

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution ratifying a proposed amendment to the King County Countywide Planning Policies that outlines best practice guidelines that jurisdictions may take to facilitate the development and renovation of public schools by establishing these guidelines for city/county/school district collaboration in school siting within the Urban Growth Area.

Emil King AICP, Assistant Director, 452-7223
Nicholas Matz AICP, Senior Planner, 452-5371
Community Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution ratifies an amendment to the King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPP) that was recommended for ratification by the Growth Management Planning Council and adopted by ordinance by the King County Council. The amendment outlines best practice guidelines that jurisdictions can take to facilitate the development and renovation of public schools by establishing these guidelines for city/county/school district collaboration in school siting within the Urban Growth Area (UGA).

The City Council traditionally considers these amendments and votes on whether or not to ratify within the required 90-day period, which ends January 23.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9714

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

At the January 13 Study Session, the City Council was presented with a Management Brief on this proposed amendment and directed staff to present a resolution for ratification on tonight's consent agenda.

The Growth Management Planning Council unanimously approved Motion 18-1 at their May 30, 2018 meeting. The King County Council subsequently adopted this amendment adding these guidelines to school siting policies PF-18, PF-19, and PF-19a to the CPP. See Attachment A.

The ordinance adopted by King County adds ten best practices for the county and cities to work together with school districts to build new schools and school facilities within the UGA. These best practices recommendations came about because of policies adopted in 2012 regarding school siting and development, following sustained levels of growth countywide in King County. These levels of growth necessitated addressing where schools were locating, and the provision of urban services to those location decisions.

This amendment work has been accomplished through a planning process called for in CPP PF-19a to cooperatively work with each school district to evaluate their ability to site school facilities necessary to meet identified school capacity needs. The involvement to date for Bellevue and the Bellevue School District has been through annual assessments (called "PF-19a meetings") between districts and

jurisdictions in King County. Previous annual assessments were done in 2016 and 2018. The next will be presented in 2020.

It is noteworthy that including these best practices is a continuation of CPP work regarding school siting issues that started in 2011 with the county Schools Siting Task Force and culminated in the 2015 CPP amendment adding Policy PF-19a. The City Council ratified this 2015 CPP amendment, and ratification action tonight is, using the CPPs for guidance, a continuation of that school siting work.

Much of what is recommended in these best practices is already done by Bellevue through its longstanding planning and project review partnerships with the Bellevue School District and with Issaquah, Renton, and Lake Washington school districts. Therefore, Bellevue staff recommends the City Council ratify the proposed CPP amendment, endorsing actions that King County and its cities can take to collaboratively facilitate the development and renovation of public schools within the UGA. See Attachment B.

The King County Council approved and ratified the amendment on behalf of unincorporated King County on October 9, 2019. For the amendments to be adopted it must be ratified by at least 30 percent of city and county governments representing 70 percent of the population of King County within 90 days of the approval by the King County Council, or by January 23, 2020. King County transmitted the amendment to the City for legislative action in a letter dated October 25, 2019.

Under the provisions of the CPP, cities in King County have 90 days to take formal action to either ratify or disapprove the amendment. No action is deemed to be the same as ratification. Cities are not allowed to modify the proposals as part of the ratification process.

This amendment does not establish any mandates that flow from implementation. Bellevue does not need to take any actions in furtherance of this ratification action. As annotated in Attachment B, Bellevue already has effective relationships with school districts in the City, in furtherance of countywide planning policy.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue Comprehensive Plan

Policy LU-4 expresses the City's support for and consistency with Growth Management Act goals, the regional Vision 2040, and the King County CPP.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact on the City of Bellevue.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution ratifying a proposed amendment to the King County Countywide Planning Policies that outlines best practice guidelines that jurisdictions may take to facilitate the development and renovation of public schools by establishing these guidelines for city/county/school district collaboration in school siting within the Urban Growth Area.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

- A. Correspondence from King County regarding ratification, including King County Council and Growth Management Planning Council motions and staff reports.
- B. A short list of the ten best practices contained in the ordinance approval, annotated with an assessment of how they are or could be implemented now by Bellevue.

Proposed Resolution No. 9714

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A