



Environmental Services Commission

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Date: March 7, 2024

To: Planning Commission

From: Environmental Services Commission

Subject: Transmittal of Recommended Utilities Element Policies for
Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

On March 7, 2024, the Environmental Services Commission approved recommended Utilities element policy amendments for the Comprehensive Plan as part of the Periodic Update directed by the Washington Growth Management Act (GMA) and voted to transmit the recommendation to the Planning Commission.

Staff from the Community Development Department and the Utilities Department met in study session with the Environmental Services Commission on the following dates:

- **April 7, 2022:** Reviewed scope of update to the Utilities element for city-managed utilities.
- **September 15, 2022:** Reviewed an overview of major changes expected in the Utilities element for city-managed utilities.
- **November 3, 2022:** Reviewed and discussed preliminary updates to the policies in the Utilities element.
- **February 1, 2024:** Reviewed and discussed updates to draft Utilities element policy amendments based on additional analysis.
- **March 7, 2024:** Reviewed and made final recommendation for policies in the Utilities element of the Comprehensive Plan. Transmittal to the Planning Commission.

Utilities element policies provide direction for both city-managed utilities planning and investments and guidance for working with partner agencies on non-city managed utilities. The Environmental Services Commission's mandate extends only to the city-managed utilities therefore the Commission reviewed only the first 44 policies in the Utilities element related to City-managed utilities. Recommended Utilities element policies support the planning and implementation of water, storm and surface water, wastewater, and hazardous and solid waste collection. The Commission has heard from a variety of stakeholders through the City's outreach efforts. The Environmental Services Commission believes that the recommended Utilities element policies will serve as a valuable framework to inform the planning, design and development of utility services and facilities in the City for decades to come.