

Kitsap County Year of the Rural Project - Deliberations Matrix

Updated 11/21/25 in preparation for BOCC Deliberations 11/24/25

Deliverable	#	Topic	Summary of Issue	Staff Recommendation - From Comments 09/02/25-09/23/25	Planning Commission Recommendation	Staff Recommendation - From Comments 9/24/25-11/10/25	Board Direction
Chapter	1	Wildlife Corridors and Habitat Connectivity	Add wildlife corridor and habitat connectivty to the chapter with specificity to identify and map corridors, identify key species of concern, and link corridors to allow movement of species.	Goal: Protect and enhance wildlife corridors and habitat connectivity in Kitsap County to support biodiversity, allow species movement, and maintain healthy ecosystems while balancing rural character and land use needs. Policy: Identify and prioritize wildlife corridors and habitat areas using best available science and regional coordination. Policy: Collaborate with state, tribal, regional, and local partners to support long-term habitat connectivity. Policy: Develop and adopt a Wildlife Corridor Plan that identifies, prioritizes, and protects critical wildlife corridors and habitat connections across Kitsap County. Strategy: Conduct a countywide inventory of wildlife corridors using the Rural Lands Analysis and other mapping tools. Strategy: Identify key species of concern and document their habitat needs.	Recommend as prepared by staff.	No update.	
Chapter	2	Forestry - Advisory Council	Include community members and various interest groups.	Agree - included in the draft proposal	No recommendation.	No update.	
Chapter	3	Agriculture - Advisory Council	Include community members and various interest groups.	Agree - assessing the draft proposal.	No recommendation.	No update.	
Chapter	4	Rural Walkability and Bikeability	Add strategies - connections and safety is important.	Strategies are not feasible at this time. Will need to create future strategies in concert with KC PW.	Strategy: Exploration of strategies that align with Kitsap County Target Zero to prevent injury and other serious traffic conflicts in rural communities with consideration of ADA accessibility.	ADD Strategy 12.a.: <u>and to connect communities while promoting accessibility, safety, and social cohesion.</u>	
Chapter	5	Climate Change Element	Use best available science and avoid clear cutting.	To be better understood (esp in a local context) and discussed with future potential Forestry Advisory Council.	No recommendation.	No update.	
Chapter	6	Tribal Lands	Acknowledge Tribal Lands and acreage.	In progress. Using Assessor data to compile Tribal Land data. (+ military installation land)	New section in background of chapter "Tribal Land Treaty Rights" to include acknowledgement of tribal lands as a type of land recognizing and supporting tribal cultures, meaningful tribal consultation in rural and resource lands policy decisions and protection of cultural resources. New section in RURAL LAND USE DESIGNATIONS AND ZONING - assessing and compling data for tribal lands. New section in RURAL LAND USE DESIGNATIONS AND ZONING - assessing and compling data for military lands.	ADD: See Reference A and Reference B	
Chapter	7	Cluster Development	Cluster development is an urban development tool.	The intent is not to encourage it but to explore it. Staff agrees with the concern but acknowledges its a tool for rural development described in GMA.	Recommend language as proposed by staff.	No update.	

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Chapter	8	Water Resources	Add policy under Rural Environment "Identify and protect natural areas contributing to aquifer recharge."	Add policy under "Identify and protect natural areas contributing to aquifer recharge."	Recommend language as proposed by staff.	No update.	
Chapter	9	Rural Data Analysis	Assess rural zoning designations from 1998 to current designations.	Will consider in the Rural Lands Analysis.	No recommendation.	No update.	
Chapter	10	Equestrian Facility	Equestrian activity part of rural character and economy while recognizing impact on neighbors.	Add under Rural Business: Goal: Develop regulations that support equine activities as part of the rural economy and lifestyle while maintaining rural character and compatibility with neighbors. Policy: Support equestrian businesses as integral components of the rural economy, rural character, and rural lifestyle, providing opportunities for rural entrepreneurship and community engagement. Policy: Ensure equestrian facilities and businesses are designed, sited, and operated to maintain rural character, minimize impacts, and ensure compatibility with neighboring properties.	Strike the second policy. Goal - Develop policy and regulations that support the equestrian facility topic through consultations with the equestrian community.	Planning Commission goal added as a Strategy 9.2. Consider the initial staff recommendation to include the second policy.	
Chapter	11	WRIA 15	Recognize and priortize permit-exempt well offset projects.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: Policy 13.6. Recognize the connection of wells to groundwater and streamflow. Strategy 13.a. Facilitate the WRIA 15 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee. Strategy 13.b. Actively seek, sponsor, and implement permit-exempt well offset projects.	
Chapter	12	Applicable State Laws - Streamflow Restoration	Add RCW 90.94 Streamflow Restoration - it was omitted and is applicable to Rural and Resource Lands	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: RCW 90.94 Streamflow Restoration: Requires watershed planning and mitigation to protect streamflows while allowing limited new rural water use.	
Chapter	13	Wells and Water Systems	Request to insert basic information about permit-exempt wells and water systems.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Include data in the Rural Lands Analysis.	
Chapter	14	Steam and Wetland Buffers	Add buffers to maps to inform builders and wildlife corridor correlation.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: Strategy 2.b - Update the County's GIS online critical areas maps to show required buffers for known categorized wetlands and typed streams, according to the standards in the County's adopted critical areas ordinance.	
Chapter	15	Rural Character and Water Quantity	Water quality and quanity is important to rural character.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	EDIT Rural Character Definition: Water quality and quantity is safeguarded, and the agricultural economy is sustained through responsible stewardship and long-term preservation of working lands (KCC 17.110.666).	
Chapter	16	Water Rights	Water rights and availability is a concern to residents and the agriculture community.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: Strategy 13.c. Conduct an inventory of water rights in Kitsap County.	

