



PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA

Regular Meeting Date: 10/06/2021

BY REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

JOIN HERE <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87045708441>

Meeting ID: 891 0227 3979 +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

- **CALL TO ORDER 6:00pm**
Pledge of Allegiance
- **ROLL CALL**
- **GUEST BUSINESS**
- **ACTION ITEMS**
 1. Approve minutes for 09-15-2021
- **PUBLIC HEARING Non-Conforming** Senior Planner Place
- ***Public hearing presentation will follow the public hearing format listed below:***

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING FORMAT

1. **Staff Presentation**
2. **Commission's questions for staff**
3. **Public comments**
4. **Close public comments portion of hearing by motion**
5. **Close Hearing by motion**
6. **COMMISSION ACTION BY MOTION—Recommendation to Council**
 - A. **Approve**
 - B. **Deny**
 - C. **Continue**

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. **Briefing: Comprehensive Plan Update** Planning Manager Levitan

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ADJOURN

SPECIAL NEEDS

The City of Lake Stevens strives to provide accessible opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Please contact City of Lake Stevens ADA Coordinator, at (425) 622-9419 at least five business days prior to any City meeting or event if any accommodations are needed. For TDD users, please use the state's toll-free relay service.

Planning Commission
Meeting:

First Wednesday of every
Month @ 6:00pm

Planning & Community
Development Department

1812 Main Street
Lake Stevens, WA 98258
(425) 622-9430

www.lakestevenswa.gov

Municipal Code

Available online:

www.codepublishing.com/WA/LakeStevens/

*Items attached

**Items previously
distributed

Items to be
distributed

PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES



REMOTE PARTICIPATION

09-15-2021

CALL TO ORDER:	6:00 pm by Vice Chair Todd Welch
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mike Duerr, Janice Huxford, Vicki Oslund, Linda Hoult
MEMBERS ABSENT:	John Cronin and Jennifer Davis
STAFF PRESENT:	Community Development Director Wright, Planning Manager David Levitan, Senior Planner Place, Assistant Planner Jill Needham and Clerk Jennie Fenrich
OTHERS PRESENT:	Councilmember Steve Ewing

Vice-Chair Welch called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: All present except Chair John Cronin and Commissioner Davis. Commissioner Hoult moved and Commissioner Duerr seconded to excuse their absences. Motion approved. 5-0-0-2.

Guest business: None.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of 09/15/2021 were approved with one correction 5-0-0-2.

Public Hearing on Impact Fees. (LUA2021-0136)

Vice Chair Welch opened the public hearing for LUA2021-0136, a land use code amendment involving proposed changes to LSMC 14.40 (Permissible Uses), LSMC 14.44 (Supplementary Use Regulations), and other associated chapters. Planning Manager gave a brief presentation on the scope and history of the proposal, which had been discussed and reviewed during seven Commission work sessions. He noted that the proposal met all noticing and SEPA requirements as well as the required decision criteria in LSMC 14.16C.075. No public comment was provided. Following a brief discussion and deliberation, Commissioner Duerr made a motion for the Commission to forward a recommendation to City Council to approve LUA2021-0136. Commissioner Huxford seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0-2 (Cronin and Davis absent). The Commission's recommendation will now be considered by the City Council during a October 12, 2021 public hearing.

(5-0-0-2).

Discussion Items

Non-Conforming Code (LSMC 14.32): Commissioners held their third work session on proposed amendments to LSMC Chapter 14.32 (Nonconforming Situations). Senior Planner Place highlighted a number of minor changes that had been made since the previous work session on August 18. Commissioners expressed their support for a 75% improvement value threshold for replacing nonconforming structures that have been destroyed. At the conclusion of the work session, commissioners instructed staff to schedule the public hearing for October 6, 2021.

Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Hoult inquired as to when the Commission may have in person or hybrid meetings. Commissioner Huxford thanked the City for getting the speed signs installed in the newly annexed area. She also reported there is foul odor coming from the new sewer lift station and asked what the process for odor complaints and if the odor issues would be addressed by the proposed amendments to the supplementary use regulations (LSMC 14.44). Commissioner Welch thanked Director Wright for the great staff reports submitted by planning staff.

Community Development Director: Director Wright provided a Powerpoint presentation on growth and development in the city, which included updated demographic information, an overview of recent residential/commercial growth and development trends, and a summary of recent/current work with the county to update the Buildable Lands Report and countywide growth targets and assess the region's ability to accommodate projected growth in the coming decades. Planning Manager Levitan noted that the Commission should only require one meeting in October (October 6), which would include the public hearing for updating the Nonconforming Uses Chapter (LUA2021-0156) and a final work session on the 2021 Comprehensive Plan docket, which would then come back to the Commission for a public hearing in November.

Adjourn: Moved by Commissioner Hoult, seconded by Commissioner Duerr to adjourn the meeting at 76:58 p.m. On vote the motion carried (5-0-0-2).

Jennie Fenrich, Planning Commission Clerk



One Community Around the Lake

Staff Report Lake Stevens Planning Commission Planning Commission Public Hearing

Date: **October 6, 2021**

Subject: Public Hearing for Proposed Amendments to LSMC 14.32 (Nonconforming Situations) and Other Associated Sections

Contact Person/Department: Melissa Place, Senior Planner

ACTION REQUESTED OF PLANNING COMMISSION:

Planning Commission is asked to hold a public hearing and forward a recommendation to City Council on LUA2021-0156, a city-initiated land use code amendment to LSMC 14.32 (Nonconforming Situations) and other associated sections (LSMC 14.08 and 14.38.017) as shown in Attachment 1.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this code amendment is to update and streamline the city's nonconforming regulations which address existing lots, structures, or uses that fail to comply (conform) with existing zoning standards. Staff have fielded numerous nonconforming questions/situations over the last several years, which has identified the need to provide more clarity to both staff and property owners regarding nonconformities within the city. The draft code is essentially a complete re-write and reformatting of Chapter [14.32](#) along with minor revisions to other associated sections of code.

Managing zoning nonconformities can involve several approaches to control, accommodate, modify or eliminate the nonconformities. Some of these approaches are stricter (when a community desires to prohibit or eliminate nonconformities) while others are more liberal (allowing the nonconformity to continue or expand). Some communities opt for a blend, choosing to be stricter on certain nonconformities and more flexible on others. The intent and purpose of Lake Steven's nonconforming code is to have all structures and uses eventually come into conformance with the city's land use codes and regulations.

On [June 2, 2021](#), Planning Commission held its first work session to discuss the potential adoption of revised regulations for nonconformities. The Commission held additional work sessions on [August 18, 2021](#) and [September 15, 2021](#), while the City Council held a separate work session on [September 28, 2021](#). At the conclusion of their September 15 meeting, commissioners recommended that the city amend LSMC 14.32, 14.08 and 14.38.017 to adopt the revisions as proposed by staff and directed staff to schedule a public hearing. The proposed amendments to LSMC 14.32, 14.08 and 14.38.017 are shown as track changes in Attachment 1. Because the changes to Chapter 14.32 are essentially a complete re-write, the proposed new code language is shown first (not as track changes), followed by existing language shown as strikethrough (to be deleted).

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Compliance with elements of the Comprehensive Plan

- Land Use Element Policy 2.3.1 – Review development standards and regulations to ensure that they possess an appropriate level of flexibility to promote efficient use of buildable land, balanced with the need for predictable decision-making.
- Land Use Element Policy 2.3.2 – Preserve and promote the character of existing neighborhoods through thoughtful development regulations and design standards.
- Land Use Element Policy 2.9.5.b - Uses that are either previously established legal non-conforming, or are made non-conforming with the annexation, will be allowed to continue in a manner consistent with the rights established in the city's land use code.

Conclusions – Adoption of the proposed nonconforming regulations is consistent with the goals and policies of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

2. Compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (Chapter 97-11 WAC and Title 16 LSMC)

- The city determined the code amendment categorically exempt from SEPA per WAC 197-11-800(19) – Procedural Actions and issued a SEPA Exemption for the code amendment on September 10, 2021.

Conclusions – The proposed code amendment has met all local and state SEPA requirements.

3. Compliance with the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.106)

- Code amendments are subject to review by the Washington State Department of Commerce.
- The city provided a 60-day notice to the Department of Commerce on September 10, 2021 of its intent to amend LSMC 14.32, 14.08, and 14.38.017, with a proposed adoption date of November 9, 2021. The city received an acknowledgement letter from Commerce on September 13, 2021.
- If approved by the City Council, staff will file the final ordinance with the Department of Commerce within 10 days of its adoption.

Conclusions – The proposed code amendment has met all Growth Management Act requirements.

4. Public Notice and Comments

- Amendments to LSMC Title 14 (Land Use Code) are reviewed through the city's Type VI legislative review process identified in [LSMC 14.16B.605-660](#), which requires the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to City Council.
- The city published a Notice of Public Hearing in the Everett Herald on September 27 and October 4, 2021. The notice was also posted at City Hall and on the city's website on or around September 27, 2021.
- No public comments have been received to date. If comments are received prior to the hearing, the comments will be distributed on the night of the hearing.

Conclusions – The city has met all public notice requirements per Chapter 14.16B LSMC.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that Planning Commission forward a recommendation to City Council to APPROVE the proposed amendments to LSMC 14.32, 14.08, and 14.38.017 to adopt revised regulations for nonconformities (LUA2021-0156). City Council is tentatively scheduled to hold their public hearing for LUA 2021-0156 on November 9, 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Proposed Amendments to LSMC 14.32, 14.08 and 14.38.017

ATTACHMENT 1

Chapter 14.32

NONCONFORMING SITUATIONS NONCONFORMITIES

Sections:

- 14.32.010 Purpose and Intent
- 14.32.020 General Provisions
- 14.32.030 Nonconforming Uses
- 14.32.040 Nonconforming Structures
- 14.32.050 Nonconforming Development
- 14.32.060 Vacation or Cessation of Nonconformities

14.32.010 Purpose and Intent.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the continuation, modification or eventual elimination of nonconforming uses, structures, and development in accordance with the standards and conditions in this chapter. While nonconformities may continue, the provisions of this chapter are designed to encourage the improvement or elimination of nonconformities in order to better achieve the purposes of these regulations and consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. In general, a nonconformity that was lawful at the time it was established is permitted to continue to exist. A nonconformity shall not be permitted to continue to exist if it was unlawful at the time it was established. Most nonconforming uses and development may be maintained, but may not be altered, without land use review. It is the purpose of the city to ultimately have all structures and uses brought into conformity with the land use codes and regulations adopted by the city, as completely and as speedily as possible with due regard to the special interests and property rights of those concerned.

14.32.020 General Provisions.

The following provisions apply to all nonconforming uses and development:

- (a) Changes in ownership may occur and do not affect the status of a nonconforming use, structure, or development.
- (b) A nonconforming use, structure, or development is allowed to change to a conforming use or development. Once a conforming use, structure, or development occupies the site, the nonconforming status is lost, and the nonconforming use, structure, or development may not be reestablished.
- (c) Routine repair and maintenance activities, as defined in Section 14.08.010, are allowed. Alteration or expansion, as defined in Section 14.08.010 and further described in Section 14.32.040, or destruction, as described in Section 14.32.040, may require land use review and/or may result in the loss of the nonconforming status of the use or development.
- (d) Where other sections of the Lake Stevens Municipal Code require nonconforming uses or development to come closer to conformance, those provisions apply instead of the provisions of this chapter.
- (e) Provisions of this chapter do not apply to signs. Nonconforming signs are regulated by Title 14.68.150 Signs.
- (f) The provisions of this chapter do not supersede or relieve a property owner from compliance with:

- (1) The requirements of the International Building and Fire Codes; or
- (2) The provisions of this code beyond the specific nonconformance addressed by this chapter.

(g) For additional requirements related to other nonconformities, see the following sections of this title:

- (1) Definitions—see Chapter 14.08.010 LSMC;
- (2) Boundary line adjustments—see Chapter 14.18.200 LSMC;
- (3) Subarea nonconforming situations—see Chapter 14.38.017 LSMC;
- (4) Signs—see Chapter 14.68.150 LSMC;
- (5) Critical areas—see Chapter 14.88.330 LSMC;
- (6) Uses within shoreline jurisdiction—see shoreline master program.

14.32.030 Nonconforming Uses.

(a) Continuation

Except as may be provided for elsewhere in these regulations, a nonconforming use lawfully existing at the time of the adoption of the city code may be continued subject to the standards and conditions of this chapter.

(b) Repair or Maintenance

Repair or maintenance of a nonconforming use is allowed so long as the repair or maintenance does not increase the extent of any nonconformity. Repair and maintenance activities are defined in Section 14.08.010.

(c) Enlargement or Expansion

- (1) A nonconforming use shall not be enlarged or increased nor expanded to occupy a greater area of land than was occupied at the adoption or subsequent amendment of the city code; unless such use is changed to a use permitted in the district in which such use is located.
- (2) Any structure used for single-family residential purposes and maintained as a nonconforming use may be repaired, maintained, or replaced so long as the repair or replacement does not result in an expansion or enlargement of such use or structure.
- (3) No additional structures which do not conform to the requirements of the city code shall be erected in connection with such nonconforming use of land.

(d) Change of Use

In general, a nonconforming use may be changed to a conforming use. If a nonconforming use, building or structure is changed to a more conforming use, building or structure or is replaced by a conforming use, building or structure, the nonconforming use, building or structure shall not revert to its original nonconforming status.

14.32.040 Nonconforming Structures.

(a) Continuation

Except as may be provided for elsewhere in these regulations, a non-conforming structure lawfully existing at the time of the adoption of the city code may be continued subject to the standards and conditions of this chapter.

(b) Repair or Maintenance

Repair or maintenance of a nonconforming structure is permitted. Repair and maintenance activities are defined in Section 14.08.010. The interior of said structures may be restored, remodeled and improved to the extent of not more than 25 percent of the assessed value of the

structure at the time of building permit in any consecutive period of 12 months in accordance with required permits.

(c) Alteration or Expansion

Nonconforming structures may be enlarged or altered in a way which does not increase the extent of any nonconformity. An increase in nonconformity would be a change that increases the bulk of the structure encroaching on setbacks or exceeding maximum height or maximum impervious area requirements. Additional stories on a building are permitted so long as they meet all other applicable provisions of city and state code including height limitations, setbacks, septic limitations, do not expand the building footprint, and do not increase the extent of any nonconformity.

(d) Destruction

A nonconforming structure or nonconforming portion of a structure that is destroyed to an extent exceeding 75 percent of the assessed value of the structure at the time of damage shall not be reconstructed except in conformity with these regulations. In order for this reconstruction to occur, application must be made for all necessary permits within twenty-four months of the date the damage occurred, and all reconstruction must be completed within two years of permit issuance. All residential structures (including accessory uses and structures) located in a residential district may be reconstructed if destroyed to any extent, provided that such reconstruction does not enlarge the prior building footprint nor increase the extent of the nonconformity(ies) existing prior to destruction.

14.32.050 Nonconforming Development.

Nonconforming development means a lot or site improvement, such as an off-street parking facility, landscaping, or access that does not conform to the city's current development ordinances. Nonconforming development that was legally established and is used for a legal use but which does not meet the current regulations may be maintained and repaired and may be enlarged or expanded provided that said enlargement does not increase the extent of noncompliance with the regulations by further encroaching upon or extending into areas where construction or use would not be allowed for new development. A lot that is nonconforming by virtue of not meeting the minimum lot area required for the zone in which it is located may be used the same as if it were conforming, except that any use that requires a greater lot size than the established minimum lot size for a particular zone (e.g., a two-family residence) is prohibited. LSCM 14.16C.078 further details the legal lot status determination process.

14.32.060 Vacation or Cessation of Nonconformities.

Whenever a nonconforming use, structure, or development of property has been vacated or ceases for any reason, for a period of 12 consecutive months or for twelve months during any two-year period, such nonconformity shall lose its nonconforming status and not thereafter be re-established, and the future use of the property shall be in conformity with the provisions of these regulations. A vacated or ceased nonconformity shall not be resumed.

Sections:

14.32.010 Continuation of Nonconforming Situations and Completion of Nonconforming Projects

14.32.020 Nonconforming Lots

14.32.030 Extension or Enlargement of Nonconforming Situations

~~14.32.040 Repair, Maintenance and Reconstruction~~

~~14.32.050 Change in Use of Property Where a Nonconforming Situation Exists~~

~~14.32.060 Abandonment and Discontinuance of Nonconforming Uses~~

14.32.010 Continuation of Nonconforming Situations and Completion of Nonconforming Projects.

~~Nonconforming situations that were otherwise lawful on the effective date of this chapter may be continued subject to the restrictions and qualifications of this chapter and, if applicable, of an adopted subarea plan. (Ord. 876, Sec. 15, 2012)~~

14.32.020 Nonconforming Lots.

~~(a) This section applies only to legal nonconforming lots which have no substantial structures upon it.~~

~~(b) A lot that is nonconforming by virtue of not meeting the minimum lot area required for the zone in which it is located may be used the same as if it were conforming, except that any use that requires a greater lot size than the established minimum lot size for a particular zone (e.g., a two family residence) is prohibited.~~

14.32.030 Extension or Enlargement of Nonconforming Situations.

~~(a) No person may engage in any activity that causes an increase in the extent of a nonconformity, except as specified below. In particular, physical alteration of structures or the placement of new structures on open land is unlawful if such activity results in:~~

- ~~(1) An increase in the total amount of space devoted to a nonconforming use, or~~
- ~~(2) Greater nonconformity with respect to dimensional restrictions such as setback requirements, height limitations, parking or density requirements.~~

~~(b) A legal nonconforming use may be extended throughout any portion of a completed building that was manifestly designed or arranged to accommodate such use. However, a nonconforming use may not be extended to additional buildings or to land outside the original building.~~

~~(c) A nonconforming use of open land may not be extended to cover more land than was occupied by that use when it became nonconforming, except that a use that involves the removal of natural materials from the lot (e.g., a sand pit) may be expanded to the boundaries of the lot where the use was established at the time it became nonconforming if 10 percent or more of the earth products had already been removed on the date on which it became nonconforming and where the proposed expansion conforms to all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations concerning the use.~~

~~(d) The volume, intensity, or frequency of use of property where a nonconforming situation exists may be increased and the equipment or processes used at a location where a nonconforming situation exists may be changed if these or similar changes amount only to changes in the degree of activity rather than changes in kind and no violations of other subsections of this section occur.~~

(e) Any structure used for single family residential purposes and maintained as a nonconforming use may be enlarged or replaced with a similar structure of a larger size, so long as the enlargement or replacement does not create new nonconformities or increase the extent of existing nonconformities with respect to such matters as setback and parking requirements.

(f) Whenever: (1) there exists a lot with one or more structures on it, and (2) a change in use that does not involve any enlargement of a structure is proposed for such lot, and (3) the additional parking or loading spaces required by Chapter 14.72 cannot be satisfied because there is not sufficient area available on the lot, then the proposed use shall not be regarded as resulting in an impermissible extension or enlargement of a nonconforming situation. However, the applicant shall be required to comply with all applicable parking and loading requirements that can be satisfied without acquiring additional land. (Ord. 676, Sec. 21, 2003; Ord. 468, 1995)

14.32.040 Repair, Maintenance and Reconstruction.

(a) Minor repairs to and routine maintenance of property where nonconforming situations exist are allowed. Major renovation and repairs, i.e., work valued at more than 25 percent of the appraised valuation of the structure, may be done only in accordance with required permits issued pursuant to this section.

(b) If a structure housing a nonconforming use is damaged by fire, accident or natural disaster to an extent that the value of repair or replacement would exceed 50 percent of the appraised valuation of the structure prior to the fire, accident or natural disaster, then the nonconforming use shall not be re established. This subsection does not apply to structures used for single family residential purposes, which structures may be reconstructed pursuant to a building permit.

(c) For purposes of subsections (a) and (b) of this section:

(1) The "value" of renovation or repair or replacement shall mean the fair market value of the materials and services necessary to accomplish such renovation, repair, or replacement.

(2) No person may seek to avoid the intent of subsections (a) or (b) of this section by doing such work incrementally.

(3) The "appraised valuation" shall mean either the appraised valuation for property tax purposes, updated as necessary by the increase in the consumer price index since the date of the last valuation, or the valuation determined by a professionally recognized property appraiser.

(d) The Planning Director shall issue a permit authorized by subsection (a) of this section if it is found that, in completing the renovation, repair or replacement work:

(1) This proposal meets the requirements of this chapter; and

(2) The permittee will comply to the extent reasonably possible with all provisions of this title applicable to the proposal.

Compliance with a requirement of this title is not reasonably possible if it cannot be achieved without adding land to the lot where the nonconforming situation is maintained or moving a

~~substantial structure that is on a permanent foundation. That an applicant is facing financial hardship caused by the cost of meeting such requirements as paved parking does not constitute grounds for finding that compliance is not reasonably possible. (Ord. 811, Sec. 23, 2010)~~

14.32.050 Change in Use of Property Where a Nonconforming Situation Exists.

(a) ~~A change in use of property (where a nonconforming situation exists) that requires a new Planning Director approval, administrative conditional use, or conditional use permit in accordance with Section 14.16C.030 may not be made except in accordance with subsections (b) through (d) of this section.~~

(b) ~~If the intended change in use is to a principal use that is permissible in the district where the property is located, and all of the other requirements of this title applicable to that use can be complied with, permission to make the change must be obtained in the same manner as permission to make the initial use of a vacant lot. Once conformity with this title is achieved, the property may not revert to its nonconforming status.~~

(c) ~~If the intended change in use is to a principal use that is permissible in the district where the property is located, but all of the requirements of this title applicable to that use cannot reasonably be complied with, then the change is permissible if the permitting entity issues a permit authorizing the change. This permit may be issued if it is found that:~~

(1) ~~The proposal meets the requirements of this chapter; and~~

(2) ~~All of the applicable requirements of this title that can reasonably be complied with will be complied with. Compliance with a requirement of this title is not reasonably possible if compliance cannot be achieved without adding additional land to the lot where the nonconforming situation is maintained or moving a substantial structure that is on a permanent foundation. That an applicant is facing financial hardship caused by the cost of meeting such requirements as paved parking does not constitute grounds for finding that compliance is not reasonably possible. In no case may an applicant be given permission pursuant to this subsection to construct a building or add to an existing building if additional nonconformities would thereby be created.~~

(d) ~~No change in use to another use that is not permissible in the district in which it is located shall be allowed. (Ord. 811, Sec. 24, 2010)~~

14.32.060 Abandonment and Discontinuance of Nonconforming Uses.

(a) ~~When a nonconforming use is discontinued for a consecutive period of 180 days, subsequent uses on the property must be permitted in the zone in which the property is located. (Ord. 676, Sec. 21, 2003; Ord. 590, 1998; Ord. 468, 1995)~~

14.08.010 Definitions of Basic Terms.

Unless otherwise specifically provided, or unless clearly required by the context, the words and phrases defined in this section shall have the meaning indicated when used in this title.

Dimensional Nonconformity. ~~A nonconforming situation that occurs when the height, size, floor space, lot coverage, or other dimensional requirements of a structure or the relationship between an existing building or buildings and other buildings or lot lines does not conform to the regulations applicable to the district in which the property is located.~~

Effective Date of This Chapter. Whenever this title refers to the effective date of this chapter, the reference shall be deemed to include the effective date of the chapter as originally adopted, or the effective date of an amendment to it if the amendment creates a nonconforming situation.

Effective Date of This Title. Whenever this title refers to the effective date of this title, the reference shall be deemed to include the effective date of any amendments to this title if the amendment, rather than this title as originally adopted, creates a nonconforming situation.

Change of Use. A change of the type of use of a building from one principal use category to another. It shall be determined to have occurred when it is found that the general character of the building use has been modified and results in an intensification of land use that will require new development conditions to comply with existing regulations.

Repair or Maintenance Activities. An action to restore the character, size, or scope of a project only to the previously authorized condition.

Nonconforming Lot, Legal. ~~A lot which does not meet the current minimum area requirement of the district in which the lot is located, but at the time of its creation, it was legally subdivided consistent with the laws in place at the time the lot was created, as well as it met all area and dimension standards for such a lot at that time.~~

Nonconforming Project. ~~Any structure, development, or undertaking that is incomplete at the effective date of this title and would be inconsistent with any regulation applicable to the district in which it is located if completed as proposed or planned.~~

Nonconforming Sign. See *Sign, Nonconforming*.

Nonconforming Situation. ~~A situation that occurs when, on the effective date of this title, any existing lot or structure or use of an existing lot or structure does not conform to one or more of the regulations applicable to the district in which the lot or structure is located. Among other possibilities, a nonconforming situation may arise because a lot does not meet minimum acreage requirements, because structures exceed maximum height limitations, because the relationship between existing buildings and the land (in such matters as density and setback requirements) is not in conformity with this title, or because land or buildings are used for purposes made unlawful by this title.~~

~~Nonconforming signs shall not be regarded as nonconforming situations for purposes of Chapter 14.32 but shall be governed by the provisions of Sections 14.68.150 (amortization of nonconforming signs).~~

Nonconforming Use. ~~A nonconforming situation that occurs when property is used for a purpose or in a manner made unlawful by the use regulations applicable to the district in which the property is located. (For example, a commercial office building in a residential district may be a nonconforming use.) The term also refers to the activity that constitutes the use made of the property. (For example, all the activity associated with operating a retail clothing store in a residentially zoned area constitutes a nonconforming use.)~~

Sign, Nonconforming. A sign that, on the effective date of this title, does not conform to one or more of the regulations set forth in this title, particularly Chapter 14.68, Signs.

Nonconformity. ~~Uses, structures, lots, or development sites that do not conform to one or more of the requirements of this Ordinance, or any subsequent amendment, which were lawfully established prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, or any subsequent amendment.~~

Nonconforming development. A lot or site improvement, such as an off-street parking facility, landscaping, or access that does not conform to the city's current development ordinances either because it was established prior to the enactment of city ordinances governing the structure or improvement or because the structure or improvement conformed at the time it was established but applicable city ordinances have since changed.

Nonconforming structure. Any structure or portion thereof lawfully existing on the effective date of this Ordinance or amendments thereto which does not conform after the passage of this Ordinance or amendments thereto with the dimensional restrictions of the district in which it is situated.

Nonconforming use. The use of land or the use of any building or portion thereof lawfully existing at the effective date of this Ordinance or amendments thereto which does not conform after the passage of this Ordinance or amendments thereto which does not conform to the use regulations of the zoning district in which it is located.

14.38.017 Nonconformitiesng Situations.

The City will allow legal nonconformitiesng situations to continue within the subareas subject to Chapter 14.32. Legal nonconforming signs may continue subject to Section 14.38.100(i). (Ord. 876, Sec. 5 (Exh. 3), 2012)



One Community Around the Lake

Staff Report City of Lake Stevens Planning Commission

2021 Comprehensive Plan Update
Date: October 6, 2021

Subject: 2021 Comprehensive Plan Docket Work Session

Contact Person/Department: David Levitan, Planning Manager

ACTION REQUESTED: No formal action is required. Staff will share and discuss proposed amendments included in the 2021 Comprehensive Plan docket, which was ratified by City Council on February 23, 2021. The proposed amendments are limited in scope and focused primarily on updating text and maps/figures to account for recent growth and annexations and to update the list of capital improvement projects identified in the Capital Facilities and Parks elements. Commissioners are encouraged to review the proposed amendments and identify any additional changes or topics that should be added prior to the required public hearing, which is tentatively scheduled for November 3, 2021. Staff will also provide an overview of several items it expects to work on in 2022 as part of the 2022 docket and in advance of the next periodic update to the Comprehensive Plan, which must be completed by June 30, 2024.

BACKGROUND/ HISTORY

Comprehensive Plans are the primary land use document for guiding growth and development in Washington jurisdictions. They are required by and must be consistent with the Growth Management Act (GMA), with [RCW 36.70A.070](#), which identifies a number of mandatory “elements”, or chapters, that must be included in local plans. Under the GMA, the city can amend its Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map once per year, with a few exceptions, through an annual docket process. On February 17, 2021, Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed 2021 Comprehensive Plan docket and made a unanimous recommendation to City Council to ratify the docket. On February 23, 2021, the City Council approved the docket via [Resolution 2021-04](#).

Under the GMA, cities must also prepare more complete “periodic updates” to their comprehensive plan, with the next deadline being June 30, 2024. The most recent periodic update was adopted in September 2015 via [Ordinance 937](#) and established the 20-year planning horizon for the plan (2015-2035), which coincides with the timelines established by countywide growth targets for housing and employment. City staff are currently participating in the process to establish new countywide growth targets for 2044, which are expected to be completed later in 2021 and will be incorporated into the city’s next periodic update.

The scope of the city’s annual Comprehensive Plan docket has varied in recent years but has generally been limited to minor changes to reflect new capital projects (primarily transportation, stormwater and parks), updated demographic information, and land use map amendments. The 2021 docket is also fairly limited in scope and does not include any map amendments other than to update the city/UGA boundaries to reflect recent annexations. The proposed changes to the Executive Summary and four elements (Land Use, Parks, Public Services and Capital Facilities) are shown in Attachments 1 through 5 and are consistent with the items identified in Exhibit 1 of [Resolution 2021-04](#), with the exception of the removal of the SMP update (T-5) and industrial area infrastructure analysis (T-6), which will be carried over to the 2022 docket.

In advance of the 2024 periodic update, city staff is currently pursuing grants to help fund 1) the development of a Housing Action Plan, which should provide the technical foundation and policy guidance to update the Housing element; and 2) an update to the Shoreline Master Program to account for the recently completed Southeast Interlocal Annexation and other needed changes. The city also plans to hire a transportation planning consultant in late 2022 or early 2023 to update the Transportation element, including a larger focus on multimodal projects. Future dockets as well as the periodic update will also need to account for the adoption of Vision 2050 and countywide planning policies and the upcoming adoption of new growth targets, as well as any new regulations or mandates established at the state level. Staff will be presenting the draft long range planning work program during a December 2021 Commission work session.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED 2021 DOCKET

On [June 2](#), commissioners were briefed on proposed amendments to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element (Attachment 3) and Capital Facilities Element (Attachment 5), which staff is in the process of revising to reflect updated city boundaries and recently completed projects and future capital improvements and will be fully updated prior to the public hearing. Below is a summary of the changes proposed to the Executive Summary (Attachment 1), Land Use Element (Attachment 2), and Public Services and Utilities Element (Attachment 4), the latter two of which are both mandatory elements under RCW 36.70A.070.

Executive Summary

- Added information about PSRC adoption of Vision 2050.
- Updated land use, growth centers, and annexation history maps to reflect recent annexations
- Included additional information on three subarea plans
- Revised description of remaining portions of UGA and city population
- Referenced recent/ongoing work to update Buildable Lands Report (BLR) and growth targets
- Included a reference to adoption of the Snohomish School District's Capital Facilities Plan, which will be required as part of the 2021 docket
- Updated information about solid waste services

Land Use Element

- Added information about Vision 2050
- Provided information on recent annexations completed between 2018 and 2021, recent work on BLR and growth targets, and changes in city size/population
- Updated growth centers (Figure 2.2) and land use (Figure 2.3) maps
- Deleted Section on Development Trends (including Figure 2.5), which had become outdated and will be updated with updated BLR and growth targets numbers once the 2044 growth targets are adopted
- Deleted Figure 2.4 (UGA map), which is adequately illustrated in Figure 2.3

Public Services and Utilities Element

- Provided information on recent annexations completed between 2018 and 2021, recent work on BLR and growth targets, and changes in city size/population
- Revised the description of Police Service based on input from Chief Beazizo
- Updated Figure 7.1 (Stormwater), Figure 7.2 (Sewer System), and Figure 7.5 (Water System)
- Revised the description of the Snohomish School District, including the adoption of the district's Capital Facilities Plan as part of the 2021 docket (which will be referenced in the adopting ordinance)
- Revised the narrative on solid waste services to reflect the new citywide contract for Waste Management

NEXT STEPS AND PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioners are asked to provide comments on the 2021 docket in advance of the required public hearing, which is tentatively scheduled for November 3, 2021. The City Council will then hold a separate public hearing to consider the Commission's recommendation. In advance of those hearings, staff will provide the required noticing to the public and Washington State Department of Commerce.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Executive Summary Track Changes

Attachment 2 – Chapter 2: Land Use Element Track Changes

Attachment 3 – Chapter 5: Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element Track Changes

Attachment 4 – Chapter 7: Public Services and Utilities Element Track Changes

Attachment 5 – Chapter 9: Capital Facilities Element Track Changes

Attachment 1

City of Lake Stevens

2015 - 2035 Comprehensive Plan

Executive Summary

2035 LAKE STEVENS VISION

As the city contemplates the next 20 years, it must embrace its position as a unified growing city. Lake Stevens will be a vibrant sustainable community that provides a positive development atmosphere and maintains a strong community image with excellent schools and neighborhoods. Sustainability will be manifested through environmental protection, conscientious community development and sound economic policy. The city will continue emphasizing the role of local growth centers and subarea planning as the primary locations for new development – specifically as essential pockets for economic development and focal points for new neighborhood and commercial areas. The city will ensure that the city's infrastructure and public services will meet the demands of the community as it grows in an economically feasible manner. Development will be sensitive to the lake, environment and existing neighborhoods. The community will become a balanced community with sufficient and affordable housing, family-wage jobs and a variety of shopping and service options to meet the needs of Lake Stevens' residents.

PLANNING CONTEXT

Effective land use planning has become a common feature in statewide, regional and local governance since 1991 when the Washington State Legislature enacted the Growth Management Act (GMA) as Chapter 36.70A of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW). The primary purpose of the GMA is to encourage appropriate levels of growth in urban and rural areas consistently across the state. The GMA identifies several mandatory planning elements that jurisdictions must incorporate into their individual comprehensive plans:



1. Land Use	5. Rural Element (counties)
2. Housing	6. Transportation
3. Capital Facilities	7. Economic Development
4. Utilities	8. Park and Recreation

The GMA also directs local jurisdictions to consider specific planning goals to facilitate population and employment growth when developing land use policy and regulations, including control of urban growth and sprawl, encouraging efficient transportation systems, promoting economic development, providing for predictable and timely permit review, maintaining the natural environment and natural resources industries, encouraging public participation, ensuring adequate public facilities, preserving cultural and historic lands and implementing the Shoreline Management Act.

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) comprised of agencies from the four-county central Puget Sound developed a regional approach, articulated in *VISION 2040*, to implement GMA requirements. *VISION 2040 augmented* GMA goals related to environmental protection, focused development patterns, housing affordability, sustainable regional economy, integrated transportation systems and adequate public services. *VISION 2040 emphasized* regional growth centers as areas to concentrate future employment and population growth, linking regional and local centers with efficient multimodal transportation system, promoting sustainability in decision-making and allocating population and employment growth within regional geographies based on community size.

Following a three-year planning process, in October 2020 PSRC adopted Vision 2050, the update to Vision 2040. The plan continues to focus on accommodating growth within urban areas and the preservation of rural areas and open space, as the region looks to accommodate an additional 1.8 million residents and 1.2 million new jobs by 2050.

