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## Kitsap County Mission



Kitsap County government exists to protect and promote the safety, health and welfare of our citizens in an efficient, accessible and effective manner.

## Kitsap County Vision Statement



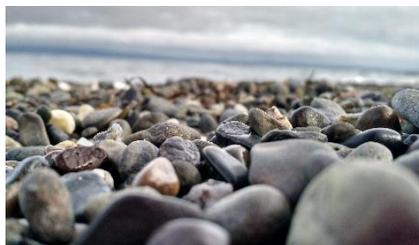
**Effective and Efficient County Services** - County government continuously assesses its purpose, promotes and rewards innovation and improvement, fosters employee development and uses effective methods and technologies to produce significant positive results and lasting benefits for citizens.

**Thriving Local Economy** - A well-educated workforce and strategic investment in county infrastructure prompt businesses to expand or locate in Kitsap County, creating well-paying jobs and enhancing our quality of life.

**Safe and Healthy Communities** - People are protected and secure, care about their neighborhoods and are proud of where they live, work and play.

**Inclusive Government** - County government conducts all activities in a manner that encourages citizen involvement, enhances public trust and promotes understanding.

**Protected Natural Resources and Systems** - Education, land use planning and coordinated efforts assure that the forests, clean air and water that Kitsap is known for are sustained for the benefit of current and future generations.





# Acknowledgements



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Central Kitsap Community Council  
Kingston Citizens Advisory Council  
Manchester Citizens Advisory Committee  
Illahee Neighborhood Group  
Keyport Neighborhood Group



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## Executive Summary



The Washington State Growth Management Act requires cities and counties to periodically update their Comprehensive Plans. The Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan 2016-2036 (the Plan) serves as the policy document that helps guide decisions on services for a wide range of critical County programs, such as building roads, providing land for housing, and protecting the environment.

This Plan is released concurrently with the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP). The Plan describes how residents would like the County to look in the future. This document includes Guiding Directives, Goals and Policies, and Strategies for the following seven elements; Land Use, which includes rural and resource lands, Economic Development, Environment, Housing and Human Services, Transportation and Capital Facilities and Utilities. The Plan elements are organized and presented in the following manner:

- **Discussion:** Discussion text provides an overview and description of the element of the Plan featured in the chapter.
- **Guiding Directives:** Guiding directives for elements of the Plan are the County's guidance policy directives on how growth management planning will occur. These guiding directives establish overarching practices carried forward from the existing Plan and explain the section's importance to planning Kitsap County's future. These directives are from previously adopted planning efforts that require recognition as ongoing policy for guidance purposes. They complement the Plan's updated goals and policies. This section also reiterates applied sections of the Growth Management Act, provisions under which policies have already been developed.
- **Goals and Policies:** Goals provide guidance to the County for land use development and/or preservation, while policies direct how these goals may be accomplished.
- **Strategies for Implementation:** Strategies are descriptions of how and when certain actions will be prioritized. Many strategies are tied with budget decisions and other annual program plans. Strategies from non-County plans may be considered, adopted, or not implemented dependent on priorities and available resources. These strategies are categorized by: Projects and Programs; Partnerships; Measuring, Monitoring and Evaluation; Public Participation; and Finance and Budget.
- **Supporting Documents:** Technical documents developed and referenced for the Plan include the Buildable Lands Report, the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, and the Capital Facilities Plan. Appendix D contains tables reflecting unincorporated urban growth area targets and capacities.

The Plan emphasizes growth and future development in a sustainable manner. Kitsap County Leadership and staff have used a very inclusive approach to planning and decision-making that

clearly outlines restoration and protection of the natural environment. The Plan through Guiding Directives, Goals, Policies and Strategies demonstrates the County's deep commitment to maintaining and restoring ecosystems via habitat conservation, restoration of waterways, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The Plan also establishes broad requirements that support and encourage that a healthy environment is intact for residents now and in the future. The Plan was updated based on residential and employment targets that align with VISION 2040. Through the targeting process staff identified the housing units needed in Unincorporated Kitsap County through 2036. The Plan considers affordable housing issues for this planning period. Residential and employment targets were also identified for the County's designated regional growth center of Silverdale. More specifically the Plan addresses each of the important policy areas in VISION 2040:

