



Planning Commission Recommendations: Utilities; Capital Facilities; Participation, Implementation, Evaluation; Natural Environment; Critical Areas

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City Council Staff Report
July 2, 2024



Agenda

- Review Planning Commission recommendations
- Council identification of discussion topics for study session(s)

Objective

- Build understanding of Planning Commission recommendations
- Prepare for study sessions scheduled on Jul. 9 and 23

› REDMOND 2050

Upcoming Council Review Topics



Jul.

- **Phase 2B Policies**
 - Capital Facilities
 - Utilities
 - Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation
- **Natural Env. and Critical Areas Regulations**
- **Phase 2C Policies**
 - Land Use
 - Community Development and Design
 - Climate Resilience and Sustainability

Sep.

- Continued Phase 2B and 2C review as needed
- 2024 Omnibus / Wrap-Up
 - Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code Amendments that correct errors, address requests, and generally tie-up loose ends prior to adoption.

Oct.

- Prepare for Adoption

Nov.

- Adoption!

Capital Facilities Element: *Planning Commission Discussion & Recommendation*

- Level-of-Service standards and how they could be expanded include resiliency of facilities and operations.
- Use of impact fee exemptions as a development incentive.
- Co-location of facilities with other agencies and private organizations.
- Functional plan requirements.
- *Recommended approval of Capital Facilities chapter*

Utilities Element: *Planning Commission Discussion & Recommendation*

- Concept “growth pays for growth” and what is legally required.
- Regional stormwater facilities.
- Electric power grid reliability and how City can ensure this through policy language.
- Telecommunications policies, such as equity in service, amateur/emergency radio, and the aesthetics of wireless communication towers, as well as the use of technical/legal language in policies. Policy UT-61 was updated as part of this discussion.
- Wellhead Protection Program and what it entails. Policy UT-18 was updated to reflect this discussion.

Recommended approval of Utilities chapter

Participation, Implementation and Evaluation Element: ***Planning Commission Discussion and Recommendation***

- Implementation and evaluation program. Policy PI–24 was updated to reflect this discussion.
- Promoting active participation in boards and commissions, removing participation barriers, and how to reach out to “quiet populations”. Added language to Policy PI-2 as part of this discussion.

Recommended approval of the Participation, Implementation and Evaluation chapter

NE and CAR - *Planning Commission Discussion and Recommendation*

- **Natural Environment Element**

- The need and effectiveness of policies supporting noise barriers along highways.
- Environment stewardship policies.
- Policies moving to the new Climate Resilience and Sustainability element.
- Critical Aquifer Recharge Area (CARA) policies. Policy NE-29 was updated based on this discussion.

- **Critical Areas Regulations**

- Compliance with state laws and regulations
- Steep slopes: why geologic hazards are considered a critical area.
- Compliance with Best Available Science (BAS) and climate change.
- Proposed map changes.
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas: wildlife and species of local importance.
- Native vegetation & climate change.
- CARA map and regulations: long-term preservation of water quality and quantity. Frequency of quality control and monitoring checks.
- Stream buffers: response to WDFW comments about applying 200-foot buffer to all stream types.

Recommended approval of Natural Environment and Critical Areas Regulations chapters

Next Steps

- Identify questions and issues for discussion at study sessions scheduled on Jul. 9 and 23
- Hold study sessions
- Prepare for adoption in fall 2024

Questions?

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Appendix



What's new in the **Capital Facilities** update?

- Updated plan horizon from 2030 to 2050.
- Updated level-of-service standards.
- Ensured issues around equity are considered.
- Updated unclear/outdated terminology.
- Added “green infrastructure” as part of the capital facilities inventory requirement.
- Added a requirement that functional plans address resilience to natural hazards, including climate change impacts.
- Updates to the PARCC Plan, Wastewater Plan, and Water System Plan to satisfy updates to capital facility planning requirements (these plan updates are adopted separately).



What's new in the Utilities update?

- Two new framework policies for city owned and private utilities, with a focus on equity and resilience.
- Consolidated from 96 to 70 policies.
 - Included moving some energy policies to new Climate Resilience and Sustainability element.
- Consolidated/updated outdated/programmatic policy language.
- Update to note policy shift away from natural gas as energy source.
- New policy on electrical grid reliability.
- Updated solid waste service policies to include zero-waste practices, organics, and composting.
- Updated hazardous liquid pipeline policies to ensure consistency with current practices.



What's new in the **Participation, Implementation and Evaluation** update?

- Consolidated from 27 to 25 policies.
- Removed non-inclusive language
- Support for effective and equitable participation
- Added new policies:
 - Incorporate historically excluded communities into the planning process
 - Tribal participation
 - Development review process
 - Equity impact review tools



What's new in Natural Environment Update?

- The six existing framework policies have been revised into three framework policies to support different components of the Natural Environment Element: FW-NE-1 for Section A, FW-NE-2 for Section B, and FW-NE-3 to support “quality of life” policies in sections C – F.
- Updates to **Section B, Environmentally Critical Areas**, were reviewed and updated as part of the *Critical Areas Regulations* zoning code amendment process.
 - There are currently 105 *Environmentally Critical Areas* policies. Revisions and consolidation decreased the number of policies to 70.
- **Section C** - consolidation of tree canopy policies and better alignment with the Tree Canopy Strategic Plan.
- **Section D. Climate Change** policies are being moved and revised into the new Climate Resilience and Sustainability element.

Critical Areas Regulations – proposed key changes:

- Policies Streamlined and Consolidated
- Stream Typing Revision
- Increased Minimum Buffers for Landslide Hazard Areas
- Implement Building Setbacks from Critical Areas Buffers
- Map Portfolio Update

