King County Council call for jurisdictions to define the full range of urban services and how they plan to provide them (PF-1). Jurisdictions must identify the services needed to achieve adopted service levels.

Timeliness for constructing needed services shall be identified. The countywide development pattern must include sufficient supply of quality places for housing, employment, education, recreation, and open space and the provision of community and social services (FW-2).

## **III. Range of Facilities and Services**

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### **A. Facilities & Services Provided by King County**

#### **1. General Government**

The Capital Improvement Budget is divided into three strategic plan goal categories.

- The Economic Growth and Built Environment category includes CIP projects for the King County International Airport, road services, transit, park facilities and housing programs.
- The Environmental Sustainability category includes CIP projects for wastewater treatment, solid waste, flood and surface water, and open space land acquisition.
- The General Government category includes capital improvements for the King County Courthouse and Administration Building complex and for all other county facilities, technology, Harborview Medical Center and facility leases.

For more information please see the current adopted version of King County's Real Property Asset Management Plan (RPAM). The RPAM contains a thorough inventory of existing general government facilities and the conditions of the buildings owned by King County.

#### **2. Parks, Recreation & Open Space**

A current inventory of King County Park Sites and Facilities is on file in the Department of Natural Resources and Parks. For more information please see the current adopted King County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan and the Six Year Parks Capital Improvement Program found in the King County Budget.

### **3. Surface Water Management**

The inventory of existing facilities is on file at the King County Department of Natural Resources and Park's Water and Land Resources (WLR) Division. For additional information on future planned facilities and improvements to existing facilities, please see the current adopted version of the Capital Improvement Budget.

In addition the WLR Division has adopted the following functional plans and regulations: the Coal Creek Basin Plan, Soos Creek Basin Plan, Covington Master Drainage Plan, Bear Creek Basin Plan, Lower Cedar River Basin and Nonpoint Pollution Action Plan, Issaquah Creek Basin and Nonpoint Pollution Action Plan, May Creek Basin and Nonpoint Pollution Action Plan, Surface Water Design Manual, East Lake Sammamish Basin and Non-point Action Plan, Hylebos Creek and Lower Puget Sound Basin Plan, and the Water Quality Ordinance.

### **4. Solid Waste**

The Solid Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks manages all county-owned solid waste handling facilities, including recycling and transfer facilities and the Cedar Hill Regional Landfill. An inventory of facilities is available at the Solid Waste Division.

For additional information please see the current adopted version of the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and the 2006 Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan.

### **5. Sanitary Sewer Collection & Treatment**

The Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks operates the regional wastewater treatment system for most of west King County, including the City of Seattle and portions of Snohomish County and Pierce County. The regional wastewater system consists of regional and local treatment plants and associated facilities including, conveyance pipelines, reclaimed water pipelines, outfalls, pump stations, regulator stations, and combined sewer overflow treatment plants. More information on the system's facilities is available in the King County Regional Wastewater Services Plan and capital project implementation plans.

The Wastewater Treatment Division finances its capital program through the issuance of sewer revenue bonds, with the proceeds of federal and state grants and loans, and with revenues from the monthly sewer rate and the capacity charge.

### **6. Flood Warning and Flood Hazard Management**

The River and Floodplain Management Program within the Water and Land Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks currently provides regional flood warning along the Snoqualmie, Tolt, Cedar, Green and White

Rivers and Issaquah Creek and flood hazard management services countywide. The King County Flood Hazard Management Plan is adopted to provide regional flood hazard management and identify capital needs and includes:

- A Risk Assessment to identify flood and erosion hazards, determine the impact and analyze the vulnerability of those hazards;
- Accomplishments since 1993;
- An inventory of existing flood protection facilities owned or managed by King County, showing their locations by river mile;
- A ten-year action plan that identifies the projects that will be completed and the projected cost over the ten-year time frame; and
- Flood hazard management risk areas and the proposed projects to address those risk areas.

