

Vision Statement

Adopted: June 28, 2017

SCT Effectively Cooperates, Collaborates, and Communicates with Snohomish County Government its Cities and Tribes in addition to other regional governments in an effort towards creating and implementing a positive regional vision.

SCT serves as a Partner and Advisor with local and regional governments and the tribes on crucial issues affecting our community including:

- Implementation of the Growth Management Act (primary function)
 - Buildable Lands
 - Growth Targets
 - Annexations Principles
 - Countywide Planning Policies
- Transportation system planning and operations (including funding the system, managing congestion and maintaining concurrency, and supporting an integrated mass transportation system tying East/West and North/South)
- Housing affordability/Options and Homelessness
- Economic development
- Capital facilities, schools, parks ...
- Adequate state and local funding to address all of these issues

Because of its deep-seated commitment to cooperation and collaboration on these issues, SCT is recognized as one of the most effective regional leaders addressing state and regional growth management issues

Mission Statement

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Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) serves as the forum under GMA, collaborating with Snohomish County Council and government, its cities, the Tribes and the citizens of Snohomish County (through their elected representatives), to develop consensus and recommendations on growth management policies to the County Council. ¹

SCT's primary function is to develop and update the Countywide Planning Policies to ensure that county and city comprehensive plans are consistent,² 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.³ This function includes production of high quality growth and transportation analyses and reporting, housing data and analyses, and federal transportation funding prioritization.

SCT's forum provides opportunities, also, for Snohomish County jurisdictions to collaborate in countywide dialogue among jurisdictions and regional organizations on difficult land use, growth and other related issues. Through this collaboration SCT members jointly develop positions in order to build consensus and advocate for the county, thereby increasing their influence on countywide issues. The forum is the tool, also, for improving communication and outreach to the cities, Tribes and communities of Snohomish County.

The ultimate outcome is to:

1. Maintain and use more efficiently the existing urban areas;
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;

¹ "...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))

² 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).

³ 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.

- 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 coordination of annexations, interjurisdictional compacts, interlocal agreements and any additional working relationships; and
- l. Maintaining flexibility to respond to changing conditions affecting transportation, parks, housing, employment, utilities, public safety, and educational services.