



# Bellevue Planning Commission

June 10, 2026

## PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

### SUBJECT

Final Review of Transportation Element Conformance Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA)

### STAFF CONTACTS

Thara Johnson, Planning Director, 452-4087

Kate Nesse, PhD, Comprehensive Planning Manager, 452-2042

Teun Deuling, AICP, Senior Planner, 229-6534

*Community Development Department*

Kevin McDonald, AICP, Principal Transportation Planner, 452-4558

*Transportation Department*

### POLICY ISSUES

The proposed city-initiated amendment seeks to incorporate limited amendments to the Transportation Element to ensure conformance between the Comprehensive Plan and specific functional plans (Mobility Implementation Plan and Transportation Facilities Plan), reflecting recent updates to those plans.

### DIRECTION NEEDED FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

#### ACTION



#### DIRECTION



#### INFORMATION ONLY



1. Review the Transportation Commission's recommendation to amend the Comprehensive Plan's Transportation Element to achieve consistency with the recently adopted Mobility Implementation Plan (MIP) and Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP).
2. Direct staff to hold a public hearing for the Final Review.

Staff requests the Planning Commission to direct staff to set a public hearing date for the Transportation Conformance CPA.

### BACKGROUND

The Comprehensive Plan may be amended no more frequently than once every year under the state Growth Management Act (GMA). Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan may be initiated by the city or by private individuals. Pursuant to the GMA, the Bellevue City Code at Part 20.30I LUC permits the City Council to initiate CPAs at any time and provides a one-step process for review (Final Review) by the

Planning Commission and consideration for approval by Council. See **Attachment A** for the complete text of the Final Review Decision Criteria as set forth in LUC 20.301.150.

Once initiated, Council sends the proposed CPA to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation. Council considers the recommendation of the Planning Commission and takes action to adopt (or not adopt) the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

The City Council initiated the CPA on March 10 to incorporate amendments to the Transportation Element, as part of the 2026 work program.

### **Transportation Element Conformance CPA**

The proposed city-initiated amendment seeks to incorporate limited amendments to the Transportation Element to ensure conformance between the Comprehensive Plan and specific functional plans, reflecting recent updates to those plans.

On November 25, 2025, the City Council adopted both the Mobility Implementation Plan (MIP) 2025 Update, incorporating and also superseding the 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan, and the 2026-2045 Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP). As noted in the agenda materials for that meeting, the Transportation Department would initiate and recommend a conformance amendment to the Comprehensive Plan in 2026 following the adoption of the 2025 update. As the 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan is now fully incorporated into the MIP, which is the document that includes all mobility options (including walking and bicycling) within the city, the proposed conformance amendments seek to amend policy TR-96 and to delete non-policy narrative references to the 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan in the Comprehensive Plan. The MIP is already fully incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

On November 25, 2025, City Council also adopted the 2026-2045 TFP, extending its timespan from 12 to 20 years. The TFP serves as the city's intermediate-range, transportation capital facility planning document and functions as a bridge between the MIP, long-range facility plans, modal plans, and the 5 funded projects in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Plan. The proposed conformance amendments seek to amend non-policy narrative references in the Transportation Element to the prior 12-year TFP timespan.

### Transportation Commission Recommendation

The Transportation Commission reviewed the staff recommended policy and narrative amendments to the Transportation Element on March 12. On May 14, the Transportation Commission recommended the proposed amendments and approved a transmittal memo to the Planning Commission. See **Attachment B** for the Transportation Commission's transmittal memo, including a strike-draft of the recommended Transportation Element amendments.

### Staff Recommendation

In addition to the Transportation Element amendments recommended by the Transportation Commission, staff recommend removing additional references to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan elsewhere in the Comprehensive Plan (see **Attachment C**).

**NEXT STEPS**

Staff will incorporate Planning Commission direction into the staff report that will be prepared for the Final Review public hearing (tentatively scheduled for July 22).

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Final Review Decision Criteria (LUC 20.30I.150)
- B. Transportation Commission Transmittal Memo
- C. Strike-draft Complementary Comprehensive Plan Amendments