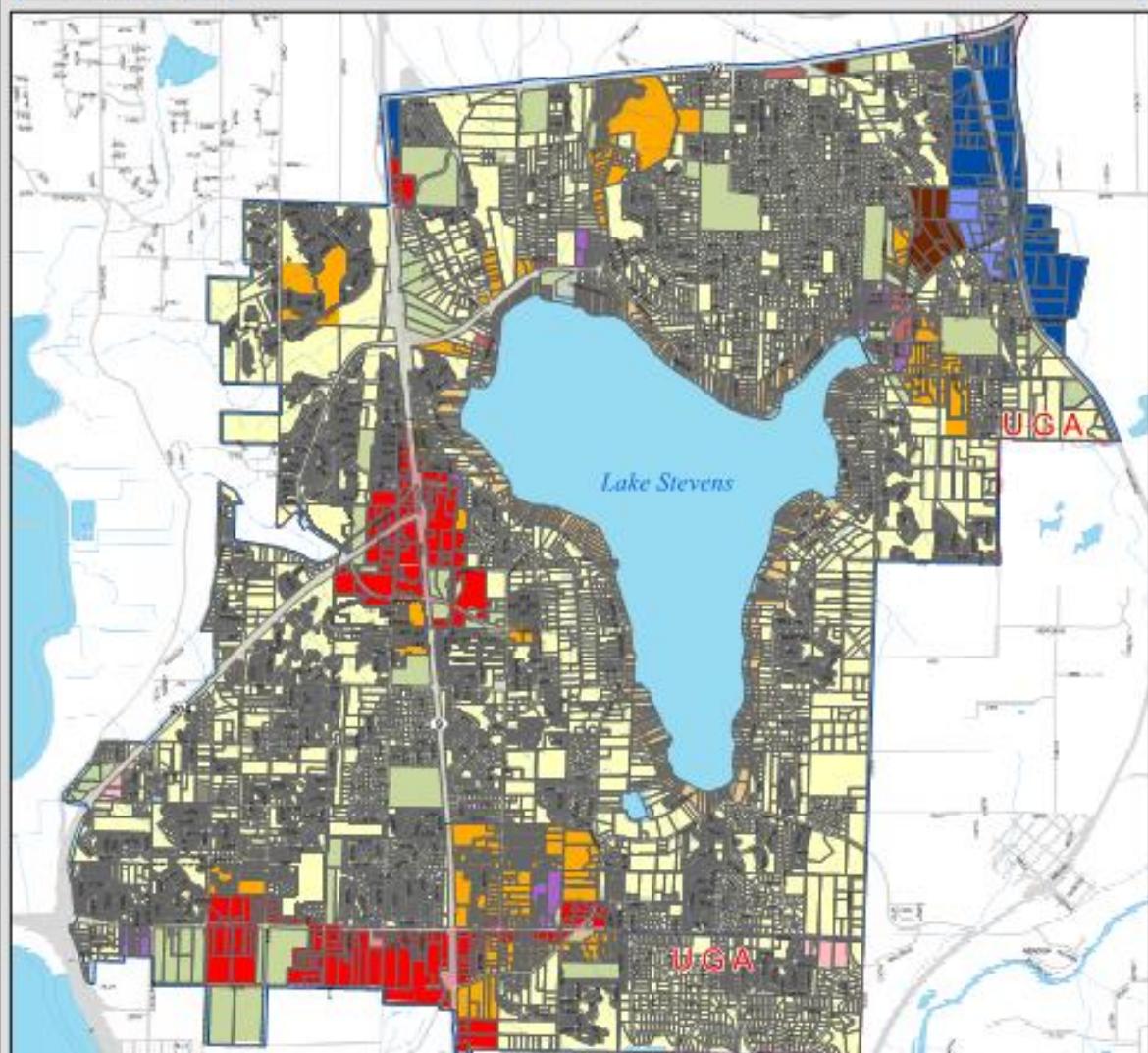
The GMA requires counties to adopt countywide planning policies in cooperation with affected cities (RCW36.70A.210). Countywide planning policies provide a local planning framework to ensure consistency among cities and a regional vision. Snohomish County facilitates collaborative countywide planning through Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT), which is comprised of staff, local citizens and elected officials from every jurisdiction. The cities, towns, tribes and county have worked together through SCT since 1989 to address local planning issues. SCT provides a forum in which jurisdictions can address regional growth management issues such as transportation, utilities, housing, population and employment.

PLANNING IN LAKE STEVENS

The city of Lake Stevens adopted its initial GMA Comprehensive Plan to address growth in the city and its Urban Growth Areas (UGA) in 1994. The first major update to the Lake Stevens Comprehensive Plan occurred in 2006, which highlighted the city's changing status from small community to a growing city. The 2006 plan identified specific growth centers as the focus for the plan and recommended developing subarea plans for each growth center including Downtown Lake Stevens, 20th Street SE Corridor (AKA South Lake), Lake Stevens Center (AKA Frontier Village) and the Hartford Road Industrial Area.



----- CITY OF -----
LAKE STEVENS
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - LAND USE



2021 Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations and UGA Predesignations

Land Use Designations	Local Commercial (LC)	Planned Business District (PBD)
High Density Residential (MDR)	Mixed Use (MU)	Light Industrial (LI)
Waterfront Residential (WR)	Commercial	General Industrial (GI)
High Density Residential (HDRI)	DownTown / Local Commerce (DTLC)	Gr Development Application (GDA)
		Double / Zoned Parcels (DZP)

Boundary

Subarea Boundaries

Features

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~~By the end of In 2012 tT~~he city ~~had~~ adopted ~~two~~ subarea ~~plans~~ for Lake Stevens Center and the 20th Street SE Corridor in 2012 as supplemental documents to the Comprehensive Plan, and in 2018 adopted a subarea plan for Downtown Lake Stevens. The three subarea plans contain a number of goals, policies, strategies, and development concepts for the areas, which will be integral in helping the city meet its long-term employment and housing needs, and was working on a framework for a third.

~~A~~Also as part of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan, the city developed an annexation plan that called~~s~~ for eventually annexing the remainder of the unincorporated area within its unincorporated UGA. As of ~~December 31, 2009~~ ~~August 2021~~, ~~all of the UGA west and southwest of the lake~~ the city has been now annexed ~~the entirety of its UGA around the lake, as well as the lake itself. As shown on the land use map. There are areas southeast of the lake, the remaining UGA includes~~ small areas east of downtown, north of the industrial area, and south of 20th SE, and one parcel west of Lundein Parkway that remain unincorporated. As of October 2020, the city was pursuing two annexations—the Southeast Interlocal Annexation and the Machias Industrial Annexation.

Jurisdictions are required to update their comprehensive plans and development regulations periodically to remain compliant with GMA requirements. Through its annual docket cycle, Lake Stevens continues to refine its plan. For example, the city incorporated economic development data and strategies into goals and policies. The city adopted two subarea plans that considered land uses and housing in large portions of the city. The city continues to update its transportation element regularly, which contributed to the completion of a new concurrency-based impact fee system. The city adopted a revised Park, Recreation and Open Space Element with a new model for determining levels of service. Other minor changes occur as well – typically in the form of citizen-initiated land use map changes.

The GMA mandates jurisdictions complete thorough updates to comprehensive plans according to a predetermined schedule. Snohomish County cities, including Lake Stevens, ~~must complete~~ ~~were required to complete~~ their major updates in 2015.

As the city began its comprehensive plan update process for 2015 staff identified several tasks that would need to take place to ensure compliance with GMA, PSRC and countywide policies. To date, staff has prepared a self-audit of its comprehensive plan and development regulations to identify any state, regional or countywide inconsistencies. The city has engaged the community in a public participation program that has included public open houses, surveys, social media, outreach to service groups, and meetings with the Planning Commission and City Council. The plan addresses many technical issues:

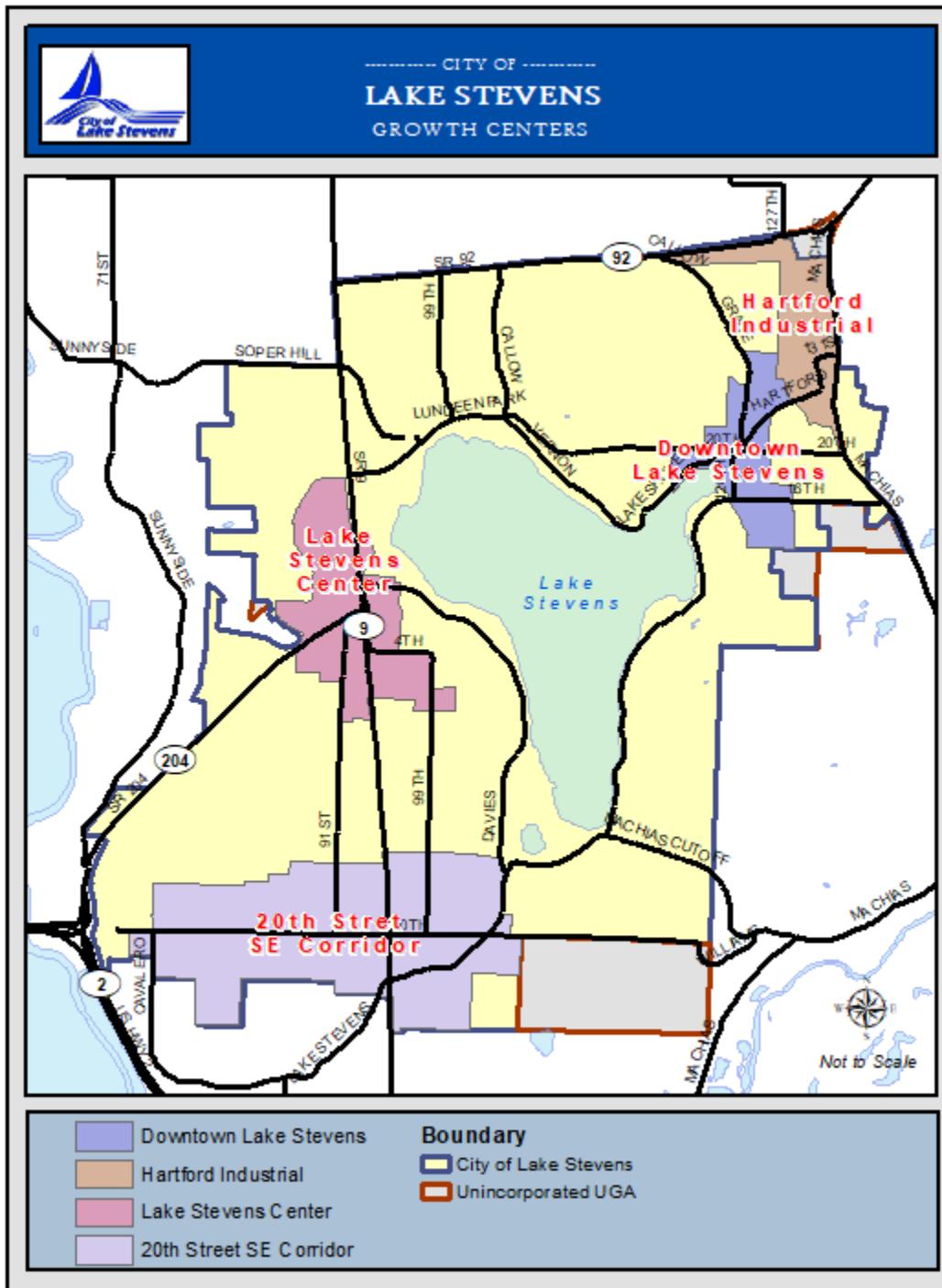
1. What has changed since the last time we adopted our comprehensive plan (e.g., boundaries, population and infrastructure)?
2. How has demand for various land uses changed?
3. What has been implemented?

Executive Summary

4. Are we using all of our planning tools (e.g., subarea planning, innovative codes, continuous public participation, etc.)
5. Does the comprehensive plan accurately reflect the city's community vision?

Aside from meeting technical and procedural requirements the update has allowed city staff to pose fundamental questions to the community about their vision for Lake Stevens over the next 5, 10 and 20 years.

- Will you be in Lake Stevens in 2035?
- Where will you live?
- Where will you work?
- How will you get there?
- What will you do for recreation?
- Where will you shop?



At the first open house, city staff and board members had breakout sessions with the public to discuss the mandatory comprehensive plan elements. Based on the public comments received, fresh vision statements emerged for each plan element. The next important avenue to receive public outreach was an opinion survey. The survey was posted electronically on the city's website and administered at city events. Through this survey, community members were asked a series of questions to determine public concerns and preferences for growth over the next 20 years.

Executive Summary

- Cottage housing and townhouses were identified as the most popular non-single-family housing options;
- The preferred location for residential growth was southwest Lake Stevens followed by Northeast Lake Stevens and the Soper Hill area;
- Retail, High-tech industry and professional offices were identified as the most important employment sectors for Lake Stevens;
- The preferred location for employment growth was the 20th Street SE Corridor, followed by Lake Stevens Center and the Hartford Industrial Area;
- A sense of community and residential opportunities were identified as the most positive changes over the last 10 years, increased traffic was identified as the greatest challenge;
- Participants identified schools and neighborhoods as the city's greatest strength;
- 30% of participants are attracted to other cities for shopping and dining;
- 25% of participants felt economic development (increased shopping and jobs) should be a priority, followed by public services over the next 20 years;
- Over 38% of participants identified adding more sidewalks and pedestrian paths as the most important transportation improvement followed by increased vehicle capacity; and
- 37% of participants indicated parks and open spaces are the most important public facilities followed closely by roads and sidewalks.

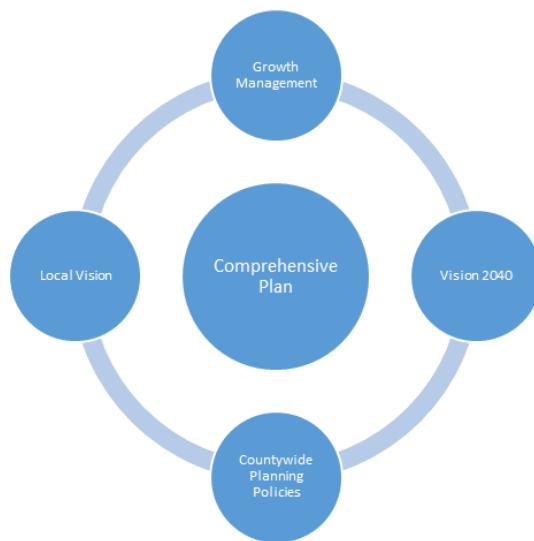
These responses provided a valuable framework for re-evaluating individual plan elements and updating goals and policies to reflect community preferences.

The 2035 Lake Stevens Comprehensive Plan update addresses the applicable GMA elements as specific chapters and considers optional elements related to conservation, solar energy, recreation and subarea plans in individual chapters. The plan incorporates and responds to community preferences and concerns. It also considers the role of regional planning under VISION 2040 and countywide planning in the development of specific goals and policies. The following sections will identify the vision and primary revisions for each element.



INTRODUCTION

A Vision for Planning – the city will integrate the Growth Management Act (GMA), defined in Chapter 36.70A of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW), as an essential planning framework for the Lake Stevens Comprehensive Plan. The GMA principles will help direct community, regional, and statewide efforts to enhance the quality of life, environmental protection and economic vitality for the city, its residents and its interests in and around the Lake Stevens Urban Growth Area and Rural Transition Area as a unique lakeside community.

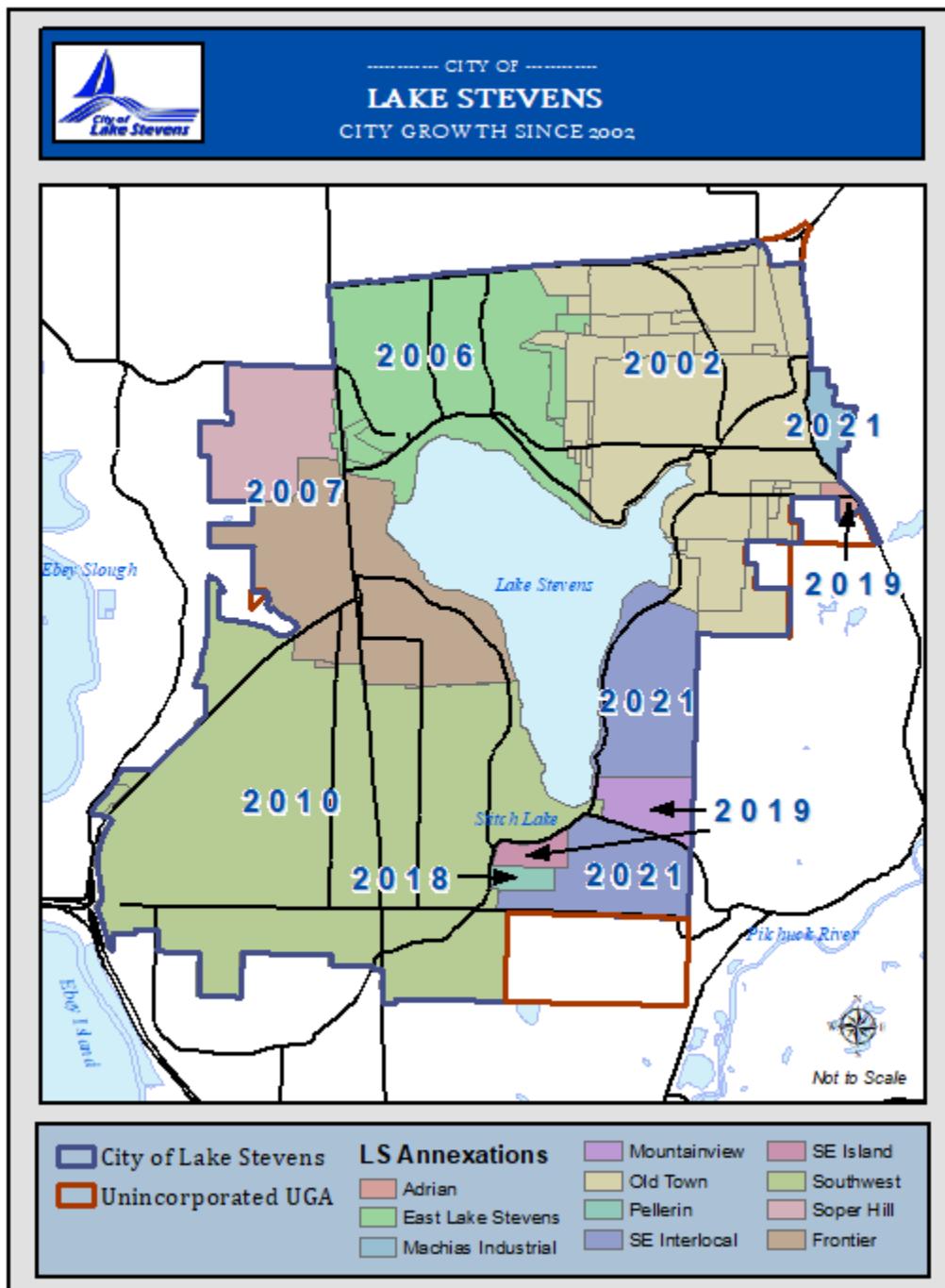


The Introduction describes the planning context for the Growth Management Act, PSRC VISION 2040 and Snohomish County as these relate to coordinated local planning; it provides a basic description of the planning area including the UGA and Rural Transition Area (RUTA); and describe the city's vision statement and individual element visions. This chapter also describes the public process and environmental review for this update and contains revised goals and policies for administering the annual Comprehensive Plan process.

Land Use Element

A Vision for Land Use – As Lake Stevens continues to grow in population and area, the city will strive to create balanced opportunities for residential growth, varied housing types, employment, commercial endeavors and public services for all people to live, work, learn and play throughout the community.

The city's Land Use Element considers anticipated land use forecasts and growth targets for the next 20 years. The largest single change to the Land Use Element is accounting for areas annexed into the city since 2006. Through a series of annexations the city population grew from 6,361 to 26,670 in 2010 to an estimated 38,951 in August 2021. The current city boundaries encompass an area of approximately 5,760~~7,275~~ acres (11.48.9 square miles), including the 1,000-acre lake, which was annexed in August 2021. Small pockets of unincorporated areas comprise the remaining 675 acres (1.1 square miles) ~~der~~ of the Lake Stevens Urban Growth Area (UGA), ~~with an area of 2,192 acres (3.4 square miles) including the lake.~~



Major changes to the Land Use Element include an enhanced discussion of state, regional and countywide planning policies and updated statistical data and analysis, along with revised goals and policies. This section includes significant updates to the building lands data between 2007 and 2012. The *2012 Buildable Lands Report* (BLR) and the Snohomish County Growth Monitoring Report set the tone for evaluating the Land Use Element. Significant land use trends are highlighted below.

Executive Summary

- The *Snohomish County Growth Monitoring Report* indicates the Lake Stevens population grew by over 341% between 2000 and 2010.
 - Since 2010, the city population has grown annually by approximately 4%.
- The 2014 city population was 29,170, and by 2021~~10~~ was estimated to be 34,150.
- The Growth Monitoring Report established~~ds~~ a 2035 population target of 46,380 for the UGA, much of which has since been annexed by the city.
 - The city's portion would be 39,340 or an increase of 11,130 people by 2035.
 - There will be an estimated 509 person surplus.
- The Growth Monitoring Report established~~ds~~ a 2035 jobs target of 7,821 for the UGA
 - The city's portion would be 7,412 or an increase of 3,818 jobs by 2035.

Through a review of recent permit data, remaining buildable land supply ~~has been~~was identified for employment and population growth based on growth from mid-2012 to 2020. The city is currently working with Snohomish County to update the BLR in late 2021~~present~~.

- Remaining buildable acreage ~~was~~is estimated to be 161 acres for commercial development (218 for the entire UGA) and 716 acres for residential development (1,212 for the entire UGA).
- Based on the previous buildable acres the city housing capacity ~~was~~is 3,784 new units (5,465 for the entire UGA) and employment capacity ~~was~~is 1,954 new jobs (2,410 for the entire UGA).

At the present rate of development, the city remains on track to meet growth targets.

The Land Use Element provides updates to the city's growth center strategy with discussions of progress and next steps. The city's ultimate goal for each center, based on the economic and demographic assessments, is to develop a unique subarea plan with distinguishing characteristics that serve slightly different markets, thus ensuring economic diversity and vitality. As noted, the city adopted subarea plans for the Lake Stevens Center and 20th Street SE Corridor in 2012. ~~The city has developed a framework plan for and for~~ Downtown Lake Stevens, ~~which will transform into a subarea plan in 2018.~~

In addition, this chapter continues to emphasize the city's interest in coordinated planning of transitional areas including unincorporated portions of the UGA and RUTA where future annexations and development will occur over the next 20 years. The city will annex the remaining unincorporated UGA throughout the 2035 planning horizon. Additionally, the city of Lake Stevens remains interested in development outside its borders given the impact that is felt on the entire Lake Stevens community, in preparation for future UGA expansions following build out.

Housing Element

A Vision for Housing –The city will provide a regulatory framework that supports the creation of high-quality housing (e.g., single-family houses, townhomes and apartments) with a range of



densities, which implement community design preferences and are affordable to all community members across the city.

The Housing Element includes updated statistical and demographic information based on the *2013 Housing Characteristics and Needs in Snohomish County Report*, prepared by the Planning Advisory Committee of Snohomish County Tomorrow and the *Affordable Housing Profile* for the city of Lake Stevens, prepared by the Alliance for Housing Affordability. This information is used to describe current population and housing trends in the city. Specific attention is given to discussion of housing distribution, household makeup and affordability. City information is compared to trends in Snohomish County and the other larger cities in the county. Significant population and housing trends are highlighted below, and will be updated during the next periodic update.

- Since 2000, larger cities manifest the greatest population growth in Snohomish County, with Lake Stevens experiencing one of the highest population increases since the last census.
 - The ~~current~~ city population of 29,170 represented an increase of 350% over the 2000 population, which was 6,361. The population has since increased to an estimated 38,951 in August 2021.
- Lake Stevens ~~had~~s the youngest median age at 32.1, while the median age in Snohomish County is 37.3.
- About 7% (1,951 people) of the Lake Stevens population ~~was~~is over 65 which is projected to increase over the next decade.
- There ~~are currently were~~ 9,550 households in the city – approximately 74% of those ~~were~~are family households.
 - The combined, average household size in Lake Stevens is 2.87 persons, while the average county household size is 2.65 persons.
- The Growth Monitoring Report establishes a 2035 new housing unit target of 4,413 for Lake Stevens.
- In 2012, there were an estimated 10,414 dwelling units in Lake Stevens and 237,899 dwelling units in Snohomish County.
 - Lake Stevens ranked fourth (80%) for the highest ratio of single-family dwellings in the county.
 - The average house size for new construction between May 2013 and May 2015 was just under 2,400 square feet.
- The 2011 area median income (AMI) in Lake Stevens ~~was~~is \$73,000, which is slightly higher than the AMI for other larger cities at \$72,000 and Snohomish County, which is nearly \$68,000.
- Approximately 47% of the occupied housing units in the Lake Stevens and Snohomish County are cost-burdened.
- The 2011 unemployment rate in the city was 5.5% compared to 5.7% for the county.



- The 2013 median home price in Lake Stevens ~~was~~ \$246,900.
 - Owner occupancy increased from 75% in 2000 to 78.2% in 2010.
- The average monthly rent in 2000 was \$716 while in 2010 the average monthly rent increased to \$1,254
 - Rental unit vacancy increased from 5.4% in 2001 to 9.1% in 2010.
- In 2011 the special needs population within the county was over 110,000.
 - 43,600 residing in the unincorporated areas
 - 32,000 in larger cities
 - 3,009 in Lake Stevens
- In Lake Stevens, approximately 3% of households received some sort of assistance; while in Snohomish County 3.8% of households received assistance.
- 97,000 additional housing units would need to be constructed in the county by 2035
 - Larger and small cities have about 60% of the available residential capacity for single-family and 40% for multifamily.
 - Lake Stevens needs to accommodate an additional 4,469 housing units.
 - The projected city share of affordable units would be 984 affordable housing units for households making less than 50% of AMI.



Other changes to this section include an updated discussion of state, regional and countywide planning policies and updated strategies to promote housing affordability, along with updated goals and policies.

Environment and Natural Resources



A Vision for the Environment and Natural Resources – the city of Lake Stevens will provide effective and ongoing investment to ensure water quality and continued environmental stewardship for current and future generations by protecting fish and wildlife habitat, critical areas and open space corridors; conserving land, air, water and energy resources; and integrating the shoreline management of Lake Stevens into land use decisions.

The city is committed to providing ongoing environmental stewardship of our shared shorelines, open spaces, critical areas, and wildlife habitats. Updates to the Environment and Natural Resources chapter of the Comprehensive Plan include the integration of the state, regional, county and local planning contexts, providing a description of local geology, soil profiles, drainage, and surface and ground water resources, a discussion of the city's coordination with other state and regional agencies to improve air quality and mitigate the effects of climate change by encouraging sustainable development, and a consolidation and reorganization of the Goals and Policies section to eliminate redundancy, contradictory policies and reflect updated code requirements.

Parks Element

A Vision for Parks and Recreation – the city of Lake Stevens will create diverse recreational opportunities for all ages to enjoy parks, trails and activities, and local events throughout the community and with expanded access to Lake Stevens.

The Parks Element includes an inventory of parks, recreation and opens spaces, describes the unique park classifications, establishes levels of service for each park type, and provides a needs assessment and capital facilities plan. Only minor changes are proposed to the Parks Element including updated references in the capital projects list and updated narrative and maps to reflect recent property acquisitions and projects.

Economic Development

Executive Summary



A Vision for Economic Development – Lake Stevens will embrace a sustainable local economy by supporting a varied job sector for residents, promoting excellent shopping and service options, providing a stable and predictable permitting process and fostering accountable government oversight of public funds.

The Economic Development Element describes the city's economic development strategy in terms of growth patterns and fiscal conditions. Changes to the Economic Development Element include updated goals and policies to reflect the city's focus, efforts and progress toward the economic strategy plan adopted by the city in 2010. Updates also include market and demographic data used as economic indicators that will guide further emphasis on specific strategies supporting economic growth in the areas of job sector diversification, retail and personal services industry growth to serve the community's needs. This data is ever changing and will be used as a "snapshot" in time. Therefore, the Chapter further provides for updating, monitoring data and analyzing results as an on-going activity to ensure city resources are used for the best possible yield and in a responsible manner. The changes are supported in the Land Use Element and other Comprehensive Plan elements by directing retail and employment growth into the city's growth centers.



Public Services and Utilities Element

A Vision for Public Utilities and Services – Lake Stevens will strive to provide excellent public utilities & services to meet the health and safety needs of the community in proportion to future population growth and will continue to coordinate with local service providers such as

the Lake Stevens Sewer District, Lake Stevens Fire, and the Lake Stevens School District to ensure service continuity as the community grows.

This element provides a descriptive inventory of, and considers the general location and capacity of, all existing and proposed public utilities, facilities and services in the city of Lake Stevens in relation to levels of service for current and future residents and businesses. In the preparation of this element, city staff met with other departments, public agencies and special purpose districts (e.g., Lake Stevens School District, the Snohomish County Public Utilities District (PUD), Lake Stevens



Sewer District, Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue (previously Lake Stevens Fire District) and Lake Stevens Police Department) to identify the current status of facilities and services provided by these agencies to incorporate. Significant trends are highlighted below.

- The Lake Stevens Police Department continues to provide a variety of services including marine and road patrol, crime and accident investigation, traffic enforcement, crime prevention, School Resource Officer Program, concealed weapons permits, passports, records and evidence keeping and animal control.
- Within the city's stormwater system there are approximately 68 city-owned or operated facilities, 4,562 catch basins, 13.5 miles of road side ditches, 66.2 miles of pipe and 22,942 feet of culverts.
- The sewer system includes a network of trunk and collector lines, a flow telemetry system, manholes, and pump/lift stations and a treatment plant operated by the Lake Stevens Sewer District.
 - Since the last update the new Sunnyside Treatment Plant and Southwest Interceptor have been completed, providing additional capacity for development.
 - The Sewer District has completed the 2016 update to their Sanitary Sewer Comprehensive Plan
- Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue serves an area of about 140 square miles, including the 46 square miles and 3 stations of the previous Lake Stevens Fire District, which merged with District 7 on January 1, 2020.
 - The Fire District performs fire code compliance activities, inspects commercial and public buildings for the city of Lake Stevens (381 in 2013) and reviews land use and building permits through the Fire Marshal's office.
 - In 2013, the Fire District responded to 4,659 calls. The newly combined district responded to over 17,000 calls in 2019.
 - Over the past 5 years, the Fire District has experienced an annual increase in call volume of 1.5%.
 - The Fire District plans to increase the daily staffing level to 14 firefighters by year 2017 and build a new station by 2022.
- The Lake Stevens School District covers approximately 37 square miles
 - The District currently serves a student population of 9,200 with seven elementary schools, two middle schools, one mid-high school, one high school and one homeschool partnership program (HomeLink). The District estimates the enrollment will total 10,776 students in 2025. The District has projected permanent capacity shortfall by 2025 for K-5 of 1,581 students (with no improvements).
 - Currently five of the seven elementary schools are above their design capacity.
 - The city ~~has~~ adopted the most recent 2020-2025 School District Capital Facilities Plan in November 2020.



- Following recent annexations, the Snohomish School District now serves a small area in the southeast corner of the City.
 - The city adopted the 2020-2025 School District Capital Facilities Plan in December 2021.
- The city coordinates with the Snohomish County Health District for public health services, specifically the review of septic systems and food service inspections.
- Waste Management Northwest, ~~Incorporated and Republic Services~~ provides solid waste services within the city under ~~contract for a 103-year contract through March 2031 period.~~
- Puget Sound Energy provides natural gas service through a city franchise.
- The Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County (PUD), serves the city of Lake Stevens
 - 80% of its power comes from the Bonneville Power Administration, with the remainder provided from a mix of renewable resources.
 - The PUD operates 3 distribution substations within the city and multiple transmission lines.
- The PUD also manages the city's water system, which includes 8 reservoirs and 330 miles of pipe.
 - The primary water supply to the Lake Stevens Water System comes from Spada Lake and is purchased from the city of Everett.
 - Former emergency wells, in the northeast corner of the city, have been converted to full-time use to supplement the water supply.

Transportation

A Vision for Transportation – the city will develop an effective multimodal transportation system that emphasizes access, direct circulation and safety for vehicles, freight, public transportation, cyclists and pedestrians locally and to the region.

The Transportation Element contains updated information related to road classifications, level of service standards, street inventory, multi-modal planning, and mass transit. The chapter includes required GMA, PSRC and county-required goals and policies. Analysis of future roadway, safety and pedestrian and bicycle needs have also been reviewed and updated. The goals and policies have been revised as needed to ensure required elements are included for consistency with other plan elements.

Capital Facilities

A Vision for Capital Facilities – The city will develop a realistic and achievable capital facilities plan that ensures an effective use of taxpayer and ratepayer dollars that prioritizes capital investments to maintain adopted levels of service, responds to project urgency and feasibility, is consistent with the city's growth strategy, and provides a clear community benefit.

Executive Summary

The Capital Facilities Element was substantially changed in 2012 and 2013 as a result of the newly adopted Subarea Plans for Lake Stevens Center and 20th Street SE Corridor. The primary modifications to the Capital Facilities Element in 2016 ~~contain-included~~ updates of financial data, inventory, funding mechanisms and clarification of the 6-year Capital Improvement Plan. The Goals and Policies ~~wereare~~ updated to reflect the city's desire to be a sustainable community around the Lake with unsurpassed infrastructure supporting an exceptional quality of life. The city expects to accomplish these goals by ensuring good fiscal stewardship, using smart growth principles to understand how the city's planned growth pattern affects the investments that will be needed and investing in where new growth should occur. The changes in this Element also provide for the short- and long-term cost planning to support infrastructure expenditures.



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Attachment 2

Chapter 2: Land Use Element





CHAPTER 2: LAND USE ELEMENT

A VISION FOR LAND USE

As Lake Stevens continues to grow in population and area, the city will strive to create balanced opportunities for residential growth, varied housing types, employment, commercial endeavors and public services for all people to live, work, learn and play throughout the community.

INTRODUCTION

In-Between 2018 and 2021, the city completed several annexations modifying the city boundaries, ~~established in December 2009~~. As of ~~November 2019~~August 2021, the city encompasses an area of approximately 5,915.275 acres (119.24 square miles), including the 1,000-acre lake and all areas surrounding the lake. Small pockets of unincorporated areas comprise the remainder of the Lake Stevens Urban Growth Area (UGA), with an area of 2,036.675 acres (13.18 square miles) including the lake. ~~As of October 2020, the city was in the process of annexing approximately 600 acres of the remaining UGA. The current~~Based on the draft 2021 Buildable Land Report (BLR), the Lake Stevens UGA provides sufficient capacity to accommodate projected population growth but results in a minor deficit in meeting and employment forecasts, when considering environmental constraints, existing development, infrastructure and services, existing and/or planned transportation corridors and areas where urban services could be extended logically. ~~The city limits currently surround the northern, northeastern and western banks of Lake Stevens.~~ The city anticipates that the remainder of the Urban Growth Area (UGA) will be annexed over the next planning horizon.

Directly west of the city is the Snohomish River flood plain, which consists of critical habitat areas and agricultural uses. To the east are largely forested lands with limited residential development. The area south of the current city boundaries and an unincorporated portion of the UGA is a patchwork of large-lot residences, small farms, and wooded areas with limited commercial areas.

Beyond the Lake Stevens UGA to the north, east and south the city and Snohomish County have established a Rural Urban Transition Area (RUTA) as a future planning area to accommodate growth beyond the 20-year planning horizon. The city's Comprehensive Plan acknowledges that development policies within the RUTA will have direct and indirect impacts on the Lake Stevens community, and it has an interest in decision-making in these areas as it affects development. The RUTA directly adjacent to the Lake Stevens UGA totals approximately 5,400 acres and is largely rural in character. It contains large lot residences,



several sizable tracts of forested land and limited agricultural uses. According to the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan, RUTAs are intended as areas to set aside for potential supply of land for employment and residential land uses and possible inclusion in a UGA.

PLANNING CONTEXT

The Land Use Element presents a blueprint for growth over the next 20 years. This element considers the general location, intensity and density of land uses, how traffic, drainage, community services, etc. interact with and affect development. The Land Use Element influences how the community develops through the implementation of municipal code. This section provides an overview of the existing land use patterns within the city and its unincorporated UGA and describes the city's existing strategy for accommodating residential and employment growth within city limits and beyond.

In implementing its growth strategy, the city faces several challenges including development of land within city limits and the unincorporated UGA constrained by topography, critical areas, infrastructure needs, or ability to accommodate larger employment uses. The city and partner agencies also face challenges to fund the infrastructure needs associated with population and employment growth.