## **7. Health & Human Services**

### **a) Public Health**

The County Department of the Seattle-King County Public Health Department (SKCPHD) is charged with protecting the health and well-being of King County citizens residing outside of the City of Seattle through prevention, intervention, education and regulation. Please see the Master Plan for Seattle-King County Public Health Facilities for an inventory of facilities, forecast of future needs and a finance plan.

### **b) Medical Examiner**

The Medical Examiner Division of the Seattle-King County Health Department investigates all sudden and unexpected, violent and suspicious deaths which occur in King County. For more information on the facility please see the King County Space Plan, Phase I: Operational Master Plan (OMP). A Facilities Master Plan for the Medical Examiner's Division evaluates requirements for future capital facility needs. Future finance plans will be developed to the extent major capital projects and recommended.

### **c) Emergency Medical Services**

The King County Emergency Medical Services Division is responsible for coordinating all aspects of emergency medical services in King County and developing, implementing and administering a mobile intensive paramedic care services program in cooperation with King County fire districts, municipal fire departments, and hospital providers. The Emergency Medical Services are regional. For more information, please see the Emergency Medical Services Master Plan.

**d) Harborview Medical Center**

Harborview Medical Center, the public health hospital for the region, operates trauma and burn centers; functions as the home base for Airlift Northwest; serves as the research and teaching facility for the University of Washington; manages the King County AIDS Clinic; and provides ambulatory and emergency room care. The services provided by the Harborview Medical Center are regional. For more information please see the Harborview Medical Center Long Range Capital Improvement Program Plan.

**e) Human Services**

The Department of Human Services is responsible for planning, management, fiscal accountability and service delivery for programs of the Mental Health Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division, Community Services Division, Developmental Disabilities Division and the Office of Public Defense. The Department does not own or operate capital facilities. Where applicable, King County distributes the federal and state funds to the various independently operated programs that are responsible for their own facilities. A list of programs that the Department of Human Services supports is available at the King County Department of Human Services.

**8. Law, Safety and Justice**

The following sections address the Regional Justice Center and the Law, Safety and Justice Agencies which include the Corrections and Detention, Prosecuting Attorney Office, Office of Public Defense, District Court, Department of Public Safety, Department of Judicial Administration, Superior Court and Department of Youth Services. The sections are further categorized by regional and local functions.

**Regional Services**

**a) The Regional Justice Center**

The agencies included in the Kent Regional Justice Center are the Prosecuting Attorney, the Public Defense, Superior Court, Public Safety, District Court, and Judicial Administration. The complex houses detention beds, courtrooms and office space, and is located in the City of Kent in southeast King County. The Phase II Regional Justice Center will be located in Northeast King County. For more information please see current adopted version of the Facilities Program Plan and the Facilities Master Plan for the King County Law, Safety and Justice.

**b) Corrections and Detention**

The King County Department of Adult Detention operates three facilities for housing inmates at the King County Correctional Facility and the Work Release Facility in the Courthouse. The Health Department operates the North Rehabilitation Facility for inmates with less serious offenses. For more information please see the Facility Program Plan and the Regional Justice Center Facility Master Plan.

**c) Prosecuting Attorney**

For information on the Prosecuting Attorney's office please see the Law, Safety and Justice Facilities Map, the Facility Master Plan and the Facility Program Plan.

**d) Judicial Administration**

The Department of Judicial Administration serves as the Clerk's Office to the King County Superior Court and operates a full service branch office at the King County Regional Justice Center. The Department of Judicial Administration will increase office space in the Regional Justice Centers, the King County Courthouse and other locations throughout the County as outlined in the Facility Master Plan. Refer to the Facility Program Plan for the current space allocation and financing plans.

**e) Superior Court**

The Superior Court occupies space at the King County Courthouse, the Department of Youth Services and Harborview Medical Center. For more information please see the Facility Program Plan and the Facility Master Plan for the Regional Justice Center.

**f) Department of Youth Services**

The Department of Youth Services operates a youth detention facility in the Seattle Central District. The Department of Youth Services also occupies non-detention space. The Department of Youth Services has no plans for any major capital projects and, therefore, does not have a financing plan.

