



King County

Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	13	Name:	Andy Micklow
Proposed No.:	2024-0370	Date:	November 18, 2024

SUBJECT

A proposed ordinance adopting and ratifying amendments to the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

SUMMARY

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0370 would approve amendments to the King County Countywide Planning Policies related to the Urban Growth Area boundary adjacent to Maple Valley and the planning expectations for countywide centers, as recommended by the Growth Management Planning Council, and ratify them on behalf of the population of unincorporated King County.

BACKGROUND

Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC). The GMPC is a formal body comprised of elected officials from King County, Seattle, Bellevue, other cities and towns in King County, and special purpose districts. The GMPC was created in 1992 by an interlocal agreement in response to a provision in the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requiring cities and counties to work together to adopt Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs).

The CPPs are a series of policies that address growth management issues in King County. The CPPs present the shared vision of King County and the 39 cities within King County to guide jurisdictions as they develop and amend their comprehensive plans. For King County specifically, the CPPs relate to the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP) and its implementing development regulations.

As provided for in the GMPC interlocal agreement, the GMPC developed and recommended the original CPPs, which were adopted by the King County Council and ratified by the cities in 1992. Subsequent amendments to the CPPs follow the same adoption process outlined in CPP FW-1 and includes recommendation by the GMPC, adoption and ratification by the King County Council, and ratification by the cities. Amendments to the CPPs become effective when ratified by at least 30% of the city and county governments representing at least 70% of the population of King County. A city

shall be deemed to have ratified an amendment to the CPPs unless the city disapproves it by legislative action within 90 days of adoption by King County.

Countywide Centers. King County uses a centers approach to growth management, consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy. King County's Centers Framework was updated in 2021 to include the designation of countywide centers. CPP DP-33 requires that jurisdictions establish subarea plans for designated regional and countywide centers that align with the criteria established in the King County Centers Framework (Appendix 6 of the CPPs). In 2024, the GMPC Work Program included a review of the criteria and planning expectations in the CPPs related to countywide centers.

GMPC Motion 24-1. At its September 2024 meeting, the GMPC adopted Motion 24-1, which would amend the Urban Growth Area (UGA) boundary on the maps in the CPPs. The GMPC was also briefed on this topic at its July 2024 meeting.

GMPC Motion 24-2. At its September 2024 meeting, the GMPC also adopted Motion 24-2, which would amend the planning expectations for countywide centers in the CPPs. The GMPC was also briefed on this topic at its March, June, and July 2024 meetings.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Ordinance 2024-0370 would approve amendments to King County Countywide Planning Policies. The proposed amendment to the UGA boundary adjacent to the Maple Valley is Attachment A to the proposed ordinance and the proposed amendments to the planning expectations for countywide centers is Attachment B to the proposed ordinance.

Maple Valley UGA. The proposed ordinance would amend the UGA boundary adjacent to the City of Maple Valley to move three parcels out of the UGA and into the Rural Area. The new UGA boundary would coincide with the northern city limit in this area. This amendment is linked to a Land Use and Zoning Map Amendment 1 in the 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan Update, which would change the land use designation from Industrial to Rural Area. Map Amendment 1 would also remove and repeal a property-specific development condition that limits the impacts of potential industrial uses on the property. Policies in the CPPs and Comprehensive Plan guide the review of UGA amendments.

Planning Expectations for Countywide Centers. The proposed ordinance would make changes to CPP DP-33 and Appendix 6 of the CPPs regarding how jurisdictions meet the planning expectations for countywide centers. The CPPs require subarea plans or dedicated Comprehensive Plan chapters for countywide centers. The proposed changes to the CPPs would retain the planning expectations but allow for more flexibility for jurisdictions regarding how the expectations are addressed by removing the subarea-specific language.

GMPC Action. On September 18, 2024, the GMPC approved Motions 24-1 and 24-2, which recommend amendments to the King County Countywide Planning Policies. GMPC action is a recommendation to the King County Council and is not binding.

Consistent with CPP adoption requirements, Proposed Ordinance 2024-0370 forwards the GMPC recommendation to the King County Council for consideration for possible approval. The proposed ordinance would also ratify the changes on behalf of the population of unincorporated King County and would begin the ratification process by cities.

INVITED

- Ivan Miller, Principal Analyst, Countywide Planning, Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2024-0370 (and its attachments)
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note