State Planning

The Land Use Element is one of the six mandatory elements required by the Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A.070(1). Within the Land Use Element, the city must:

- Provide a future land use map;
- Consider approaches to promote physical activity;
- Provide a consistent population projection;
- Estimate population densities and building intensities based on future land uses;
- Include provisions for the protection of groundwater;
- Describe lands useful for public purposes, including essential public facilities, airports and military installations as applicable;
- Identify open space corridors;
- Consider review of drainage, flooding and stormwater run-off;
- Designate policies to protect critical areas; and
- Consider transfer of development rights for significant forest or agricultural lands.

Chapter 2 – Land Use

These specific state requirements are discussed in subsequent sections or as specific goals and policies as applicable.



Regional Planning

VISION 2040 and Vision 2050 supports using the urban lands efficiently and sustainably to accommodate population and employment growth across the central Puget Sound. Some specific land use concerns mirror those found in the GMA, such as establishing consistent planning targets for housing and employment. The city's plan identifies housing and employment targets that are consistent with the 2012 Buildable Lands Report (BLR) within the Land Use and Housing elements, which will be updated following adoption of an updated BLR in 2021.

-Many 2040 provisions cross over into different elements, such as Environment, Development Patterns, Housing, Economic Development, Public Services and Transportation. Another important aspect of the regional strategy is to promote centers and compact urban development, which is a central theme of the city's plan, which focuses on local growth centers implemented as subarea plans. The city's subarea plans present an integrated planning approach based on incorporating economic development, environmental protection, sustainability, social justice and well-being, compact and mixed-use development and multimodal transportation. In addition, the city's municipal code provides several effective mechanisms supporting compact infill development. Another PSRC provision is healthy and active living. The city's plan promotes this ideal in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space, Land Use and Transportation elements. Finally, the city has considered the role of adjacent rural areas as they relate to the city beyond the planning horizon.

Countywide Planning

Snohomish County has adopted Countywide Planning Policies that provide a consistent framework for each jurisdiction to develop its comprehensive plans adopted.

The Development Patterns Goal found in the Countywide Planning Policies states,

“The cities, towns, and Snohomish County will promote and guide well-designed growth into designated urban areas to create more vibrant urban places while preserving our valued rural and resource lands.”

Specific policies relevant to the Land Use Element include the role of Urban Growth Areas in land use planning including future expansions or modifications, inter-jurisdictional coordination, utilities, and location of employment and housing in relation to infrastructure and transit. Another theme relevant to this element previously identified in the state and regional planning strategies is designating local centers, promoting compact urban developments and transit-oriented developments that encourage higher residential density and infill while integrating new development into existing neighborhoods. Finally, the land use element should consider annexation policies for the unincorporated UGA.



The city recognizes the importance of efficient planning and use of land within the entire UGA in order to meet the population, employment, environmental and other objectives of the GMA and established countywide planning policies. The city's Comprehensive Plan and existing growth strategy is reflective of the policies and vision within the County's Comprehensive Plan and Countywide Planning Policies.

Lake Stevens Planning

The city's Land Use Element considers the themes expressed in the state, regional and countywide plans. Specifically, the Land Use Element describes anticipated land use assumptions and growth targets over the current planning period. This information is the basis for current land use designations and zoning districts as well as the city's local growth strategy. Updated growth targets for the year 2044 are scheduled to be adopted in late 2021.

In order to meet projected growth targets, the Lake Stevens UGA must accommodate a population of **46,380** and **7,821** jobs by 2035 (Source: Appendix A Table 1 Snohomish County 2035 Population Growth Targets). The city's portion would include a population of 39,340 or an increase of 11,130 people over the planning period. The current employment target for the city is 7,412 or an increase of 3,818 jobs by 2035. (Source: Appendix D, Table 1 - 2035 Population Growth Targets for Cities, UGAs and the Rural/Resource Area). Figure 2.1 illustrates the total number and percent of both the city's and the unincorporated UGA's 2035 population and employment growth targets.

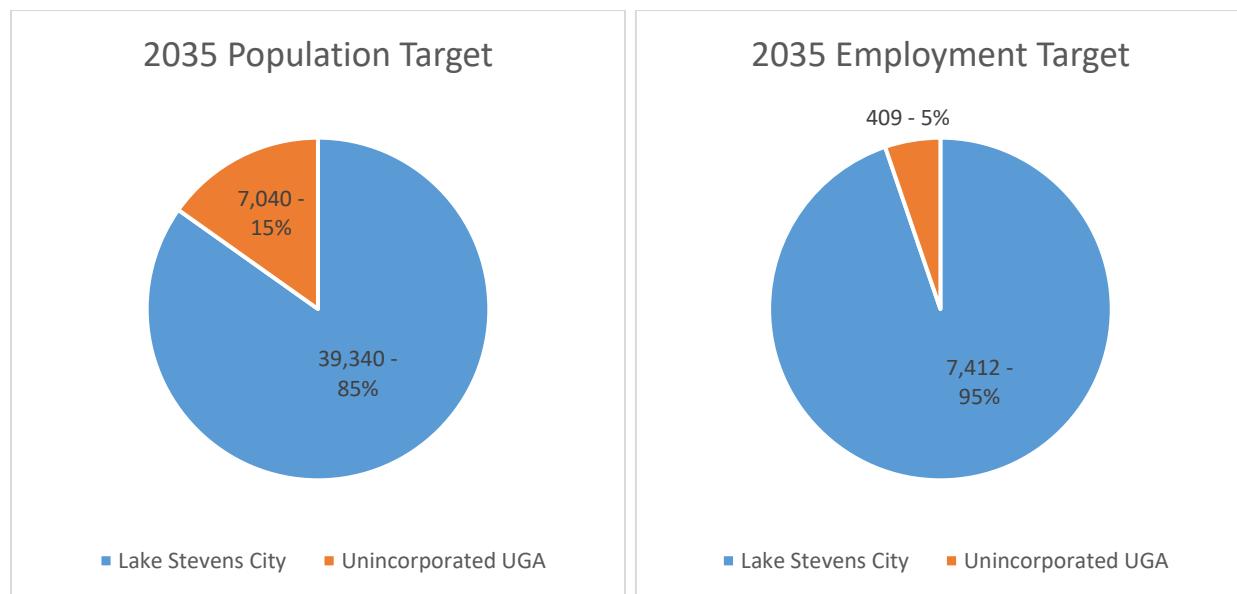


Figure 2.1 – 2035 Growth Targets



LAKE STEVENS GROWTH STRATEGY

The Snohomish County Growth Monitoring Report indicates the population of the city grew by over 341 percent between 2000 and 2010 adding 21,708 people. Annexation and steady residential development fueled this rapid growth. Since 2010, the city population has continued to grow annually by approximately 3.9 percent.

The city's growth strategy directs most residential and employment growth into concentrated centers readily available for development. It is the city's vision to accommodate and attract new businesses that provide family-wage jobs by growing a range of employment sectors near Growth Centers in proximity to housing. Downtown Lake Stevens, Lake Stevens Center, and the 20th Street SE Corridor are identified as Community Growth Centers, while the Hartford Industrial area is an Industrial Center. Figure 2.2 illustrates the location of the four primary centers. A summary of development potential for each growth center is summarized in Table 2.1.

Each defined Growth Center has varying suitability and potential for future employment uses due to location, access to the transportation network, overall size, development potential, and range of parcel sizes. This growth center strategy implements countywide, regional and statewide goals by focusing development where infrastructure and services are or will be available and preserving the natural characteristics of the city. The city's growth center strategy is consistent with the public vision expressed during the community outreach for this project and others.

To complement its growth strategy, the city began developing an economic development approach. In 2010, the city completed an Economic Development Assessment. The main findings suggested residents were spending retail dollars outside the city and leaving the city to work. This document was followed by a demographic assessment and economic profile of the city. These documents laid the foundation for future economic development and complemented the evolving growth strategy.

The city's ultimate goal for each center, based on the economic and demographic assessments, is to develop a unique subarea plan with distinguishing characteristics that serve slightly different markets ensuring economic diversity and vitality. The city has adopted three Subarea Plans: Lake Stevens Center and the 20th Street SE Corridor in 2012 and the Downtown Lake Stevens Subarea in 2018. As a development incentive, the city adopted a Planned Action Ordinance for each subarea to satisfy State Environmental Policy Act review requirements. Adoption of the plans resulted in area-specific design guidelines, development regulations and zoning districts.

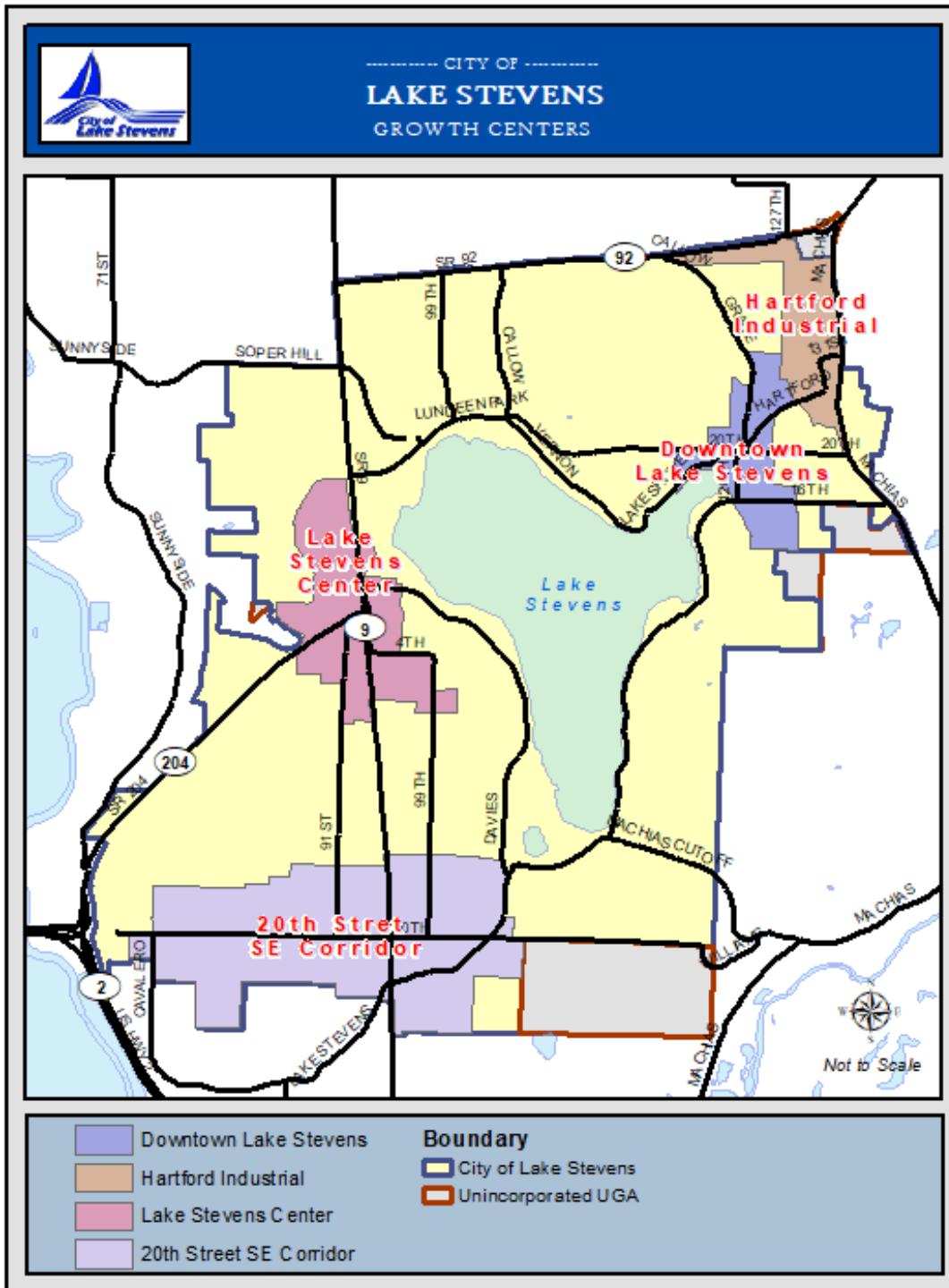


Figure 2.2 – Growth Centers Map

**Table 2.1 - Growth and Development Potential of Existing Growth Centers**

		DOWNTOWN LAKE STEVENS	LAKE STEVENS CENTER	HARTFORD CENTER	20 TH STREET SE CORRIDOR
Size (Acres)		30	359	267	845
Subarea Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework plan completed in 2012 Subarea plan completed July 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subarea Plan adopted 2012 Planned Action Ordinance adopted 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subarea Plan adopted 2012 Planned Action Ordinance adopted 2012
Relation to Transportation System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local access via 20th St NE Indirect access to SR 92 via Grade Rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct access to SR 9 and SR 204 Indirect access to US 2 via SR 204 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect access to SR 92 via Machias Rd., Old Hartford Dr. Indirect access to US 2 via Machias Road Limited internal network of roads 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect access to SR 9 via 20th St SE, S Lake Stevens Rd.
Existing Land Use Pattern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small to medium parcels (0.2-3.0 acres) in Historic Town Center Existing residential uses on commercially zoned parcels Significant amount of multi-family residential uses and zoning in southeast portion of center with small to large parcels (0.3-10 acres) Medium to large parcels (1-10 acres) in Grade Rd. area, largely undeveloped 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auto-oriented commercial uses primarily on large parcels (>10 acres) with smaller parcels (<0.5 acres) carved out along street frontage Primarily multi-family residential uses and zoning at edges of center with some single-family residential uses in eastern portion of center Significant portion of government-owned property on eastside of SR 9 @ Market Pl. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily medium to large parcels (3-30 acres) Cluster of smaller parcels (< 1 acre) in middle of center Largely undeveloped 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily medium to large parcels (1-10 acres) with several irregular parcels due to diagonal intersection Limited existing commercial uses and zoning at intersection of 20th St SE and S Lake Stevens Rd. in eastern portion of center Primarily mix of multi-family and single-family residential uses Several large parcels (> 10 acres) zoned multi-family



	DOWNTOWN LAKE STEVENS	LAKE STEVENS CENTER	HARTFORD CENTER	20 TH STREET SE CORRIDOR
Environmental Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetlands and flood prone areas within Grade Rd. area Category 2 wetlands east of historic town center area where zoned multi-family residential. Catherine Creek bisects the Grade Rd. area and downtown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetlands between SR 9 and 91st Ave SE, near SR 204 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small amount of wetlands just north of Hartford Dr. NE and just north of 36th St NE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetlands at northeast corner of S Lake Stevens Rd and 20th St SE, north of S Lake Stevens Rd
Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Stevens shoreline access Catherine Creek View potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View potential
Potential Land Use Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center has lower intensity single-family uses to the north, west, and south and higher intensity industrial uses to the east 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center is surrounded by lower-intensity single-family and multi-family residential uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center is surrounded by lower intensity residential uses Lack of Utilities & Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center is surrounded by lower-intensity single-family residential uses
Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited potential for larger employment uses due to transportation access and small parcel sizes More suitable for local-serving retail and small commercial uses Potential as a Mixed-Use Town Center consisting of civic and local-serving retail uses, limited office and residential uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some potential for larger employment uses given transportation access and large parcels, but contingent upon redevelopment potential Potential for Main Street center on 91st Street NE between Market Place/SR204 Potential as a Commercial Mixed-Use Center consisting primarily of regional retail commercial uses with multi-family residential uses towards the edges of the center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to accommodate larger employment uses, but limited by location and transportation access Potential as an Industrial Center consisting primarily of industrial uses and limited office uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for larger employment uses including business parks and retail centers Potential for Mixed-Use Centers consisting primarily of residential uses with some office and local-serving retail commercial uses



DOWNTOWN LAKE STEVENS

The greater downtown Lake Stevens includes an area of more than 200 acres near 20th St NE, Main St and Hartford Drive NE, and consists of the historic town center adjacent to the northwestern tip of the lake, the Grade Road Planned Business District, and associated residential areas. As adopted, the subarea plan takes in the historic downtown core encompassing a compact area of approximately 30 acres. This area has been characterized primarily by low-intensity commercial and residential development on small to medium-sized parcels.

The historic town center has several key attributes to support its revitalization including its lake front setting, strong projected population growth and the potential for higher density residential development. Development of an effective plan and an active marketing campaign for this area is a high priority for the city. In 2005, the city developed a conceptual plan for downtown Lake Stevens. In 2012, the city proposed a framework plan for the area that identified preferred land uses and potential infrastructure improvements to facilitate desired growth patterns. In 2018, the city adopted a full subarea plan that identified land uses, development intensity, parking requirements, public improvements, program development, etc.

Downtown Lake Stevens has some challenges, specifically access and infrastructure. Several road improvements are proposed to improve access throughout downtown and to the Hartford Industrial Center, and to the regional highway system. The city continues to work with utility providers to assess needed infrastructure improvements.

LAKE STEVENS CENTER SUBAREA (FORMERLY FRONTIER VILLAGE GROWTH CENTER)

Lake Stevens Center is comprised of approximately 360 acres of land centered on the State Route 9/State Route 204 intersection. In September 2012, the City Council adopted the Lake Stevens Center Subarea Plan to revitalize the center, emphasizing retail and office growth. The plan also amended the Land Use Map for many parcels within the subarea. Future residential development would be primarily high-density residential. The general land use pattern would consist of a commercial core, smaller commercial and mixed-use areas, a main street area, and transit-oriented development. Following a recent market analysis in 2019, the city has updated the land use designation to more closely match current market conditions. The plan assumes future growth of 140,000-150,000 gross square feet of retail, 140,000-150,000 gross square feet of office, and 180 to 200 additional dwelling units. A Planned Action Ordinance, capital facilities plan, development regulations, and design guidelines were also adopted.



20TH STREET SE CORRIDOR (FORMERLY SOUTH LAKE GROWTH CENTER)

The 20th Street SE Corridor is comprised of approximately 850 acres of land crossing the southern portion of the city from approximately South Lake Stevens Road in the east to Cavalero Road in the west. In September 2012, the City Council adopted the 20th Street SE Corridor Subarea Plan to create an employment center emphasizing business parks and commercial development. Future residential development would be primarily higher-density development including townhomes, row houses, cottage housing, and live/work units. The general land use pattern would consist of at least one large business park, a regional retail center, and commercial or mixed-use nodes with higher-density residential growth in transitional areas between existing single-family developments and higher intensity development. Following a recent market analysis in 2019, the city has updated the potential growth sectors to more closely match current market conditions. The revised plan predicts 500,000 gross square feet of retail, 500,000 gross square feet of office, and 1,000 additional dwelling units. A Planned Action Ordinance, capital facilities plan, development regulations, and design guidelines were also adopted.

HARTFORD INDUSTRIAL CENTER

The Hartford Industrial Center is an area of approximately 267 acres located in the northeast portion of the city, between Downtown Lake Stevens and unincorporated Snohomish County. The Hartford Center is adjacent to industrially zoned properties outside the city limits. The area is zoned General Industrial (GI) and Light Industrial (LI), which allow a wide range of industrial uses. The area currently has a mix of low-intensity industrial uses, some retail and older single-family residential pockets. The Hartford Industrial Center currently has additional employment capacity available for redevelopment. It is the city's intention to promote and develop the Hartford Industrial Center as a local employment center. The Hartford Industrial Center's potential to accommodate larger employment uses are currently limited by location, limited visibility, lack of extensive public infrastructure and transportation access. The city will conduct a market study of the area to determine any need for expansion, infrastructure improvements, and marketing strategies to attract appropriate industries.

In February 2021, the city annexed an additional 66 acres of land known as the Machias Industrial area, which is zoned GI and is located just east of the Hartford Industrial Center. In late 2021, the city began a process to explore potential infrastructure improvements in the entire area (known collectively as the Lake Stevens Industrial Area), which will be integral in helping the city meet its employment growth targets.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTERS

In addition to the defined growth centers, the city has several small Neighborhood Service Centers located throughout the city zoned Local Business (LB) or Mixed Use. Small



neighborhood service centers serve the immediate shopping and service needs for the surrounding residential areas. These neighborhood service centers augment economic development activity citywide and balance the commercial uses found in larger growth centers.

ANNEXATION AND RURAL URBAN TRANSITION AREA (RUTA)

The city will continue to coordinate annexation of the remaining unincorporated UGA throughout the 2035 planning horizon. Additionally, the city of Lake Stevens is looking outside its borders given the impact that planning efforts have on the entire Lake Stevens community in preparation for future UGA expansions after build-out.

For the purposes of defining a Framework Plan that includes the Rural Urban Transition Area (RUTA) as an area for long-term employment growth, the city's existing strategy for growth within the UGA has been reviewed and analyzed. Related documents such as County plans and Buildable Lands Report are discussed further below, together with summaries of information related to public services and utilities. The city completed a project report for the Lake Stevens South Rural Urban Transition Area in August 2008. The city recognizes the importance of review and analysis of all adjacent RUTA areas for future comprehensive planning and benefit.

The city of Lake Stevens recognizes that the UGA is bordered by areas labeled by the County as "transitional". The city also recognizes that development policies within these areas and beyond will have direct and indirect impacts on the Lake Stevens community, its quality of life, infrastructure, transportation, services, finance and the stewardship of land and lake water quality. Therefore, the city's vision requires its involvement in the decision-making in these areas as they affect development and its impacts.

LAND USES AND ZONING

Lake Stevens includes a mix of residential, commercial, industrial and public/semi-public land use designations. Residential designations are spread throughout the city and include both high-density and single-family oriented land uses. There are several commercial designations that vary in intensity by location. For example, the highest intensity commercial land uses are located along highways and arterials, while neighborhood level commercial use may be congregated at the intersections of arterials and collectors. The city's industrial land uses are primarily located in the northeastern corner of the city, except for one area in the northwestern corner, subject to a development agreement. Public/Semi-public land uses are spread across the city. Most public/semi-public areas include school sites, municipal services and parks. Figure 2.3, the current Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map, illustrates the distribution of land use throughout the city as well as predesignations for the UGA that would be effective upon annexation.



Residential Land Uses – Residential land uses include all single-family development and multifamily uses including, apartments, condominiums, manufactured housing, foster care facilities, group quarters, and cooperative housing.

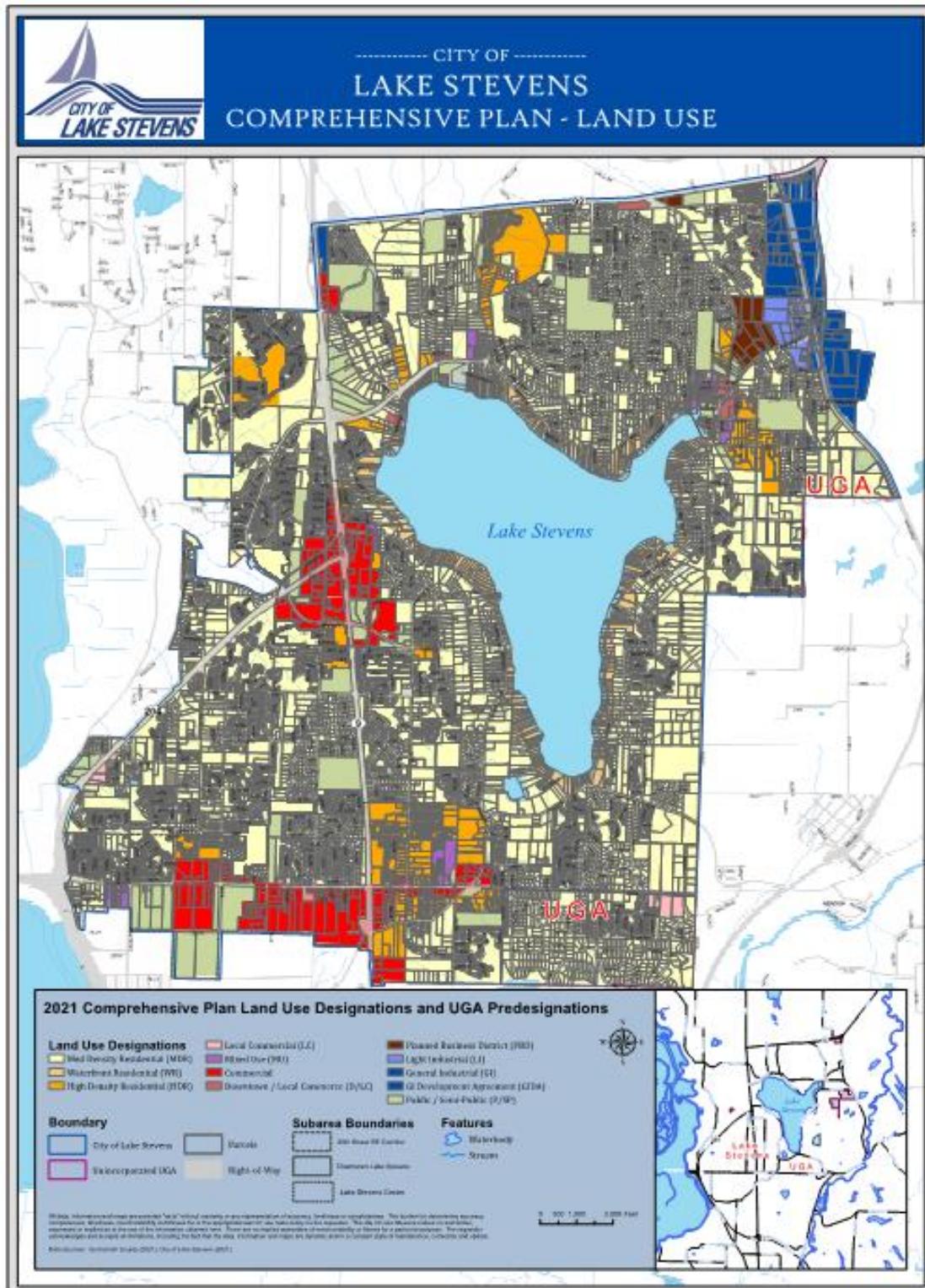


Figure 2.3 – City Land Use Map



- High Density Residential allows single-family, two-family, and multifamily residential uses. It also allows limited public/semi-public, community and recreational uses. This designation should be generally located in transitional areas between single-family designations and commercial designations where infrastructure and public transportation is readily available.
- Medium Density Residential allows single-family, two-family and some multifamily residential development with a density between four (4) to 12 units per acre based on zoning with the potential for bonuses. This designation includes detached and attached units, accessory units, townhouses, condominiums, duplexes, tourist homes, special service homes and manufactured/mobile structures. It also allows limited public/semi-public, community and recreational uses. This designation should be generally located in transitional areas between high density designations and rural areas where infrastructure is readily available.
- Waterfront Residential allows single-family residential uses with a density of four (4) units per acre with the potential for bonuses. This designation includes detached and attached units, accessory units, detached, tourist homes, and special service homes. It also allows limited multifamily, public/semi-public, community, and recreational uses. This designation is located in residential neighborhoods within the shoreline jurisdiction.

Through implementation of zoning regulations, the city will consider innovative and flexible residential options, in appropriate zoning districts, to allow a variety of housing. For example, the municipal code allows higher-density residential uses such as townhouses and small-lot, single-family residential units, and innovative housing options such as cottage housing. In all residential zones, cluster subdivisions and planned residential developments allow variations in housing styles and increases in housing density as a means of encouraging good design, specifically on challenging sites where natural characteristics (slopes, wetlands, streams, etc.) require careful design and development.

Commercial Land Uses – Commercial land uses include all commercial and mixed-use configurations including, small scale/neighborhood commercial, large scale retail, and employment designations.

- Downtown/Local Commercial: This designation permits moderate to higher intensity land uses including the Central Business District and other dense arrangements of professional offices and retail stores. This designation discourages uses that are land consumptive (i.e., warehouses) or that generate high-traffic volumes (e.g., drive-through businesses or gas stations). It allows mixed-use development.
- Mixed-Use Commercial: This designation permits moderate to higher intensity land use that includes both commercial and residential elements and encourages mixed-use (commercial and residential). It is intended that this land use designation will be placed where a "village atmosphere" is desired, or as a transition between high and low intensity zones.



- **Planned Business District:** The Planned Business District allows moderate intensity commercial or mixed-use development through a Master Development Plan. It is intended that this land use designation be placed on lands between high and low intensity uses to act as a buffer; or on sites containing sensitive resources; or other sites where, due to property specific circumstances, detailed planning would benefit all property owners involved as well as the public by allowing transfer of densities among parcels in order to avoid impacts to critical areas or local infrastructure. It also allows limited public/semi-public, community, and recreational uses.
- **Commercial:** This is a high intensity land use that includes both high-intensity retail and employment uses including community and regional retail centers, offices, business parks, and associated uses. Multifamily residential uses could be included above or behind commercial uses. It should be located in areas with direct access to highways and arterials in addition to transit facilities, adequate public services and traffic capacity.

Industrial Land Uses – Industrial uses include a mix of light and general industrial trades geared toward manufacturing, resource extraction, agriculture, warehousing and other intensive types of land uses.

- **General Industrial** – This designation allows a full range of industrial uses which may impact surrounding properties. This category also allows retail sales, public/semi-public, community and recreational uses. It should be located in areas with direct access to truck routes, adequate public services, infrastructure and traffic capacity.
- **Light Industrial** – This designation allows a full range of industrial uses with less impact to surrounding properties than general industrial properties. The city looks to this designation as accommodating the future high-tech industries and family-wage jobs. This category also allows retail sales, public/semi-public, community and recreational uses. It should be located in areas with direct access to truck routes, adequate public services, infrastructure and traffic capacity, and be transitional to commercial/mixed-use areas.

Public/Semi-Public – This category includes public buildings, public services, and transportation facilities to support operations of the city, the school district, fire district and miscellaneous other governmental functions. These services require land throughout the city.

EXISTING ZONING IN CITY AND UGA

The city establishes zoning for areas within the city limits while Snohomish County establishes zoning for areas within the unincorporated portions of the Lake Stevens UGA. Existing zoning within the city and its UGA allows a range of residential and employment uses.

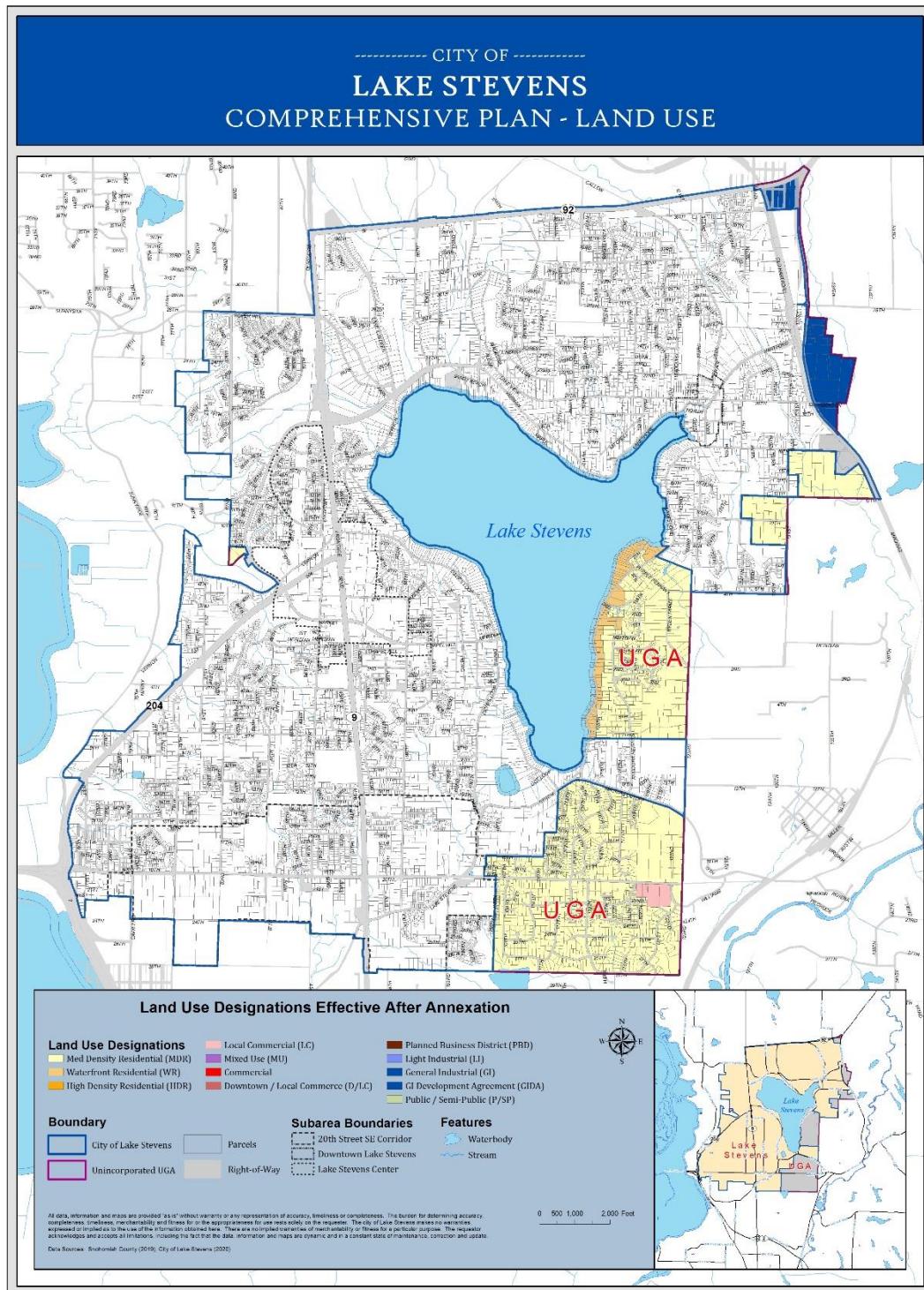


Figure 2.4 – Unincorporated UGA Pre-designation Land Use Map



As part of the 2019 update, the city hosted public outreach as it considered future land uses designations and zoning districts for land within the unincorporated Urban Growth Area. In general, the land use designations will closely follow the current county designations. Current industrial and business park areas will be zoned General Industrial. Notably a commercial node for land use and zoning has been identified in the southeastern area along 20th St SE. ~~The pre-designations and zoning are shown on the following map – are shown on Figure 2.34, which was amended in 2020 to . In 2020, the city amended Figure 2.4 to~~ change the land use designation for four parcels on the north side of 20th St SE to Medium Density Residential.

Commercial/Industrial Zoning Districts

The city's zoning districts that allow employment uses primarily occur within growth centers and subareas. These zones vary in type of permitted uses and requirements for special or conditional use permits. Residential uses above and/or behind permitted non-residential uses are allowed in some commercial and mixed-use zones. There remains untapped capacity for new commercial development in the two Planned Business District (PBD) zones, and in the Central Business District (CBD) and Mixed Use (MU) zones, where existing houses have not yet converted to commercial uses. Table 2.2 shows a summary of employment zones by acres within the city and its UGA, which is followed by a brief description of the various employment zoning districts.

The three industrial zones – General Industrial (GI), Light Industrial (LI) and General Industrial with Development Agreement (GIDA), permit a range of uses including manufacturing, processing and equipment repair uses, as well as allowing indoor recreational uses, restaurants, storage, motor vehicle sales, and home occupations.

Other employment zones include Planned Business District (PBD), Local Business (LB), Central Business District (CBD), Mixed Use (MU), and Public/Semi-Public (P/SP). These zones allow a wide range of employment uses including sales and rental of goods, office, some manufacturing uses, and retail uses. The CBD zone allows two-family and multifamily residences.

New employment zones since adoption of the subarea plans include Business District (BD), Commercial District (CD), Neighborhood Business (NB), and Mixed-Use Neighborhood (MUN). The BD zone is geared toward high-tech and other professional occupations. The CD zone allows the most intensive retail uses in the city, while the NB zone is geared toward retail needs of adjacent neighborhoods. The MUN zone is a mixed-use zone. With amendments to the Lake Stevens Center and 20th Street SE Corridor subarea plans, approximately 13 percent of the land within the city, or 10 percent of total UGA (city plus UGA) is zoned for commercial and employment uses.