**Local Law, Safety & Justice**

**g) District Courts**

Currently, the King County District Court owns or leases eleven facilities. For more information please see Law, Safety and Justice Facilities Map. The forecast for staffing requirements is driven by expected workload. The staffing requirements are then translated into space needs. For more information please see the Facility Master Plan, the Facility Program Plan and the Regional Justice Center financing plan.

**h) Public Safety**

The King County Department of Public Safety is primarily responsible for the public safety of unincorporated King County. The Facility Master Plan forecasts staffing for the department and relates staff to the expected staffing increases. Please refer to the Facility Program Plan for the staffing and space allocation. The amount of space at the precincts will depend on the size of the service area and changing operational requirements.

Please refer to the section entitled Regional Justice Center part for relevant financing details concerning the Department of Public Safety space in the Regional Justice Center. The Facility Program Plan for the King County Regional Justice Center contains details concerning the cost of space for Department of Public Safety. Space needs for the Department of Public Safety outside of those included in the Regional Justice Center will be funded through the annual process to prioritize and fund capital improvement projects.

**9. Transportation**

Please refer to the current adopted version of the King County Transportation Needs Report, the King County Six-Year Transit Plan and the Transportation Inventory on file at the

Transportation Planning Division and Technical Appendix C to the King County Comprehensive Plan.

## **B. Facilities and services provided by other entities:**

King County has some existing processes for collecting the information required by the GMA for facilities and services. There are many special districts in King County that provide services for either water, sewer, schools, or fire. King County Code 13.24 requires certain water and sewer utilities to complete a comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan requirements for each type of facility differ somewhat. In general, they must all inventory facilities, projected needs, determine capacity, and provide capital improvement programs. King County has a Utilities Technical Review Committee (UTRC) that reviews and makes a recommendation to the King County Council to approve water and sewer plans and the School Technical Review Committee (STRC) that reviews and approves school plans. There are no such requirements for fire districts or libraries.

### **1. Drinking Water Supply**

County citizens receive potable water from a variety of sources. These sources are classified as either private or public water systems. Private water systems serve only a single connection and usually consist of a well; used for a single home. There are an estimated 12,000 private water systems in King County.

Public water systems contain more than one connection. These systems are managed by:

- homeowners;
- private, non-profit organizations and corporations such as homeowners' associations;
- private, for-profit companies; and
- municipal governments and water/sewer districts.

Public water systems are further classified by size. A public water system is classified as a *Group B* system if, in general, it serves from 2 to 14 connections. About 1600 *Group B* public water systems currently operate in King County. In general, a *Group A* system serves 15 or more connections. There are 214 *Group A* public water systems in the county.

### **Most Citizens Served by Seattle Public Utilities**

The City of Seattle, through the Seattle Public Utilities, provides potable water for approximately 1,189,000 people, either through direct service or the sale of water to 18 other water utilities. The Cascade Water Alliance provides water to approximately ~~200~~340,000 people. The remaining King County population, about ~~400~~500,000 people, obtains their potable water from approximately 14,000 other public and private systems. The reason for the tremendous number of water systems with small numbers of connections is largely historical. At the time when many of these systems were developed there were no other viable options for water service. Over time, a regional network of inter-connected systems has been developed in some parts of the county. Although the regional network is not complete, many areas of the county can now be served without the need to form new water systems. ~~The number of water systems has been decreasing recently and will likely continue to do so as smaller systems are consolidated into larger ones.~~

### **King County Regulatory Role in Water Supply**

King County is not a water utility and does not supply potable water to citizens. Instead, King County has certain regulatory authority for Group A and Group B water systems that operate in unincorporated King County. ~~The Seattle-King County Department of Public Health must approve any construction for small Group B systems (from 2 to 9 connections) and must review required water quality test results.~~

Several state agencies also have a role in regulating water utilities. The Washington State Department of Ecology issues water rights, which allow waters of the state (surface and ground water) to be appropriated for public benefit. A water right is required for any water utility using more than 5000 gallons of water per day or with 7 or more connections. The Washington State Department of Health regulates drinking water quality for Group A systems and Group B systems.

