



PROJECT PRINCIPLES

Forming our Future – Updating the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan captures the community’s Vision for the future. It directs how the city will grow and change over the next twenty years, and it guides city actions and investments. With the last major update adopted in 2004, this update will comprehensively assess the Comprehensive Plan according to the following project principles:

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| Remain relevant to our community | Ensure that community values and priorities are the foundation for the plan and reinforce the Comprehensive Plan as the entire community’s vision for how Bellevue will grow and evolve to meet the needs and opportunities of the future. |
| Advance the community Vision | The new Comprehensive Plan will look to the future to the year 2035 and should be evaluated to ensure that it is appropriate for our changing community. |
| Address the needs of a more diverse community | Ensure that the plan continues to be relevant for the needs of all aspects of the community, including the young and old, disadvantaged and those from diverse backgrounds. |
| Engage the entire community in the update process | The update process will engage the community, including a wide range of stakeholders, neighborhood groups, businesses, and other agencies. Recognizing the increasing diversity of the community and the need to include all perspectives, outreach will include innovative practices. |
| Use the current plan as the foundation for the update | The current Comprehensive Plan serves the city well and is based on a vision first established decades ago. The update will build off the current plan that focuses growth in Downtown and other commercial centers while preserving key aspects of community character and enhancing quality of life. |

Address emerging issues

The update provides the opportunity to consider new, emerging issues that have arisen since 2004, such as:

- New economic development strategies stemming from the City Council's retreat, and the update of the Regional Economic Strategy
- The City's adopted Environmental Stewardship Initiative, and further information about the environment
- Growing understanding of the role land use and transportation patterns play in public health

Increase the plan's accessibility, usability

This update will look for ways to make the document more accessible to the public and relevant to City actions. This may include reducing the number of policies and using clear, straight forward language to make the plan easier to read. New technology tools give us an opportunity to make an electronic version of the document more accessible on-line.

Meet our state and regional requirements

The plan will be assessed for consistency with changes to the state Growth Management Act, the Regional Plan (Vision 2040), and the Countywide Planning Policies.

Connect to implementation strategies

To be effective, the City's plan for the future needs to connect to City actions, such as the Land Use Code, Capital Improvement Program, and other implementation strategies.

Measure progress and success

Over time, the City will measure progress in meeting the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and acknowledge successes in working toward the community's Vision.