



TO: Tukwila Planning Commission
FROM: Nora Gierloff, AICP, DCD Director
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DATE: January 25, 2024
SUBJECT: **Status of Elements - Briefing**

ISSUE

Over the past five months, as staff have reviewed the amendments proposed for the Comprehensive Plan with the Planning Commission (PC), the Commission has requested additional information on several occasions, or certain parts of the drafts have been not yet finalized. Below is a summary of what items still need resolution, including review by the Planning Commission (see sections in red).

The Summary in Attachment A lists the above information, plus a listing of items requested by the PC that have been resolved.

BACKGROUND

The attached summary focuses on those items that need PC review this evening:

- 1. PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT (PROS) - PC Review 8-24-23**
 - Parks Department Review Needed
 - Confirmation of Park facility Inventory
 - Final review of Implementation Strategies for content, and to correlate strategies with the various policies.
 - Planning Department Review Needed
 - Confirmation of Links for “Related Information” section on final page
 - **Planning Commission Review Needed**
 - Review Implementation Strategies, once finalized
 - No PC questions remain about content.

- 2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT – PC Review 9-28-23**
 - Economic Development Division Review Needed
 - Final review of Implementation Strategies for content, and to correlate strategies with the various policies.
 - Planning Department Review Needed

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- Confirmation of Links for “Related Information” section on final page PC Review Needed
- **Planning Commission Review Needed**
 - Review Implementation Strategies, once finalized
 - Question about inclusion of King County Countywide Policy K-EC-12 as written for Tukwila Policy 3.5:

Facilitate connections between employers and education and workforce development institutions, seeking to increase graduation rates and develop a highly educated and skilled local workforce. Align and prioritize workforce development efforts with Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color communities; immigrant and refugees; and other marginalized communities.¹

See excerpt from minutes on page 2 of following summary for discussion issues.

3. UTILITIES ELEMENT – PC Review 9-28-23

- Public Works and Other Departments - Review Needed
 - Final review of Implementation Strategies for content
- Planning Department Review Needed
 - Confirmation of Links for “Related Information” section on final page
 - Maps needed: Water, Sewer, and Surface Water systems, plus Electrical and Natural gas providers
- **Planning Commission Review Needed**
 - Review Implementation Strategies, once finalized
 - No PC questions remain about content.

4. CAPITAL FACILITIES – PC Review 9-28-23

- Public Works and Other Departments - Review Needed
 - Final review of Implementation Strategies for content, and to correlate strategies with the various policies.
- Planning Department Review Needed
 - Confirmation of Links for “Related Information” section on final page
 - Various graphics needed showing: Enterprise capital sources of funds and expenditures; Operations vs. Capital Spending Trend (2003-2012).
- **Planning Commission Review Needed**
 - Review Implementation Strategies, once finalized
 - A Goal and four Policies were moved from Natural Environment to Capital Facilities and still need PC review. They are:

¹ King County Countywide Planning Policy K_EC-12

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- Goal 4.10 The Green River levee system is constructed, maintained, and certified to meet the accreditation standards of the Federal Emergency Management Administration and the City's Shoreline Master Program.²**
- Policy 4.10.1 Coordinate with King County Flood Control District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to inspect and maintain the City's levee system and determine if it adequately protects the City in the face of increased flood events associated with Climate Change³
- Policy 4.10.2 Restrict levee encroachments by adjacent property owners.
- Policy 4.10.3 Continue to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop levee vegetation policies for the Green River levee system that enhance the ecosystem by providing shade and improving fish habitat, while at the same time protecting public safety and reducing long-term maintenance needs and costs.
- Policy 4.10.4 Coordinate with the City of Kent on flood control projects and climate impact studies that affect both jurisdictions, while complying with Tukwila's Shoreline Master Program.⁴
- The Commission had questions about the Fire Improvement Program (page 5) – Planning staff have asked Finance for clarification. Responses include:
 - The City collects fire impact fees which go into the Fire Improvement Program. That funding is turned over to the RFA.
 - The City owns 3 older first stations that are not currently used by the RFA. These are either vacant or in some other use and are the responsibility of the City.
 - The Commission asked for clarification on what the City's relationship with the RFA could be characterized: should it be considered a contracted service or something the City has annexed into?

² Based on maps of the city it appears the Fort Dent levee is located north of I-405 and additional levees are located south of I-405. Referring to it as the Green River levee system will prevent confusion.

³ While the levee system is currently adequate seasonal flooding is projected to increase in both frequency and severity. Ensuring that this system is in line with future flooding predictions will ensure public health, safety and general welfare.

⁴ Any proposed projects should consider how those projects may be impacted by climate change.

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General Policies

~~14~~Policy ~~1.1~~ The City shall use non-capital and regionally-shared capital options to meet its public facility needs when there are financial or ~~space~~ economies of scale to be gained. Such options include:

- Contracted services, such as King County Animal Control;
- Cooperative programs with other public entities, such as Valley Communications for dispatch services and South County Correctional Entity for jail services, and Cascade Water Alliance for water supply;
- Demand ~~Management~~ management strategies; and
- Rent or lease options.

More to come from Finance on that question.

5. **SHORELINE ELEMENT** – PC Review 11-9-23

- Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) - Review Needed
 - Final review of Implementation Strategies for content
 - Need clarification from DOE on the identified Implementation strategies and whether they can or should be updated
- Planning Department Review Needed
 - Follow up with DOE
 - Graphics and maps needed: Shoreline environments; location of levees (?)
- **Planning Commission Review Needed**
 - Review Implementation Strategies, if modified
 - No PC questions remain about content.

6. **NATURAL ENVIRONMENT** – PC Review 11-9-23

- Public Works and Other Departments - Review Needed
 - Final review of Implementation Strategies for content, and to correlate strategies with the various policies.
- Planning Department Review Needed
 - Confirmation of Links for “Related Information” section on final page
 - Various graphics and maps needed
- **Planning Commission Review Needed**
 - Review Implementation Strategies, once finalized
 - A Goal and four Policies were moved to Utilities – see that section to review.

ATTACHMENTS

- Summary of Element Work Remaining (by Associated Department and Planning Division, and Status of requested Planning Commission changes)

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