Group A systems that are expanding are required to prepare water system comprehensive plans every six years for approval by the Washington State Department of Health. If those expanding Group A systems operate in unincorporated King County, the plans are also required to be approved by King County. Water district comprehensive plans are also approved by King County. The table below identifies the water utilities that are required to plan for King County. The King County approval process consists of two steps, (1) review of the comprehensive plan by the Utilities Technical Review Committee, an inter-departmental staff group, and (2) approval by ordinance by the Metropolitan King County Council and King County Executive. The plans and their approving ordinances, and related plan review information, are available for inspection by the public by contacting the Chair of the Utilities Technical Review Committee at (206) ~~205-~~ 0817-477-5387.

### Water Utilities Required to Plan for King County

<del>Ames Lake Water Association</del>	<del>King County Water District 117</del>
<del>Auburn, City of</del>	<del>King County Water District 119</del>
<del>Bellevue, City of</del>	<del>King County Water District 123</del>
<del>Black Diamond, City of</del>	<del>King County Water District 125</del>
<del>Burton Water Company</del>	<del>Lakehaven Utility District</del>
<del>Carnation, City of</del>	<del>Lake Forest Park</del>
<del>Cedar River Water and Sewer District</del>	<del>Morningside Farms</del>
<del>Coal Creek Utility District</del>	<del>North Bend, City of</del>
<del>Covington Water District</del>	<del>NE Sammamish Sewer &amp; Water District</del>
<del>Diamond Springs Water Association</del>	<del>Northshore Utility District</del>
<del>Dockton Water Association</del>	<del>Preston Industrial Park Water Association</del>
<del>Duvall, City of</del>	<del>Redmond, City of</del>
<del>Enumclaw, City of</del>	<del>Renton, City of</del>
<del>Fall City Water District</del>	<del>Sallal Water Association</del>
<del>Foothills Water Association</del>	<del>Sammamish Plateau Water &amp; Sewer District</del>
<del>Gold Beach Water Company</del>	<del>Seattle, City of</del>
<del>Heights Water System</del>	<del>Shoreline Water District</del>
<del>Highline Water District</del>	<del>Skyway Water and Sewer District</del>
<del>Issaquah, City of</del>	<del>Snoqualmie, City of</del>
<del>Kent, City of</del>	<del>Snoqualmie Pass Water Utility District</del>
<del>King County Water District 19</del>	<del>Soos Creek Water and Sewer District</del>
<del>King County Water District 20</del>	<del>Tacoma, City of</del>
<del>King County Water District 45</del>	<del>Tukwila, City of</del>
<del>King County Water District 49</del>	<del>Union Hill Water Association</del>
<del>King County Water District 54</del>	<del>Washington Water Service</del>
<del>King County Water District 90</del>	<del>Westside Water Association</del>
<del>King County Water District 111</del>	<del>Woodinville Water Association</del>

<u>Algona, City of</u>	<u>King County Water District 119</u>
<u>Ames Lake Water Association</u>	<u>King County Water District 123</u>
<u>Auburn, City of</u>	<u>King County Water District 125</u>
<u>Bellevue, City of</u>	<u>Kirkland, City of</u>
<u>Black Diamond, City of</u>	<u>Lakehaven Utility District</u>
<u>Bothell, City of</u>	<u>Lake Forest Park Water District</u>
<u>Burton Water Company</u>	<u>Mirrormont</u>
<u>Carnation, City of</u>	<u>North Bend, City of</u>
<u>Cedar River Water and Sewer District</u>	<u>North City Water District</u>
<u>Coal Creek Utility District</u>	<u>Northwest Water Systems</u>
<u>Covington Water District</u>	<u>NE Sammamish Sewer &amp; Water District</u>
<u>Diamond Springs Water Association</u>	<u>Northshore Utility District</u>
<u>Dockton Water Association</u>	<u>Pacific, City of</u>
<u>Duvall, City of</u>	<u>Preston Industrial Park Water Association</u>
<u>Enumclaw, City of</u>	<u>Redmond, City of</u>
<u>Fall City Water District</u>	<u>Renton, City of</u>
<u>Foothills Water Association</u>	<u>Sallal Water Association</u>
<u>Gold Beach Water Company</u>	<u>Sammamish Plateau Water &amp; Sewer District</u>
<u>Heights Water System</u>	<u>Seattle, City of</u>

