



City of Kirkland
Planning and Building
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MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission

From: Scott Guter, AICP, Senior Planner
Allison Zike, AICP, Deputy Planning & Building Director
Adam Weinstein, AICP, Planning & Building Director

Date: July 25, 2024

Subject: **2044 Comprehensive Plan - Housing Element Briefing #3, File No. CAM22-00023**

Recommendation

Receive a third briefing and hold a study session to discuss draft revisions to the Housing Element (see Attachment 1) and draft Housing Inventory and Analysis (see Attachment 2). Provide staff with direction to continue preparing the draft 2044 Comprehensive Plan Housing Element.

The PC should focus on the below questions for discussion while reviewing the memorandum and attachments:

1. Do Commissioners have any questions or feedback about any revisions to Housing Element goals and policies (identified with strikethrough and underline text)?
2. Is there any additional information that Commissioners would find helpful for staff to provide prior to the Housing Element public hearing on September 26, 2024?

Background

The City of Kirkland is in the process of conducting a major update of the existing Kirkland Comprehensive Plan¹ (Plan) adopted in 2015 for a planning horizon of 2035. The Plan is the primary citywide guide for how the community should evolve over the next twenty years (new horizon year of 2044) in terms of land use, transportation, and public facilities and services necessary to support expected growth. The Plan also includes goals and policies for how the City addresses housing, human services, sustainability, economic development, parks, open spaces, and other topics.

The K2044 Comprehensive Plan project webpage² has information to help the community learn more about the K2044 update. The webpage includes a landing page for key topic areas including: draft goals and policies for each Element; basic information about the Plan update; past staff presentations and memorandums; information on the

¹ <https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Kirkland/?html/KirklandZNT.html>

² <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Departments/Planning-and-Building/Planning-Projects/Kirkland-2044-Comprehensive-Plan-Update>

neighborhood plan updates; and a community engagement page detailing how to get involved in the process and how to submit comments.

Housing Element Update

The Planning Commission (PC) has discussed the Housing Element at their September 28, 2023³, February 22, 2024⁴, March 28, 2024⁵ meetings, and at the May 3, 2024 joint City Council (Council)/PC retreat. During these meetings staff provided background information on State-mandated updates to the Housing Element, the housing data gathered at that time, and the public feedback staff received during outreach and engagement activities. Staff also presented and received feedback from the PC on draft Housing Element goals and policies. This feedback together with information obtained from the draft Housing Inventory & Analysis, as well as feedback from A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) staff on draft housing goals and policies, has been incorporated into the draft Housing Element.

During the August 8 PC meeting, staff will brief the PC on the draft Housing Element, draft Housing Inventory and Analysis, and staff's recommended housing-focused implementation strategies.

Next Steps

A PC public hearing on the Housing Element amendments is scheduled for September 26, 2024. Prior to the hearing, the City will receive feedback on the draft Housing Element from King County's Affordable Housing Committee⁶ (AHC). AHC will discuss Kirkland's Housing Element at their September 5, 2024 meeting. Staff will also present the draft Housing Element to Council⁷ at their September 17, 2024 meeting. Staff will work on incorporating feedback from PC, AHC, and Council to finalize the Housing Element prior to the public hearing.

Attachments

1. Draft Housing Element
2. Draft Housing Inventory and Analysis

³ <https://kirklandwa.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=529>

⁴ <https://kirklandwa.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=895>

⁵ <https://kirklandwa.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=1111>

⁶ <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dchs/about-king-county/about-dchs/boards-task-forces-forums-more/affordable-housing-committee>

⁷ <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/City-Council>