



2024 Comprehensive Plan Update Public Participation Plan

INTRODUCTION

The City of Marysville is currently beginning the periodic review and update of its comprehensive plan as required by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) (RCW [36.70A.130\(5\)](#)). The GMA requires that Snohomish County and its cities periodically review and amend their comprehensive plans to ensure consistency with GMA requirements.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT

The Growth Management Act (GMA) is a series of state statutes, first adopted in 1990, that requires fast-growing cities and counties to develop a comprehensive plan to manage their population growth. It is primarily codified under [Chapter 36.70A RCW](#), although it has been amended and added to in several other parts of the RCW. The core purpose of the GMA is to direct growth to designated Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) in order to more efficiently provide public services and facilities, minimize urban sprawl, and preserve and protect natural resources, farmland, and sensitive areas. Growth is required to be managed through counties and cities designating urban growth areas, identifying and protecting critical areas and natural resource lands, preparing comprehensive plans, and implementing them through capital investments and development regulations.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Comprehensive Plan is the City of Marysville's 20 year plan to accommodate growth. The Plan covers the City's vision for growth, land use, housing, environment, economic development, transportation, parks and recreation, utilities, public facilities and services, and capital facilities. The City's most recent periodic Comprehensive Plan update was in 2015.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS AND UPDATES

The GMA requires that cities and counties update their Comprehensive Plans every eight years. During the update, population and employment growth forecasts are amended to align with State and county projections; existing policies are reviewed and new policies are developed to ensure that they are still relevant and reflect the community's vision; and updates occur to align with federal, state and local requirements. The Comprehensive Plan update will include population and employment growth projections for the next 20 years (through 2044). The Comprehensive Plan update must be completed by December 30, 2024.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

The City of Marysville will engage and inform residents, businesses, and other community members throughout the Comprehensive Plan update process as outlined in this document. The periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan is needed in order to provide new employment and growth projections, plan for utilities and transportation improvements to accommodate the anticipated growth, ensure compliance with new or amended laws and regional guidance, and amend or craft policies to advance local needs,

and correct errors, as necessary. The Comprehensive Plan update efforts began in spring 2022 and are projected to be completed by June 2024 although the deadline has been extended to December 30, 2024.

The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) [36.70A.130](#) requires counties and cities to establish and broadly disseminate a public participation plan consistent with RCW [36.70A.035](#) and [36.70A.140](#) that identifies procedures and schedules whereby updates of the comprehensive plan are considered by the governing body of the county or city. The City of Marysville's Public Participation Plan outlines the measures to engage the community throughout the 2024 Comprehensive Plan update process. Since the update will be ongoing through 2024, modifications to this plan may be issued, and will be available on the [project website](#).

Public participation is an important aspect of the Comprehensive Plan update. This Public Participation Plan endeavors to achieve the following:

- Inform the public about: the update, opportunities to review amendments and provide feedback, and the adoption process;
- Provide a central location for project information;
- Obtain feedback from diverse perspectives, and engage with all segments of the community including: citizens, property owners, neighboring jurisdictions and tribes, community groups, underserved or underrepresented groups, and other stakeholders;
- Offer a variety of opportunities to participate throughout the process, have comments considered, and incorporate comments as appropriate; and
- Promote continuous participation and engagement throughout the process, and integrate feedback prior to formal decision-making.

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

The following communication tools will be used to inform the public about the opportunity to comment, and to encourage participation.

- **Website:** The City's website hosts a page for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update that will include status updates, notices, documents, and other project information. This webpage is available at the following link: [project website](#). The work plan, and amendments to it, will be posted on the website.
- **Email Distribution List:** An email distribution list of interested parties has been created. Those on the email distribution list will receive notices regarding upcoming meetings, when review materials are available, and at other key steps in the process. Interested parties can request to be added to the email distribution list by emailing Marysville2044@marysvillewa.gov or calling Angela Gemmer, Senior Planner – Long Range, at 360.363.8240.
- **Social Media:** Social media will be used to provide project updates and obtain feedback from the public. Most social media will direct the public back to the [Comprehensive Plan update page](#).
- **Press Releases:** Press releases will be issued as necessary to let the public know about the Comprehensive Plan update, when key documents are available, and when important meetings or hearings will be conducted.
- **Notices and Informational Posters:** Public notices will be posted for environmental determinations, in advance of the public hearing, etc., and informational posters may be posted, as needed. Notices and posters are anticipated to be posted at City Hall, the public library, post offices, in the Herald, and other community locations as appropriate.

Written Comment: The City welcomes written comments by email or letter. Public comments will be provided to Planning Commission and City Council.

- **Email comments** should be sent to: Marysville2044@marysvillewa.gov.
- **Written comments** should be sent to: Haylie Miller, Community Development Director, Community Development Department, 80 Columbia Avenue, Marysville, WA 98270. Please note that Community Development will be moving to the new Civic Campus soon. Please check our project webpage for updates on the status of the move. Once at the Civic Campus, correspondence should be sent to: Haylie Miller, Community Development Director, Community Development Department, 501 Delta Avenue, Marysville, WA 98270.

OUTREACH EFFORTS

- **Survey(s):** Surveys are a great way to obtain feedback from the entire community, and to include those that are unable to attend meetings. Online surveys are anticipated to be conducted quarterly. Community Development will work with the City's communications team to advertise the surveys through the homepage on the City's webpage, the Comprehensive Plan update webpage, press releases, social media, city publications, and email notices.
- **Story Maps/ Social Pinpoint:** The 2024 Comprehensive Plan update is expected to use interactive story maps from Social Pinpoint that will be linked to the project website. More information on Social Pinpoint is available [here](#). These maps will show key areas of the City using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) that allow the public to provide comments on the map for plan alternatives, different land use scenarios, and other concepts. This a great way for the public to share feedback in a clear and compelling way that will be helpful to decision-makers.
- **Community Group Presentations:** City staff may reach out to different community groups and stakeholders to brief them on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan update, obtain feedback, or provide presentations on topics of interest.
- **Stakeholder Outreach:** Staff will reach out to tribal entities, neighboring jurisdictions, community groups, and other interested parties as needed.
- **Community Events:** Staff may conduct outreach activities at community events and activities that are occurring within the City.
- **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on Comprehensive Plan amendments, zoning code amendments, and other land use issues. The Planning Commission will be briefed on, discuss, and consider the various amendments to the Plan that are proposed, and ultimately make a recommendation to City Council. All Planning Commission meetings are open to the public and members of the community are welcome to attend.
- **Public Hearings:** A public hearing(s) will be conducted by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council for consideration and action. The Public Hearing will provide an opportunity for both verbal and written public testimony.
- **City Council:** The City Council will be briefed periodically on the Comprehensive Plan update as it progresses, and feedback will be solicited as necessary. After a public hearing, the Planning Commission's recommendation on the Comprehensive Plan will be provided to the City Council. City Council will review the recommendation at a public work session, and take action on the recommendation at a City Council meeting.