Employment zones in the unincorporated UGA are found in the northeast portion of the city adjacent to the Hartford Industrial Center. It is assumed that similar city zoning would be applied once these areas are annexed into the city.

TABLE 2.2 - EMPLOYMENT ZONING IN LAKE STEVENS UGA

EMPLOYMENT ZONE	ACRES	PERCENT OF CITY	PERCENT OF UNINCORPORATED UGA ¹
CITY			
General Industrial	94.39	1.63	1.19%
General Industrial w/Development Agreement	7.02	0.12%	0.09%
Light Industrial	40.19	0.69%	0.51%
Central Business District	21.42	0.37%	0.27%
Planned Business District	43.83	0.76%	0.55%
Local Business	18.88	0.33%	0.24%
Mixed Use	11.79	.20%	0.15%
Business District	0.90%	0.02%	0.01%
Commercial District	400.69	6.92% %	5.05 %
Main Street District ²	0%	0%	0%
Neighborhood Business District ³	0%	.0%	0%
Mixed-Use Neighborhood	55.61	0.96%	0.70%
City Total	683.64	12%	8.76%
UNINCORPORATED AREA			
Heavy Industrial (Snohomish County Code)	62.35	3.06%	0.78%
Business Park (Snohomish County Code)	23.62	1.16%	0.30%
Unincorporated Total	85.97	4.22%	9.68%
UGA Total	769.61	13.01%	9.67

¹ Combined UGA (city and unincorporated UGA) total approximately 7,952 acres, city portion is 5,801 acres.

² The Main Street District has been eliminated and re-designated Commercial District.

³ The Neighborhood Business District has been eliminated and re-designated Commercial District.



Residential Zoning Districts

Table 2.3 shows a summary of residential zones by acres within the city and in the unincorporated UGA. Single-family zones include R4 (previously Suburban Residential), R6 (previously Urban Residential), and Waterfront Residential. The higher-density residential zones include R8-12 (previously High-Urban Residential), Multi-family Residential, and MF Development Agreement.

TABLE 2.3 - RESIDENTIAL ZONING

		CITY ONLY	UNINCORPORATED UGA	
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
Higher-Density Zoning ⁴	914.24	15.76 %	9.8	0.12%
Single-family Zoning	3712.07	63.99%	1010.2	12.76%

Approximately 16 percent of the city is zoned for higher-density residences while approximately 64 percent is zoned for medium to lower density single-family residential uses. Areas zoned for higher-density residential development are found within designated growth centers, subareas and several areas outside of these centers, along SR 9 and Callow Road in the northern portion of the city. A smaller area zoned for multifamily residential uses occurs along Lundein Parkway, approximate to the northwest tip of the lake. Snohomish County zoning applies to unincorporated areas within the Lake Stevens UGA. Approximately 0.12 percent of the unincorporated UGA is zoned for multifamily residential uses while approximately 13 percent of the area is zoned for single-family residential.

BUILDABLE LANDS ANALYSIS / GROWTH TARGETS

Recent annexations have increased the amount of buildable land in the city. The city recognizes the importance of efficient planning and use of remaining lands to meet the population, employment, environmental and other objectives of growth management. The amount of land that is fully developable within the city limits is limited, with large portions of remaining land constrained by topography, critical areas and infrastructure needs. A vital community must find a balance between inevitable growth, a quality environment, good service to citizens and fiscal responsibility. The Land Use Plan is a key factor in developing this balance. Coordination between the Land Use Element and the Capital Facilities Element is essential to produce a Plan that can realistically be implemented. The

⁴ Higher Density Zoning includes R8-12 (formerly High Urban Residential), Multifamily Residential and Multifamily Residential Development Agreement zoning districts.



Comprehensive Plan must ensure that infrastructure can support existing and new development.

Under the GMA, Snohomish County and its cities review and evaluate the adequacy of suitable residential, commercial and industrial land supplies inside the UGA for accommodating projected population and employment growth every five years. Regular updates to the buildable lands report ensure that communities continue to meet growth targets for the remaining portion of its current planning horizon.

Going into the 2007 buildable lands update, the Lake Stevens UGA had a population surplus and employment deficit of 264 jobs. These findings were generally consistent between Snohomish County's analysis and the city's independent analysis. The city's independent study was designed to reflect a more accurate picture of the growth potential and/or limitations in the city limits and the UGA given the city's annexation goals and schedule. The county and cities worked diligently to reach consensus on the methodologies used to calculate land capacity; all major differences were reconciled at the UGA level.

Since 2007, as the city limits grew through annexation, the city identified reasonable measures to address capacity deficiencies and inconsistencies within the UGA. A detailed list of reasonable measures is found later in this section. As discussed previously, through the city's growth center strategy it has developed two subarea plans, which directly address employment deficiencies. Moving into the 2012 BLR, the Lake Stevens UGA has reconciled its forecasted employment deficit. Overall, there is an adequate land capacity to accommodate the adopted 2035 population and employment growth targets.

Table 2.4 compares the 2012 buildable lands capacity estimates and adopted 2035 growth targets for population and employment for the Lake Stevens UGA. The city's portion of the 2035 growth targets for employment would be 7,412 jobs and 39,340 population respectively. Updated 2044 growth targets are expected to be adopted in late 2021, and this chapter will be updated to reflect those numbers.

Table 2.4 Buildable Lands / 2035 Growth Target Comparison

2035 GROWTH TARGETS		2025 POPULATION CAPACITY	DIFFERENCE
Population	46,380	46,634 (BLR)	254
Employment	7,821	7,988 (BLR)	167

Tables 2.5 summarizes the 2012 buildable lands capacity for residential zoning districts within the city of Lake Stevens. Each total includes the remaining acreage.

**Table 2.5 - Buildable Lands Analysis – Residential Capacity⁵ (2012)**

ZONING DISTRICT – RESIDENTIAL	TOTAL ACRES ⁶	BUILDABLE ACRES ⁷
Commercial District	401.693	0.165
Main Street ⁸	0	0
Mixed-Use Neighborhood	55.61	31.939
Mixed-Use	11.79	1.636
Multifamily Development Agreement	80.03	29.881
Multifamily Residential	132.71	10.346
R8-12 (formerly High Urban Residential)	701.50 4	205.271
R4 (formerly Suburban Residential)	1485.14	144.852
R6 (formerly Urban Residential)	1968.78	268.448
Waterfront Residential	261.59	14.844
City Totals	716.63	
Unincorporated UGA Residential		385.923
Lake Stevens UGA Total		1,212.016

Of the estimated 3,784 city units, 3,145 would be single-family and 639 would be multifamily. The 2035 housing unit target is 4,413, which is less than assumed buildable lands capacity. The 2012 BLR did not provide a complete estimate for potential mixed-use residential developments in the commercial and mixed-use zones. By comparison, the unincorporated UGA has approximately 385 buildable acres. After reductions, the estimated buildable housing capacity in the unincorporated UGA would be 1,211 new single-family units.

Tables 2.6 summarizes the 2012 buildable lands capacity for employment zoning districts within the city of Lake Stevens. Each total includes the remaining acreage.

⁵ Adapted from the Lake Stevens UGA - Additional Population Capacity Table Snohomish County Tomorrow 2012 Buildable Lands Report, June 2013

⁶ Approximate zone area that includes rights-of-way.

⁷ This column represents estimates the amount of buildable land that is not constrained by critical areas or other limiting factors and includes pending, vacant, partially-used and redevelopable parcels from the 2012 Buildable Lands Report. The estimate is not a precise inventory. Site-specific studies are necessary at the time of development to identify location and size of potentially unbuildable lands precisely.

⁸ The Main Street District has been eliminated and re-designated Commercial District.



Table 2.6 - Buildable Lands Analysis- Employment Capacity⁹ (2012)

ZONING DISTRICT - EMPLOYMENT	TOTAL ACRES	BUILDABLE ACRES
High Urban Residential	701.50	33.86
Mixed-Use Neighborhood	55.61	25.36
Mixed-Use	11.79	1.64
Main Street ¹⁰	0	0
Commercial District	344.33	32.61
Neighborhood Business ¹¹		0
Local Business	18.88	4.36
Business District	0.90	0
General Industrial	94.39	2.18
City Totals		161.43
Unincorporated UGA Employment		56.74
Lake Stevens UGA Total		218.17

DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

A look at development trends inside city limits is helpful to understand how current zoning affects future development potential inside the city and shapes the city's growth strategy. A review of development trends also provides insight into growth potential outside city limits as the city contemplates annexation of unincorporated portions of the UGA. Figure 2.5 shows development activity in the city since 2012.

Residential

The current population target for the Lake Stevens UGA is 46,380. Under current zoning the city and unincorporated UGA should have a surplus population of nearly 509 people based on the buildable lands report. Large portions of the city have developed within the past several decades resulting in a relatively new housing stock. Much of the development within recently annexed areas of the city occurred while these areas were part of unincorporated

⁹ Adapted from the Lake Stevens UGA - Additional Population Capacity Table Snohomish County Tomorrow 2012 Buildable Lands Report, June 2013

¹⁰ The Main Street District has been eliminated and re-designated Commercial District.

¹¹ The Neighborhood Business District has been eliminated and re-designated Commercial District.



~~Snohomish County. The present-day land use pattern within the city and its surrounding UGA remains predominantly single-family residential:~~

- ~~Approximately 76 percent of land within the city, and 61 percent of the entire UGA is zoned for single family use.~~
- ~~Multifamily residential zones are located near the perimeter of the downtown Central Business District, along Grade Road to the north, along 16th Street NE to the south, and in and around Lake Stevens Center.~~
- ~~The city has also designated several commercial and mixed-use zones that allow multifamily development associated with the underlying commercial use.~~

~~Since 2006, Lake Stevens has experienced a steady stream of residential construction, as anticipated in the 2012 Buildable Lands Report.~~

- ~~From 2015 through the end of 2018, the city has approved more than 2,500 housing units through at least the preliminary approval stage.~~

~~These growth numbers equate to 79 percent of the city's 2035 growth target. As the trend for steady residential construction continues approximately 72 acres of vacant land remains inside the city with another 617 acres of partially used/re-developable land available for infill development as of late 2018.~~

~~As mentioned, the buildable lands study did not assign a large amount of residential capacity to commercially zoned and mixed-use properties, which allow apartments above the ground floor. It is difficult to predict how many dwellings these zones would accommodate because of a lack of past development history in the city. The potential for accommodating additional dwellings in mixed-use projects is increasing as the city continues to become more urban and with the focus on growth centers through the adoption of distinct subarea plans.~~

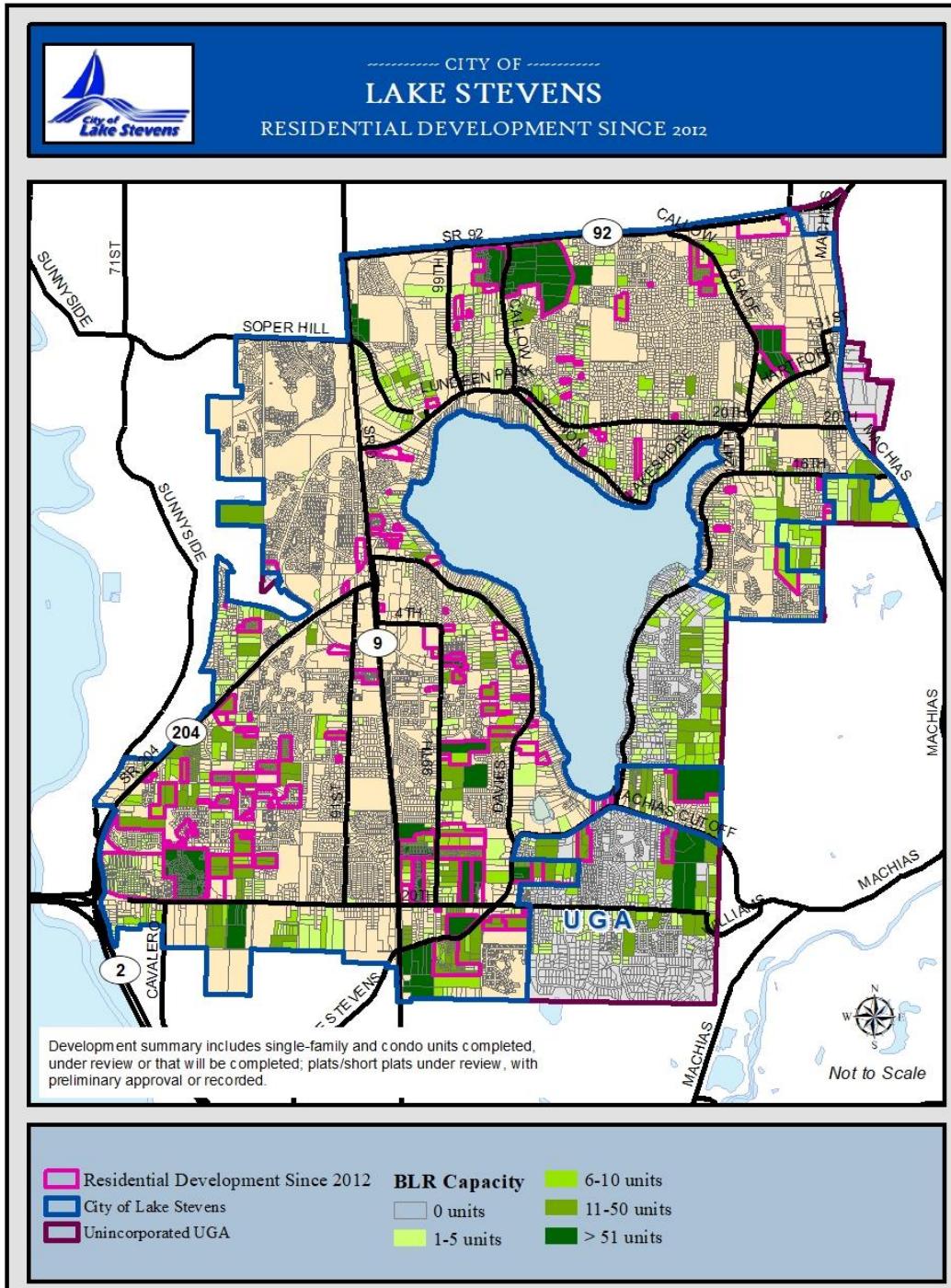


Figure 2.5 – Development Trends Map



Commercial

~~Lake Stevens has historically had one of the lowest jobs to household ratios compared to other Snohomish County cities. The city desired to increase the number of employment opportunities given the increasing size of its population and the need to maintain a sustainable and economically healthy community. The city continues to work to improve its house to employment ratio through the implementation of reasonable measures, development of subarea plans and its growth strategy. At present, the entire UGA has an employment growth target of 7,821 jobs by 2035. The 2012 BLR estimates a surplus of 1,373 jobs at build out based on a capacity of 7,988 jobs, which exceeds the growth target.~~

~~Commercial development has been modest in the city's commercially zoned districts. Downtown Lake Stevens and Lake Stevens Center continue to redevelop. A recent market analysis performed for the city shows that this trend is changing with a reported 3.9 percent annual growth (BERK consulting 2019). The most significant growth during this time has been in Warehousing, Transportation, and Utilities (15%/year); Construction (11%/year); Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (9%/year), and Services (3%/year).~~

~~Between 2012 and mid-2016, the city has approved 43 new commercial/industrial projects, with roughly half of those approved in 2016. The city has also approved a new elementary school and early learning center off Soper Hill Road and a new shopping center in Lake Stevens Center. There remains untapped capacity for new commercial development throughout the city, notably in the two Planned Business Districts, undeveloped or underdeveloped downtown properties, and properties located in the Lake Stevens Center and 20th Street SE Corridor.~~

Industrial

~~The industrial zones remain largely underdeveloped. Much of the industrial activity has occurred on the individual sites or within existing buildings. New construction has been in the form of small additions or low employment activities (e.g. self-storage, etc.).~~

- ~~Since the 2012 Buildable Lands Report, the city has approved two industrial projects adding 13 buildings and approximately 108,000 square feet of storage space.~~
- ~~At present, just over 68 acres of buildable industrial land remains. Most of this land is in the Hartford Road industrial area in the northeastern part of the city.~~
- ~~The city approved an industrial land segregation in 2017 that will add additional industrial employment capacity.~~

~~The city added approximately 100 acres of employment oriented zoning, as part of the subarea plans which remain available for development. For example, the new Business District is geared toward high-tech employment, manufacturing and professional offices and medical as principal uses. This zone should attract employers as the city continues to grow because of its central locations and availability of infrastructure.~~



REASONABLE MEASURES

The Growth Management Act requires that cities consider “reasonable measures” to allow growth to meet the adopted population and employment targets. The following table (Table 2-7) lists the reasonable measures included in the Countywide Planning Policies (part of the 2005 County Comprehensive Plan update), identifies those in effect in Lake Stevens, and comments on their effectiveness or potential.

The reasonable measures with the greatest potential to increase employment in suitable locations include establishment of an economic development strategy and then, encouraging development in centers through subarea planning.

As the city moves forward with the implementation of its Comprehensive Plan, these reasonable measures will be reviewed, revised or added to the city's regulations and development programs.

Table 2.7 – Reasonable Measures Included in Countywide Planning Policies

MEASURES TO INCREASE RESIDENTIAL CAPACITY			
MEASURE	ADOPTED?	APPLICABILITY	EFFECTIVENESS/POTENTIAL
Permit Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in single family zones	Yes	Allows small accessory units. Some zones require 125% of the minimum lot size to allow ADUs.	The city currently allows accessory dwelling units in all residential zones and the Mixed-Use Zone. 11 ADU applications were received between 2018 and 2020.
Multi-family Housing Tax Credits to Developers	Yes	Target areas established by Ordinance 1103 and codified in LSC 3.27.	Multi-family housing tax exemption (MFT) program provides a property tax exemption to developers of market rate and affordable housing in targeted areas of the city.
Transfer of Development Rights	Yes	Properties with critical areas	The city has adopted provision in its subdivision code and critical areas codes to allow reduced lots size and development transfers.
Clustered Residential Development	Yes	PRDs and Cluster Subdivisions	The city has adopted provision in its subdivision code and critical areas codes to allow reduced lots size and development transfers.
Allow Co-Housing	Yes	Shared housing by non-family members	The zoning code allows boarding houses and other congregate living arrangements in specified zones.
Increased Residential Densities	Yes	Single-family zones.	The city allows detached single-family residences in a variety of zones at densities ranging from 4.5-11 units per acre.
Maximum Lot Sizes	No		



Minimum Residential Densities	Yes	Discourages residential sprawl	The city allows a range of single-family densities ranging from 4 -12 units per acre.
Reduce Street Width	Yes	Reduced street standards in residential areas	The city allows a variety of standard and reduced road profiles in its Engineering Design & Development Standards
Allow Small Residential Lots	Yes	Smaller lots in compact neighborhoods	The city allows a range of single-family lot sizes.
Encourage Infill and Redevelopment	Yes	Zones identified in Zoning Code's Innovative Housing and Infill Chapter.	The zoning code allows cottages and attached housing options up to four units in specific areas and subject to the provisions of LSCM 14.46.
Inclusionary Zoning	No		Subarea plans encourage as an optional development incentive
Manufactured Housing	Yes	Manufactured homes allowed under the same rules as other housing types	Lake Stevens allows manufactured housing in all residential zoning districts.

MEASURES TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT CAPACITY

MEASURE	ADOPTED?	APPLICABILITY	EFFECTIVENESS/POTENTIAL
Economic Development Strategy	Yes	Lake Stevens Center, 20 th Street SE Corridor, and Downtown Lake Stevens Subareas.	In 2012, two subareas were adopted with planned actions to create areas for employment and additional commercial development. An Economic Development Strategy began as part of the subarea planning and will continue in the future. The Downtown Subarea plan was adopted in 2018.
Create Industrial Zones	Yes	General and Light Industrial Zones	Capacity exists. Largely undeveloped. Minimal potential for additional implementation.
Zone by building type, not use	Yes, some	Current city zoning is based on use; adopted subarea plans include some regulation by building type	Minimal potential for implementation to significantly alter the growth strategy except within subareas.
Brownfields Programs	No	No known brownfields within the city	
Urban Centers/Villages	Yes	Lake Stevens Center, 20 th Street SE Corridor, and Downtown Lake Stevens Subareas.	The city has utilized subarea planning with rezoning to increase intensity and density and create a mix of residential and non-residential uses, with transition areas between existing residential areas and planning for a multi-modal transportation system.
Allow Mixed Uses	Yes	CBD, PBD and MU zones and within the subareas	City allows mixed-use in MU zones and most commercial zones.



Transit Oriented Design	Yes	Currently there is limited transit service within the Lake Stevens area	Included within subarea plans and Community Transit has identified 20 th Street SE as a transit emphasis corridor for future frequent service.
Downtown Revitalization		The Downtown Subarea Plan includes a Capital Facilities Improvement Plan.	The Downtown Lake Stevens Subarea Plan was adopted mid-2018. Several projects in the Capital Facilities Improvement Plan have already been undertaken. The city will continue to support downtown revitalization through city-lead implementation measures
Adequate Public Facilities	Yes	Concurrency standards for infrastructure.	The city has adopted concurrency standards and GMA-based traffic impact, school and park mitigation fees.
Transportation Efficient Land Use	Yes	Mixed-use zoning	No specific measures for transit oriented development.
Urban Growth Management Agreements	Yes		Annexation interlocal agreement with Snohomish County; Traffic interlocal agreement with Snohomish County.
Annexation plans	Yes		Annexation plan adopted for eventual “One Community Around the Lake” in the future.
Reduce off-street surface	Yes	Reduced minimum standard required for office uses	Subarea plans include use of low impact development and building height incentives for reducing surface coverage.
Identify and redevelop vacant buildings	No	Few vacant buildings within city and UGA	Minimal potential for additional implementation to significantly alter the growth strategy. Due to market conditions, some of the few vacant buildings have been redeveloped.
Concentrate critical services near homes, jobs and transit	Yes	Subareas	Subarea plans should bring much needed services to the city at Lake Stevens Center and along 20 th Street SE and additional planning to Downtown.
Locate civic buildings in existing communities rather than in greenfield areas	Yes		City campus, library and post office are located in historic downtown. Plans for new or replaced civic buildings are being proposed in existing commercial zoned areas.
Implement permit expedition	Yes	Processing Code and Planned Actions	Although permit review times are not currently extensive, the new processing code adopted in 2010, planned actions adopted in 2012 and a new permit tracking system in 2012 should provide specific requirements for submittal and minimize necessary review times.



MEASURES TO MITIGATE IMPACTS OF DENSITY			
MEASURE	ADOPTED?	APPLICABILITY	EFFECTIVENESS/POTENTIAL
Design Standards	Yes	Applies to commercial and high-density residential development	Community design quality and expectations have increased as a result of the adopted standards. Creating new design standards for cottage housing. Subarea Design Guidelines were adopted for development within the subareas using review.
Urban Amenities for Increased Densities	Yes	Planned Residential Developments (PRDs) and subareas	PRD subdivisions are eligible for a density bonus in exchange for providing amenities such as active recreation areas and tree preservation. Subarea plans allow for increased floor area ratios with a menu of amenity options.
Community Visioning	Yes		Provided basis of land use policies. Updated in 2015 Plan. Important part of subarea planning, downtown framework planning and shoreline planning.
OTHER MEASURES			
MEASURE	ADOPTED?	APPLICABILITY	EFFECTIVENESS/POTENTIAL
Low Densities in Rural and Resource Lands	N/A		
Urban Holding Zones	Yes	Does not apply to areas within the city	None
Capital Facilities Investment	Yes	Subarea Plans and GMA Traffic Impact Fees	Subarea planning included adoption of a subarea capital facilities plan and GMA traffic impact fees adopted. Expectation is that investment will spur development.
Environmental review and mitigation built into subarea planning process	Yes		Planned actions adopted for the subareas include required mitigation measures. In addition, a GMA-base traffic impact mitigation fee code was adopted with specific fees identified.
Partner with non-governmental organizations to preserve natural resource lands	In Process		City in discussions with various organizations.



LAND USE GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL 2.1 PROVIDE SUFFICIENT LAND AREA TO MEET THE PROJECTED NEEDS FOR HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKE STEVENS.

Policies

- 2.1.1 Accommodate a variety of land uses to support population and employment growth, consistent with the city's responsibilities under the Growth Management Act, Regional Growth Strategy and the Countywide Planning Policies.
- 2.1.2 Review cumulative changes to residential, commercial, industrial and public land use designations during the annual comprehensive plan cycle to ensure employment and population capacity estimates are being met.
- 2.1.3 Review land uses in conjunction with updates to the Buildable Lands Report and Growth Monitoring Report to ensure employment and population capacity estimates are being met. The strategy will be used to amend the Plan as necessary to remain consistent with actual development trends.
- 2.1.4 Direct new growth to areas where infrastructure and services are available or planned to ensure growth occurs in a fiscally responsible manner to support a variety of land uses.
- 2.1.5 Coordinate land use decisions with capital improvement needs for public facilities including streets, sidewalks, lighting systems, traffic signals, water, storm and sanitary sewer, parks and recreational facilities, cultural facilities and schools.

GOAL 2.2 ACHIEVE A WELL BALANCED AND WELL-ORGANIZED COMBINATION OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND PUBLIC USES.

Policies

- 2.2.1 Allow the following residential land use designations as described.
 - 1. High Density Residential – Encourage a variety of residential forms of residential structures containing three or more dwellings. Multiple structures may be located on a single parcel, and there are no density limits, provided the project meets the zoning district requirements and other pertinent codes, standards and adopted development guidelines. This land use category also allows limited public/semi-public, community, recreational, and commercial uses.



2. Medium Density Residential – Encourage single-family (1 du/lot), two-family residential and some multifamily housing with a density between 4 and 12 units per acre with the potential for bonuses. This designation allows detached, attached, conversion, accessory apartments, townhouses, condominiums, duplexes, tourist homes, special service homes and some manufactured/mobile structures. Also allows limited public/semi-public, community, recreational, and neighborhood commercial uses.
3. Low Density Residential – Allows for single-family homes on large lots, with fewer than four units per acre. Buildings usually have fewer stories and are spaced farther apart with large setbacks to side boundaries and the street, and have large areas of private open space.
4. Waterfront Residential – Provides single-family (1 du/lot) residential uses with a density of 4 units per acre with the potential for bonuses on residential properties located adjacent to Lake Stevens subject to the regulations of the shoreline master program. This designation includes detached and attached units, accessory units, tourist homes, special service homes, limited multifamily, public/semi-public, community, and recreational uses.

2.2.2 Allow the following commercial land use designations as described.

1. Downtown/Local Commercial – Encourages medium to high intensity commercial uses and other dense arrangements of professional offices and retail stores. This designation allows mixed-use development. This land use designation may be placed on lands between higher-intensity commercial areas and residential areas to act as a buffer. This designation also allows limited public/semi-public, community and recreational uses.
2. Mixed-Use – Allows medium to high intensity mixed-use (commercial and residential). It is intended that this land use designation will be placed where a "village atmosphere" is desired, or on lands between higher and lower intensity uses to buffer commercial and residential areas. This designation also allows limited public/semi-public, community and recreational uses.
3. Planned Business District – The Planned Business District allows moderate intensity commercial or mixed-use development. It is intended that this land use designation be placed on lands between higher and lower intensity uses as a buffer or on sites containing sensitive resources. The intent of this designation is to provide detailed planning that would benefit all property owners involved, as well as the public, by allowing transfer of densities among parcels in order to avoid impacts to sensitive resources. It achieves this by requiring that a Master Development Plan be developed for all similarly zoned contiguous parcels before any one parcel can be developed, and that any parcel developed is developed according to that plan. This designation encourages high floor area ratios by allowing a minimum of 2:1, with a 3:1



ratio allowed in designated density receiving areas when excess density is transferred from a designated sending area. This designation also allows limited public/semi-public, community, and recreational uses.

4. Commercial District – The Commercial District allows for high-intensity commercial and employment with some mixed-use. Principal uses include community and regional retail centers, offices, business parks, civic, cultural, recreational, and associated uses. Multi-family residential uses could be included above or behind commercial uses. This land use designation should be located in areas with direct access to highways and arterials that provide adequate public services and traffic capacity, in addition to transit facilities.

2.2.3 Allow the following industrial land use designations as described

1. General Industrial – This category allows a full range of industrial and employment uses which traditionally can cause impacts to surrounding properties because of the high intensity uses. This designation does not allow any residential (except temporary or caretaker residences). This land use designation should be located in areas with direct access to highways and arterials that provide adequate public services and traffic capacity.
2. Light Industrial – This category includes only those types of industrial, sale, or service uses, which have minimal externalities, but can cause impacts to surrounding properties because of the high intensity uses. This designation does not allow any residential (except temporary or caretaker residences). This land use designation should be located in areas with direct access to highways and arterials that provide adequate public services and traffic capacity.

2.2.4 Allow the Public/Semi-Public land use designation, which is intended for use on all land that is publicly owned. It allows public buildings and services, recreational uses, utilities, and transportation facilities. This designation may also allow a limited range of commercial uses.

GOAL 2.3 APPLY THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS A GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE CITY'S DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO ENSURE PREFERRED COMMUNITY GROWTH PATTERNS ARE ACHIEVED.

Policies

2.3.1 Review development standards and regulations to ensure that they possess an appropriate level of flexibility to promote efficient use of buildable land, balanced with the need for predictable decision-making.



- 2.3.2 Preserve and promote the character of existing neighborhoods through thoughtful development regulations and design standards.
- 2.3.3 Encourage infill development on suitable vacant parcels and redevelopment of underutilized parcels. Ensure that the height, bulk and design of infill and redevelopment projects are compatible with their surroundings.
- 2.3.4 Maintain development regulations to promote compatibility between uses; retain desired neighborhood character; ensure adequate light, air and open space; protect and improve environmental quality; and manage potential impacts on public facilities and services.
- 2.3.5 Promote architecture that is pedestrian friendly and conducive to human interaction (e.g., front porches, garages behind houses, small front yard setbacks, no "walled" neighborhoods).
- 2.3.6 Ensure that subdivisions are pedestrian friendly and include ample street trees, adequate sidewalks, walkways and paths connecting plats.
- 2.3.7 Review Development and Design Guidelines for Multifamily Residential, Planned Residential Developments, Commercial and Mixed-Use development outside of subareas.
- 2.3.8 Promote neighborhood commercial uses in appropriate places where the property:
 - a. is located at an intersection with at least one arterial street;
 - b. is at least one-half mile distance from other similarly designated properties; and
 - c. results in no more than two acres of land being designated for neighborhood commercial uses at the same intersection.
- 2.3.9 Promote commercial uses catering to day to day needs of neighbors in locations that are easily reached by foot or local commuters. Proposed uses shall clearly reflect this intent.
- 2.3.10 Encourage nodal development through adoption of zoning designations, specific design guidelines and development regulations.
- 2.3.11 The Planning Commission shall continue to welcome citizen input from all citizens within the incorporated city and unincorporated Urban Growth Area when making planning decisions that affect the city and future annexation areas.



GOAL 2.4 ENCOURAGE THE CONTINUED PLANNING OF LOCAL GROWTH CENTERS TO DEVELOP A BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY THAT PROVIDES A FOCUS FOR EMPLOYMENT, PUBLIC AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Policies

- 2.4.1 Prior to the adoption of a subarea plan, the city should develop a thorough economic analysis for each growth center that considers investments and expenditures to provide a full range of services and infrastructure in relation to project revenue.
- 2.4.2 Each growth center should consider impacts on existing commercial properties, and residential areas to ensure the compatibility and synergy between existing and new development as a subarea plan is developed.
- 2.4.3 Future subarea planning of growth centers shall include substantial public involvement through multiple meetings, updates in the media and on city-owned modes of communication. The city shall provide clear information as to the benefits, costs, and risks so that the community can provide informed opinions to the Planning Commission and City Council.
- 2.4.4 Ensure that adequate connections are made to link growth centers, subareas and adjacent residential areas.

GOAL 2.5 CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE REDEVELOPMENT OF DOWNTOWN LAKE STEVENS THAT ENCOURAGES A COMPACT COMMERCIAL DISTRICT THAT FACILITATES EASY PEDESTRIAN ACCESS BETWEEN SHOPS AND BUILDINGS, ALLOWS MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPATIBLE WITH THE CHARACTER OF LAKE STEVENS AND STIMULATES A DIVERSE ARRAY OF BUSINESS TYPES TO ATTRACT VISITORS AND MEET THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS.

Policies

- 2.5.1 Ensure that significant lakeside non-commercial public access is maintained for informal and formal recreational opportunities, and is balanced with the desire to develop a vibrant mixed-use downtown
- 2.5.2 Emphasize high-quality design, pedestrian orientation and integrated flexibility in the red-development of downtown Lake Stevens.



2.5.3 Encourage strong traditional downtown elements as expressed in the Downtown Lake Stevens Subarea Plan that accentuate a stable design concept that will survive the life of the buildings.

GOAL 2.6 PROMOTE AN ACTIVE, HEALTHY AND DIVERSE HARTFORD ROAD AND MACHIAS INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.

Policies

2.6.1 Pursue and implement incentive programs that would encourage industrial uses which result in high employment densities.

2.6.2 Aggressively market the Hartford and Machias Industrial Center and aggressively pursue family-wage employers to that revitalized area.

2.6.3 Review development regulations to ensure that impacts are kept to a minimum, especially those that affect adjoining, non-industrially zoned areas.

2.6.4 Conduct a market study as part of the Hartford Road Industrial Area study to determine any need for expansion, infrastructure needs and marketing strategies.

2.6.5 Consider developing a framework plan for the Hartford Industrial Center based on market study.

2.6.6 Pursue local improvement districts and grant funding for infrastructure development.

GOAL 2.7 PROVIDE APPROPRIATE BUFFERS BETWEEN LAND USES ADJACENT TO MACHIAS ROAD AND SR-92.

2.7.1 Require retention of all trees within a 30' visual/noise buffer along SR-92, SR-9, and the Hartford/Machias Road (as measured from the edge of ultimate right-of-way). Where trees need to be removed because of instability, require replanting of 5-gallon (minimum) conifers at a 3:1 ratio within the 30' buffer.

2.7.2 Ensure that design of highway accessible/visible commercial uses along SR-92, SR-9, and the Hartford/Machias Road is aesthetically pleasing from both the roadway and the local roads.

GOAL 2.8 COORDINATE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH ADJACENT JURISDICTIONS TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT INTERJURISDICTIONAL INTERESTS.



Policies

- 2.8.1 Participate in the Snohomish County Tomorrow Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) to improve inter-jurisdictional coordination of land use planning activities in the adopted urban growth area.
- 2.8.2 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.
- 2.8.3 Promote cooperation and coordination among transportation providers, local governments and developers to ensure that developments are designed to promote and improve physical, mental and social health, and reduce the impacts of climate change on the natural and built environments.

GOAL 2.9 PROMOTE ANNEXATIONS OF LANDS INTO THE CITY IN A MANNER THAT IS FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE TO ENSURE THE CITY IS ABLE TO PROVIDE A HIGH LEVEL OF URBAN SERVICES.

Policies

- 2.9.1 Affiliate all urban unincorporated lands appropriate for annexation with an adjacent city or identify those that may be feasible for incorporation.
- 2.9.2 It is the city's intent to annex the entire Lake Stevens Urban Growth Area over the planning horizon to become one city, considering the following:
 - a. To manage growth in the UGA it is important to note that elected officials who reside within, and represent the Lake Stevens community make the best land use and Comprehensive Plan decisions for the Lake Stevens area.
 - b. To keep locally generated sales tax revenues within the community to meet local needs rather than allowing those revenues to be distributed throughout the entire county.
 - c. To provide an accessible and open forum in which citizens may participate in their own governance.
 - d. To create a larger city which can have greater influence on regional and state policy decisions and can be more competitive for grants.
 - e. To stabilize the development environment, striving to bring land use predictability to residents and property owners.



