Kingston

Vision for Kingston

Kingston is located on Appletree Cove, known for its sweeping views of Puget Sound and the Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges. It is bordered by Port Gamble S'Klallam tribal land to the north, and rural residential properties to the south and west, with Puget Sound to the east. The community retains an authentic small-town character with multi-generational gathering places and businesses. The waterfront encompasses a large marina, public beach access and a major terminal for Washington State Ferries that is a key transportation link between the Seattle metropolitan area and the Olympic Peninsula.

The Kingston Urban Growth Area, the northernmost in Kitsap County, was established in May 1998 through adoption of the Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan, encompassing 1,400 acres. Kingston's defined areas include Old Town, adjacent to the marina and ferry terminal; the Village Green district; and Lindvog Commercial, encompassing the uptown area along State Route 104.

The vision of Kingston focuses on the continued preservation and protection of open space, forests and critical habitat areas in the surrounding sensitive environment. Maintaining and improving public facilities for sewer and other utilities, stormwater management and emergency services is also envisioned. Guiding the preservation and development of diverse housing types for all incomes and ages will maintain an inclusive community. The Kingston community values its shoreline, parks and schools with interconnected systems of pedestrian and bicycle trails. Additional non-motorized facilities such as sidewalks, bike lanes and safe routes to schools will increase the health and safety of the community.

Kingston has a population of over 2,200. More than a third of its households have children under the age of 18 and 26 percent age 60 years or over. The median household income is estimated at $73,000. County support of local economic development and vitality, and in managing the impact of regional transportation, is vital to Kingston's vision. Improved street aesthetics and parking facilities will create more walkability and encourage pedestrian-oriented, accessible retail shops. Kingston will continue to be a welcoming, family friendly community that values a healthy and sustainable environment; quality education and recreational resources for all ages; partnerships with the S'Klallam and Suquamish tribes; and an efficient, safe and enhanced infrastructure that supports measured growth of healthy neighborhoods and businesses.

Kingston Goals and Policies

Economic Development

Kingston Economic Development Goal 1. Within the Kingston Urban Growth Area, support the establishment of locally-owned businesses, cottage industries and home businesses.

Kingston Policy 1. Encourage the development of state-of-the-art telecommunication infrastructure to serve the Kingston Urban Growth Area.

Kingston Policy 2. Continue to allow home office businesses within the Urban Village Center zone.

Kingston Policy 3. Collaborate with the Kingston Chamber of Commerce, the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance (KEDA), Public Utilities District, and the Port of Kingston and other organizations to foster and promote an information system infrastructure and promote a business atmosphere that encourages and supports technology-based industry.

Kingston Economic Development Goal 2. Support the maintenance of local businesses.

Kingston Policy 4. Investigate feasibility of using a rolling type "multi-year" permit process for event venues for appropriate locations.

Kingston Policy 5. Work to streamline regulations to encourage agritourism.

Kingston Policy 6. Encourage compact residential development in the downtown core as defined by Urban Village Center and other relative commercial zones.

Kingston Policy 7. Encourage development that build projects compatible with Kingston's current design.

Kingston Policy 8. Encourage small business development and business incubators.

Kingston Economic Development Goal 3. Support tourism to enhance the local economy.

Kingston Policy 9. Support the development of bed and breakfasts and small lodging venues in the Kingston area.

Kingston Policy 10. Facilitate the development entry/exit signage consistent with area identity.

Kingston Policy 11. Facilitate the development of a downtown way-finding system consistent with area identity.

Kingston Policy 12. Foster partnerships with the North Kitsap Tourism Coalition, Visit Kitsap, the Port of Kingston, the Kingston Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Kingston Economic Development Committee and other organizations to promote tourism and business development.

Environment

Kingston Environment Goal 4. Protect and work to restore wildlife habitat, marine shorelines, and other natural areas around Kingston.

Kingston Policy 13. Support community work with non-profit groups to acquire land for conservation and preservation of wildlife habitat.

Kingston Policy 14. Participate in the West Sound Watersheds Council and support Puget Sound Salmon Recovery programs.

Kingston Policy 15. As feasible, acquire shoreline property and investigate easements in Kingston for public stewardship and habitat protection.

Kingston Environment Goal 5. Coordinate an integrated network of spaces that could expand recreational opportunities for both residents and visitors, and takes advantage of Kingston's visual amenities and natural environment.

Kingston Policy 16. As feasible, work with non-profit groups to acquire land for open space conservation and trails network.

Parks, Trails and Open Space

Kingston Parks, Trails and Open Space Goal 6. Encourage participation of community organizations and residents in the planning, development and authorized use of parks, community facilities, libraries and senior centers.

Kingston Policy 17. Consult with the community organizations and residents concerning the disposition or repurposing of public land and facilities that have parks, trails and recreation

potential.

Kingston Policy 18. Coordinate with other local jurisdictions, community organizations and residents in developing long range plans, budgets and usage regulations for public facilities, parks and open space.

Kingston Parks, Trails and Open Space Goal 7. Pursue the creation of a more walkable community by supporting development of pedestrian pathways, sidewalks and trails that connect people to places.