<u>Highline Water District</u>	<u>Skyway Water and Sewer District</u>
<u>Issaquah, City of</u>	<u>Snoqualmie, City of</u>
<u>Kent, City of</u>	<u>Snoqualmie Pass Water Utility District</u>
<u>King County Water District 19</u>	<u>Soos Creek Water and Sewer District</u>
<u>King County Water District 20</u>	<u>Tacoma, City of</u>
<u>King County Water District 45</u>	<u>Tukwila, City of</u>
<u>King County Water District 49</u>	<u>Union Hill Water Association</u>
<u>King County Water District 54</u>	<u>Upper Preston Water Association</u>
<u>King County Water District 90</u>	<u>Washington Water Service</u>
<u>King County Water District 111</u>	<u>Westside Water Association</u>
<u>King County Water District 117</u>	<u>Woodinville Water District</u>

In addition, if a water system operates in the right-of-way of a King County road (i.e., if a system's water main runs along the road), then a franchise is required. A franchise is an agreement between King County and the water system ~~stipulating~~ identifying the conditions that must be met by the water system in order for it to operate in King County right-of-way. The County must approve any construction work proposed by a franchised utility in King County right-of-way.

### **Water and the King County Permitting Process**

If your property is in unincorporated King County and you want to undertake development activity, you will need to obtain approval from the King County Department of ~~Development Permitting~~ Development Permitting and Environmental Review Services (DDES-DPER). ~~DDES-DPER~~ will coordinate review of applications for building permits, subdivisions, rezones, and lot line adjustments and will require information demonstrating that water is available to serve the property. If you are proposing to obtain water from a private water system (a well connected to a single home), you will need at least five acres of property located in a Rural-designated area (as opposed to inside the Urban Growth Area). A private water system on five acres of property is allowed within the Urban-designated area only if public water cannot be provided in a timely and reasonable manner. However, any property owner receiving permission to put a private system in an Urban area must agree to connect to a public water system when public water is available. In all cases, you will need approval of the private well site from the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health.

If you are proposing to obtain water from a public water system, then you need to obtain a certificate of water availability from the public water system. The certificate demonstrates that the public water system has water available to serve the new connection or connections being proposed. Sometimes a public water system is limited in its ability to provide water to new connections because of supply, water right or infrastructure limitations. In such cases, the water system may declare a moratorium on new connections and may not issue new certificates of water availability. Several water utilities in the county have declared moratoria over the years, including Covington Water District, King County Water District 111, Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District, City of North Bend, and King County Water District 19.

### **Public Water System Coordination Act**

Chapter 70.116 RCW, the Public Water System Coordination Act, ~~has been~~was used by King

County in the past to establish four planning areas -- East King County, Skyway, South King County, and Vashon. King County, the Washington State Department of Health, and water utilities have developed a Coordinated Water System Plan (CWSP) for each of these four areas. The plans establish service areas, provide water demand forecasts, and discuss minimum water system design requirements. Water system plans prepared by individual water utilities, such as those listed in the table above, must be consistent with all applicable CWSPs. The CWSPs and their approving ordinances, and related plan review information, are available for inspection by the public by contacting the Chair of the Utilities Technical Review Committee at (206) ~~206-0817~~477-5387.

## **2. Sanitary Sewer Collection & Treatment**

In general, public sewers are required in the urban area and prohibited in the rural area, where on-site wastewater treatment and disposal (septic) systems are used. The Facilities and Utilities chapter of the King County Comprehensive Plan and King County Code chapters 13.24, 28.84, and 28.86 provides policy guidance regarding public sewer facilities.

### **Local and Regional Wastewater Treatment Facilities**

The wastewater collected by public sewers is conveyed to either a local treatment plant or one of King County's regional wastewater treatment plants. Local treatment plants include those operated by Duvall, Enumclaw, North Bend, Snoqualmie, Midway Sewer District, Lakehaven Utility District, Snoqualmie Pass Utility District, and Southwest Suburban Sewer District. In addition, King County operates the local treatment plant on Vashon Island and a local treatment plant in the City of Carnation.

King County provides regional wastewater conveyance and treatment at its three regional treatment plants, the West Point Treatment Plant in Seattle, South Treatment Plant in Renton, and the Brightwater Treatment Plant north of Woodinville, in unincorporated Snohomish County.

King County provides regional wastewater treatment to 17 cities and 17 local utilities. The county's Wastewater Treatment Division serves about 1.5 million people, including most urban areas of King County and parts of south Snohomish County and northeast Pierce County.

### **King County Regulatory Role in Wastewater Treatment**

The Washington State Department of Ecology requires sewer utilities to prepare sewer comprehensive plans. King County code reflects this state mandate by requiring that sewer utilities prepare sewer comprehensive plans if they are located in King County and discharge to King County's system or serve unincorporated areas. A new sewer comprehensive plan is required every six years. The ~~thirty-six~~ sewer utilities required to plan are shown in the following table.

### Sewer Utilities Required to Plan for King County

<del>Algona, City of</del>	<del>Northeast Sammamish Sewer &amp; Water District</del>
<del>Auburn, City of</del>	<del>North Bend, City of</del>
<del>Bellevue, City of</del>	<del>Northshore Utility District</del>
<del>Black Diamond, City of</del>	<del>Pacific, City of</del>
<del>Bothell, City of</del>	<del>Redmond, City of</del>
	<del>Renton, City of</del>
<del>Carnation, City of</del>	<del>Ronald Wastewater District</del>
<del>Cedar River Water and Sewer District</del>	<del>Sammamish Plateau Water &amp; Sewer District</del>
<del>Coal Creek Utility District</del>	<del>Seattle, City of</del>
<del>Duvall, City of</del>	<del>Skyway Water and Sewer District</del>
<del>Highlands Sewer District</del>	<del>Snoqualmie, City of</del>
<del>Issaquah, City of</del>	<del>Snoqualmie Pass Utility District</del>
<del>Kent, City of</del>	<del>Soos Creek Water and Sewer District</del>
<del>Kirkland, City of</del>	<del>Southwest Suburban Sewer District</del>
<del>Lake Forest Park, City of</del>	<del>Stevens Pass Sewer District</del>
<del>Lakehaven Utility District</del>	<del>Tukwila, City of</del>
<del>Mercer Island, City of</del>	<del>Valley View Sewer District</del>
<del>Midway Sewer District</del>	<del>Vashon Sewer District</del>
	<del>Woodinville Water District</del>
<u>Algona, City of</u>	<u>North Bend, City of</u>
<u>Auburn, City of</u>	<u>Northshore Utility District</u>
<u>Bellevue, City of</u>	<u>Pacific, City of</u>
<u>Black Diamond, City of</u>	<u>Redmond, City of</u>
<u>Bothell, City of</u>	<u>Renton, City of</u>
<u>Carnation, City of</u>	<u>Ronald Wastewater District</u>
<u>Cedar River Water and Sewer District</u>	<u>Sammamish Plateau Water &amp; Sewer</u>
<u>Coal Creek Utility District</u>	<u>Seattle, City of</u>
<u>Duvall, City of</u>	<u>Skykomish, City of</u>
<u>Highlands Sewer District</u>	<u>Skyway Water and Sewer District</u>
<u>Issaquah, City of</u>	<u>Snoqualmie, City of</u>
<u>Kent, City of</u>	<u>Snoqualmie Pass Utility District</u>
<u>Kirkland, City of</u>	<u>Soos Creek Water and Sewer District</u>
<u>Lake Forest Park, City of</u>	<u>Southwest Suburban Sewer District</u>
<u>Lakehaven Utility District</u>	<u>Stevens Pass Sewer District</u>
<u>Mercer Island, City of</u>	<u>Tukwila, City of</u>
<u>Midway Sewer District</u>	<u>Valley View Sewer District</u>
<u>Muckleshoot Tribe</u>	<u>Vashon Sewer District</u>
<u>NE Sammamish Sewer &amp; Water District</u>	<u>Woodinville Water District</u>

