

Snohomish County Tomorrow

A GROWTH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL



Goal Statement

Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) conducts the collaborative process which the jurisdictions and the county have agreed upon under the Growth Management Act (GMA).ⁱ SCT serves as the forum under GMA to develop and recommend growth management policies to the County Council. SCT's primary function is to develop and update the Countywide Planning Policies to ensure that county and city comprehensive plans are consistent,ⁱⁱ and that there is coordination in provision of services as well as in the implementation of GMA goals and the VISION 2040 Multicounty Planning Policies.ⁱⁱⁱ SCT's forum provides opportunities for Snohomish County jurisdictions to work together to solve problems that may arise between them. The goal for Snohomish County, the cities and the Tribes in Snohomish County is to partner and work together for the betterment of all citizens in Snohomish County and the region.

The ultimate outcome of this process is to:

1. Maintain and use more efficiently the existing urban areas represented by each jurisdiction's comprehensive plan;
2. Identify and maintain permanent rural, forestry, and agricultural areas;
3. Emphasize natural resource preservation and the enhancement of natural resource-based industries;
4. Protect the natural environment including the air and water, wildlife, fish, and plant habitat, scenic vistas, wetlands and woodlands, and preserve biological diversity;
5. Accommodate sustainable growth by:
 - a. Concentrating growth in compact urban areas – minimizing the costs of providing urban services;
 - b. Providing a park system with a variety of opportunities;
 - c. Ensuring a wide range of housing for a growing and diverse population;
 - d. Co-locating jobs and housing;
 - e. Minimizing sprawl and urban expansion into rural and natural lands;
 - f. Providing a transportation system of many modes that moves people safely and quickly;
 - g. Reinforcing local governments' land use planning;
 - h. Optimizing existing roads, ports and other corridors in order to minimize construction of new ones;
 - i. Implementing economic development in a manner that supports quality of life, economic diversity and growth management strategy;
 - j. Strengthening and expanding educational, cultural and civic resources;

- k. Promoting and coordinating the efficient delivery of urban services through interjurisdictional compacts, interlocal agreements and working relationships; and
- l. Maintaining flexibility to respond to changing conditions affecting transportation, parks, housing, employment, utilities, public safety, and educational services.

ⁱ “...the legislative authority of each county ... shall convene a meeting with representatives of each city located within the county for the purpose of establishing a collaborative process that will provide a framework for the adoption of a countywide planning policy...”(RCW 36.70A.210 (2) (a))

ⁱⁱ The comprehensive plan of each county or city that is adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 shall be coordinated with, and consistent with, the comprehensive plans adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 of other counties or cities with which the county or city has, in part, common borders or related regional issues (RCW 36.70A.100).

ⁱⁱⁱ MPP-G-1: Coordinate planning efforts among jurisdictions, agencies and federally recognized Indian tribes where there are common borders or related regional issues, to facilitate a common vision.