- d. To ensure that urban infrastructure is provided at the time development occurs to minimize the need to retrofit substandard improvements in the future.
- 2.9.3 To the degree reasonably possible, annexations should serve to regularize city boundaries, and not divide lots. The intent is to ensure practical boundaries in which services can be provided in a logical, effective and efficient manner.
- 2.9.4 Prior to any annexation, the city should consider the effects on special purpose districts and County services within the Urban Growth Area, considering the following:
 - a. Outstanding special bonds or other debt,
 - b. Absorbing the district's or county's service provision responsibilities and acquiring the necessary assets at the appropriate stage (set by state law); and
 - c. Impacts on the district's or county's operations and personnel.
- 2.9.5 The city's intent is to minimize disruption to residents, businesses and property owners in annexed areas, considering the following:
 - a. Annexed property should be designated in the Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinance in a manner that most closely reflects the designations identified in Figure 2.34. The City Council will consider alternative designations proposed by those properties included in the annexation. Council may adopt alternative designations if it finds the proposal protects the general health, safety, and welfare of the community and it meets the requirements of the Growth Management Act.
 - b. Uses that are either previously established legal non-conforming, or are made non-conforming with the annexation, will be allowed to continue in a manner consistent with the rights established in the city's land use code.
 - c. Annexed areas shall be accorded equal accommodation in the distribution of capital improvements, maintenance of roads and other facilities, police and other services.
 - d. For annexed areas, the city shall strive to ensure annexed areas are fairly represented by the Mayor and city Council, with extra care during the initial two years in which the annexed area may have not had a chance to vote for their local officials.
- 2.9.6 At such time an annexation proposal is made, the city shall make every reasonable effort to provide accurate, timely and useful information to community members so that they may make reasoned and well-informed decisions.

**GOAL 2.10 ENSURE THAT LAND USES OPTIMIZE ECONOMIC BENEFIT AND THE ENJOYMENT AND PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES WHILE MINIMIZING THE THREAT TO HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE.**Policies

- 2.10.1 Preserve and accentuate the lake as the centerpiece of Lake Stevens in compliance with the shoreline master program.
- 2.10.2 Preserve and promote a safe, clean living environment.
- 2.10.3 Prohibit storage of soil, yard waste, refuse, machines and other equipment in front yard setbacks.
- 2.10.4 Where a sight distance or safety problem is created, prohibit storage of vehicles in front and side yard setbacks, except on driveways (and then no more than three) or in parking lots.
- 2.10.5 Protect and preserve wetlands and riparian corridors associated with Shorelines of the State and open space corridors within and between urban growth areas useful for recreation, wildlife habitat, trails, and connection of critical areas.
- 2.10.6 Encourage growth that is responsive to environmental concerns and that enhances the natural environment of the lake drainage basin and the area watersheds.

GOAL 2.11 WHERE POSSIBLE, USE ELEMENTS OF THE NATURAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM TO MINIMIZE STORM WATER RUNOFF IMPACTS.Policies

- 2.11.1 Encourage new developments to use natural drainage patterns and incorporate means to contain storm water pollutants.
- 2.11.2 Encourage new developments to implement “low impact development” techniques which can better manage stormwater while providing cost savings in terms of land and improvements.
- 2.11.3 Recognize that storm drainage problems cross jurisdictional lines and therefore create the need to work with the Drainage Improvement District and residents to address those problems.
- 2.11.4 Adopt and keep current a stormwater control ordinance requiring best management practices for stormwater control, addressing such issues as detention, release, erosion and siltation, etc.

**GOAL 2.12 ENCOURAGE ENERGY-SAVING METHODS IN TRANSPORTATION, LAND USE AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.**Policies

- 2.12.1 Encourage the development of paths and easements for non-motorized transportation to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle use throughout the city.
- 2.12.2 Encourage new developments to compliment and improve development of a grid system to reduce public and private utility and transportation costs.
- 2.12.3 Encourage energy-saving construction and building operation practices and the use of energy-conserving materials in all new construction and rehabilitation of buildings.
- 2.12.4 Encourage small scale, neighborhood compatible, commercial uses to be distributed throughout the community, thus reducing the need to drive to the nearest “big-box” retailer to pick up day-to-day convenience items. This also provides the opportunity for pedestrian access to stores along with the health and social benefits related to pedestrian activity.

GOAL 2.13 PROMOTE THE IDENTIFICATION, MAINTENANCE, AND PRESERVATION OF SPECIAL HISTORIC, GEOGRAPHIC, ARCHITECTURAL, AESTHETIC OR CULTURAL RESOURCES OR STRUCTURES WHICH HAVE SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE BECAUSE OF HISTORICAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, RECREATIONAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND/OR SCENIC IMPORTANCE THROUGH THE DESIGNATION OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS AND DISTRICTS AND THE ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATE INCENTIVESPolicies

- 2.13.1 Work with other public agencies and/or a local historical society to determine priorities and establish methods for public and private funding to achieve this goal.
- 2.13.2 Encourage the development of written narratives and maps for self-guided tours of significant areas and the provision for site markers to identify significant sites.
- 2.13.3 Encourage additions and alterations to significant architectural buildings to conform to the style and period of the initial construction as much as possible.



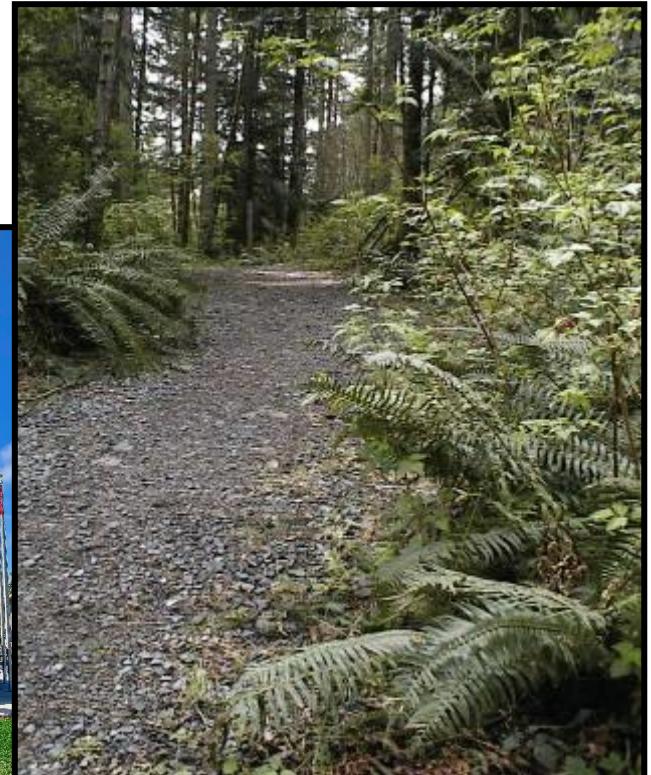
GOAL 2.14 DESIGN AND BUILD A HEALTHY COMMUNITY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE WHO LIVE, WORK, LEARN, AND PLAY WITHIN THE CITY.

Policies

- 2.14.1 Encourage mixed land use and greater land density to shorten distances between homes, workplaces, schools and recreation so people can walk or bike more easily to them.
- 2.14.2 Provide good mass transit to reduce the dependence upon automobiles.
- 2.14.3 Decreases dependence on the automobile by building good pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, including sidewalks and bike paths that are safely removed from automobile traffic as well as good right of way laws and clear, easy-to-follow signage in proximity to homes, businesses, schools, churches and parks closer to each other so that people can more easily walk or bike between them.
- 2.14.4 Provide opportunities for people to be physically active and socially engaged as part of their daily routine, improving the physical and mental health of citizens by promoting community centers, public/semi-public areas and by offering access to green space and parks where people can gather and mingle as part of their daily activities.
- 2.14.5 Allow persons, if they choose, to age in place and remain all their lives in a community that reflects their changing lifestyles and changing physical capabilities.
- 2.14.6 Develop high quality, compact urban communities throughout the region's urban growth area that impart a sense of place, preserve local character, provide for mixed uses and choices in housing types, and encourage walking, bicycling, and transit use.

Attachment 3

Chapter 5: Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element



CHAPTER 5: PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

A VISION FOR PARKS

The city of Lake Stevens will create diverse recreational opportunities for all ages to enjoy parks, trails and activities and local events throughout the community and with expanded access to Lake Stevens.

INTRODUCTION

Public parks, recreational services and facilities and open spaces improve the quality of life for community residents by providing areas for families and friends to socialize. Parks and open spaces create natural buffers between neighborhoods and create functional corridors for humans and wildlife throughout the urban environment.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan (“Park Plan”) establishes specific goals and policies that will help guide decision-making related to acquisition, development and improvement of facilities and lands. The Park Plan contains an inventory of the city's current parks, recreation facilities and open spaces; analyzes the city's ability to provide adequate parks, recreation services, and open space; sets service standards and guidelines; and identifies implementation strategies.

PLANNING CONTEXT

State Planning

The Park Plan conforms to the Growth Management Act (GMA) (Chapter 36.70A RCW) and considers the planning criteria developed by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).

The GMA includes several sections relating to parks, recreation, and open spaces:

- RCW 36.70A.020(9) establishes a planning goal to “Retain open space, enhance recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to



Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

natural resource lands and water, and develop parks and recreation facilities." Capital improvements are included within the definition of "Public Facilities."

- RCW 36.70A.030 (Mandatory Element). Cities may impose impact fees for the provision of Public Facilities (including publicly owned parks, open space and recreation facilities) (RCW 36.70A.040, RCW 82.02.050). Impact fees must be based on demands on existing facilities by new development, and additional improvements required to serve new development (RCW 82.02.090).
- RCW 36.70A.070(8) requires a park and recreation element, which is consistent with the capital facilities plan element as it relates to park and recreation facilities. Furthermore, this section states, "The element shall include: (a) Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period; (b) an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and (c) an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand."
- RCW 36.70A.150 states jurisdictions shall identify lands useful for public purposes and that includes recreation.
- RCW 36.70A.160 requires jurisdictions to "identify open space corridors within and between urban growth areas. They shall include lands useful for recreation, wildlife habitat, trails and connection of critical areas as defined in RCW 36.70A.030."

Regional Planning

The regional perspective for parks and recreation emphasizes identifying availability of lands and opportunities for parks and co-location of facilities, such as schools and parks, in support of its growth strategy including links between open space and neighborhoods.

Countywide Planning

In its General Policy Plan, Snohomish County sets goals and policies for countywide parks and recreation facilities. The county's plan emphasizes the implementation of state and regional standards and guidance. Some of the primary goals include providing access to diverse, sustainable, effective and efficient services, programs and facilities, maintaining a level of service tied to growth, preserving cultural and historic resources, and coordination with other agencies.

Lake Stevens Planning

The Park Plan incorporates the state, regional and countywide perspectives and includes the planning elements (listed below) as recommended by the RCO, which ensures continued eligibility for grant funds administered by that agency:



Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

- Inventory,
- Public Involvement,
- Demand & Need Analysis,
- Goals & Objectives,
- Level of Service,
- Capital Improvement Program (six-year plan for acquisition, development, renovation, & restoration projects), and
- Plan Adoption.

FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS, CHARACTERISTICS AND INVENTORY

There are many reasons for governments to provide parks, open space, recreational opportunities, cultural amenities and trails for their citizens. Parks offer innumerable physical and psychological benefits by providing safe places for the community to exercise, recreate, meditate, and generally escape daily pressures. The city of Lake Stevens has a variety of parks ranging from small mini-parks serving a block or two to community parks designed to provide recreational opportunities to the city and beyond. In addition, special use and school parks, open spaces, and trails expand the variety of recreation areas available to the community. The inventory of parks, open spaces, and trails includes a mix of city and county facilities. Table 5.1 provides a brief description of the facilities, within or adjacent to the city of Lake Stevens, and describes the various park classifications; provides descriptions for each classification; and lists typical sizes, amenities and community service areas.

Inventory of Facilities

The following section includes an inventory of the parks, open space tracts, recreational facilities, and cultural programs and facilities found within or near the city. The city has approximately 171 acres of public parks, 10 acres devoted to special uses, 5.53 acres of mini parks, 122 acres of open space and approximately seven miles of the Centennial trail (adjacent to or within city limits) in addition to approximately five miles of park trails. The numbers include city and county facilities (mini-parks, neighborhood parks and community parks), special use parks, trails and open space (undeveloped property and Native Growth Protection Areas). In addition to the public facilities described, there are approximately 145 acres of private parks and open spaces and an additional three miles of private trails that complement the city's inventory. Different homeowner's associations are responsible for these facilities created during the subdivision process for specific neighborhoods.

Community Parks

Community parks have the largest service area and attract citizens from across the community. A large size and variety of amenities characterize community parks. These parks provide a mix of informal, active, and passive recreation areas with permanent facilities. Community Parks are generally at least 10 acres, but must be large enough to provide room for multiple uses such as sports fields, a recreation center and group-use shelters alongside large open areas and playgrounds.



Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Table 5.1 – Park, Recreation & Open Space Classifications and Characteristics

TYPE	TYPICAL SIZE	DESCRIPTION & TYPICAL AMENITIES	TYPICAL AREA SERVED
Community Park	> 10 acres	Informal, formal, active, & passive recreation parks that serve a community with a mix of features (e.g., playgrounds, landscaping, picnic areas, trails, sports fields, structures, parking, special features, permanent restrooms, etc.)	Within 2.5 miles of residential areas
Neighborhood Park	≤ 10 acres	Informal, active, & passive recreation areas that serve adjacent residential neighborhoods that provide multi-use areas with a mix of playgrounds, landscaping, picnicking, trails, single or small sports fields, parking, restrooms, etc.	Within 1 mile of residential areas
Mini-Park	≤ 1 acre	Small public/private areas including playgrounds, landscaping, plazas, and picnic benches that serve the needs of the immediate neighborhood or commercial district	Within 1/2 mile of residential or commercial areas
School Parks	Varies	Playfields, playgrounds, sports & recreation facilities located at schools, distributed throughout the City, that may substitute for other park types and compliment the City's inventory	Varies
Special Use Parks & Facilities	Varies	Any public or private park or facility providing a unique experience or specific recreation need and/or commercial purpose distributed throughout the city	Varies
Trails & Pedestrian Facilities	Varies	Soft surface or paved trails, walking paths, sidewalks or multi-use trails for walking, hiking, and bicycling distributed throughout the city	1 multi-use trail w/in 1 mile of residential areas
Open Space	Varies	Low intensity and passive recreation areas such as Native Growth Protection Areas, greenbelts, or undeveloped areas distributed throughout the city	Varies, based on resource availability

Community parks should provide easy vehicular and pedestrian access to park users from the street network, sidewalks and bike lanes with dedicated parking areas. Community parks may benefit from multijurisdictional cooperation for facility planning, development and maintenance.



Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

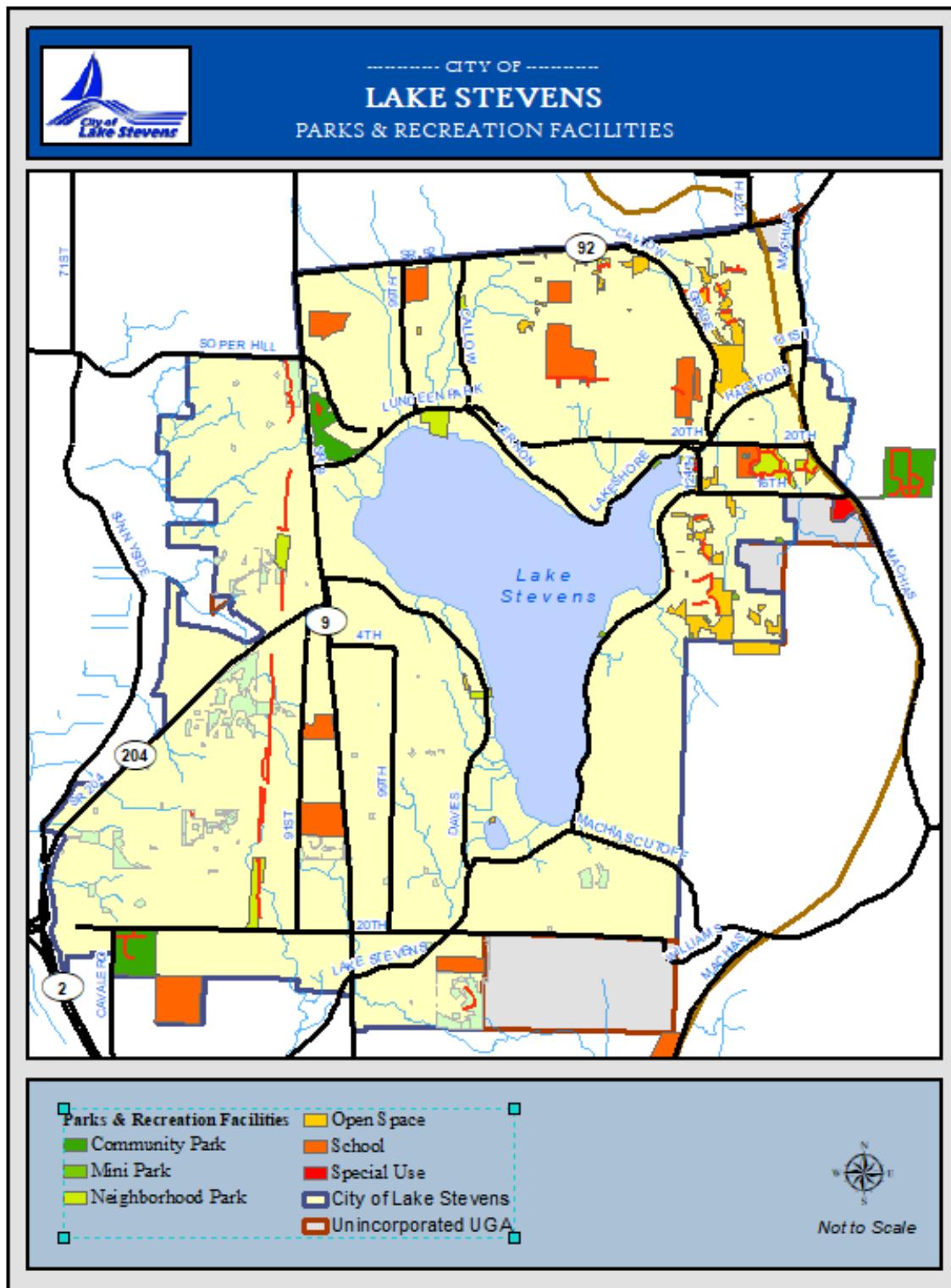


Figure 5.1 – Lake Stevens Parks & Recreation Facilities

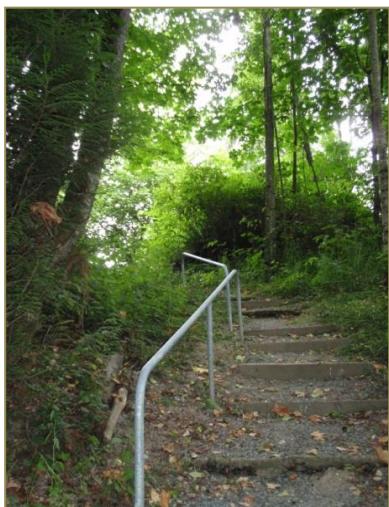


Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Cavalero Community Park – The park is located off 20th Street SE, in the southwestern part of the city. Snohomish County recently worked with the city to develop a skate park, basketball courts and picnic areas, which opened in 2020. The park has an existing dog park and open space. This site is well poised to house a multi-sport complex and other organized sporting areas.



Eagle Ridge Park — City Council adopted the Eagle Ridge Park Master Plan in 2010. The plan includes a capital cost estimate and a schedule to implement the Master Plan in three phases over a 10-15-year period. The master plan includes details for park development and proposed amenities and recreational opportunities. The overall vision for the park is that of an 'outdoor classroom' with both passive and active recreational activities that embrace and enhance the natural beauty of this park. Eagle Ridge currently houses the Lake Stevens Senior Center, soft trails, and open spaces. Phase 1 has been completed, adding a community garden parking and picnic areas. This park is notable for its eagle habitat. The master plan for this park envisions picnic shelters; an amphitheater; interconnected trails and educational features such as an interpretive center, outdoor classrooms and interpretive signage. The plan promotes the use of Low Impact Development in design and construction.





Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Lake Stevens Community Athletic Park

LSC Park, east of the city limits, is a 43-acre Snohomish County park. This park provides the largest athletic complex near Lake Stevens with baseball/softball fields, soccer fields and basketball courts. LSC Park also includes a picnic shelter, playground, walking path, permanent restrooms and landscaping.



Table 5.2 – Community Park Inventory

FACILITY	LOCATION	OWNER	ACRES	PICNIC SHELTER/BENCHES	PLAYGROUND	TRAIL/PATHWAY	BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL/SOCCER FIELDS	SOFTBALL/BASEBALL	VIEW CORRIDOR	RESTROOMS	COMMUNITY CENTER	OPEN SPACE	LANDSCAPING	OTHER
Cavalero Community Park	2032 79th Ave SE	Snohomish County	32.93		X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X
Eagle Ridge	2424 Soper Hill Road	City of Lake Stevens	28.20			X				X		X	X		X
Lake Stevens Community Park	1601 North Machias Rd	Snohomish County	43.24	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Total Acres				104.37											

As shown in Table 5.2, Lake Stevens Community Park provides the widest variety of recreational and active amenities. However, once Eagle Ridge and Cavalero parks are completed, each park will diversify the overall profile for community-level parks and contribute a unique set of amenities.



Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

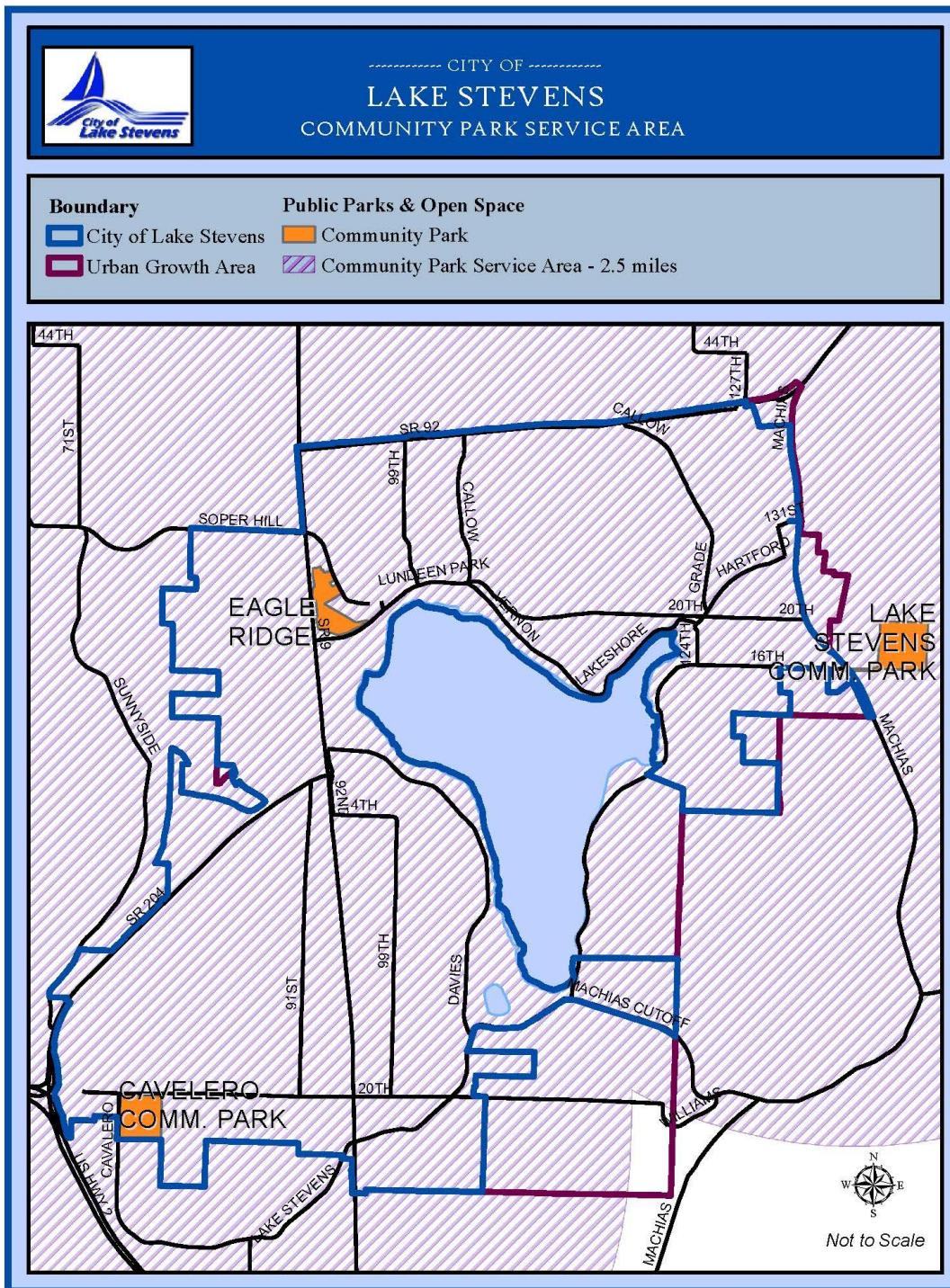


Figure 5.2 – Community Park Distribution



Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Planning efforts for these parks should build on the unique characteristics of the site and address underrepresented or community preferred recreational uses. Figure 5.2 illustrates the distribution of community parks within and adjacent to Lake Stevens. As shown, there is a small gap, in the service area, located in the southeastern border of the Urban Growth Area. This small gap creates a minor divergence from the service standard for community parks. This gap may need to be addressed in the future if opportunities arise to provide additional meaningful recreation lands in the vicinity. It is more important to assure that Eagle Ridge and Cavalero parks provide a mix of high-quality recreational amenities, as they develop.

Neighborhood parks

Neighborhood parks are the “backbone” of the city’s parks inventory. These parks offer common gathering sites for social interaction, physical activity and play to residents from contiguous neighborhoods or a larger service area depending on amenities provided. Neighborhood parks should be in highly visible and centralized locations that provide convenient and safe access for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists.

This park type often incorporates passive and active recreational opportunities as well as providing multi-purpose facilities. Neighborhood parks should include permanent restrooms and parking areas.

Catherine Creek Park – An eight-acre community park, which the city leases from the Lake Stevens School District. This park is located adjacent to Mount Pilchuck Elementary School, between 20th Street NE and 16th Street NE. The park is maintained primarily as a “natural” park with a network of trails, access to Catherine Creek, and picnic facilities. It also includes a unique disc golf course, installed and maintained by the community in 2000.



Centennial Woods Park — A 6.3-acre passive recreation park purchased in 1997 through the Snohomish County Conservation Futures grant program. This park includes trails through the site, which connect the Centennial Trail to Catherine Creek Park (with an eye on an eventual connection to downtown). Future plans include a pump track and possible expansion on adjacent parcels.



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Frontier Heights Park – A 7-acre multi-use park located at 8801 Frontier Circle West in the Lake Stevens Center Subarea. The city acquired this property in 2017 from the homeowner's association of the adjacent neighborhoods. ~~This park includes basketball courts, tennis courts, playground and athletic fields.~~ A Master Plan ~~has been~~ was developed in 2019. In 2020 the City began construction on Phase I improvements, including adding a walking path, basketball court, playground and parking. Future phases will include a sensory garden, exercise stations and a viewing labyrinth.

Lundeen Park – A 9-acre multi-use park located south of Lundeen Parkway at 99th Avenue NE. Facilities include a public pier, 500 feet of shoreline, swimming area, two basketball courts, a children's playground and a tot lot, Sarita's Memorial, interpretive stations along a salmon-spawning creek, public restrooms, a rinse-off shower, a covered picnic area and 98 parking spaces. The Lake Stevens Chamber of Commerce maintains a Visitor Information Center at the park.



North Cove Park – A 3.66-acre waterfront park located at the extreme northeast end of the lake. Access is available to downtown Lake Stevens, next to the City Hall complex. North Cove Park underwent a major renovation in 2019 and added an 8,900 square foot multi-use facility (the Mill) that provides meeting space, covered patios, festival space and three-season section for community events. The park has a 250-foot municipal boardwalk / pier (fishing, interpretation & picnicking), picnic areas that include tables, ~~sun~~ ~~shades~~ ~~shelters~~, inclusive playground, benches, and paths. Parking facilities are shared with the City Hall complex.





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The city ~~began work on completed~~ Phase II improvements in ~~late June 20210.~~ This phase ~~will~~which included additional parking, a new playground, a viewing deck, critical area replanting, picnic shelters and restrooms as well as the relocation of the Lake Stevens Rowing Club boathouse to a nearby property. Phase III improvements are expected to be completed in late 2021 and will include the westward extension of 18th Street NE to create the Mill Spur festival street, which will host festivals and open-air markets and provide improved pedestrian access to North Cove Park.

Oak Hill Park – A 2.63-acre park located at Oak Road and Callow Road. This park includes a playground, restroom, basketball court and a walking trail.

Davies Beach – A 2 ½ -acre neighborhood park located four miles from downtown, across the lake, on Davies Road. Facilities include a public boat launch, a dock (for boats), a fishing pier, a swimming area, restrooms, picnic tables, and 80 parking spaces. This park is especially busy during summer weekends. It also houses a rowing club.



20th Street Ballfields – A 12.36-acre park acquired in the southwest quadrant of the city that ~~is scheduled to undergo~~underwent a master planning process in 2021. Potential improvements~~The master plan~~ includes sports fields, dog park, parking, trailhead, walking trails and a new playground. ~~Following development, the~~ The park will undergo a formal naming process.

As shown in Table 5.3, Lundein Park and North Cove Park provides the widest variety of amenities, notably beach access, picnic facilities and playgrounds. Both Centennial Woods and Catherine Creek provide good locations to expand nature trails and add permanent restrooms and parking areas. Many people consider North Cove Park the “heart of downtown”. This Park underwent a master planning effort and construction began in 2019. The North Cove Park plan increases public access to Lake Stevens for pedestrians and boaters, provides ADA accessibility throughout and picnic areas. Situated in North Cove Park, the Mill is a public facility that provides rental space, public plaza, festival venue and community gathering space. All the neighborhood parks could expand playground facilities and add small athletic components. North Cove and Lundein parks should continue to promote and develop water-related activities.



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Table 5.3 – Neighborhood Park Inventory

FACILITY	LOCATION	OWNER	ACRES	PICNIC SHELTER / BENCHES	PLAYGROUND	TRAIL / PATHWAY	BASKETBALL	BEACH / SWIMMING	DOCK	BOAT LAUNCH	VIEW CORRIDOR	RESTROOMS	OPEN SPACE	LANDSCAPING	OTHER
Catherine Creek Park	12708 20th St NE	Lake Stevens School District	16.55	X		X							X		X
Centennial Woods Park	131st Dr NE	City of Lake Stevens	6.02			X							X		
Frontier Heights	8801 Frontier Circle	City of Lake Stevens	7.2		X		X					X			
Lundeen Park	10108 Lundeen Parkway	City of Lake Stevens	10.05	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
North Cove Park	Main St & North Lane	City of Lake Stevens	3.66	X	<u>X</u>	X			X	X		X	X	<u>X</u>	X
Oak Hill Park	Oak Road	City of Lake Stevens	2.63	X	<u>X</u>	X	X					X		<u>X</u>	
Davies Beach	20 South Davies Rd	City of Lake Stevens	2.48	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
20th Street Ballfields	20 th Street SE & 88th Avenue SE	City of Lake Stevens	12.36										X		X
Neighborhood Parks Total Acres			60.95												



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Figure 5.3 illustrates the distribution of neighborhood-level parks within Lake Stevens. As shown, there are gaps in the services area in the southeastern part of the city. To provide equity of distribution, the city should concentrate on acquiring lands in the southeastern part of the city for additional neighborhood parks as opportunities arise. In 2017 acquisition of Frontier Heights as a public park eliminated the service gap in the western part of the city. The recent acquisition of the 20th Street Ballfields meets the level of service for the southwestern area of the city.



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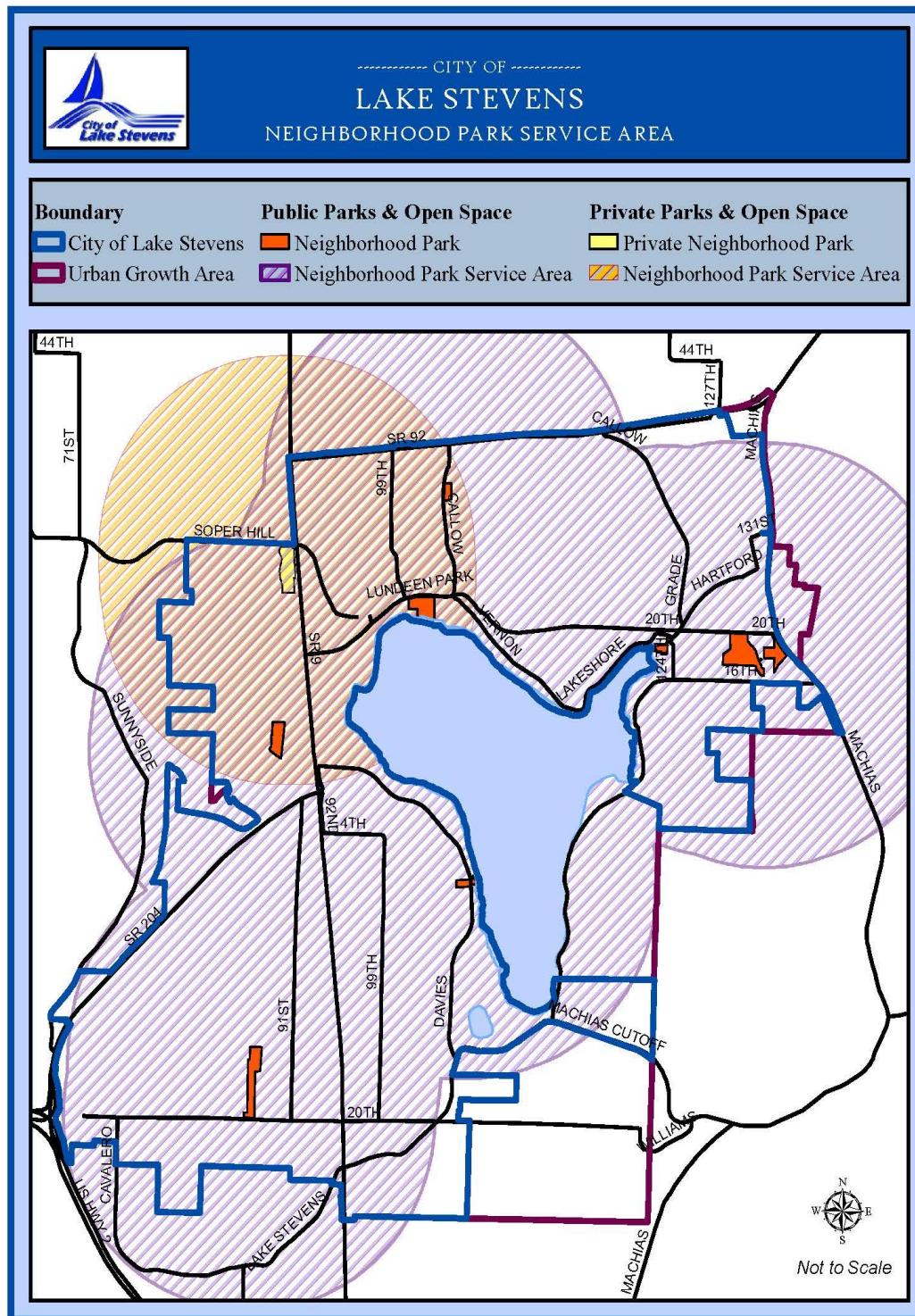


Figure 5.3 – Neighborhood Park Distribution



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Mini-Parks

Mini-parks often referred to as “pocket parks” or “tot lots” are the smallest recreation sites within the park inventory. Mini-parks may be public or private. Many were created with neighborhood subdivisions. Mini-parks should be easily accessible to surrounding neighborhoods or within commercial centers. Ideally, mini-parks connect neighborhoods or commercial centers by paths, trails, sidewalks, bikeways or greenways.

