



**King County**

**Shannon Braddock**  
King County Executive

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[www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

November 21, 2025

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that would, if approved, amend in King County Code (KCC) Title 20 comprehensive planning procedures to establish appropriate timelines necessary to complete midpoint updates to the Comprehensive Plan.

KCC Chapter 20.18 allows for updates to the Comprehensive Plan on the ten-year, five-year ("midpoint"), or annual cycle, depending on the nature of the proposed changes. Midpoint updates to the Comprehensive Plan are allowed under KCC 20.18.030.D for limited changes to address time-sensitive issues before the next ten-year update, if initiated by Motion.

Time-sensitive state mandates that must be addressed prior to the next ten-year update include adding a climate change element to the Comprehensive Plan (ESSHB 1181) and updating the County's Shoreline Master Program (Revised Code of Washington 90.58.080(4)(b)(i)). Therefore, the County intends to initiate a 2029 midpoint update via a proposed Motion establishing a scope of work. KCC 20.18.030.D.3 sets timelines for midpoint updates, including deadlines for establishing the scope of work and for transmitting and adopting the plan update. The enclosed proposed Ordinance would change the timelines for midpoint scoping in advance of the 2029 midpoint update.

These new timelines will allow the County to continue the process improvements for development of Executive-recommended Comprehensive Plan updates that were made in the 2024 Comprehensive Plan update. These updates include allowing for more public engagement, incorporating equitable engagement strategies, improving State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review processes, and increasing collaboration with the Council.

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay

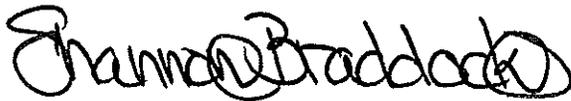
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Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This proposed legislation will help ensure sufficient time is provided to develop midpoint updates and provide clarity to the public about the schedule for the forthcoming 2029 midpoint update.

If your staff have questions, please contact Lauren Smith, Deputy Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, at 206-263-9606.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon Braddock". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Shannon Braddock  
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers  
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council  
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council  
Stephanie Pure, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive  
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget  
Lauren Smith, Deputy Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget