

2044 Kirkland Comprehensive Plan Guiding Principles

Proposed revised for K2044 Comprehensive Plan Update-Draft 12/2023

The [Guiding Principles](#) express the fundamental goals for guiding growth and development in Kirkland over the 20-year horizon of the Comprehensive Plan. They are based on the aspirations and values embodied in the [Vision Statement](#). The principles address a wide range of topics and form the foundation of the goals and policies contained in the elements of the Comprehensive Plan. They strive to make Kirkland in 2044 an inclusive, sustainable, vibrant, and inviting place to live, work and visit. Although the [Guiding Principles](#) broadly apply to all Comprehensive Plan elements, some of the principles are more applicable to certain elements than others. The Comprehensive Plan seeks to:

LIVABLE AND WELCOMING

Promote **quality of life**, exemplified by safe, affordable, and well-maintained neighborhoods with convenient access to parks, open space, recreational facilities, the waterfront, community gathering places, excellent schools, and nearby services.

Foster an **inclusive and equitable community** where people of all income groups, stages of life, and backgrounds can live in Kirkland and feel welcomed.

Create a community that is **well-designed** and encourages growth and change while also celebrating our past.

SUSTAINABLE & RESILIENT

Protect and enhance **natural systems**, including forest land, lakes, and streams; integrate green infrastructure into urban environments; and seek to empower the community to protect the environment.

Support an **economy that is prosperous and resilient**, that empowers individuals, that attracts and nurtures human capital, that uses technology responsibly, and that provides needed infrastructure.

Ensure that City growth and services are **fiscally sustainable**.

Provide and develop collaborations with other entities to provide **health and human services** that fulfill the basic needs of all people without regard to income, age, race, gender, or ability.

Create a more **resilient community** that can withstand and prosper after natural, human, and economic disruptions.

CONNECTED

Foster an **inclusive community** through engaging community members in government, schools, civic events, and volunteer activities, creating a sense of belonging through shared values.

Create an accessible **multimodal transportation system**, with a safe, well maintained, and extensive systems of roads, bicycle routes, pedestrian paths, and transit corridors for all users that interconnect neighborhoods, business districts, parks, schools, and the region.

Support **appropriate technologies** that connect, inform, and involve residents, businesses, and visitors.

Existing 2035 Guiding Principles

Livable

Quality of life: safe and well- maintained neighborhoods with convenient access to parks, recreational facilities, the waterfront, community gathering places, excellent schools, and nearby services.

Diverse and Affordable: neighborhoods containing homes and businesses for a variety of incomes, ages and life- styles.

Community Design: High quality and attractive architectural design and landscaping, and preservation of historic buildings and sites.

Sustainable

Ecological: natural systems and built structures that protect and enhance habitats, create a healthy environment, address climate change and promote energy efficiency.

Economic: a vibrant economy offering choices in living wage jobs, businesses, services, and entertainment throughout the community.

Social: social and health services, that fulfill the basic needs of all people without regards to age, income, race, age, gender, or ability.

Connected

Sense of Community: community involvement in government, schools, civic events, and volunteer activities creating a sense of belonging through shared values.

Accessible: safe, well maintained and extensive systems of roads, bicycle routes, pedestrian paths, and transit corridors for all users that interconnect neighborhoods, and connect to the region.

Technology: reliable, efficient, and complete systems for residents and businesses to be connected, informed, and involved.