Kid's Oasis Playground – A 0.5-acre playground located on the grounds of Mt. Pilchuck Elementary School. This park was built in 1992 as a community volunteer project, with help from individuals, businesses, the city and the Lake Stevens School District. The playground is a “fantasy-style” wooden castle. Parking is available in the school parking lot. Children and parents use the playground throughout the year.

North Lakeshore Swim Beach – A popular 0.5-acre waterfront park providing lake access for summertime swimmers on North Cove. This park is located approximately 0.2 miles west of downtown on North Lakeshore Drive. Facilities include 560 square feet of useable beach, a 600 square foot municipal swimming dock, a portable restroom, and 10 parking spaces.



Sunset Beach – This is a 0.25-acre, County-owned, waterfront park whose primary use is water access and picnicking. It is located 0.3 mile south of downtown on East Lake Stevens Road. Facilities include a public dock, picnic tables, and six parking spaces. This park is especially busy during the summer season.

North Lakeshore Swim Beach and Sunset Park provide parallel amenities, ~~while Kid's Oasis provides the largest community playground~~, as shown in Table 5.4. In addition to the public mini-parks there are approximately 18 acres of private mini-parks

Trail and Park associated with Woodland Hills Subdivision - This 0.6-acre park is located within the Woodland Hills Subdivision it is equipped with a playground and walking trail.



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Table 5.4 – Mini-Park Inventory

FACILITY	LOCATION	OWNER	ACRES	PICNIC SHELTER/BENCHES	PLAYGROUND	TRAIL/PATHWAY	BEACH/SWIMMING	SOFTBALL/BASEBALL	DOCK	VIEW CORRIDOR	OPEN SPACE	LANDSCAPING
Mini-Park – Public												
Kids Oasis	12708 20th St NE	Lake Stevens School District	0.36		X							
North Lakeshore Swim Beach	North Lakeshore Dr	City of Lake Stevens	0.71				X		X	X		
Sunset Park	410 E Lake Stevens Rd	Snohomish County	0.60	X			X		X	X		X
Woodland Hills	79th Ave SE	City of Lake Stevens	.66		X	X						
Mini-Park – Created w/ Subdivisions Dedicated to the Public												
Semi-Public Mini-Parks				3.86		X	X				X	X
Mini-Park Parks Total Acres				5.535.17								

The city will continue to promote mini-parks in new neighborhoods and commercial areas as they develop, especially where gaps exist in the city, as shown in Figure 5.4.

School Parks

School parks constitute ancillary facilities, complementing the community's inventory. School parks often provide recreational needs not available at other parks or provide similar functions as other park types. For example, elementary playgrounds provide a similar benefit to residential areas commonly met by mini-parks or neighborhood parks; whereas, middle schools and high schools may provide community-level or special-use park functions depending on available amenities. Because schools are typically located within residential neighborhoods, they are easily accessible and evenly distributed throughout the community.



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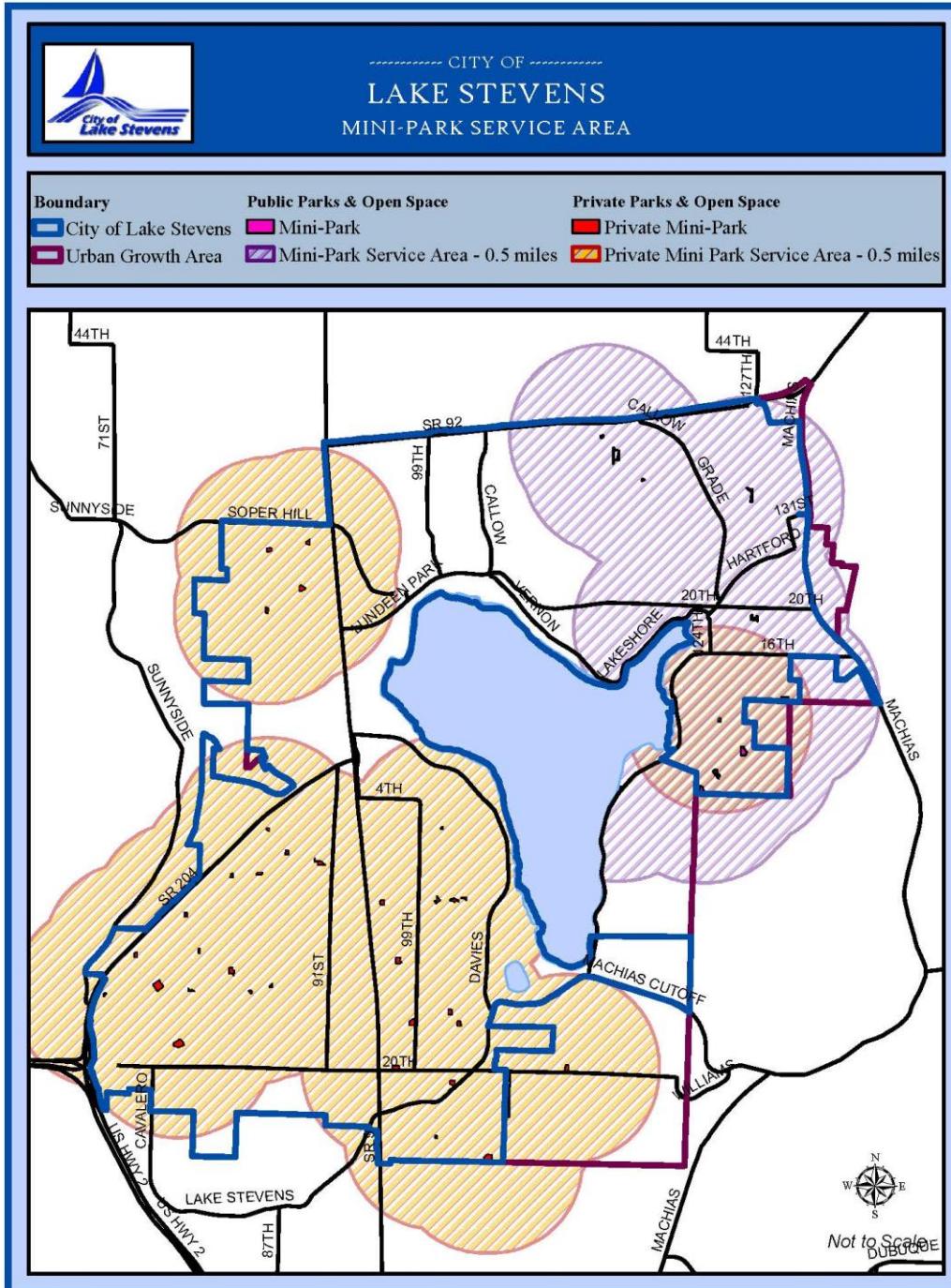


Figure 5.4 – Mini-Park Distribution



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Additionally, school campuses provide areas for sports activities, informal recreation uses, and potentially special activities.

The Lake Stevens School District (LSSD) owns the largest percentage of formal recreational/athletic facilities in the city. Many of the facilities are open to the public on a regular basis. The Park Plan promotes policies, which will allow the city to participate in jointly developing and managing parks and recreational facilities with the LSSD and other providers of leisure services to ensure efficient and effective use of the community's resources, avoiding redundant services and facilities.

As described in Table 5.5, the LSSD has seven elementary schools – each has playground facilities and a mix of other amenities. There are three middle schools, one mid-high school and a single high school. Each school contains a different mix of athletic fields and play courts. The high school also houses a swimming pool, open to the public, which functions as a special use site.

Table 5.5 – School Parks Inventory (LSSD)

FACILITY	LOCATION	PLAYGROUND	TRAIL/PATHWAY	BASKETBALL	TRACK	TENNIS	FOOTBALL/SOCCER FIELDS	SOFTBALL/BASEBALL	SWIMMING POOL	GYMNASIUM	OPEN SPACE
Cavelero Mid-High	8220 24th St SE	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Centennial Middle	3000 S Machias Rd		X	X	X			X		X	X
Glenwood Elementary	2221 103rd Ave SE	X					X	X		X	X
Highland Elementary	3220 113th Ave NE	X					X	X		X	X
Hillcrest Elementary	9315 4th St SE	X		X	X			X		X	X
Lake Stevens High	2602 115th Ave NE			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Lake Stevens Middle/ Skyline Elementary	1031 91st Ave SE	X	X	X	X			X		X	X
North Lake Middle	2226 123rd Ave NE		X		X		X	X		X	X
Pilchuck Elementary	12708 20th St NE	X	X	X			X	X		X	X
Stevens Creek Elementary	9317 29th Street NE	X	X	X				X		X	X
Sunnycrest Elementary	3411 99th Ave NE	X	X	X						X	X



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Open Spaces and Natural Resources

Open spaces consist of undeveloped lands, passive recreation areas or Native Growth Protection Areas, both public and private. Open spaces allow residents to engage in low-intensity and passive recreation activities such as hiking and bird/wildlife watching, while protecting natural areas and resources. Typical amenities include soft trails, boardwalks, interpretive signage and scenic views. Open space may provide habitat corridors for wildlife and links between neighborhoods for humans. Open spaces frequently buffer potentially incompatible land uses. Open space should be distributed throughout the city.

Currently, the land use code requires dedication of Native Growth Protection Areas on lands with critical areas such as wetlands, streams, and steep slopes during development. The city also requires the dedication or creation of open space as a condition of approval for some subdivisions and attached housing developments. These set asides form a large portion of the open space inventory for the city that must be managed cooperatively between the city, homeowners, homeowners' associations, other agencies and even non-profit land trusts.

The city has many natural resources with the primary resource being Lake Stevens, a 1,040-acre lake and its tributaries, which provide migration, spawning, and rearing habitat for resident and anadromous fish species. The city provides a variety of habitat niches for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and birds; notably there are many Bald Eagles that live around the lake. Public agencies own many of these open spaces; others are dedicated through the development process or as gifts from property owners. Generally, open spaces are located in critical areas and are retained in a natural state to protect the resource. In total, the city of Lake Stevens includes nearly 124 acres of public and semi-public open space and an additional 111 acres of privately held open space. Together these areas equal approximately four percent of the city. As previously noted, much of this property is within dedicated Native Growth Protection Areas. Open spaces with the potential for passive recreation uses are listed below.

Downtown Open Spaces – Approximately five acres of open space exist between 16th Street NE and 18th Street NE, in downtown Lake Stevens. This area could be developed into a natural classroom with interpretive information, and connected by trails, sidewalks, and boardwalks.



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Mill Cove Reserve – A one-acre passive open space purchased in 1997 through the Snohomish County Conservation Futures grant program. The wooded site is at the location of the historic Rucker Mill and contains wetlands and shore lands. From the site, one can see the pilings that supported the old mill over the lake. The city will continue to seek grant opportunities to finance trails, signage and other passive recreation amenities.

Trails and Pedestrian Facilities

Soft surface and paved trails, walking paths, sidewalks and multi-use trails for walking, hiking and bicycling make up the category of trails and pedestrian facilities. Paths and trails enhance connectivity between neighborhoods, parks, schools, transit facilities and commercial areas throughout the community and provide opportunities for alternative transportation. Recreational paths and trails can meander away from the road network, creating a focus on interacting with the natural or built environment. Sidewalks provide safe, direct routes between points along a road network. In 2020 the city adopted the first Trails Master Plan to guide development of new trails and provide level of service standards.

Approximately six miles of public or semi-public trails exist in the city. Many of the shorter trails link road segments. Some of the newer subdivisions include soft trails within the outer portions of critical area buffers or as paths between different areas. One trail circumscribes the western and southern borders of the high school property. Two miles of trails meander through Catherine Creek Park. The city added a new 0.8-mile multi-use path along South Lake Stevens Road in 2020. Gravel trails leading through Centennial Woods Park connect Catherine Creek Park to the Centennial Trail. The Lake Stevens Reserve neighborhood has a network of gravel trails that provide pedestrian access. There is also a network of informal trails in the power line corridor, located in the western portion of the city.



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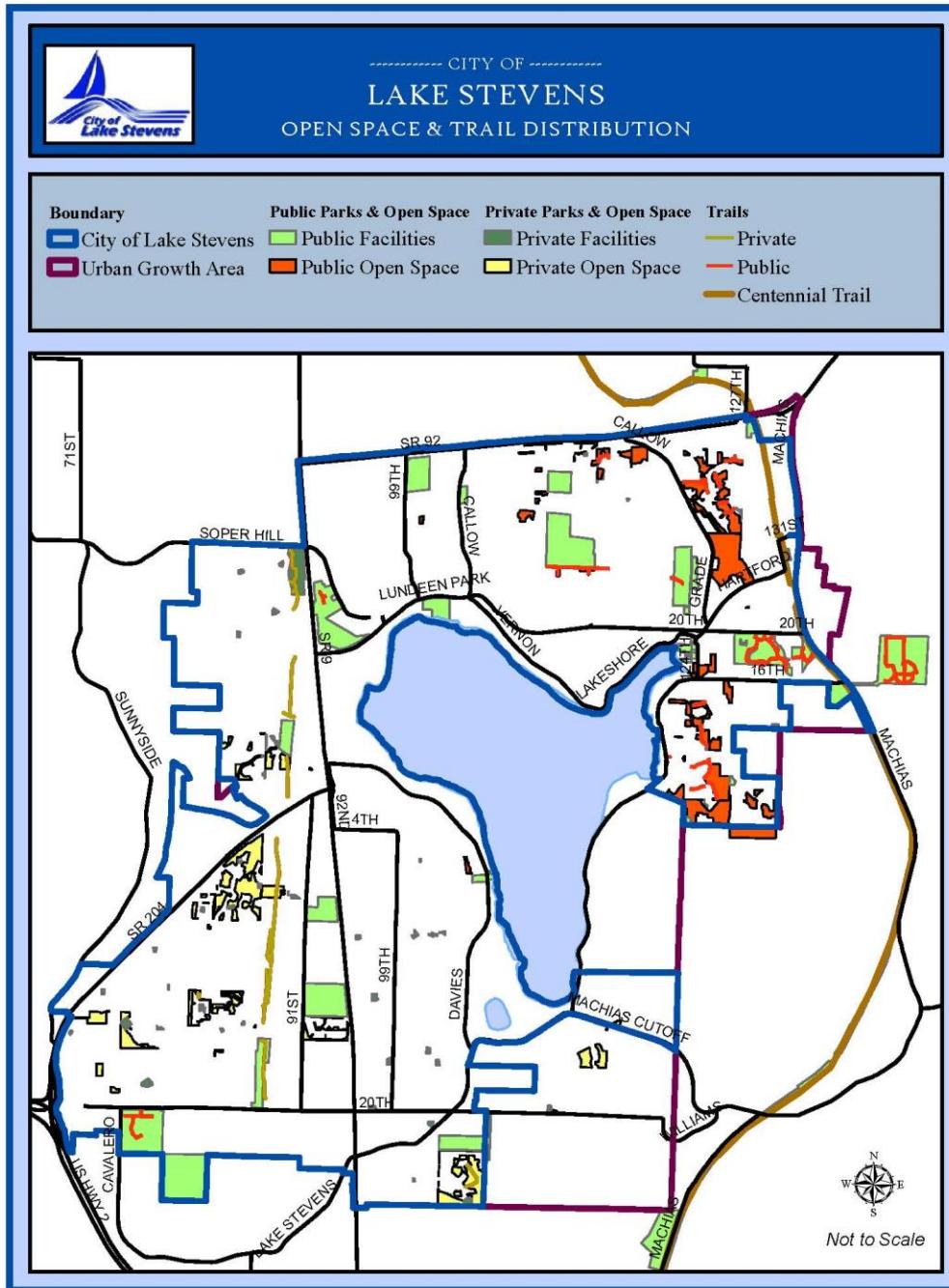


Figure 5.5 – Open Space and Trail Distribution



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The Snohomish County Centennial Trail skirts the eastern city limits, 1.7 miles of which are within the city. Nearly seven miles of the Centennial Trails is adjacent to the city between Centennial Middle School and the Rhododendron Trail Head.

The trail stretches between the city of Arlington to the north and the city of Snohomish to the south. The trail is planned to extend from the southern Snohomish/King County line to the northern Snohomish/ Skagit County line. The trail serves pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters, and equestrians.

Figure 5.5 provides an overview of public and private open spaces and trail locations within or near the city.

Special Use Parks & Facilities

Special use parks may be any park type or facility (private or public) with a specialized amenity that provides a unique experience, a particular sport or activity, and may provide a revenue income. Special use parks may include boat launches, cultural facilities, community centers, recreation centers/facilities or public art. Commercial enterprises geared toward the lake such as non-motorized uses or the Centennial Trail could compliment the city's inventory of special use facilities. The size of these facilities varies depending on the proposed use and available amenities. Special use parks should be distributed throughout the city. Because demand for special use facilities is generated from within and outside the city limits, the city, county, and other recreation providers should cooperate on locating special use sites.

Bonneville Field Ball Park – A three-acre baseball field, which also provides informal trailhead parking for the Centennial Trail, is located at the intersection of 16th Street NE and Hartford-Machias Road. The Lake Stevens [Junior Athletic Association Little League](#) operates this site. Facilities include a baseball diamond and approximately 35 parking spaces. The park is used primarily by organized little league teams during the summer.

North Cove Boat Launch – A one-acre public boat launch and parking lot, with 30 spaces, is located on the eastern shore of North Cove. Access is from 17th Place NE, off Main Street. The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife owns this site and leases it to the city. Most users are boaters, anglers, and jet-skiers launching their watercraft. Use is heaviest on summer weekends.





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Grimm House – The historic Grimm House, associated with the Rucker Mill, is located next to the Historical Museum and serves as an adjunct to the museum. Through volunteer efforts, the house has been relocated and renovated.

Historic Sites – The potential for historic sites in Lake Stevens is excellent because of the city's rich past linked to logging and railroads, evident in remains around the lake. ~~For example, the concrete footing of the water tower serving the Rucker Brothers' Saw Mill is still located in North Cove Park.~~ There are ~~also~~ trestle remains from the mill operations, in the lake, dating back to the turn of the century.

Lake Stevens Historical Museum – ~~Adjacent to the Lake Stevens branch of the Sno-Isle Regional Library is the 1,600 square foot Lake Stevens Historical museum.~~ The museum houses permanent and rotating exhibits illuminating the town's history, the Society's office, and a 1,000-piece historical photograph collection. The Lake Stevens Historical Society, formed in 1982, operates this museum. The Lake Stevens Historical Society ~~is operated by a 15-member board and~~ is a group of about ~~150-110~~ individuals dedicated to preserving community history through the collecting of information and artifacts and educating the public.

Lake Stevens Senior Center – The Lake Stevens Senior Center, located at Eagle Ridge Park, welcomes all older adults to share in fellowship, classes and social events in the Lake Stevens area. The Senior Center is in a 2,800 square foot building with a commercial kitchen, dining/multi-purpose room, barrier-free bathrooms, office space and additional class and meeting rooms.

Lochslay Field – The Lake Stevens School District owns this 15-acre site, located north of SR-92, between Lake Stevens and Granite Falls. Facilities include a ~~baseball diamond~~, numerous soccer fields and a large parking area. Organized league teams use the park primarily during the ~~spring, summer and fall~~.

The Mill – This approximately 10,000 square foot multi-use facility constructed in 2020 provides meeting space, covered

patios, festival space and three-season section for community events.



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Sno-Isle Regional Library, Lake Stevens Branch

Branch – The city owns a 2,5004,750 square foot building at 1804-2211 Grade Road Main Street that serves has the relocated as a library since 2021. The Sno-Isle Libraries provide library services to the community here. The building's size limits the possibility of increasing the collection, adding computer access and increasing programming. Based on current activity levels and 2025 population projections for the Lake Stevens area, Sno-Isle Libraries estimates a need for a 15,000 square foot facility.

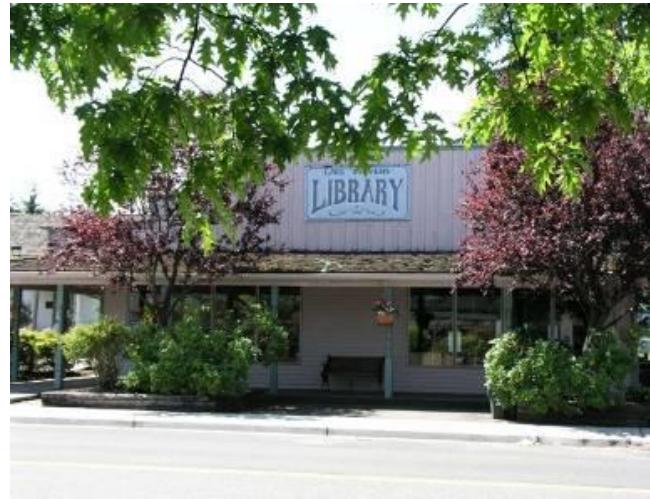


Table 5.6 – Special Use Inventory

FACILITY	LOCATION	OWNER	ACRES	FOOTBALL/ SOCCER FIELDS	SOFTBALL/BASEBALL	DOCK	BOAT LAUNCH	SWIMMING POOL	VIEW CORRIDOR	OTHER
Bonneville Field	1530 N Machias Road	Snohomish County	7.32		X					X
North Cove Boat Launch	North Drive	WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife	0.89			X	X		X	X
Grimm House	1804 Main Street	City of Lake Stevens	0.60							X
The Mill	1808 Main Street	City of Lake Stevens	.58							X
Library / Historic Society	<u>1804 Main Street</u> <u>2211 Grade Rd</u>	City of Lake Stevens	<u>0.251.16</u>							X
Lochsloy Field	6710 147th Ave NE	Lake Stevens	15.17	X	X					



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		School District									
Special Use Parks Total Acres		24.81									

Table 5.6 lists some well-known and popular special use sites and facilities.

Recreation Programs, Events and Special Providers

Aquafest – Lake Stevens' annual city celebration is usually held in July. It includes an aqua-run, children's activities, fireworks, vendor booths and several parades.

Lake Stevens Boys and Girls Club – A one-acre property located at the intersection of 16th Street NE and Main streets. Clubs, Inc., a non-profit organization composed of representatives of the Lake Stevens Lions Club and the Lake Stevens Junior Athletic Association (LSJAA), owns this property. The Boys and Girls Club includes a recently remodeled building, gymnasium and a small meeting room (50-60 person occupancy) available for rent. This room is available at no cost to service clubs and scout troops. The property also includes a baseball diamond (Bond field), used for youth team sports, and storage/concession area, operated and maintained by LSJAA, behind the gymnasium. Approximately 75 parking spaces are available on the property.

Lake Stevens Junior Athletic Association (LSJAA) – A non-profit youth organization, the LSJAA organizes seasonal teams for -, soccer, football, and basketball. User fees fund LSJAA programs.

Lake Stevens Little League – A non-profit youth baseball and softball organization that organizes seasonal teams and maintain Bonneville Field.

Lake Stevens School District – The LSSD offers evening and weekend classes in sports, hobbies, job skills, continuing education and other recreational classes. The LSSD operates the indoor swimming pool. The LSSD Community Education program currently provides recreation and leisure service programming, such as summer youth recreation programs and adult programs, in the fall, winter and spring.

Rowing Clubs – Different rowing clubs use Lake Stevens frequently, hosting several large regattas on the lake, as well as offering competitive rowing opportunities for juniors and adults.

Scouting, 4-H, Church Youth Programs, Other Special Interest Groups – All the scouting organizations are represented in Lake Stevens, as well as 4-H. Additionally, many of the churches have youth programs.



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Water Ski Club- The Lake Stevens Water Ski Club was started in the late 1940's and hosted the West Coast Regional Championships in North Cove. The club is open to all interested families and friends who are looking for fun on and off the water.

FUTURE NEEDS AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

Methodology and Public Process

The city traditionally based its level of service for parks and recreation facilities on an overall population ratio. Under this model, using the 2012 population estimate, the city provided approximately five acres of developed or planned parkland per 1,000 residents. Comparatively, this is within the level of service ranges provided by neighboring communities. As a first step to providing an adequate land supply, setting a broad population-based goal is acceptable. However, the city recognized that there were inherent problems with this method. The city and its UGA have a limited amount of large usable lands remaining. As the city's population grows, it is not likely that it can continue to acquire a larger inventory of new parkland. Secondly, a population-based model ignores access to different types of parks, special features and an equitable distribution throughout the community. Finally, this older method does not inform a jurisdiction on the city's satisfaction with individual facilities, the inventory or identify preferences for specific types of amenities.

At the last park element update the city determined the existing model of a population-based methodology did not adequately represent the needs of the community. In 2013 the City updated the methodology to include an acceptable individualized distance for residents to travel to reach each classification of parks, trails and facilities.

First, the city developed a park classification system previously described in Table 5.1. Second, the city completed an updated inventory of public and private facilities. The inventory categorized the facility by its classification, included current acreage and identified specific amenities available at each location. Third, the city proposed new level of service standards and mapped the distribution of different park facilities throughout the community based on the defined levels of service. The maps include an overall park distribution and individual distribution of different park types to determine access to residential areas. Fourth, the city developed and distributed a parks and recreation survey. The survey contained questions related to demographics, access to facilities, facility use and preferences, community desires, satisfaction and potential funding sources. Based on these results and recommendations by the community, Park Board and Planning Commission new service levels were set.

As part of the 2019 update staff distributed a refined survey by social media, posted it on the city's website in spring of 2019. The Park and Recreation Planning Board held several regular meetings throughout the year. Staff also briefed the Planning Commission and City Council about the project throughout 2019 at open public meetings. Staff has refined the



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needs assessment based on survey responses and comments from the community and city officials.

Level of Service Standards and Goals

The level of service standard (LOS) for park facilities are based on residential access and equitable distribution of facilities to different park types and trails community wide. The LOS standard for community parks is one park within 2.5 miles of residential areas. The LOS standard for neighborhood parks is one park within one mile of residential areas. The service goal for mini-parks (public and private) is one mini-park within 0.5 miles of residential areas. The LOS standard for multi-use trails is one trail within one mile of residential areas. The LOS standard for open space is five percent of the community. Within each facility, the city will strive to maintain a mix of amenities that reflect community use preferences as defined in the most current Lake Stevens Parks and Recreation Survey.

Needs Assessment

Survey respondents suggested that community level parks should receive the highest priorities, but a desire to see all park types was evident from responses. Some of the most popular uses included walking/hiking, picnicking, beach/dock use, and swimming. Some of the most desired improvements include walking, hiking and multi-use trails, picnic areas, public docks, a community garden, playgrounds, a skate park, and improved restrooms. Overall respondents claim to be somewhat satisfied with the facilities and amenities. The most common complaint was a perceived lack of park properties, amenities and lake access. Respondents identified the cost of park maintenance and land for additional access as major issues to be resolved. Popular funding sources include public and private partnerships and fund matching. Additional questions focus on forming a recreation program and determining offerings to be included.

Through a process of applying the adopted parks and open space LOS standards, reviewing the current inventory and analyzing the 2019 Parks and Recreation Survey a clear picture of the city's needs for public park and recreation programs and facilities emerges. Four main categories comprise the current needs assessment: Planning, Acquisition, Site Development and Improvements, & Maintenance and Recreation programming. Each element provides the basis for developing a capital improvement plan. Decision-makers should prioritize the selection of capital projects based on gaps in the service for different park types, distribution of amenities throughout the park network, community preferences, opportunities, and likelihood of partnerships with other jurisdictions or private groups.

Park Planning



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To improve existing recreational facilities and design new facilities, the city needs to develop master plans for specific uses in existing parks, in addition to new facilities added to the inventory. Master plans should consider the distribution of existing inventoried facilities and identify locations for improving and developing preferred uses and amenities from the community survey. Specifically, new master plans should consider opportunities to add trails, playgrounds, picnic areas, permanent restrooms and active recreation areas including sports fields and facilities. Additionally, master plans should identify potential locations for additional trails and shoreline acquisition and development.

The following list includes a series of proposed planning efforts, based on responses from the community survey, to implement the Park Plan.

1. Coordinate with Snohomish County to plan park facilities jointly within or adjacent to the city. Examples include future construction phases of Cavalero park, transfer of some park facilities, and a long-term analysis of county properties outside city limits.
2. ~~The city is working with a consultant to develop a master plan for trails emphasizing formalizing the power line trail system into a multi-use trail, developing a lakefront path within the public right-of-way along Lake Stevens that provides pedestrian access to the waterfront at various locations and creating trail links between the western and eastern portions of the city, ultimately linking to downtown and the Centennial trail. Survey respondents identified walking paths and multi-use trails as preferred uses consistently throughout the community survey. Develop a master plan for Centennial Woods Park including a pump track and other amenities.~~
- 3.2. Develop a master plan for non-motorized uses of the waterfront including swimming areas, beach use, rowing/paddling and public docks/piers. Improved shoreline access and a variety of water-related activities are important identified issues by residents. This project should be coordinated with a variety of user groups and stakeholders.
- 4.3. Prepare an open space plan for the various downtown shorelines, wetlands and riparian open spaces (e.g., Mill Cove Reserve, 16th and 18th Street wetlands and) with an emphasis on low impact development, interpretative education and linkages. The community identified habitat protection and development of interpretive sites as an important goal for the community parks, recreation and open space system.
- 5.4. Implement a wayfinding program developed with the City Beautification Plan in 2020, to identify the locations of parks and recreational facilities throughout the community. A wayfinding program would be crucial to providing a uniform image and highlighting existing and proposed site improvements.

Acquisition

Based on the distribution of park facilities and survey responses, the city should identify opportunities to acquire the following lands to meet the recreational needs of city residents.



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Decision-makers should include one or more of these potential acquisitions as placeholders on the capital program list to act on as opportunities are identified.

1. The city should identify a location for a new public neighborhood level park in the southeastern part of the city, near 20th Street SE.
2. The city should identify locations for additional shoreline properties on Lake Stevens. Shoreline acquisition should consider expansion of current properties, a balanced distribution of access points on all sides of the lake, lands that can provide a mix of active and passive recreation activities and linear access tracts for trails, paths and view corridors.
3. Rights-of-way/easements for multi-use trails, pedestrian paths and sidewalks throughout the city with an emphasis on lakefront locations, the power line corridor in the western part of the city and east/west connections to the Centennial Trail and downtown.

Site Development

Some projects are ready for immediate implementation and construction. Decision-makers should give these projects a high-priority for inclusion on the capital project list. As the city completes other master plans, Council should consider adding these as future capital projects.

1. Complete construction of Eagle Ridge Master Plan's Phase 1 improvements (e.g., landscaping, trail development, interpretive signs, etc.) and start construction of Phase 2 improvements (e.g., restroom facilities area, etc.) and Phase 3 improvements (e.g. playgrounds, picnic shelter, amphitheater, etc.).
2. After acquisition of right-of-way/easements, the city should begin constructing the power line trail in phases.
3. Frontier Heights – Implement ~~the Phase II future phases of the Master Plan in phases, starting with grading and trail installation, restrooms, playground installation and resurfacing basketball court. Phase II includes including exercise stations, viewing labyrinth, pickleball court, sensory garden and additional parking.~~
4. 20th Street Ballfields – ~~Develop a Master Plan that incorporates the Trails Master Program and other recreational opportunities consistent with site design and location. Construct the Master Plan that includes, athletic fields, dog park, trailhead, playground, and parking.~~

Park Improvements / Maintenance

Several projects do not need significant planning but will help implement community desires and preferences and should be included on the capital project list. Such projects involve maintenance and repairs or improvements to existing facilities. Many of these projects could



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be completed through cooperative efforts between the city and stakeholder groups. Specific examples for consideration as a capital project follow.

1. Repair existing soft trails at Catherine Creek Park and Centennial Woods. This may include clearing brush and installing new surface materials on trails. The city should endeavor to define trailheads and install location and wayfinding signage between the two sites. As appropriate, city staff could install additional amenities at these sites including formal seating areas and picnic facilities along with restroom facilities.
2. Coordinate with user groups to repair and improve the disc golf course in Catherine Creek Park.
3. Construct a pedestrian pathway between Downtown Lake Stevens and the Centennial Trail along Hartford Drive NE terminating at land dedicated to the city for creating a new trail connection. The project would include improvements along Hartford Drive NE such as directional signage, striping and other safety features.

Recreation Programming

Lake Stevens currently provides seasonal events for community recreation. Recreation programming began in 2020 through a third-party vendor. Additional programming will be developed over a 5-year plan to increase offerings to all ages and abilities.

Capital Projects

An analysis of existing conditions and projected needs in the previous section highlighted the areas of concern and opportunities for Lake Stevens. The Capital Facilities Element contains a strategy for achievement of the city's goals considering the existing conditions in the city and identified needs. Capital projects will be prioritized based on the survey result preferences, needs assessment, levels of service and relationship to economic development opportunities. The following list of different project types should be considered for inclusion in the Capital Facilities Element.

Planning Project No. 1 ~~Powerline Park Master Plan / Dog Park~~ Centennial Woods Pump Track

Total Cost: \$50100,000

Target Start Date: 2020-20222023-2024

Description: Develop park master plan for 20th Street Ballfields and parcel to the north. Plan elements will include parking, landscaping, recreation amenities and dog parka pump track plan to include parking, picnic opportunities and trails.

Planning Project No.2 Downtown Open Space Master Plan

Total Cost: \$30,000



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Target Start Date: 2020-2022

Description: Open space plan for various downtown open spaces including shoreline, wetland, and riparian areas. The plan would include environmental analysis, identify appropriate connections between areas, develop interpretive information and provide engineered details for boardwalks, viewing areas and signage.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Grants

Location: Mill Cove Reserve, Grade Road Open Space, Wetlands between 16th Ave NE and 18th Ave NE

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for balanced habitat protection and development of interpretive sites as an important component in the community parks, recreation and open space system.

Acquisition Project No.1 Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition

Total Cost: \$1,610,066

Phase 1 (Northern Section approximately 3,800 linear feet) – \$237,382

Phase 2 (Eastern Section approximately 3,600 linear feet) – \$222,684

Phase 3 (Western/Southern approximately 18,000 linear feet) – \$1,150,000

Target Start Date: 2020-2035

Description: Purchase rights-of-way/easements for walking paths around the lake.

Proposed Funding Sources: Local Contributions, Impact fees, Grants

Location: Road network around Lake Stevens

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing safe walking paths and multi-use trails throughout the community.

Acquisition Project No.2 Neighborhood Park Acquisition

Total Cost: \$500,000 to \$1 million

(Southeast Lake Stevens between 5 – 10 acres)

Target Start Date: 2020 - 2025

Description: Identify locations for and acquire lands for a neighborhood level park in the southeastern part of the city.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, REET

Location: Southern part of the city, near 20th Street SE

Justification: This project would meet the Level of Service standard for access and distribution of neighborhood level parks.



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Acquisition Project No.3 Shoreline Acquisition

Total Cost: \$1 – 1.5 million

Target Start Date: 2020-2025

Description: Identify locations for and acquire shoreline property that can provide a balance mix of water related activities around Lake Stevens.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Grants

Location: Lake Stevens

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for acquisition and development of additional shoreline properties as an important part of the community parks, recreation and open space system.

Acquisition Project No.4 – Power Line Trail Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition

Total Cost: \$838,200

Phase 1 (Northern Portion approximately 6,350 linear feet) – \$419,100

Phase 2 (Southern Portion approximately 6,350 linear feet) – \$419,100

Target Start Date: 2020-2030

Description: Purchase rights-of-way/easements for multi-use trails in the power line corridor.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Grants

Location: Power line corridor in the western part of Lake Stevens

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing safe walking paths and multi-use trails throughout the community.