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Chapter	17	Conservation Futures Funding	Seeking creative tools for working lands and farm land preservation.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: <u>Strategy 2.e. Explore opportunity to dedicate a percentage of Kitsap County Conservation Futures Funding for preservation of working landscapes and farms annually.</u>	
Chapter	18	Voluntary Stewardship Program	Seeking creative tools for working lands and farm land preservation.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: <u>Strategy 2.f. Explore participation in the Voluntary Stewardship Program to support farmers and forest owners in protecting surface and groundwater while conserving arable land for food, fiber, and forest production.</u>	
Chapter	19	Kitsap Natural Resource Asset Management Project	Seeking creative tools for working lands and farm land preservation.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: <u>Strategy 2.g.: Explore the NRCS farmland classified soils as a natural resource asset in the Kitsap Natural Resource Asset Management Project (KNRAMP).</u>	
Chapter	20	Beaver Habitat	Lacking a strategy to develop and implement a plan to help the community, farmers, and beavers.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD: <u>Strategy 15.a. - Partner with landowners, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Kitsap Conservation District, tribes and other partners to develop and implement an adaptive beaver management plan including beaver dam management strategies, protecting trees, and promoting techniques for living with beaver.</u>	
Chapter	21	Agriculture - Advisory Council	The language for the Agriculture Advisory Council is backwards - the agriculture community should inform the Board of County Commissioners	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	EDIT Strategy 5.c.: Form an Agriculture Advisory Council to inform the agricultural community about development of future policies and regulatiosn and act as a resource to farmers regarding incentives and other assistance programs <u>to advise Commissioners and staff on key agricultural matters, including policy, land use, and economic opportunities, while serving as a collaborative forum for stakeholders to shape the long-term sustainability and resilience of the County's agricultural community.</u>	
Chapter	22	Agriculture Resource Lands	Concern that the concept of a Working Lands Overlay takes away from an in-depth analysis of Agricultural Resource Lands - included in Strategy 5e).	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No update. The concept of working lands will be evaluated along with any changes that may impact Agricultural Resource Lands of commercial significance in Kitsap County.	

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Chapter	23	Livestock and Dairy Management	Proposed adding lanaguge to the agriculture code 17.455.070 relating to farm plans and erroneously referenced Kitsap Conservation District with regulatory language. Kitsap Conservation District proposed accurate language that represents best management practices and farm plans.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	ADD to 17.455.070: The purpose of the livestock and dairy management section is to allow farmers and the operators of primary and accessory agricultural uses with smaller parcels the opportunity to participate in animal-based agriculture and agricultural uses while minimizing negative impact to neighboring properties. <u>Operators shall use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address site-specific resource concerns as outlined in a farm plan. A farm plan should include a farm resource inventory, sufficient information and detail to document soil, water, air, personal, and animal resource concerns, recommendations for appropriate sience-based BMPs to address those concerns and note specific regulatory requirements including critical areas, private or public water supplies, and septic systems.</u>	
Chapter	24	Rural Business	Concerns about the definition of rural business and limitations to serving the rural area.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No change. Staff agrees with the current definition of rural business as it aligns with the limitation to rural services and minimizes impact on rural character.	
Chapter	25	Rural/Urban Services	Concern of urban service in rural areas and proposed clarification for financial sustainability in Policy 10.2.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No change. The policy states that a limiteded circumstances to protect basic public health and safety and the environment. EDIT Policy 10.2: Prohibit extension of sanitary sewer service in the rural area except in those limited circumstances shown to be necessary to protect basic public health and safety and the environment <u>and when such services are financially supportable at rural densities and do not permit urban development.</u>	
Chapter	26	Large Scale Data Centers	Current policy implies Kitsap County is creating standards to develop large scale data centers in Strategy 10.b.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Staff recommendation in progress.	
Chapter	27	Tribal Representatives	Describe specific tribes that staff met with on page 5. Each tribe is unique and has unique issues.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	EDIT page 5: Tribal representatives <u>including Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Squaxin Island Tribe, Suquamish Tribe, and Point No Point Treaty Council.</u>	
Chapter	28	Land Use Element and Chapter Vision - Enhance	Retain the word enhance and maintain consistency. The word enhance is removed then used later in the chapter. Suggest keeping it.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Staff recommendation in progress.	

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Code - Child Care	29	Hours of Outdoor Noise	Suggest revising from "9 am to 7 pm" to "7 am to 7 pm" for outdoor noise because children can't be quiet until 9 am.	Make code consistent with noise code by referencing KCC 10.28 (7am to 10pm). https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/KitsapCounty/#!/html/Kitsap10/Kitsap1028.htm	Approve staff recommendation.	No update.	
Code - Child Care	30	Language	Suggest revising "Family Day Care" to "Family Child Care" or "Family Home Early Learning Program" because the industry is trying to move away from "daycare" as it historically connotates a perceived lower level of provider education and quality care.	No change. Will use state classifications.	No recommendation.	No update.	
Code - Child Care	31	Notice	Request for notification to neighbors due to increase	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No change. Staff assess adding a notification requirement for the applicant or shifting to Type 2 or Type 3 permit. All options add extra burden for child care. Conditions are in place to mitigate neighbor impacts.	
Code - Child Care	32	Ingress/Egress	TBD	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	REMOVE 17.415.106.B: for additional discussion with Fire Marshal and Public Works. Recommend advisory statement to the permit application to acknowledge HOA standards are not reviewed by Kitsap County and are the responsibility of the applicant.	
Code - Agriculture	33	Agriculture Building Exemption	Conflict with ICC Building Code and KCC Title 14	Remove proposed change. Defer to Agriculture Advisory Council.	Remove proposed change.	No update.	
Code - Agriculture	34	Notice	Updating existing code as it is not in practice but uncertain if the proposal can move forward.	Remove proposed change. Will consider outreach options as part of the Agricultural Advisory Council.	Follow staff recommendation.	No update.	
Code - Agriculture	35	Gardens	Gardens definitions	--	All sections related to garden definitions be tabled until the Agriculture Advisory Council is established.	Staff recommendation in progress.	
Code - Agriculture	36	Ag Exempt Structures	Comply with state and federal requiremnts for post-harvest handling of produce, diversified vegetable farmers need a wash and pack facility.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	EDIT: 17.455.080.B.2.a: Agricultural buildings are no larger than eight hundred sixty-four square feet; erected exclusively for <u>agricultural activities including, but not limited to,</u> the storage of livestock, feed, and/or farm implements <u>and the post-harvest washing, packing, refrigeration and storage of farm produce produced on the property;</u> located no closer than ten feet from the nearest structure and not attached to any structure; do not contain plumbing, except as necessary to maintain farm-animals <u>those agricultural activities;</u> do not contain a heat source, such as a wood stove or electric heat, unless specifically permitted;	
Reclass - Skrobut	37	Intensificaiton; Demonstration of Unmet Needs	Further intensification concern; did not demonstrate an unmet need for additonal rural commercial or industrial land.	See Reclass Report recommendation summary. Tentative approval.	Recommend approval.	No update.	

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Reclass - Moran	38	Code Compliance; Critical Areas	On-going code compliance but property owner is cooperative; critical areas	See Reclass Report recommendation summary. Update to tentative conditional approval to include northern parcel (272701-4-085-2003) .	Recommend - approval on condition that the approval also includes the parcel to the north of the subject parcel.	No update.	
Reclass - Stokes & Campbell	39	Critical Areas; Previous Denials; Change in Circumstances	Properties significantly incumbered by critica areas. Three previous denials. Concern for a lack of change in circumstances.	See Reclass Report recommendation summary. Tentative approval.	Recommend approval.	No update.	
Reclass - Stokes & Campbell	40	Buffer Averaging	Applicants requested to keep northeast parcel with the request to allow for buffer averaging. See request email.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Staff recommendation in progress.	
SEPA	41	Related to Reclassification Requests	Suquamish Tribe comments imply that site-specific reclassification requests are subject to project level SEPA process.	No change. Reclassification requests were assesesed at the programmatic level in the DEIS and FEIS for the 2024 Comp Plan and are incorporated by reference.	No recommendation.	No update.	

Reference

- A **Tribal Lands (5,322 acres)**
The Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe and the Suquamish Tribe are federally-recognized Native American tribes with lands in Kitsap County. Tribal lands include tribe-owned and non-tribe-owned lands within reservation boundaries, and other tribal or federal trust-designated lands. Areas within reservation boundaries and related trust areas are zoned T (Tribal) and are all located in rural areas. The County has no land use regulatory authority over tribal trust lands, whether located inside or outside reservation boundaries, and also does not regulate tribal fee-owned land located outside reservation boundaries.
- B **Military Installations (8,347 acres)**
In unincorporated Kitsap County, Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) includes NBK Bangor, NUWC Keyport, Manchester Fuel Depot, and Camp Wesley Harris. These parcels are zoned MIL (Military), and are all located in rural areas. Although NBK military installations impact these rural areas, the County does not regulate land use or development on federal military properties.