

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
OF THE KITSAP COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION,  
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SEWER UTILITY DIVISION,  
REGARDING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO  
KITSAP COUNTY STANDARDS FOR SANITARY SEWER CONSTRUCTION

**Section 1. General Findings.**

The Kitsap County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. Kitsap County's Public Sewer System Standards implement the requirements of Title 13 KCC and provide the minimum technical specifications and procedures for construction of public sewer facilities. These standards build upon existing adopted requirements including the Washington State Department of Ecology *Criteria for Sewage Works Design*, WSDOT Standard Specifications, and ANSI requirements for utility pipe design and installation.
2. The standards cover minimum requirements for construction of gravity and pressurized sewer lines, manholes and other structures, and sewer lift stations. They also include development policies and procedures intended to provide consistency and predictability to aid designers, developers, and contractors in constructing satisfactory public infrastructure.
3. The County's current sewer standards were first adopted in 1996 and have not been formally updated since adoption. The existing standards are outdated, not in alignment with current construction practices, and are difficult for the Sewer Utility to enforce.
4. The 1996 standards do not reflect more recent requirements and preferences, including updates from the Department of Ecology, WSDOT, ANSI, and operational standards promoting workforce safety and long-term infrastructure resiliency.
5. In 2025, the Sewer Utility contracted with BHC Consultants to assist in updating the standards to align with governing state and national requirements, and to achieve consistency with adjacent jurisdictions where applicable.
6. Development of the updated standards included technical workshops with each field discipline within the Sewer Utility, including Management, Conveyance Maintenance, Facility Maintenance, Plant Operations, Mechanics, and Electricians. These workshops identified operational preferences and enforcement considerations to be integrated into the updated standards.

**Section 2. General Procedural Findings.**

The Kitsap County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. On July 10, 2025, the draft standards were distributed to the Kitsap Building Association for initial review and comment.

2. On August 10 and August 19, 2025, staff presented the draft standards to the Planning Commission in two workshops for discussion and feedback..
3. On August 12, 2025, a Programmatic SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) was issued with a 14-day comment period through August 26, 2025.
4. A Public Hearing was advertised in accordance with statutory requirements for noticing and held with with Planning Commisison September 2, 2025.
5. Public comments from the Kitsap Building Association, the Planning Commission workshops, Hearing, and other community members were received and documented in Attachment B.
6. Staff prepared responses to comments and incorporated revisions as directed by the Planning Commission. These revisions are incorporated in Attachment A and Summarized in the Attachment C.
7. Planning Commission voted unanimously at the end of the September 2, 2025 Hearing that a combined Deliberations and Finding of Fact meeting would be appropriate.

### **Section 3. General Substantive Findings.**

The Kitsap County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. The proposed 2025 Sewer Standards are consistent with applicable state design requirements, including the Department of Ecology *Criteria for Sewage Works Design*, WSDOT Standard Specifications, and ANSI pipe and installation standards.
2. The proposed standards reflect local operational needs and enforcement preferences, providing clear guidance to developers, engineers, and contractors.
3. The proposed standards promote consistency, workforce safety, and long-term infrastructure durability.
4. The proposed standards are in the public interest, protect health and safety, and provide an enforceable basis for construction of public sewer facilities.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Kitsap County Planning Commission recommends to the Department of Public Works as follows:

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the proposed Santiary Sewer Standards text and details as presented by staff and amended by the Planning Commission.

5 Attachment A: Kitsap County Standards for Sanitary Sewer Construction, 2025 Update

7 Attachment C: Public Hearing Presentation

13 Alan Beam, Chair