Development Project No.1 North Cove Park Expansion

Total Cost: \$1,300,000

Target Start Date: 2020

Description: ~~Regrade remaining site, install new playgrounds, install public art, complete walking path around the park, construct picnic shelter and restrooms, parking and stormwater, add a public parking lot, add a boat moorage, complete public plaza, relocate the museum and Grimm House and restore the lake outlet and stream channel.~~

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Grants

Location: 1820 Main Street

Justification: ~~This project would meet the identified need of additional parks and preference for developing safe walking paths, picnic areas, playgrounds and water access.~~



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Development Project No.2 Frontier Heights Redevelopment Phase II

Total Cost: \$500,000

Target Start Date: 2021-2022

Description: Add parking along Frontier Circle W., add basketball court, labyrinth, sensory garden, multi-use athletic field, exercise stations and landscaping.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Development, Grants

Location: 8801 Frontier Circle E

Justification: This project would meet the identified need of multi-use athletic fields and increasing active recreation opportunities throughout the community. This project would revitalize this neighborhood and increase economic development in the surrounding area. This project would meet the identified preference for developing neighborhood level parks.

Development Project No.31 – Complete remaining Phases of the Eagle Ridge Master Plan

Total Cost: \$1,000,000

Target Start Date: 2024-2025

Description: Construct remaining improvements in the Eagle Ridge Master Plan.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Development, Grants

Location: Eagle Ridge Park

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing community level parks.

Development Project No.2 Frontier Heights Redevelopment Phase II and III

Total Cost: \$1,500,000

Target Start Date: 2023-2024

Description: Add parking along Frontier Circle W., add pickleball court, labyrinth, sensory garden, multi-use athletic field, exercise stations and landscaping.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Development, Grants

Location: 8801 Frontier Circle W

Justification: This project would meet the identified need of multi-use athletic fields and increasing active recreation opportunities throughout the community. This project would revitalize this neighborhood and increase economic development in the surrounding area. This project would meet the identified preference for developing neighborhood level parks.

Development Project No.34 – Power Line Trail Construction



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Total Cost: \$21,9341,660

Phase 1 (Northern Segment construct approximately 6,350 linear feet) – \$699,960

Phase 2 (Southern Segment construct approximately 6,350 linear feet) – \$641,700

Phase 3 (20th Street Ballfields and Dog Park) - \$1,600,000

Target Start Date: 20220-2030

Phase I/II Description: Construct multi-use trail along utility corridor.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees

Location: Power line corridor in the western part of Lake Stevens

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing safe walking paths and multi-use trails throughout the community.

Development Project No. 5 – 20th Street Ballfields Development and Dog Park

Total Cost: \$1,300,000

Target Start Date: 2020-2022

Phase II Description: Renovate existing facilities in two phases to increase safety standards. Phase I will include re-grading the existing fields. Phase II will include a dog park, and elements identified in master plan. This property will be a trail head for the Westside Trail.

Proposed Funding Sources: Grants, Impact Fees

Location: 20th Street SE and 88th Ave SE

Justification: This facility would improve a public neighborhood level park in southwestern Lake Stevens and satisfy goals identified in the Trails Master Plan.

Improvement Project No.1 Hartford Road Walking Path/Trail Head

Total Cost: \$50,000

Target Start Date: 2020-2021

Description: Improve the pedestrian pathway between Downtown Lake Stevens and the Centennial Trail along Hartford Drive NE and construct a new trailhead at the intersection of Hartford Road and 131st Ave NE.

Proposed Funding Sources: Mitigation, Grants

Location: Hartford Drive NE between 20th Street NE and 131st Ave NE

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing safe walking paths and multi-use trails throughout the community.



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Improvement Project No.2 – Catherine Creek and Centennial Woods Trail Improvements

Total Cost: \$15,206

Phase 1 (Catherine Creek approximately 4,460 linear feet) – \$11,097

Phase 2 (Centennial Woods approximately 1,127 linear feet) – \$4,110

Target Start Date: 2020

Description: Improve existing soft trails at Catherine Creek and Centennial Woods.

Proposed Funding Sources: Impact fees, Local Contribution

Location: Catherine Creek and Centennial Woods Parks

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing safe walking paths and multi-use trails throughout the community.

Improvement Project No. 3 – Sunset Park

Total Cost: \$100,500,000

Description: This property is ~~anticipated to come~~came into the city's ownership at the time of annexation in ~~late 2020~~August 2021. Initial assessment of the park noted several action items to be completed due to maintenance deferral and immediate safety issues. The bank is sloughing, and shore stabilization is needed. A visibility issue exists as entering East Lake Stevens Road from the park.

Location: Sunset Park

Justification: This project would meet the identified preference for developing safe parks and protecting natural resources.

Financing

Parks and recreation facilities users do not necessarily recognize political boundaries; therefore, it is imperative that jurisdictions plan for and provide recreation facilities to meet the needs of the community jointly. Recognizing this fact also allows a more efficient system to be established using scarce tax dollars to provide for the recreational needs of regional populations. For example, it is more efficient to build a swimming pool between two jurisdictions where demand exists than to build two separate pools three blocks from each other simply because each city feels that tax dollars should be spent in individual communities. The city should continue to place emphasis on a balanced, cooperative approach to parks and recreation planning.

In accordance with the Revised Code of Washington Sections 82.02.050 and 82.02.060, the city is to provide a balance between impact fees and other sources of public funds to meet



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its capital project needs. Revenues from property taxes, user fees (if imposed), sales taxes, real estate taxes, grants and other revenue sources need to be used to pay the proportionate share of the growth-generated capital facilities costs. Therefore, the city's commitment to improving the parks system is not solely reliant on impact fees.

Impact Fees

Once a LOS is adopted, impact fees may be assessed under GMA to ensure that levels of services are maintained as the population grows. It is required that impact fees be based on the LOS in place at the time of development. It is in the city's interest to ensure impact fees are current as allowed under GMA based upon the level of service established in this element. The amount that could be charged new development would be determined through a separate fee study.

General Revenues

Unlimited general obligation bonds may be submitted to voters for park and recreation purposes. These bonds require approval by at least 60% of the resident voters during an election that has a turnout of at least 40% of those who voted in the last state general election. The bond must be repaid from a special levy which is not governed by the six percent statutory limitation on the property tax growth rate.

Grants

While the city has been successful in obtaining grants for parks, it will continue to apply for grants for acquisition, development, recreation programming and maintenance. With a larger community, it is anticipated that the city's resources could be better leveraged with more and larger grants.

Special Revenue Funds

Conservation Futures: By state law, counties can elect to levy up to \$0.065 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for all county properties to acquire shoreline or other open space lands. In 1997, the city obtained conservation future funds to purchase about 21 acres of open space lands contained in three parks.

Real Estate Excise Tax (REET): State law allows counties the option of imposing excise taxes on the sale of real estate. The tax may be imposed up to \$0.25 per \$1,000 in sale value to be used to finance capital facility developments, including the acquisition and development of park and recreational facilities.



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Foundations and Contributions

The Arts and Parks Foundation was established as a 501(c)(3) as an avenue for people to make tax-exempt contributions that directly support parks and art activities. Contributions can be from service clubs, individuals or organizations wishing to make a one-time or periodic gift to parks.

Fundraising

Lake Stevens will promote fundraising opportunities within events, dedication of amenities and legacy gifts of properties and funds in cooperation with the Arts and Parks Foundation.

GOALS AND POLICIES

An analysis of existing park, recreation and open space facilities along with community input provide the basis for establishing goals and policies within the Park Plan. The goals and policies provide guidelines and actions for achieving that Plan. Goals are broad intent statements that describe a desired outcome. Policies provide the framework for developing specific measurable actions.

GOAL 5.1 PROVIDE A HIGH-QUALITY, DIVERSIFIED PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM THAT PROVIDES RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES AND INTEREST GROUPS.

Policies

- 5.1.1 Provide a system of multi-purpose neighborhood and community parks, throughout the community, accessible to all residents that meet the following levels of service:
 - a. Neighborhood Parks – one park within a one-mile radius of all residential areas and
 - b. Community Parks – one park within a 2.5-mile radius of all residential areas.
- 5.1.2 Provide a park, recreation and open space system with activities for all age groups and abilities, equally distributed throughout the community, with an emphasis on youth-oriented activities.
- 5.1.3 Provide a balanced mix of active recreational facilities including but not limited to court and field activities, skateboard/BMX areas, and multi-use trails and passive recreation facilities, including but not limited to, hiking/walking, shoreline access and picnicking accessible to the largest number of participants.
- 5.1.4 Promote balanced lake access for pedestrians and motorized and non-motorized watercraft so all segments of the population can enjoy the lake and have access to its recreational opportunities.



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- 5.1.5 Encourage the inclusion of performing arts facilities in public parks and recreation areas and incorporate visual arts into the design of park features, such as railings, benches, buildings and other amenities.
- 5.1.6 Support the use of indoor community spaces for arts and crafts, music, video, classroom instruction, meeting facilities and other spaces for all age groups on a year-round basis.
- 5.1.7 When appropriate and economically feasible, participate in the development of special interest recreational facilities.
- 5.1.8 Continue to participate in the annual Aquafest community celebration.
- 5.1.9 Identify recreational and cultural needs opportunities for special needs populations.
- 5.1.10 Support the Lake Stevens Historical Society in their efforts to inventory significant historical and archaeological resources and to provide information to the community on its history.
- 5.1.11 Create a recreation program that provides activities for all ages and abilities.
- 5.1.12 Support community events that create pride and provide for economic development.

GOAL 5.2 PROVIDE AN INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM OF HIGH-QUALITY, ACCESSIBLE TRAILS AND GREENWAY CORRIDORS THAT OFFER DIVERSE, HEALTHY OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES WITHIN A VARIETY OF LANDSCAPES AND NATURAL HABITATS, PUBLIC FACILITIES, LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS, BUSINESS DISTRICTS AND REGIONAL TRAILS.

Policies

- 5.2.1 Provide a comprehensive network of multi-use trails for pedestrians, bicycles and skating using alignments along the public rights-of-way, through public landholdings as well as across cooperating private properties, which link residential neighborhoods to community facilities, parks, special use areas, commercial areas and the waterfront that meets the following level of service: one trail within one mile of residential areas. Implement Master Trail Plan as adopted.
- 5.2.2 Provide for a comprehensive city trail system linking the downtown area, schools, parks, and the Centennial Trail.
- 5.2.3 Establish a multi-use trail around the lake, choosing a route that best provides lake access and/or views.
- 5.2.4 Establish a north/south trail under the power lines as identified in the Lake Stevens Center and 20th Street SE Corridor subarea plans.
- 5.2.5 Establish an east/west sidewalk trail along 24th Street SE and South Lake Stevens Road that will eventually connect to the Centennial Trail as identified in the 20th Street SE Corridor subarea plan.



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5.2.6 Establish, expand and/or improve nature trails and boardwalks through open spaces with an emphasis on Eagle Ridge Park, Catherine Creek Park, Centennial Woods, Mill Cove Reserve, and the Grade Road Open Space.

GOAL 5.3 PRESERVE AND ENHANCE OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL RESOURCES AREAS INCLUDING FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT, MIGRATION CORRIDORS, NATURAL MEADOWS AND WATER RESOURCES.

Policies

5.3.1 Preserve open space corridors and buffers to provide separation between natural areas and urban land uses with a goal of maintaining five percent of city as open space.

5.3.2 Plan, locate and manage park and recreation facilities so that they enhance wildlife habitat, minimize erosion, complement natural site features and create linkages within the developed area.

5.3.3 Balance the desire for public access and interpretive education with preservation of environmentally sensitive areas and other natural sites

5.3.4 Maintain and enforce leash laws and animal at-large laws to stem wildlife predation.

5.3.5 Preserve lake and other scenic views for the public when considering land use decisions and when siting park and recreation facilities.

5.3.6 Plan for an open space system that may include:

- Natural or scenic areas,
- Water bodies and drainage easements,
- Public/private passive park and recreation sites,
- Cultural, archaeological, geological and historical sites,
- Large reserve tracts, private parks, common ground, and buffer areas from residential development,
- Utility corridors, and
- Trail corridors that may function as wildlife corridors.

GOAL 5.4 MAXIMIZE PARK FACILITIES BY LEVERAGING, SHARING AND EFFICIENTLY USING RESOURCES.

Policies

5.4.1 Cooperatively plan for joint-use facilities, meeting and class rooms, athletic fields, and other facilities with the Lake Stevens School District, Lake Stevens Junior Athletic Association, Snohomish County Parks Department and other public or private providers of recreation services and facilities that are of mutual benefit to each agency and the users/participants in the city and its Urban Growth Area.



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- 5.4.2 Create a comprehensive, balanced park, recreation and open space system that integrates city facilities and services with resources available from the Lake Stevens School District, Snohomish County and other state, federal and private park and recreational lands and facilities in a manner that will best serve and provide for area residents' interests.
- 5.4.3 Support continued cooperation between the city, non-profit organizations, the Lake Stevens School District and other agencies for continuation and development of recreation programming for youths, senior citizens and other segments of the population to avoid duplication, improve facility quality and availability, which reduces costs and represents area residents' interests through joint planning and development efforts.
- 5.4.4 Establish inter-local agreements between the city, county, school district and private non-profit organizations and other agencies to provide for athletic facilities to serve the needs of the city and the Urban Growth Area.

GOAL 5.5 MAINTAIN PARK FACILITIES TO MAXIMIZE LIFE OF THE FACILITIES AND TO PROVIDE AN ATTRACTIVE AND PLEASING ENVIRONMENT FOR USERS.

Policies

- 5.5.1 Design and develop facilities, which reduce overall facility maintenance and operations requirements and costs. Where appropriate, use low maintenance materials, settings or other value engineering considerations that reduce care and security requirements and retain natural conditions and experiences.
- 5.5.2 Develop a maintenance management system to estimate and plan for life cycle maintenance in addition to replacement costs.
- 5.5.3 Provide operation and maintenance to insure safe, serviceable, and functional parks and facilities. Provide adequate funding to operate and maintain existing and new special use sites.
- 5.5.4 The city shall establish creative methods to efficiently expand park and trail maintenance services such as encouraging volunteer efforts, continued use of the State Department of Corrections crews and mutual coordination with other local agencies.
- 5.5.5 Where appropriate, the city should initiate joint planning and operating programs with other public and private agencies to provide for special activities like shoreline access, aquatic facilities, marinas and community festivals.
- 5.5.6 In the design of parks, encourage the use of materials and designs to reduce the occurrence and impacts of vandalism. Parks design which provides for easy surveillance of facilities by residents and by police can reduce vandalism. Use of materials such as graffiti resistant coatings can reduce these impacts.



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- 5.5.7 Repair acts of vandalism immediately to discourage park property and city recreation facilities from becoming targets for further such acts.
- 5.5.8 Ensure that all park and recreation facilities owned and operated by the city comply with ADA accessibility requirements.
- 5.5.9 Establish a formal volunteer network as volunteerism is a significant source of energy and ideas. The city must continue to tap and improve existing opportunities to involve the community in its own programs. The city shall formalize a volunteer program that includes "adopt a park," and "adopt a trail," and similar programs.
- 5.5.10 Coordinate with Lake Stevens Police in park design to reduce unsafe park environments to reduce crime.

GOAL 5.6 THE CITY RECOGNIZES THAT LAND IS IN HIGH DEMAND AND THAT ACQUISITIONS MUST BE PURSUED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT THE COMMUNITY'S VISION CONCURRENTLY WITH DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING EXISTING FACILITIES TO ACHIEVE A HIGH-QUALITY AND BALANCED PARK AND RECREATION SYSTEM.

Policies

- 5.6.1 Add capacity at existing parks by expanding or improving facilities to accommodate current and future populations and desired uses including walking/hiking trails, active recreation and passive recreation.
- 5.6.2 Acquire additional shoreline lands for trails, public docks, waterfront fishing, wading, swimming, boating and other water related recreational activities.
- 5.6.3 Cooperate with public and private agencies and with private landowners to set aside land and resources necessary to provide high-quality, convenient park and recreation facilities before the most suitable sites are lost to development.
- 5.6.4 Work with developers to identify additional parks, recreation and open space opportunities in redeveloping areas.
- 5.6.5 Prioritization for new park and recreation facilities shall take into consideration areas within the community that are under-represented by parks, types of desired facilities not presently available, availability of properties appropriate for a particular type of park and availability and opportunities for grants and other funding sources.
- 5.6.6 With a developer requirement of paying GMA-based park mitigation fees, developers are still encouraged to install mini-parks voluntarily for the benefit of their developments; however, such mini-parks shall not be credited against meeting the developer's mitigation obligation. The city has not defined a LOS for mini-parks, but encourages one park within a half-mile radius of all residential areas

GOAL 5.7 DEVELOP PARK AND TRAIL DESIGN STANDARDS.



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Policies

- 5.7.1 Standardize facility design to ensure consistency and quality in the Lake Stevens park system, and establish a standard for trail signage including interpretive, safety and regulatory signs.
- 5.7.2 Develop trail improvements using the Lake Stevens Trails Master Plan to design and development standards that facilitate maintenance, security and other appropriate personnel, equipment and vehicles and includes:
 - a. Trail systems with appropriate supporting trailhead improvements that include interpretive, directory and mileage signage as well as rules and regulations for trail use.
 - b. Provide site furnishings such as benches, bike racks, dog waste stations and trash containers.
 - c. Locate trails in conjunction with park sites, schools, and other community facilities to increase local area access to the trail system and to take advantage of access to existing restrooms and drinking water, thereby reducing duplication of supporting improvements.
 - d. Design outdoor picnic areas, trails, playgrounds, courts, fields, parking lots, restrooms, and other active and supporting facilities to be accessible to individuals and organized groups of all physical capabilities, skill levels, age groups, income and activity interests.
- 5.7.4 Implement the provisions and requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other design and development standards that will improve park facility safety and security features for park users, department personnel, and the public-at-large.
- 5.7.5 Promote sustainable landscapes to increase the ecological functions of natural areas and utilize native vegetation in planted areas, where possible.
- 5.7.6 Choose durable products to promote human health in a safe environment and consider life-cycle analysis of materials options. Incorporate green building technology including nontoxic materials and sustainable development practices. Select local products where feasible. Consider environmental as well as economic impacts

GOAL 5.8 INCREASE AWARENESS OF PARK AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES.



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Policies

- 5.8.1 Promote the use of local parks through the media, Aquafest, other festivals and by providing information as to their availability such as publishing maps showing park locations and their available facilities.
- 5.8.2 Promote and provide volunteer opportunities.
- 5.8.3 Facilitate community involvement and stewardship.
 - a. Continue and expand the volunteer work party program.
 - b. Continue and expand the Adopt-a-Trail program.
 - c. Develop interlocal management agreements.
 - d. Encourage participation in community trail events.
 - e. Expand on existing relationships with schools, business and non-profit organizations.
- 5.8.4 Promote environmental protection as part of providing a successful park and recreation program by establishing a permanent celebration promoting Earth Day activities
- 5.8.5 Where appropriate, use adopt-a-park programs, neighborhood park watches, park police patrols and other innovative programs that will increase safety and security awareness and visibility.
- 5.8.6 Provide historic and natural interpretation opportunities throughout the city's park system.
- 5.8.7 Promote commercial recreation opportunities along the Centennial Trail and on and near the lake.
- 5.8.8 Utilize interpretive materials to highlight features such as native flora and historic points of interest

GOAL 5.9 CREATE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT METHODS OF ACQUIRING, DEVELOPING, OPERATING AND MAINTAINING FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS THAT ACCURATELY DISTRIBUTE COSTS AND BENEFITS TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INTERESTS.

Policies

- 5.9.1 Establish financing mechanisms to ensure that adequate parks, open space and recreation facilities are available to the community.
- 5.9.2 Investigate innovative available methods or the financing of maintenance and operating needs in order to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match user benefits and interests and increase facility services.



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- 5.9.3 The city shall explore, and where appropriate, adopt a creative funding strategy which takes advantage of traditional sources such as capital budgeting, grants, and developer contributions, but also non-traditional sources including, but not limited to, volunteers, dedication of benches or other amenities for fundraising, interlocal agreements, donations, foundations, interjurisdictional partnerships and other appropriate mechanisms.
- 5.9.4 In developing the park system, encourage donations and dedications, conservation easements, innovative land use contractual agreements and other methods involving foundations, organizations, associations, trusts, developers, landowners, others from the private sector and neighboring and regional governments.
- 5.9.5 Allow fee stewardship programs to be established in conjunction with recognized land conservancies to maintain dedicated natural areas in lieu of permitting homeowner associations to assume such responsibilities (assuming the city does not wish to assume such responsibility).

Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element



Attachment 4

Chapter 7: Public Services and Utilities Element





Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

CHAPTER 7: PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES ELEMENT

A VISION FOR PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

Lake Stevens will strive to provide excellent public utilities and services to meet the health and safety needs of the community in proportion to future population growth, and will continue to coordinate with local service providers such as the Lake Stevens Sewer District, Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue and the Lake Stevens School District to ensure service continuity as the community grows.

INTRODUCTION.

This element addresses public utilities and services available in the city of Lake Stevens. It specifically considers the general location, proposed location and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities and public facilities, including public structures and utility lines. It also discusses levels of services for current and future residents and businesses. The discussion in this section relates to other elements including Parks, Transportation and Capital Financing.

Much of the planning for utilities in the Urban Growth Area (UGA) is the responsibility of various service providers and special purpose districts. The city and utility plans are often interrelated, as the utilities provide service to the city and activities in the city affect the demands upon the utilities.

The city cooperates with other cities and service providers in the joint delivery of utilities and services. The city is open to all opportunities to coordinate and cooperate with neighboring service providers.

The Planned Action EIS documents for the 20th Street SE Corridor and Lake Stevens Center subarea plans included updated information on utilities and public services and facilities. The city met with service and utility providers to determine the availability of service for future development within the subareas. The EIS documents provide details for each subarea plan including mitigation measures, if required.



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PLANNING CONTEXT

State Planning

Following the Growth Management Act (GMA), local jurisdictions must plan for the public service and facility needs in their communities based on projected growth. Planning for public services and utility facilities is imperative to guarantee sufficient local amenities for current and future residents within a defined level of service. Local public services and facilities range from municipal services, police, sewer and water infrastructure, schools, parks, etc. Regional services and facilities may include fire protection, telecommunications, transportation and electrical infrastructure. Communities must also incorporate policies to consider the location of essential public facilities such as education facilities, transportation facilities, correctional facilities, solid waste facilities and mental health/substance abuse facilities. Local jurisdictions must also develop a financing plan for public services and facilities, which is described in the Capital Facilities Plan.

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) regulate utilities and transportation. The WUTC is empowered to regulate utilities such as electrical, gas, irrigation, telecommunication and water companies. The WUTC has jurisdiction over rates and charges, services, facilities and practices of utilities. Any change in customer charges or service provision policy requires WUTC approval. The WUTC also requires gas providers to demonstrate that existing ratepayers will not subsidize new customers.

Regional Planning

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Vision 2040 [and Vision 2050](#) plans reiterates GMA goals and emphasizes providing adequate public services and facilities in a coordinated and cost-effective manner to support development. Vision 2040 also promotes a central theme of efficient use and conservation of resources and facilities across the region. In Lake Stevens, most utility providers are independent local or regional providers. The city will continue to coordinate with utility providers and special purpose districts for local and regional delivery of services and facilities.

Countywide Planning

The Snohomish County Countywide Goal for Public Services and Facilities states,

“Snohomish County and its cities will coordinate and strive to develop and provide adequate and efficient public facilities and services to ensure the health, safety, conservation of resources, and economic vitality of our communities.”

The specific policies draw distinctions between services and facilities in urban and rural areas. Of note, the policies identify cities as the preferred urban service providers. As such, cities determine appropriate levels of service in incorporated areas or coordinate with the



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county through interlocal agreements for unincorporated areas to address services and facilities. Countywide, the cities and county should coordinate together and with service providers to determine the location and extent of public services and facilities to support jobs and housing. The countywide goals also emphasize conservation of public services, resources and facilities. Countywide planning policies identify standards for establishing and mitigating local, regional, statewide and federal essential public facilities. It also recommends the cities and county collaborate with public agencies and special districts to identify opportunities for the co-location of local essential public facilities.

Lake Stevens Planning

The city provides many municipal services, including governance, administration, planning and community development, building permits, public works and projects, governmental financing, grant development and management, fire inspection and police services. Planning and provision of other services and utilities in the UGA is the responsibility of special purpose districts and utility providers. Future staffing levels are directly related to the degree to which annexations occur. ~~With the present size of the city, existing 2015 staffing levels are found generally to be adequate. When annexations occur, staffing levels will need to be re-evaluated. Following several annexations between 2018 and 2021, the city has developed a strategic staffing plan that aims to continue to provide high levels of service to the community.~~

The city does not currently have a central municipal campus. Services are spread out at different locations in the downtown area including City Hall, the Permit Center, Public Works Maintenance and Equipment yard, Shop and Police Station.

The city cooperates with other cities and service providers in the joint planning and delivery of services within its UGA based on current and future growth projections, adopted levels of service and concurrency requirements. The Comprehensive Plan provides policy guidance on how utilities and services shall be planned and provided to ensure consistency between city and county planning documents. Services provided directly by special purpose districts include health, school, fire, power, judicial and library services. Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue (Fire District), which was created through the merger of the Lake Stevens Fire District with Snohomish County Fire District 7 in 2020, provides fire protection services within the city and UGA.

The city asserts its interest to participate in the planning of rural areas outside of the UGA where future UGA expansions could occur. Utility and service planning requires that the city be involved in the planning and decision-making of these areas both to comment on future service impacts and to do its own service planning.



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The following section provides specific descriptions of public services and utilities within the city and its UGA.



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INVENTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES.

Police Services

The Lake Stevens Police Department (Police Department) provides a full range of local law enforcement services within the City of Lake Stevens, currently provides a variety of services to its citizens. These services include crime suppression and investigation, traffic enforcement, traffic accident investigation, marine law enforcement, community-oriented problem solving and partnerships with residents to solve quality of life issues throughout the community, marine and road patrol, crime and accident investigation, traffic enforcement, crime prevention, the School Resource Officer Program, concealed weapons permits, passports, records and evidence keeping and animal control. The Police Department also contracts some of its services, including dispatch, jail, court services and vehicle maintenance.

The Police Department's community policing philosophy is based on the premise that a safe community requires positive, trusting, and productive relationships with all stakeholders. The Police Department currently responds to approximately 25,000 incidents annually. The average response time for the Police Department is three to four minutes for emergency calls and six to 10 minutes for all other calls. The Police Department is also part of a mutual aid agreement, which allows law enforcement agencies to assist each other with resources and personnel when requested.

In 2020, the Police Department conducted research to determine an appropriate staffing formula. The formula compares calls for service with the number of officers necessary to meet the call load as determined by the time needed to handle the calls and the time available to answer the calls. The formula considers workload, discretionary time, administrative time, reactive time, and current work schedule. As calls for service change over time, it is important to maintain the ratio which allows for a community policing philosophy. Maintaining a police force with adequate staffing levels to meet the adopted levels of service (LOS) standards will require anticipating increases in population, calls for service, annexations, mandated training requirements, and retirements.

Stormwater

The city of Lake Stevens provides stormwater services for the entire city. The system consists of surface runoff from roadways, inlets, pipes and ditch conveyance, water quality devices, storm ponds and outfalls. Within the system are two lakes, Stitch Lake and Lake Stevens. The stormwater system covers an area of approximately 5,700 acres (8.9 square miles) and is broken into 18 basins. Within the stormwater system, there are approximately 68 city-owned or operated facilities, 4,562 catch basins, 13.5 miles of roads side ditches, 66.2 miles of pipe and 22,942 feet of culverts.

The city has numerous older developments approved and constructed to rural standards. In



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some cases, stormwater detention/retention, water quality and conveyance and storm drainage facilities may not have been required at the time of construction. While new projects provide facilities to urban standards, the older developments continually affect neighborhoods, streets and the lakes by conveying runoff that is not channeled and not treated. As part of a citywide stormwater inventory, opportunities for regional stormwater treatment systems should be developed.

Some of the detention systems and ditches within subdivisions and commercial developments are privately owned and maintenance is the responsibility of the individual property owner/s, which is often under a homeowners' association or property management service. As the city approves new projects, they must meet the requirements of the Department of Ecology (DOE) stormwater manual and include maintenance provisions for the owner(s).

Lake Stevens is the largest stormwater feature in the city. The lake has multiple inflow areas and one outfall monitored by the city. A weir system located at the outfall of the lake controls the lake level. In 2010, the city adopted a Lake Level Management Plan to provide guidance and policy to perform this service.



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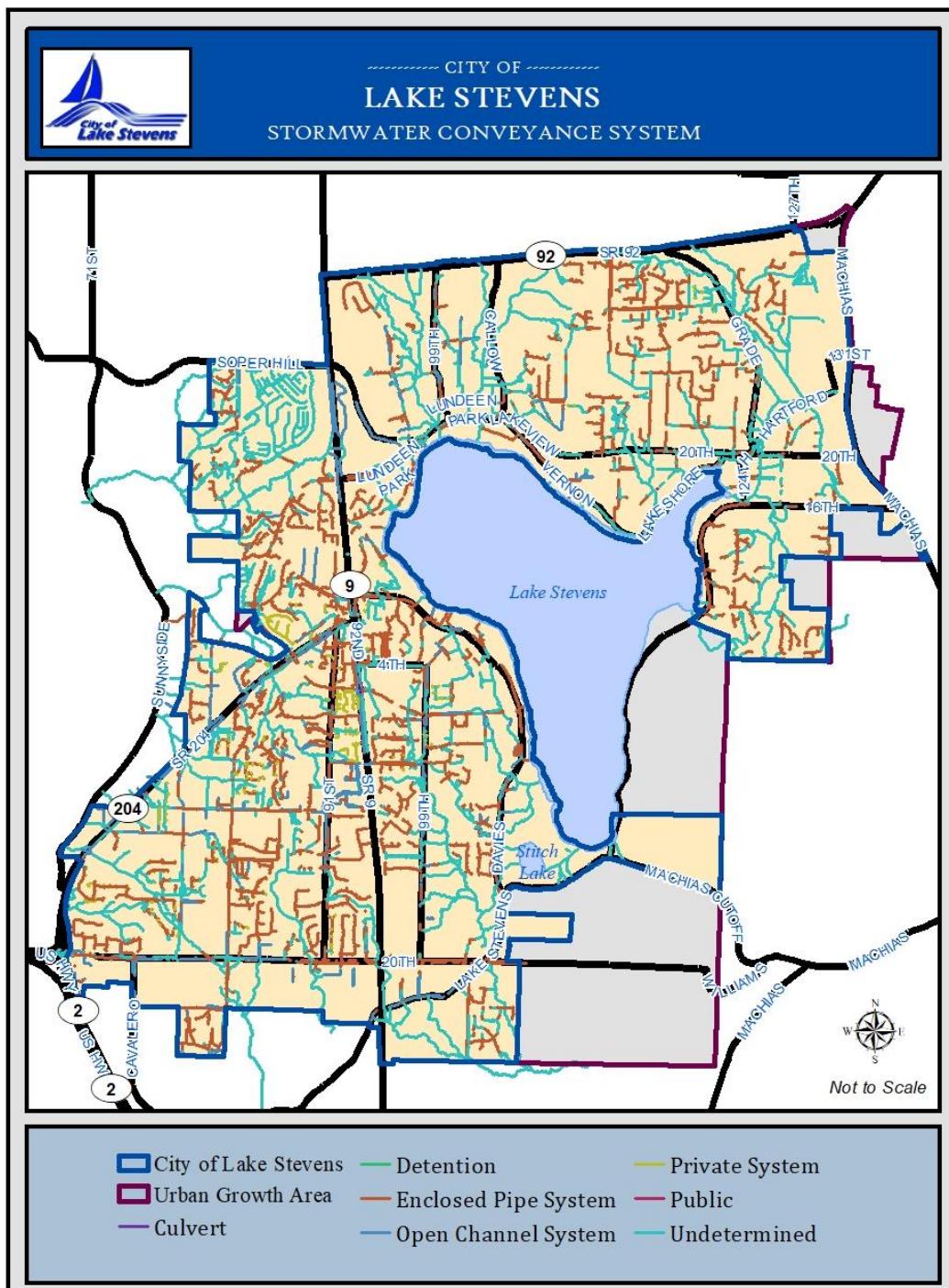


Figure 7.1 - Lake Stevens Stormwater Conveyance System



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Between April and through September the city manages the level of the lake. This serves three purposes:

- 1) Maintain the lake at a level to sustain downstream channel flows for aquatic habitat;
- 2) Protect downstream channel/flood from flash surges during heavy rainfall events; and
- 3) Maintain recreational usage of the lake in the historical shallow areas on the northwest side of the lake.

In August of 2012, the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) issued two new “NPDES Phase II” municipal stormwater permits that affect Lake Stevens. These permits were issued under the authority delegated to Ecology to implement requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act. The stormwater permits cover municipal storm sewer systems that discharge to surface waters that are not part of a combined sewer system. The city is currently operating under the requirements of this permit. The city updates its Stormwater Management plan yearly per the requirement of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The NPDES program regulates discharges of water to ensure pollutants do not enter waters of the United States. The service area and drainage basins of the city are shown on Figure 7.1.

Sewer Service

In May of 2005, the city of Lake Stevens and the Lake Stevens Sewer District (Sewer District) entered into an interlocal agreement (ILA) entitled “Unified Sewer Services and Annexation Agreement.” Under the ILA, the Sewer District provides, maintains and operates sewer facilities throughout its district boundaries. The approximate 10.9 square mile service area includes the current city limits, Lake Stevens UGA and a small area of overlap into the Marysville UGA. The entire boundary is shown in Figure 7.2. The agreement also lays the groundwork for the eventual assumption of the Sewer District and its facilities, by the city, which will occur no sooner than 20 years from the District’s assumption of sewer responsibilities, unless both parties agree sooner to an amended schedule as part of continuing coordination between both agencies. The Sewer District will continue collecting and treating wastewater in the city and its UGA until this responsibility is transferred to the city per provisions of the ILA. As of the end of 2014, the District provided sewer service to 11,026 residential connections with an estimated population of 34,477 people. These connections are largely in the Lake Stevens UGA, with about 108 connections in plats either in the rural area or in the Marysville UGA. The District served an additional 162 commercial connections, representing approximately 854 equivalent residential units (ERUs).

The Lake Stevens Sewer District sewer system consists of a new wastewater treatment facility (WWTF, membrane bioreactor process, 2012), a former wastewater treatment plant site, 29 lift stations, over nine miles of force mains (4” to 19” diameter), over 112 miles of gravity sewer collection, trunk and interceptor pipes (6” to 36” diameter) and one gravity sewer dosing station. The collection system is a “separate” sewer system, designed to receive domestic, commercial and industrial pre-treated wastewater. The Sunnyside WWTF has a current permitted maximum month average daily flow capacity of 5.01 million gallons per day.



