

# 2024 Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan Remand

## Proposed Goals, Policies and Strategies Revisions to Comprehensive Plan

03/30/2026

### A. Wildfire Planning and Evacuation

#### Land Use Element

##### Land Use Goal 10. Wildfire Planning and Evacuation

Protect residents, property, and critical facilities from wildfire and other hazards through proactive land use planning, hazard mitigation, and coordinated emergency management.

- Policy 10.1. Adopt and apply recognized wildfire risk-reduction frameworks.
- Policy 10.2. Direct growth away from wildfire hazard areas as determined by DNR or as shown in Wildland-Urban Interface mapping.
- Policy 10.3. Ensure safe siting of critical facilities.
- Policy 10.4. Continue to use and improve existing multimodal evacuation procedures and planning for evacuations due to wildfires and other disasters and emergencies.
  - Strategy 10.a. Use final state Department of Natural Resource maps for wildfire risk to update zoning and building code provisions, consistent with accepted programs to reduce wildfire risk including the state and international Wildland-Urban Interface codes.
  - Strategy 10.b. Continue to promote and enforce county development regulations regarding fire access and water supplies, as well as the state Wildland-Urban Interface Code when adopted.
  - Strategy 10.c. Review and develop defensible space regulations consistent with local circumstances.
  - Strategy 10.d. Promote Firewise USA certification for neighborhoods located in wildfire-prone areas.
  - Strategy 10.e. Prioritize infill and redevelopment in areas of lower wildfire risk to reduce development pressure on the wildland–urban interface.
  - Strategy 10.f. Develop and apply hazard siting criteria in planning and permitting to prevent placement of critical facilities in high-risk areas.

- **Strategy 10.g.** At time of land use permit review, require mitigation measures such as defensible space, redundant access, and emergency water supply when critical facilities must be located in hazard areas.
- **Strategy 10.h.** Develop and apply hazard siting criteria in planning and permitting to prevent placement of critical facilities in high-risk areas.
- **Strategy 10.i.** In accordance with Climate Change Policy 1.3 and its associated strategies, emergency evacuation procedures including safe evacuation routes and arrival destinations shall be established and coordinated with future planning for land use and development.
- **Strategy 10.j.** Ensure that future multimodal evacuation procedures and planning remain consistent with the Wildland-Urban Interface Chief's Guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, or as subsequently amended.
- **Strategy 10.k.** Monitor amendments to the adopted state Wildland-Urban Interface Code, and review and update the County's comprehensive plan and development regulations as necessary.
- **Strategy 10.l.** Maintain and enhance collaboration and coordination between the County Departments of Emergency Management and Information Technology, law enforcement agencies, and fire districts on emergency evacuation planning.
- **Strategy 10.m.** In emergencies, utilize real-time information and data sources to build timely, appropriate real-time evacuation routes given the individual situations and dynamics of wildfires and other emergencies, including evaluation of ingress and egress points, capacity of routes for anticipated traffic, and potential evacuation destinations.
- **Strategy 10.n.** Continue to utilize and improve the County's automated emergency alert system to mass notify cell phones, push alerts, and provide official notifications based on the "Ready, Set, Go" evacuation levels for wildfires and other emergencies.

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## Transportation Element

### Goal 11. Evacuation Planning

*Ensure transportation infrastructure supports safe, multimodal evacuation and regional coordination in the event of wildfire or other hazards.*

- **Policy 11.1.** Maintain adequate capacity for county evacuation routes.
  - **Strategy 11.a.** Conduct evacuation modeling once per planning cycle to confirm designated routes and capacity can accommodate projected population growth.
  - **Strategy 11.b.** Update evacuation and infrastructure plans based on modeling results.

## B. Air Quality

### Transportation Element

#### Transportation Goal 12. Reduce Air Pollutants

Protect public health and the environment through the reduction of air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

- **Transportation Policy 12.1.** Ensure federal and state air quality standards are met and reduce emissions of greenhouse gas emissions, air particulate pollutants, and toxics from mobile sources.
- **Transportation Policy 12.2.** Support and pursue transportation investments that reduce transportation-related pollution exposure to public health and the environment.
  - **Strategy 12.a.** Ensure that County transportation planning and implementation efforts meet federal and state air quality standards.
  - **Strategy 12.b.** Evaluate capital transportation project alternatives relative to air quality

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## C. Housing Capacity and Employment Capacity

### Land Use Element

- Land Use Policy 10.6. Measure, adopt, and implement reasonable measures if the Buildable Lands Report (BLR) finds inconsistencies in planned growth for housing and employment.
  - Land Use Strategy 10.f. If inconsistencies or deficiencies are identified in planned growth for housing or employment, prepare and adopt targeted reasonable measures such as rezoning, zone density adjustments, or development regulation amendments to address capacity shortfalls.
- Land Use Policy 15.4. Maintain consistency with Countywide Planning Policies regarding growth targeting for housing and employment.
  - Land Use Strategy 15.d. Establish a periodic monitoring and reporting program that evaluates residential and employment capacity relative to growth targets, and coordinate with the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC) to identify and resolve discrepancies.

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