

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 20, 2023

TO: Burien 2044 Advisory Committee
Jeff Watson, Interim Community Development Director
Alex Hunt, Senior Planner
Michele Barrera, Administrative Assistant

FROM: Lisa Grueter, Principal, BERK Consulting

RE: Burien Comprehensive Plan Update - Early Draft

Dear Burien 2044 Advisory Committee Members,

Attached is an early draft of the Burien 2044 Comprehensive Plan for your review. Because it is a Comprehensive Plan it covers a lot of subjects. It addresses the community's current and future quality of life, and is meant to consider a 2044 horizon year.

Developing the Early Draft Plan

Work on the Comprehensive Plan Update began with an audit of the current Comprehensive Plan by the consultant team. We reviewed the plan for consistency with the Growth Management Act, VISION 2050, and Countywide Planning Policies. You will find links to these planning frameworks on your meeting agenda.

Community engagement has also shaped the early draft elements including surveys, workshops, open houses, and events, shared at the Shape Your City site: <https://connect.burienwa.gov/projects/shape-your-city/>.

The early draft policy updates integrate the work of the Burien 2044 Advisory Committee on the vision and values guiding the plan, land use and growth alternatives formulation, evaluation of housing and racially disparate impacts, options for new housing choices including middle housing, and climate resilience strategies. See the Advisory Committee agendas and materials that helped us build elements available, here: <https://connect.burienwa.gov/burien-2044-advisory-committee-to-guide-comprehensive-plan-update/>.

The work of other Burien appointed Commissions and Departments is also incorporated or anticipated.

- The Human Services Commission has reviewed the early draft Human Services Element, and will give more input on strategies and metrics in coming weeks.
- The Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will provide a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan. See: <https://connect.burienwa.gov/projects/parks-recreation-and-open-space-plan-update/>.

- The Public Works Department and consultant Fehr &Peers is developing the Transportation Master Plan (TMP). See: <https://connect.burienwa.gov/projects/transportation-master-plan/>.

A list of the elements is provided below. New or pending elements are noted.

Exhibit 1. Burien 2044 Comprehensive Plan: Proposed Structure

Elements	Sub-Headings
Chapters	In each element:
0 Vision & Plan Introduction (new)	▪ Our [Element] Vision
1 Equity	▪ Introduction
2 Land Use	▪ Conditions & Trends
3 Transportation (pending)	▪ Our [Element] Plan
4 Housing	▪ Goals & Policies
5 Human Services (new)	▪ Implementation
6 Economic Development	
7 Community Health and Wellbeing (partially new)	
8 Sustainability & Natural Environment	
9 Climate Change & Resiliency (new)	
10 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (pending)	
11 Utilities	
12 Capital Facilities	

Important components of each element are policies that help fulfill goals. Regulations are typically laws and codes that implement policies.

- ▶ **Goal:** A broad, general statement of the desired long-term future state or outcome, toward which the Plan aims. Goals indicate what ought to exist in a community or what is desired to be achieved in the future.
- ▶ **Policy:** A principle, protocol, or proposal for action that implements a related goal. Decision-oriented statements that guide the legislative or administrative body while evaluating a new project or proposed change in ordinance.
- ▶ **Regulation:** A rule or directive found in City ordinances or the municipal code.

Reference is made to the current/amended policy numbers, or if goals or policies are new.

Because the City is expected to prepare a 5-year monitoring report, objectives and metrics are included with each element focusing on equity and climate resilience.

Advisory Committee Review and Next Steps

We would appreciate your initial thoughts on the elements/policies including:

- Most compelling or important policies for the community's needs.
- Policies that could be improved.

- Topics that are missing.
- Confusing language.

This will be a great opportunity to provide early input, and all questions and ideas are welcomed.

This fall, the City intends to issue a full public draft Comprehensive Plan and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement that will test some of the ideas (e.g., Land Use Alternatives, growth targets, and needed services and infrastructure). The public will be asked to weigh in during a 45-day comment period. We anticipate events and opportunities to share the early draft plan. The Advisory Committee would then meet at your last scheduled meeting on January 24, 2024 to make recommendations.