## STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Item:** | 6 | **Name:** | Erin Auzins |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2022-0155 | **Date:** | April 26, 2022 |

**Subject**

An ordinance that would modify the timelines for review and adoption of the 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan.

**Summary**

The King County Code (K.C.C.) establishes the County's review schedule for King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP) updates, and includes annual, midpoint, and eight-year updates.

There are two changes in this proposed ordinance. The first would modify the timelines to reflect the time needed to complete an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the 2024 KCCP. The second would reflect the changes made by the state to extend the deadline for the 2024 KCCP from June to December 2024.

**Background**

The KCCP is the guiding policy document for land use and development regulations in unincorporated King County. The K.C.C. allows for amendments to the KCCP on an annual, midpoint, or eight-year update schedule.[[1]](#footnote-1) The eight-year update is on the same time period as the Growth Management Act (GMA) mandated update cycle.

In 2022, the state legislature adopted House Bill 1241, which, in part, extended the deadline for the 2024 update from June 30, 2024, to December 31, 2024. This proposed ordinance would update the eight-year deadline to reflect this change.

Concurrently, the Executive has been preparing a schedule for the 2024 KCCP that would include preparation of an EIS. The schedule as currently adopted in K.C.C. chapter 20.18 for establishment of the scope of work, transmittal of the Executive's recommended 2024 update, and Council's review and adoption of the 2024 KCCP, would not allow enough time for completion of the EIS, which has its own minimum processing timeframes. This proposed ordinance would shift the deadlines for these work products to reflect the Executive's anticipated schedule for completion of the 2024 KCCP and associated EIS.

**Analysis**

**Proposed Ordinance 2022-0155.** The proposed ordinance would make the following substantive changes to the County's process requirements for updating the 2024 KCCP:

1. Modifies the timeline for the Executive to transmit, and the Council to adopt, the motion approving the scope of work. It is proposed to be changed from a July to September review timeframe to an April to June timeframe. This is proposed to give additional time for the Executive to prepare the Public Review Draft of the 2024 KCCP, and the Draft EIS.
2. Modifies the timeline for the Executive to transmit the ordinance adopting the 2024 KCCP. It would be changed from requiring transmittal at the end of June 2023 to the end of December 2023. This change, with the following change, would still provide the Council one year to review 2024 KCCP. It would also give the Executive additional time to complete the Executive's Recommended Plan and Final EIS.
3. Modifies the timeline for the Council to approve the ordinance adopting the 2024 KCCP, to December 31, 2024. This aligns with the change made in House Bill 1241.

The ordinance makes changes to the County's requirements for consultants conducting EISs to reflect that those provisions are intended to only apply to EISs for project actions proposed by a private party, and the EIS for the 2024 KCCP will not follow those provisions.

**Future Changes.** As part of HB 1241, the state legislature also modified the GMA-mandated periodic review timeframe for Comprehensive Plans, from an 8-year review to a 10-year review timeframe. The next GMA-mandated update for King County is the 2024 KCCP and is required to be adopted by December 31, 2024. After that, a GMA-mandated update will be required to be adopted by June 30, 2034. As part of the 2024 KCCP, the Executive will propose modifying the County's current update schedule to reflect the shift from an 8 to 10-year cycle. The Findings in this proposed ordinance reflect that intent.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Ordinance 2022-0155
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note
4. Executive's Summary Matrix

**INVITED**

* Lauren Smith, Director of Regional Planning Unit, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
* Chris Jensen, Comprehensive Planning Manager, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

**LINKS**

Council's 2024 Comprehensive Plan website:

<https://kingcounty.gov/council/CompPlan/2024compplan.aspx>

Executive’s 2024 Comprehensive Plan website: <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/king-county-comprehensive-plan.aspx>

1. K.C.C. 20.18.030 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)