- habitat protection
- water conservation
- air quality
- climate change

The Plan takes environmental protection very seriously, including the idea of the environment as an asset. The County, through the Plan, promotes environmentally sound development methods, such as low-impact landscaping. The Plan also focuses on encouraging compact urban development and includes design guidelines for mixed-use and transit-oriented development, while also prioritizing funding and investments to the Silverdale Regional Center. In the Plan the Housing and Human Services element, is committed to expanding housing production at all income levels to meet the diverse needs of current and future residents. The Plan supports an economic development element in Chapter 2 that clearly supports job creation, creating great communities, and maintaining a high quality of life. The transportation element in Chapter 5 directly recognizes the importance of cleaner and more sustainable mobility, with Goals and Policies supporting complete streets, green streets, and thoughtful design. The Plan also supports multi-modal transportation and an emphasis of moving people, not necessarily cars. The County also supports important transportation lines with coordinated transportation planning via partnerships with cities and neighboring counties, including, but not limited to level-of-service standards and concurrency provisions. The Plan also continues the County's commitment to conservation methods in the provision of public services. The Plan addresses local implementation actions in VISION 2040 in the Land Use Strategies section and references the VISION 2040 in that section as well.

## Why a Comprehensive Plan?



The Washington State Growth Management Act RCW 36.70A was implemented in 1990. The main focus was to encourage wise land use and reduce the occurrences of sprawl.

*“The legislature finds that uncoordinated and unplanned growth, together with a lack of common goals expressing the public’s interest in the conservation and the wise use of our lands, pose a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety, and high quality of life enjoyed by residents of this state. It is in the public interest that citizens, communities, local governments, and the private sector cooperate and coordinate with one another in comprehensive land use planning. Further, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest that economic development programs be shared with communities experiencing insufficient economic growth.”*

The Required elements of the Plan include Land Use, Housing, Capital Facilities, Utilities, Transportation, Rural and Economic Development. Optional Elements included in this plan are Parks and Recreation, and Environment. This Plan outlines the Kitsap County’s efforts to meet the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act in the coming 20 years.

## Comprehensive Plan 2016-2036 Vision



■ **County Government.** County government that is accountable and accessible; encourages citizen participation; seeks to operate as efficiently as possible; and works with citizens, governmental entities and tribal governments to meet collective needs fairly while respecting individual and property rights.

■ **Urban Areas.** Healthy urban areas that are the region's centers for diverse employment and housing opportunities, all levels of education, and civic and cultural activities.

■ **Rural Areas.** Rural areas and communities where unique historical characters, appearances, functions, and pioneering spirits are retained and enhanced. Natural resource activities, such as forestry, agriculture, and mining continue to contribute to the rural character and economy. Rural recreation opportunities are enhanced, including equestrian facilities, trails, and others.

■ **Economic Development.** A stable, prosperous and diversified economy that provides living wage jobs for residents, supported by adequate land for a range of employment uses and that encourages accomplishment of local economic development goals.

■ **Environment.** Natural ecosystems including interconnected wetlands, streams, wildlife habitat, and water quality that are rehabilitated, protected and enhanced and that allow for flexible and innovative development to meet environmental and growth goals. In developed areas, the growth pattern supports conservation of non-renewable energy and minimizes impacts on air quality and climate.

■ **Housing and Human Services.** Residential communities that are attractive, affordable, diverse, and livable supported by appropriate urban or rural services. A variety of housing choices are available, meeting a full range of resident income levels and preferences. Residents are able to walk or use multi-modal transportation options between neighborhoods and to community destinations. Policy guidance or program support for the county's most at-risk populations.

■ **Open Space.** An open space network – including greenbelts, wildlife habitat, forested areas, and active and passive parks – that is accessible, interconnected, provides opportunities for recreation and defines and distinguishes urban and rural areas.





■ **Transportation.** An efficient, flexible, and coordinated multi-modal transportation system – including roads, bridges and highways, ferries, transit, and non-motorized travel – that provides interconnectivity and mobility for county residents and supports our urban and rural land use pattern.

■ **Public Services and Facilities.** Public services and facilities – including, but not limited to, parks and recreation, law enforcement, fire protection, emergency preparedness, water/sewer, roads, transit, non-motorized facilities, ferries, stormwater management, education, library services, health and human services, energy, telecommunications, etc. – are provided in an efficient, high-quality and timely manner by the County and its partner agencies. Public services and facilities are monitored, maintained and enhanced to meet quality service standards.

*Would you like to be  
more involved?*



*Sign up for updates at  
<http://www.kitsapgov.com>  
You can learn about activities  
involving the County.*