



King County

Shannon Braddock

King County Executive

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May 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 enacted, adopt amendments to the 2021 King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs). The enclosed proposed amendments were recommended by the King County Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) on March 26, 2025.

As a part of the shared framework for growth management planning established by the CPPs, growth targets and housing need values are adopted for each jurisdiction. Jurisdictions use these targets and need values as growth assumptions to plan for development capacity and public services in their comprehensive plans.

In 2024, the cities of Carnation and Snoqualmie requested that GMPC reduce their respective growth targets and housing need values in response to circumstances that were not understood when growth targets were adopted in the CPPs in 2021. Additionally, the state Legislature has adopted several amendments to the Growth Management Act, changing comprehensive planning expectations since the CPPs were originally adopted.

In its consideration of the cities' requests throughout 2024, GMPC acknowledged that these cities' growth targets were higher than amounts in the original countywide projection during the growth target setting process. The Puget Sound Regional Council identified that "reducing the Cities and Towns overall allocation would improve consistency" between the CPPs and VISION 2050.¹ GMPC also acted to preserve the share of housing need affordable to households with lower incomes within their proposed amendments.

¹ Letter to GMPC, December 2024 [[LINK](#)]

At its March 2025 meeting, GMPC unanimously approved GMPC Motion 25-1 recommending growth target and housing need amendments for Carnation and Snoqualmie.

The collaborative process used to develop this proposed legislation embodies the ethic of coordinated planning required by the Growth Management Act. King County staff, municipal planners, and elected officials were involved in developing the recommendations in the proposed legislation. No budget action is needed to support the proposed Ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This legislation is one of the many actions King County takes to accommodate and manage growth to ensure residents have opportunity to thrive and the environment is protected.

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

Sincerely,



for

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

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Stephanie Pure, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget (PSB)

Lauren Smith, Deputy Director, Regional Planning, PSB