Kingston Policy 19. Kingston Policy 19. As feasible, support recommendations identified in the Kitsap County Non-Motorized Facility Plan.

Kingston Policy 20. Coordinate with state, Tribal, and non-governmental groups and Kingston residents to acquire land for trails, community connectors and open space corridors.

Kingston Policy 21. Coordinate maintenance and operation support for parks, trails and open space with other jurisdictions and supporting community groups.

Kingston Policy 22. Encourage Kingston residents to review budgets for Parks, Recreation and Open space for the Kingston area.

Kingston Policy 23. Coordinate with the local jurisdictions, state agencies, and community groups to create and enhance water related recreation, facilities and public access.

Kingston Policy 24. Safety and security shall be considered when reviewing plans for trails, pathways, and greenways to connect parks, shoreline and recreational resources throughout the Kingston area.

Kingston Policy 25. Encourage the establishment of a trails system sign program that identifies access points and destinations.

Kingston Parks, Trails and Open Space Goal 8. Create bicycle routes, multiuse pathways, and bike storage facilities to provide safe, secure and efficient bicycle connections for commuter, visitor, fitness and recreational riders.

Kingston Policy 26. Consult and coordinate with Kingston area community groups to define, and prioritize Kingston area bike routes.

Kingston Policy 27. Ensure that local bike routes connect with regional bike routes.

Kingston Policy 28. Support and promote the Kitsap Peninsula Water Trail.

Kingston Policy 29. Coordinate with state agencies and community organizations to ensure that public use of tidelands and public waterfront property protects water quality and sensitive areas while also allowing for public recreation.

Kingston Parks, Trails and Open Space Goal 9. Provide and maintain Parks and Fields and community facilities to support sports, recreational, educational, and social activities for the community.

Kingston Policy 30. Consult with state agencies and local jurisdictions to provide parks, open space, fields, and facilities that support active and passive recreation.

Kingston Policy 31. Encourage public participation in development of plans for maintenance and operation for parks, open space, fields, and facilities in the Kingston area including volunteer efforts.

Kingston Policy 32. Encourage public participation of community organizations and residents in the planning, development, operation, authorized use and maintenance of parks, trails, community facilities, libraries, sports fields and senior centers.

Transportation

Kingston Transportation Goal 10. Work with WSDOT to attempt to reduce traffic issues.

Kingston Policy 33. Encourage WSDOT to reduce the back up of queued ferry traffic in downtown Kingston and optimize the use of the ferry holding lot.

Kingston Policy 34. Encourage WSF to provide a third overflow ferry boat during periods of high ferry demand and ferry wait times.

Kingston Policy 35. Encourage WSDOT to pursue the rerouting of ferry traffic to the present outbound ferry traffic lane and investigate of the feasibility of using the current WSDOT parking lot as auxiliary holding area.

Kingston Transportation Goal 11. Enhance the aesthetic values of the streetscape in Kingston as identified in the *Kingston Complete Streets* study.

Kingston Policy 36. Within the Kingston Urban Growth Area, ensure the design standards are followed.

Kingston Policy 37. Consider updating the Kingston Design Standards with focus on aesthetics of streets, sidewalks, and associated amenities.

Kingston Transportation Goal 12. Work to improve safety for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles within the Kingston Urban Growth Area.

Kingston Policy 38. Encourage connectivity between developments.

Kingston Policy 39. Coordinate with WSF to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to the ferry dock.

Kingston Transportation Goal 13. Work to ensure that an appropriate balance of long-term and short-term parking is available in the downtown area.

Kingston Policy 40. Through public-private and public-public partnerships, review the existing public parking availability, and accessibility within Kingston.

Kingston Policy 41. After public parking availability and accessibility study is complete, consider updates or changes to parking requirements relating to occupancy in the Kingston Urban Growth Area.

Kingston Policy 42. As feasible implement incentive based parking programs within the Urban Village Center Zone, such as shared-use parking and on street parking.

Community

Kingston Community Goal 14. Formalize Kingston community identity.

Kingston Policy 43. Locate community-oriented public facilities within the Urban Growth Area.

Kingston Policy 44. Work with the community to consider preservation and highlighting of the historic features and characteristics of Kingston in community planning and development, and design standards.

Kingston Policy 45. Preserve the small town character of the Kingston Urban Growth Area in community planning and development.

Kingston Policy 46. Work with Kingston Community Advisory Council to support ongoing efforts to provide severe weather shelter services and/or warming station in public buildings.

Land Use

Kingston Land Use Goal 15. Involve the Kingston community input when proposing development regulations.

Kingston Policy 47. Review mixed use standards for Urban Village Center and amend as necessary.

Kingston Policy 48. Increase residential density allowance in Urban Village Center.

Kingston Policy 49. Support the community to the extent feasible in their aspiration to identify view corridors while balancing the rights of private property owners.

Kingston Land Use Goal 16. Apply Kingston Design Standards in the permitting process.

Kingston Policy 50. Explore new code provisions to support redevelopment.

Kingston Policy 51. Update Kingston Downtown Design Standards to address ongoing public input.

Kingston Policy 52. Prioritize the required infrastructure to encourage urban medium and high density residential uses near commercial areas and public spaces.