The King County approval process for sewer comprehensive plans consists of either one or two steps depending on whether the utility serves unincorporated areas or not. If service is provided to unincorporated areas, then the plan undergoes the following: (1) review of the comprehensive plan by the Utilities Technical Review Committee, an inter-departmental staff group, and (2) approval by ordinance by the Metropolitan King County Council and King

County Executive. If a sewer utility discharges to the King County conveyance and treatment system, but does not serve unincorporated King County, then the plan undergoes technical review by the Utilities Technical Review Committee and approval by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks. The plans and their approving ordinances, (if any) and related plan review information, are available for inspection by the public by contacting the Chair of the Utilities Technical Review Committee.

### **Public Sewers and the King County Permitting Process**

If your property is in unincorporated King County and you want to undertake development activity, you will need to obtain approval from the King County Department of ~~Development Permitting~~ and Environmental ~~Services Review (DDES/DPER)~~. ~~DDES/DPER~~ will coordinate review of applications for building permits, subdivisions, rezones, and lot-line adjustments and will require information demonstrating that sewer service is available to serve the property. If you are proposing to have an on-site wastewater treatment ~~and disposal~~ (septic) system, you will need to meet the minimum lot size, setback, and design requirements identified in the Seattle-King County Board of Health Regulations - Title 13.

If you are proposing to utilize public sewers, then you need to obtain a certificate of sewer availability from a sewer utility. The certificate demonstrates that the sewer utility has capacity available to serve the new development being proposed. Sometimes a sewer utility

is limited in its ability to accept additional sewage flows because of capacity or treatment constraints. In such cases, the sewer utility may declare a moratorium on new sewer connections and may not issue new certificates of sewer availability.

### **3. Schools**

King County does not own or operate school facilities. King County Code includes a method for school districts with territory in unincorporated King County to request the collection of an impact fee from new residential developments when the district is experiencing a lack of capacity due to growth. The district must adopt a six-year capital facilities plan that plans for new capacity and submit the plan to King County for adoption as a capital facilities component of the King County Comprehensive Plan. King County's School Technical Review Committee reviews each school district's capital facilities plan, enrollment projections, standard of service, the district's overall capacity over a six-year time frame to ensure consistency with the King County Comprehensive Plan, adopted community plans, and the district's calculation and rationale for proposed impact fees.

School district capital facility plans are adopted annually by King County. Of the 20 districts in the County, 10 of the plans are currently adopted. Since capital facilities plans are not mandatory for special districts under GMA, King County has no way of compelling a school district to prepare a plan unless they want a school impact fee. The Seattle, Mercer Island and Tukwila school districts do not have any unincorporated territory so they are not eligible for a school impact fee from King County. The Bellevue, Renton, Shoreline, Skykomish and Vashon school districts have territory in unincorporated King County but have adequate capacity in existing facilities and therefore are not eligible for impact fees and are not required to submit a plan to King County. The Highline and Northshore school districts have collected impact fees in the past but have stopped submitting new plans because they no longer have capacity deficits.

In general, school districts obtain funds for new construction and improvements to existing facilities from voter-approved bonds. School districts may also qualify for state matching funds for new construction and for the renovation of capital facilities based on a formula that considers a number of factors, including the assessed valuation of the property within the particular school district. In addition, school districts have the authority to request one-year capital project levies and six year renovation and modernization levies, with voter approval. Operating funds come from the state for "basic education." Programs that are not funded by the state are funded through maintenance and operation levies.

