

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### **SUBJECT**

Resolution ratifying an amendment to the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact on the City of Bellevue.

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Dan Stroh, Planning Director, 452-5255

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*Planning and Community Development Department*

### **POLICY CONSIDERATION**

Should Bellevue ratify the proposed amendment to the Countywide Planning Policies described above and as recommended by the Growth Management Planning Council and approved by the King County Council?

*Bellevue Comprehensive Plan* policy HO-24 expresses the City's support for developing and implementing an effective strategy to ensure affordable housing opportunities are available in Downtown and throughout the city at a range of affordability levels. Further, *Economic Development Plan* Strategy E.1 calls for developing a City-wide strategy to expand workforce housing options by exploring all manner of tools, including a multifamily tax exemption program, a revolving fund for transit-oriented development, zoning changes, and other options.

### **DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL**

    X     Action

### **BACKGROUND**

Council received a briefing on the proposed amendment to the Countywide Planning Policies at the Study Session on June 13, 2016, and directed staff to prepare a Resolution ratifying the amendments for the June 20, 2016 Consent Calendar. The attached Resolution ratifies the proposed amendment described briefly below. The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) recommended approval of the amendment on November 6, 2015. Councilmember Robertson is Bellevue's GMPC representative.

The amendment to King County Countywide Planning Policy H-8 provides additional policy support for a broad range of possible actions (voluntary or mandatory) that jurisdictions could consider and employ in order to provide more affordable housing. The language does not require jurisdictions to take any specific actions to provide affordable housing. The amended language would support many of the potential actions being considered by the Technical Advisory Group working on Bellevue's Affordable Housing Strategy. A list of potential actions is scheduled to be presented to City Council next month for consideration prior to analyzing the efficacy of those potential actions.

The King County Council approved and ratified the amendments on behalf of unincorporated King County on March 14, 2016. For the amendments to be adopted they must be ratified by at least 30% of city and county governments representing 70% of the population of King County within 90 days of

approval by the King County Council. The 90-day deadline for action on this amendment is June 25, 2016. No action is deemed to be the same as an affirmative vote to ratify. Cities are not allowed to modify the proposal as part of their ratification process.

As noted above, *Bellevue Comprehensive Plan* policy HO-24 and *Economic Development Plan* Strategy E.1 express the City's support for and consistency with the Countywide Planning Policy amendment. Staff briefed the Council on the proposed amendment at the City Council Study Session on June 13, 2016. Council directed staff to prepare Resolution No. 9113 (Attachment 1) for ratification of the proposed amendment as a consent item on the June 20, 2016 Consent Calendar.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

If approved, this Resolution becomes effective immediately upon Council adoption.

#### **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Resolution ratifying the proposed amendment to the King County Countywide Planning Policies to address strategies for providing affordable housing.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1.

#### **MOTION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9113 ratifying an amendment to the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

Proposed Resolution No. 9113.