For more information, please see the current adopted versions of the following plans:

- Auburn School District No. 408 Capital Facilities Plan
- Enumclaw School District No. 216 Capital Facilities Plan
- Federal Way School District No. 210 Capital Facilities Plan
- Fife School District No. 417 Capital Facilities Plan
- Issaquah School District No. 411 Capital Facilities Plan
- Kent School District No. 415 Capital Facilities Plan
- Lake Washington School District No. 414 Six-Year Capital Facilities Plan
- Riverview School District No. 407 Capital Facilities Plan
- Snoqualmie Valley School District No. 410 Capital Facilities Plan
- Tahoma School District No. 409 Capital Facilities Plan

## 5. Libraries

Libraries in King County are maintained by the King County Library System (KCLS), which is not part of County government. KCLS serves residents in unincorporated areas and in annexed and contracting cities. KCLS also contracts with King County to provide services in the King County Jail, North Rehabilitation Facility, Youth Service Center, Cedar Hills Alcoholism Treatment Facility and Kent Regional Justice Center.

Long-term plans are addressed in the system’s current Long Range Plan. At the heart of the plan is a distribution of library facilities and collections based on population projections of the King County Annual Growth Report, community profile and assigned roles for each library. The system of capital facilities owned and operated by the King County Library System consists of community libraries listed in Table 7.

The program for library building and renovation is detailed in the KCLS Capital Plans and Facility Assessment Program. Call 206-684-6605 for more information.

### King County Library System Facilities

Algona-Pacific	Lake Forest Park
Auburn	Lake Hills
Bellevue Regional	Maple Valley
Black Diamond	Mercer Island
Bothell Regional	Muckleshoot
Boulevard Park	Newport Way
Burien	North Bend
Carnation	Redmond Regional
Covington	Richmond Beach
Des Moines	Sammamish
Duvall	Service Center
Fairwood	Shoreline
Fall City	Skykomish
Federal Way Regional	Skyway
Federal Way 320 <sup>th</sup>	Snoqualmie
Foster	Tukwila
Issaquah	Valley View
Kenmore	Vashon
Kent Regional	White Center
Kingsgate	Woodinville
Kirkland	Woodmont

## 6. Electric, Gas and Telecommunications

Electric, gas, and telecommunications facilities in King County are a mix of private and public ownership. They are subject to varying levels of regulatory oversight from local, state, and federal agencies. These facilities and services differ from other facilities and services contained in this technical appendix in that there is no requirement for a finance plan or for

level of service standards. Finance plans are not required for private electric, gas, and telecommunications facilities that provide services to unincorporated King County.

Reference is made below to the utilities' current plans for resources or facilities. Resource plans are updated on a schedule mandated by the regulatory body such as the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission or the Seattle City Council. Resource plans may also be called integrated resource plans, least-cost plans, or similar terms.

The inventories and maps of electric, gas, and most telecommunications facilities are limited to the major elements of the utility network and generally do not include the minor facilities that deliver the service to the end user.

### **Electric**

Electric utilities in King County share what is described as an "integrated regional electric system." Regardless of ownership, all elements of the system are designed and operated to work in a complementary manner. The elements include transmission lines, substations and generation facilities. Current capital facilities plans and six-year finance plans are available from Bonneville Power Administration, Seattle City Light, Puget Sound Energy and the Tanner Electric Cooperative.

### **Natural Gas**

Puget Sound Energy is the major supplier of natural gas to King County. The City of Enumclaw operates a local distribution system that serves local customers in unincorporated King County. For information on the Puget Sound distribution system and areas where natural gas service is and is not available, please contact Puget Sound Energy or the City of Enumclaw.

### **Telecommunications**

Telecommunications services include both switched and dedicated voice, data, video, and other communication services delivered over the telephone and cable network on various mediums, including, but not limited to, wire, fiber optic, or radio wave. Either regulated or non-regulated companies may provide these services. Cable service includes communication, information and entertainment services delivered over the cable system whether those services are provided in video, voice or data form.

Telecommunication services follow growth and have capacity to match whatever growth occurs in King County. The telecommunications network is gradually being updated to fiber optic but the exact schedule and locations are not available.