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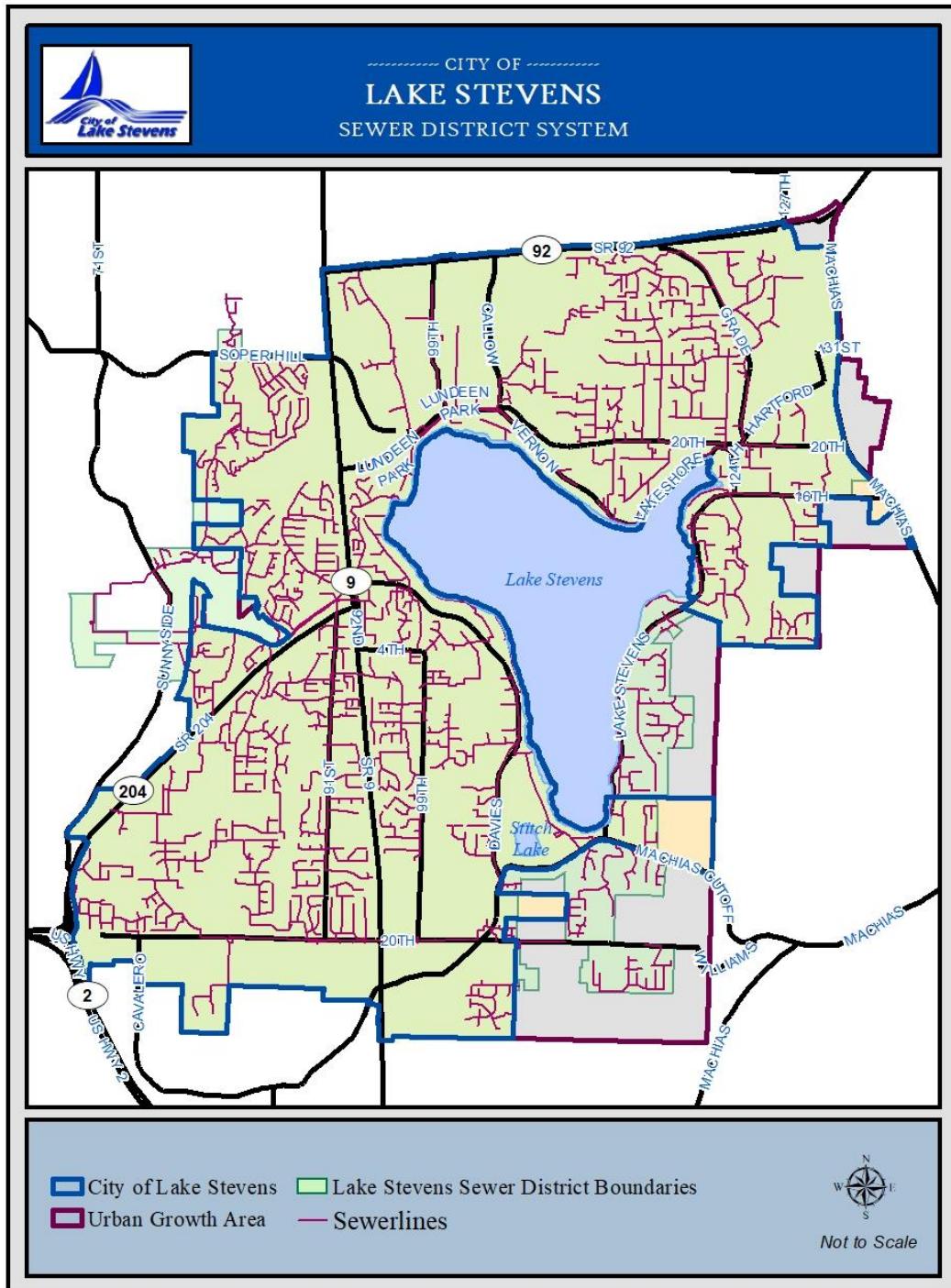


Figure 7.2 - Lake Stevens Sewer District Boundary Map



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The existing plant is in the process of decommissioning in phases, and the LSSD has initiated a project to remove much of the accumulated biosolids in the existing lagoon system. A future project will address final vacation of the site.

On October 24, 2016, the Lake Stevens Sewer District adopted a new Sanitary Sewer Comprehensive Plan. The 2016 Sanitary Sewer Comprehensive Plan for the Lake Stevens Sewer District presents the comprehensive planning needs for wastewater collection, transmission, treatment and discharge for the planning period 2016 through 2035. The District issued Amendment 1 in May 2019. The city has adopted these plans by reference into the city of Lake Stevens Comprehensive Plan. The sewer service and planning area is the Lake Stevens UGA and the two presently served plats referenced above. The 2016 Sewer Plan has also designated the rural-urban transition areas (RUTAs) around the geographic limits of the UGA as an Additional Study Area, in order to support an early estimate of the magnitude of potential future growth of the District's sewer service area. The main planning criteria is 70 gallons per capita per day of wastewater flow, and an average of 2.70 persons per dwelling unit or ERU. Additional allowances are made for extraneous flows in the wastewater system due to inflow and infiltration. ERUs for commercial connections are determined based on water consumption of 900 cubic feet per month, per ERU.

Additionally, the city and the Sewer District coordinate on capital facilities planning to benefit the community and its economic development. During the environmental impact process for the 20th Street SE Corridor and Lake Stevens Center subarea plans in 2012, the city and Sewer District reviewed projects and capital improvements required for development of the two subareas over the next 20 years. The city and Sewer District continue to plan jointly for the city's Growth Centers, including Downtown Lake Stevens.

This plan asserts a goal of eliminating all septic systems over time as the sewer system and the city limits expand. New developments, re-built structures, new industrial development in the Hartford Road and other non-residential areas would all be required to provide sewers to the extent the existing system is available or can be extended.

Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue

In August 2019, voters approved the merger of the Lake Stevens Fire District and Snohomish County Fire District 7, which became effective in January 2020 and was later renamed Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue. The newly combined district covers an area of approximately 140 square miles, including the 46 square miles that Lake Stevens Fire previously served in Lake Stevens and its UGA (Figure 7.3). The district provides fire prevention and suppression services, emergency medical services (EMS) including Advanced Life Support (ALS), technical rescue and fire marshal services. In 2019, the combined district responded to over 17,000 calls. The district has 11 fire stations, including two in Lake Stevens:

- Station 81 (12409 21st Street NE, Lake Stevens 98258)



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- Station 82 (9811 Chapel Hill Road, Lake Stevens 98258)

Through strategic planning the former district was able to increase the daily staffing level to 14 firefighters in 2017. The newly combined district plans to construct an additional fire station for the year 2022.

In 2013, the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau completed its evaluation of the fire protection capabilities for the city of Lake Stevens. This evaluation resulted in an improved protection class rating from Protection Class 5 to Protection Class 4.

Annually the Fire District performs fire code compliance activities, inspects commercial and public buildings for the city of Lake Stevens and reviews land use and building permits through the Fire Marshal's office.

Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue and the city will continue to partner together to meet the fire protection and emergency medical services needs of the community. The city has adopted by reference the Lake Stevens Fire Capital Facilities Plan and will adopt future versions of the Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue CFP.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

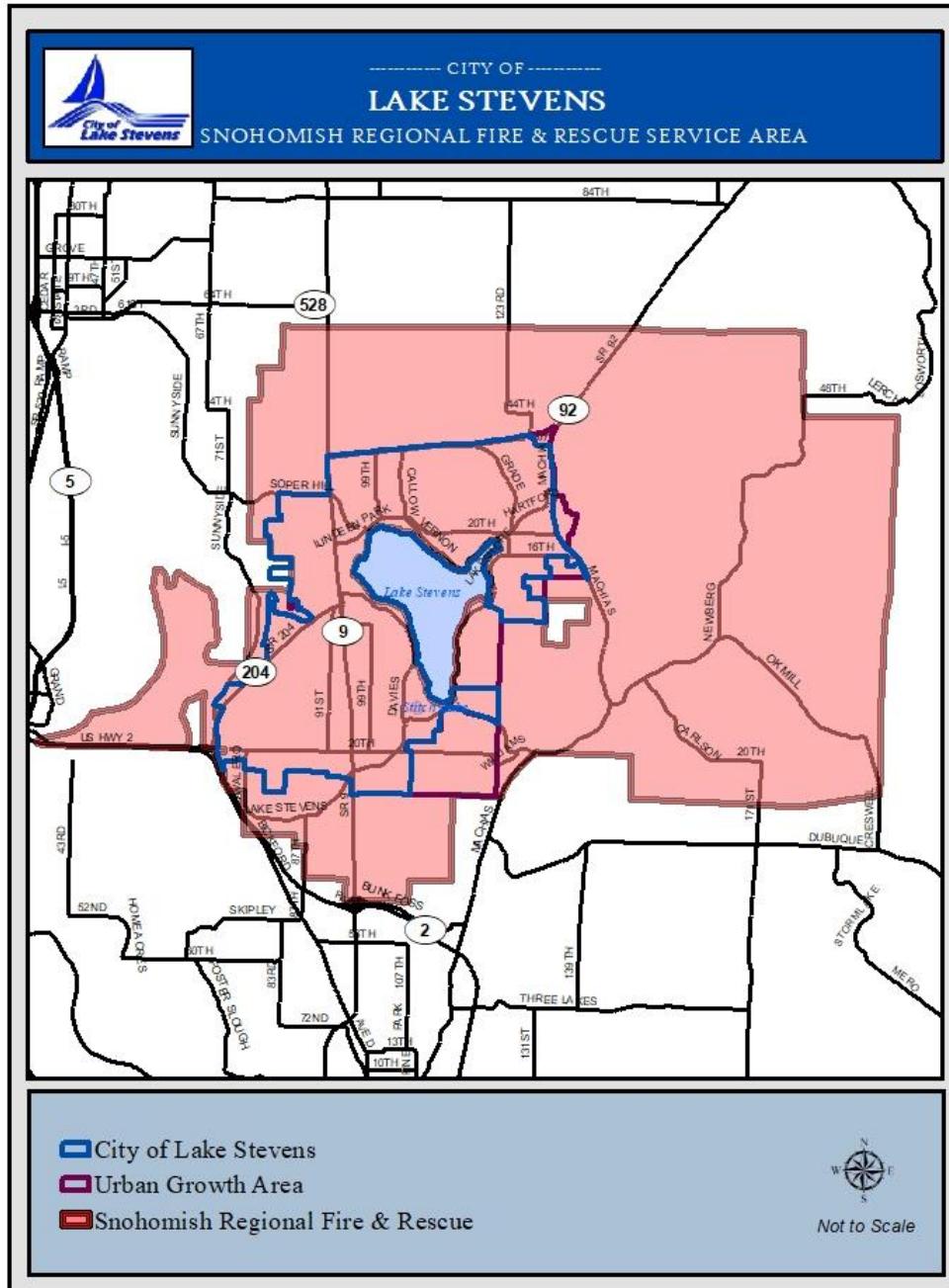


Figure 7.3 – Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue Service Area



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

Lake Stevens School District

The Lake Stevens School District covers approximately 37 square miles, encompassing all of Lake Stevens as well as portions of unincorporated Snohomish County and a small portion of the city of Marysville. The District is located south of the Marysville School District and north of the Snohomish School District (see Figure 7.4).

There is a current student population of 9,200 within the Lake Stevens School District served by seven elementary schools grades K-5 (Stevens Creek, Mt. Pilchuck, Hillcrest, Sunncrest, Glenwood, Highland and Skyline), two middle schools grades 6-7 (Lake Stevens and North Lake), one mid-high school grades 8-9 (Cavelero), one high school grades 10-12 (Lake Stevens), one early learning center and one homeschool partnership program for grades K-12 (HomeLink). The District also owns approximately 71 acres of vacant land.

The Lake Stevens School District has experienced steady upward growth in enrollment for the past four decades. Student enrollment in the School District remained relatively constant between 1973 and 1985 (15%) and then grew significantly from 1985 through 2005 (approximately 120%). Between 2011 and 2019, student enrollment increased by 1,215 students, approximately 15%. Overall, there was a 2.5% increase countywide during this period. The School District has been, and is projected to continue to be, one of the fastest growing districts in Snohomish County based on the Office of Financial Management population forecast. Population forecasts estimate the Lake Stevens UGA population will increase to 46,380 people in 2035. Likewise, the population within the Lake Stevens School District boundaries will rise from 43,000,238 in 2015 to over 61,000 in 2035. Planned improvements in the Lake Stevens School District through the Year 2025 based on enrollment projections include the construction of three new elementary schools, the installation of additional portable classrooms at existing facilities and new site acquisitions and improvements.

The city has adopted by reference the current Lake Stevens School District No. 4 2020-2025 Capital Facilities Plan, which was adopted in August 2020. This Plan provides the basis for charging GMA-based impact fees as implemented in the city's Land Use Code. The District participates in the school impact mitigation fee program and issues an updated Capital Facilities Plan every two years. The city applies a discount to the calculated rate, as do most other cities in Snohomish County.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

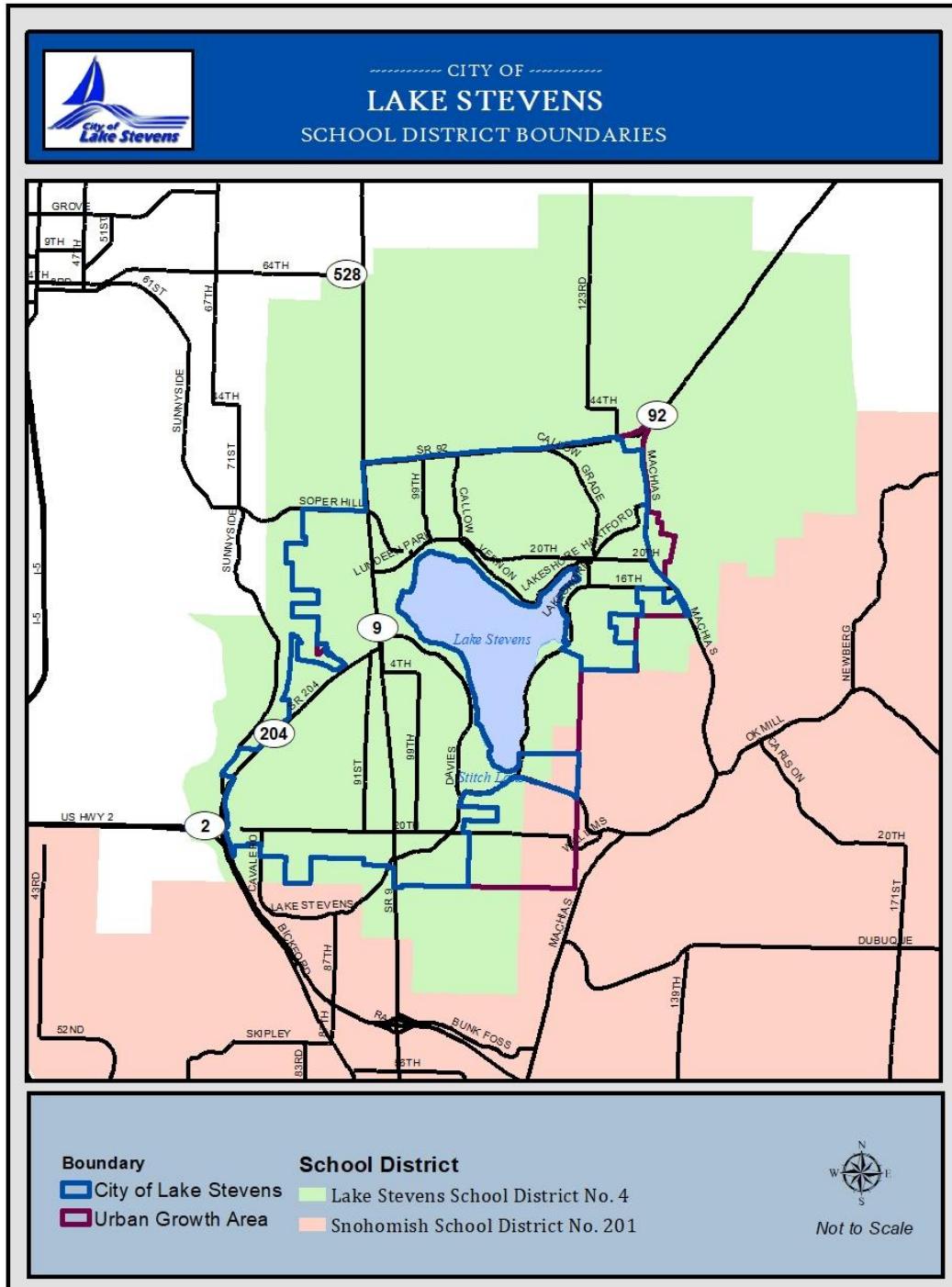


Figure 7.4 - School District Boundary



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

Snohomish School District.

The Snohomish School District covers ~~a small corner of areas in the city that were annexed between 2018 and 2021 UGA, south of 4th Street NE and east of 115th Avenue SE and serves residents south of the Lake Stevens School District as well as portions of the UGA south of 20th St SE~~. No Snohomish School District schools are currently located within the ~~Lake Stevens~~boundaries of the city or its UGA. The city ~~will adopt~~adopted the Snohomish School District's Capital Facilities Plan by reference into the Comprehensive Plan ~~when the area served by the Snohomish School District is annexed into the city in 2021.~~

Snohomish County Health District

The city contracts with the Snohomish County Health District for public health services. The most common task the Health District performs in the Lake Stevens area is approving septic systems. Other responsibilities include food service inspections and issuing state permits for certain (potentially noxious) activities (e.g., septic sludge recycling, soil processing, etc.).

Solid Waste

Waste Management Northwest, ~~Incorporated and Republic Services~~ provides solid waste services within the city ~~under a ten-year contract that expires in 2031. Solid waste service is contracted out for a three-year period.~~ Recycling is provided by East Snohomish County Association of Recycling Cities (ESCARC), contracting with Fiber International. ESCARC members are Monroe, Snohomish, Lake Stevens, Sultan, Granite Falls and Gold Bar. These cities pool resources to provide the capital facilities for lower cost recycling. The city receives curbside service from Bill's Disposal service, which is a division of Fiber International.

Natural Gas

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) provides natural gas service through a city franchise. PSE is the largest natural gas company in Washington serving approximately 770,000 customers in six counties and 64 cities. It is a demand-driven utility, meaning that no service is initiated until requested by a specific customer. As natural gas is a competitive energy source, it can be assumed that the demand for it will continue to grow, particularly if substantial savings over other fuels can be effectively demonstrated (Acme, 1993).

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates a 60-year supply of conventional natural gas reserves exists. Unconventional reserves requiring advanced technology are estimated at a 150-200 year supply.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

Telecommunications

Telecommunication facilities are private utilities that provide services such as television (broadcast, cable and satellite), phone (direct lines and cellular) and internet. Content is transmitted by a variety of methods that may include cable lines, electrical wires or fiber and optical fibers. Wireless technology includes traditional broadcasting, radio transmission and cellular networks. Telecommunication services often use existing infrastructure along utility corridors and public rights-of-way.

The telecommunications industry is evolving and will continue changing over the next 20 years. Telecommunications services are integral to the modern world and economy. For example, the telecommunications industry is the primary conduit for information exchange between individuals, corporations and public service providers. As this industry changes, there may be unknown impacts on land use planning, existing facilities and regulatory oversight. The city should coordinate with service providers to plan for the construction and reconstruction of facilities and provide feedback on capacity, design and equipment.

Electrical Utilities

The Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County (PUD), which purchases 80 percent of its power from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), serves the city of Lake Stevens. The remainder of the PUD's power is provided by a mix of renewable resources that include output from the PUD's Jackson, Youngs Creek and Woods Creek hydroelectric projects, and several long-term contracts for wind, landfill gas, biogas, and biomass.

The PUD uses an 115,000-volt transmission system to distribute electricity from three major BPA delivery points in Snohomish County to distribution substations. These substations transform the transmission voltage to 12,500-volt distribution voltage. PUD electrical facilities of less than 55,000 volts (55 kV) are referred to as distribution facilities. Facilities of more than 55,000 volts (55 kV) are referred to as transmission facilities.

There are three distribution substations, Hartford, Lake Stevens and Frontier, within the city limits of city of Lake Stevens. The city is fully served by these substations with distribution lines that extend service to all residential, commercial and public customers. According to the PUD, there is ample capacity to meet existing demand for both the incorporated city limits as well as the UGA.

In addition to PUD facilities, there are Bonneville Power Administration and Seattle City Light Transmission lines that pass through the city that constitute regional power transmission facilities.

Water Utilities

Except for a few homes on wells, the Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County (PUD) provides water service. The PUD currently owns and operates nine water systems. PUD's Lake Stevens Water System serves the city. The service area is bounded on the west by Ebey



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

Slough and the Snohomish River; on the north by Marysville and Arlington; on the east by the Snohomish County Commercial Forest-Forest Transition Area (CF-FTA); and on the south by the boundaries of other water systems.

The city of Everett's transmission lines from Spada Lake pass through the water service area, delivering water to Everett and to many water customers. In 2012, PUD converted its emergency wells, in the northeast corner of the city, to full-time use to supplement the water supply purchased from Everett. The PUD's Walker Hill storage reservoirs (4 million gallons capacity) and Hillcrest reservoirs (6 million gallons capacity) serve both the city and the UGA. The distribution system within the city is shown in Figure 7.5. In 2012, PUD constructed water main extensions to merge its Lake Roesiger water system into the Lake Stevens system. In 2014, PUD constructed water main extensions to merge its Dubuque water system into the Lake Stevens system.

The following is an overview of the Lake Stevens water system and its major facilities, including updates provided by the PUD since its *2011 Water System Plan*:

Source – Eleven connections to the city of Everett's Transmission Pipeline Nos. 2, 3 and 5 provide the primary water supply to the Lake Stevens Water System. Water from five of these connections flows by gravity into the water system, while the remaining six have pump stations to deliver the water. Four connections are inside the city limits, including one connection shared with the city of Marysville. As stated earlier, two wells supplement the primary water supply.

Storage – The PUD Lake Stevens water system contains eight storage reservoirs, with a combined capacity of over 14 million gallons. Four of these reservoirs are located in the city at the Walker Hill and Hillcrest tank sites. The water storage capacity in the city is 10 million gallons.

Transmission and Distribution Pipelines – There are over 330 miles of pipe in the PUD's Lake Stevens water system. Pipeline sizes range from 3/4 to 40 inches and materials include cast iron, asbestos cement, ductile iron, galvanized, and steel.

Booster Pump Stations – At higher elevations, booster pump stations provide additional pressure. In the city, there are two booster pump stations serving the Walker Hill and Hillcrest areas.

Pressure Reducing Stations – There are 35 pressure-reducing stations throughout the Lake Stevens Water System that help regulate pressure and define the separate pressure zones. Inside the city limits, there are six pressure zones served by seven pressure-reducing stations, which provide reasonable pressure to all city consumers.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

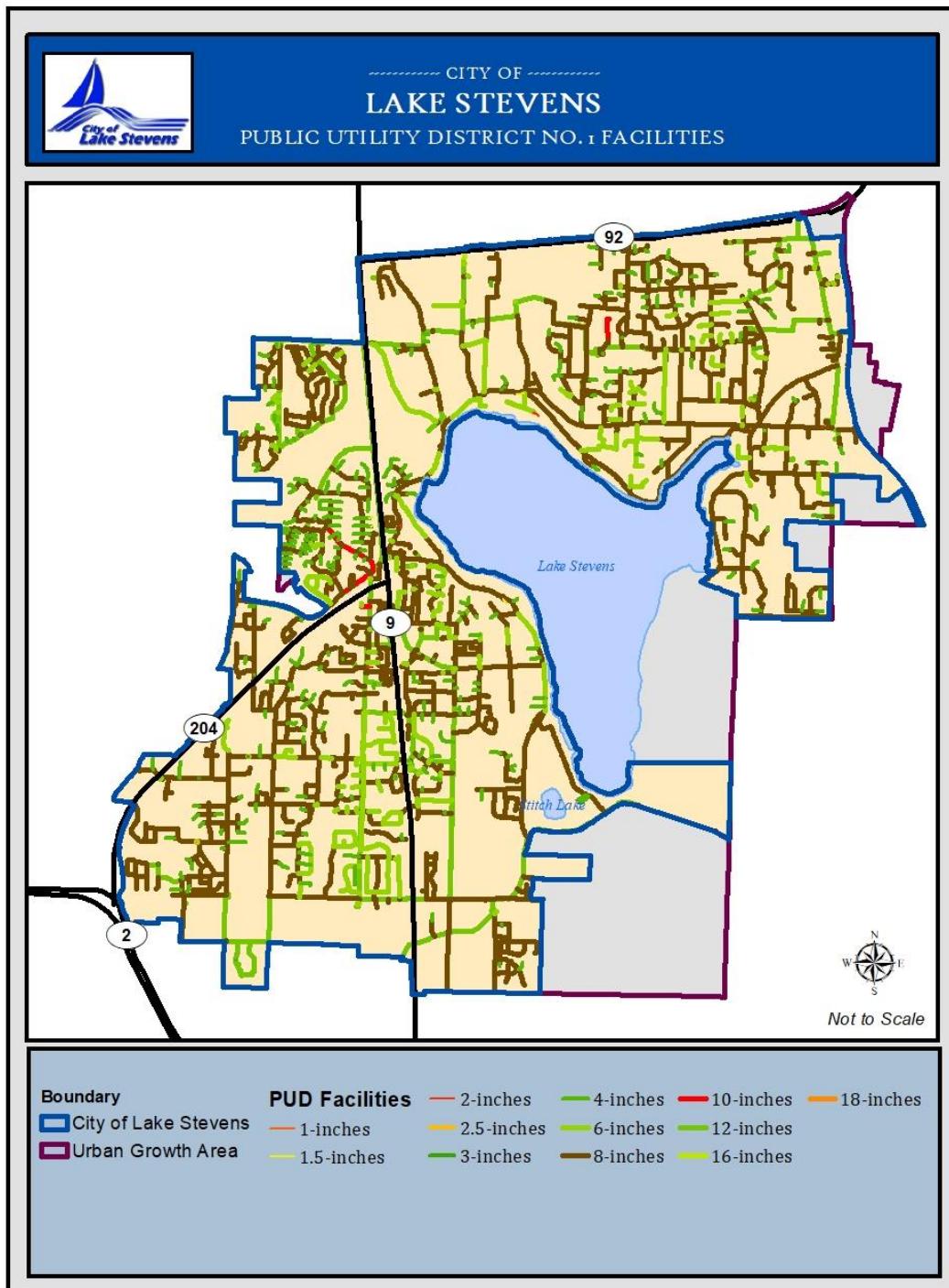


Figure 7.5 – Map of Water Facilities



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

The PUD normally designs its water facilities to provide fire flow capacity of at least 1,000 gallons per minute (gpm). In some areas, flows up to 3,000 gpm are available. Developers must fund and construct any improvements necessary to bring water to their projects and to achieve fire flow required by the Fire Marshal. The PUD's water source and storage are adequate for projected growth within its water service area.

Essential Public Facilities

Under GMA provisions (RCW 36.70A.200) jurisdictions shall include a process for identifying and siting essential public facilities. An essential public facility can be any facility owned or operated by a federal, state or local government, public utility, transportation authority or other entities that provide public services. Essential public facilities are typically difficult to site, such as education facilities, regional transportation facilities (e.g. airports), solid waste-handling facilities, regional transit authority facilities, state or local correctional facilities and in-patient facilities including substance abuse, mental health and group homes. The GMA provides that no comprehensive plan or development regulations may preclude the siting of essential public facilities. However, jurisdictions can impose reasonable conditions or mitigations on essential public facilities through its comprehensive plan or development regulations, provided these do not preclude the siting of the facility. The city has adopted essential public facilities standards within the municipal code.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL 7.1 COORDINATE WITH CITY DEPARTMENTS, SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS, UTILITY COMPANIES AND OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS TO ENSURE THE ADEQUATE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND CONSISTENCY WITH THE LAND USE ELEMENT.

Policies

- 7.1.1 Coordinate with city departments including Administration, Finance, Planning and Community Development, Police Department and Public Works to ensure public facilities are adequately maintained and distributed to support the community's needs and that each department's planning documents are consistent.
- 7.1.2 Coordinate with special purpose districts including the Lake Stevens Sewer District and Snohomish County PUD and other utility providers (e.g., gas, electrical, phone, etc.) to ensure public facilities are adequately maintained and distributed to support the community's needs and that each agency's planning documents are consistent.
- 7.1.2 Coordinate with local and regional service providers including the Lake Stevens School District, Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue, Sno-Isle Library, etc. to ensure public services are adequately maintained and distributed to support the community's needs and that each agency's planning documents are consistent.
- 7.2.1 Prepare and adopt a detailed master storm drainage plan for the city to coordinate storm drainage and detention/retention consistent with the concept plan adopted as part of this element to include cumulative watershed effects.
- 7.2.2 Prepare and adopt a detailed master sewer plan for the city to coordinate sewer and detention/retention consistent with the concept plan adopted as part of this element.
- 7.2.3 Protect existing regional transmission facilities for Snohomish County PUD, Lake Stevens Sewer District and Puget Sound Energy from encroachment by incompatible urban development.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

GOAL 7.2 PROVIDE THE BEST CITY HALL SERVICE ATTAINABLE WITHIN BUDGET PARAMETERS AND MINIMIZE GOVERNMENTAL EXPENDITURES BY REDUCING DUPLICATION OF SERVICES.

Policies

- 7.2.1 Strive to maintain efficiency in the provision of city government services through continual evaluation and improvement of administrative, technical and personnel procedures and practices, as well as the Lake Stevens Municipal Code.
- 7.2.2 Devote adequate funds to ensure quality staffing.
- 7.2.3 Ensure that elected officials, appointed commissioners and staff maintain and/or improve their levels of expertise through continued education, development and peer consultation.
- 7.2.4 Take advantage of affordable technological advances where it results in better and more efficient levels of service.
- 7.2.5 In order to expand services to the citizens of Lake Stevens in a fiscally responsible manner, continue and expand the practice of interagency cooperation by sharing personnel and facilities wherever possible.
- 7.2.6 Provide adequate public facilities to support the city's administrative and field operations.
- 7.2.7 Assure private property is not taken for public use without just compensation.

GOAL 7.3 PROVIDE FOR ADEQUATE POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES.

Policies

- 7.3.1 Periodically review and update police staffing analysis based on national practices using a work-load based model.
- 7.3.2 Maintain and update the Police Department Strategic Plan including goals to reduce crime and addressing conditions affecting the quality of life of the community.
- 7.3.3 Coordinate police services with fire protection services and other local, state and federal agencies to develop a disaster preparedness program for Lake Stevens.
- 7.3.4 Support the Snohomish County Fire Prevention District #7 to maintain its adopted level of service.



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- 7.3.5 Coordinate with the Fire District on review of submitted site and building plans.
- 7.3.6 Coordinate land use density and intensity with the Fire District's capital budget in order to provide services within the city.
- 7.3.7 Consider the disaster response implications in prioritizing Fire District capital improvement and public service planning.

GOAL 7.4 PROVIDE ADEQUATE SCHOOL FACILITIES.

Policies

- 7.4.1 Support the Lake Stevens School District to maintain its adopted level of service.
- 7.4.2 Coordinate land use density and intensity with the School District's capital budget in order to provide services within the city.
- 7.4.3 The city will adopt by reference the Lake Stevens School District Capital Facilities Plan. The City Council shall review the CFP every two years to ensure that it is consistent with the requirements of the GMA; the impact fee calculation is consistent with the city's adopted formula and the CFP has been adopted by the District's Board of Directors.

GOAL 7.5 PROVIDE ADEQUATE STORMWATER FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

Policies

- 7.5.1 Continue to implement programs and projects designed to meet the goals and requirements of Department of Ecology's NPDES permit.
- 7.5.2 Maintain and enforce land-use plans and ordinances requiring stormwater controls for new development and re-development.
- 7.5.3 Actively promote and support education efforts focusing on all facets of stormwater management.
- 7.5.4 Develop and maintain a comprehensive stormwater inventory and identify needs to ensure a functioning stormwater system.
- 7.5.5 Integrate distributed, small-scale stormwater controls and prevent measurable harm to streams, lakes, wetlands and other natural aquatic systems from



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

commercial, residential or industrial development sites by maintaining a more hydrologically functional landscape.

7.5.6 Promote education of controlling the release of chemicals from residential fertilizing and weed/insect control on Lake Stevens and its watershed.

GOAL 7.6 STRIVE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SEWER SERVICES TO EVERY RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS IN THE CITY.

Policies

7.6.1 Support the Lake Stevens Sewer District to maintain its adopted level of service.

7.6.2 Support the implementation of the Lake Stevens Sewer District capital facilities plan. Coordinate land use density and intensity with the Sewer District's capital planning work and budget in order to provide services within the city.

7.6.3 As needed to further the purposes and goals of the Unified Sewer Service and Annexation Agreement, the city will continue to work with the Lake Stevens Sewer District to review and amend existing regulations to provide commonality, consistency, predictability and concurrent levels of sewer permits and regulation.

7.6.4 Coordinate city-sponsored capital improvements with the Lake Stevens Sewer District, Snohomish County Health District and neighboring jurisdictions to ensure effective and cost-efficient provision of sewer service.

7.6.5 Support the Lake Stevens Sewer District in accomplishing sewer expansions in future expanded urban growth boundaries and high priority development areas within the city as well as priority development areas such as Downtown Lake Stevens.

7.6.6 Replace failing septic systems within the urban growth area with sanitary sewers; use innovative and state-of-the-art design and techniques when replacing septic tanks to restore and improve environmental quality.

7.6.7 Support efforts to require new development within the urban growth area to obtain sanitary sewer systems or fit it with dry sewers in anticipation of connection to the sewer system. Alternative technology to sewers should only be considered when it can be shown to produce treatment at standards that are equal to or better than the sewer system and where a long-term maintenance plan is in place.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

GOAL 7.7 PROCESS PERMITS FOR UTILITY FACILITIES AND OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS IN A FAIR AND TIMELY MANNER AND IN ACCORD WITH THE DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, WHICH ENCOURAGES PREDICTABILITY.

Policies

- 7.7.1 Promote co-location of new public and private utility distribution facilities and coordination of construction timing to minimize construction-related disruptions and reduce the cost to the public of utility delivery.
- 7.7.2 Provide timely and effective notice to utilities to encourage coordination of public and private utility trenching activities for new construction and maintenance and repair of existing roads.
- 7.7.3 The city shall encourage provision of an efficient, cost effective and reliable utility service by ensuring land will be made available for the location of utility lines or other utilities.
- 7.7.4 The city will promote the extension of distribution lines to and within the urban growth area. Coordinate land use and facility planning to allow eventual siting and construction of any utility distribution lines within or adjacent to rights-of-way which are being dedicated or within roads which are being constructed or reconstructed.
- 7.7.5 The city shall encourage system design practices intended to minimize the number and duration of interruptions to customer service.
- 7.7.6 The city will formulate, interpret, and apply the land development regulations to allow the timely development of utility facility additions and improvements.

GOAL 7.8 ENSURE THAT UTILITIES PROVIDE SERVICE IN A MANNER THAT IS ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE, SAFE, RELIABLE AND COMPATIBLE WITH THE SURROUNDING PROPERTIES.

Policies

- 7.8.1 Proposals for electricity generation facilities should be scrutinized carefully to avoid impacts on local air and water quality.
- 7.8.2 The city will consider public utility substations, transmission facilities and other regional facilities as “necessary public facilities” for purposes of permit review, provided that utility providers can prove locational need and significant mitigation of impacts.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

GOAL 7.9 PROMOTE CONSERVATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ALLOW FOR ALTERNATIVE DESIGN STANDARDS AND/OR MATERIALS.

Policies

- 7.9.1 Encourage conservation of resources and reduction of energy consumption to extend the life of existing electrical energy and infrastructure.
- 7.9.2 Promote the reduction of water consumption through conservation, efficiency, reclamation and reuse to reduce wastewater generation and ensure continued water availability.
- 7.9.3 Coordinate with water purveyors and local and tribal governments to identify and develop additional water supply sources to meet the region's long-term water needs and growth strategy, recognizing the potential impacts on water supply from climate change and fisheries protection.
- 7.9.4 Consider the needs for both human consumption and for environmental balance, including potential impacts of climate change on regional water sources.
- 7.9.5 Support renewable energy resources, energy management technology and the conversion to cost-effective and environmentally sensitive alternative technologies to meet the region's energy needs.
- 7.9.4 Promote low impact development projects and techniques on non-LID projects to conserve and use existing natural site features
- 7.9.5 The city should support development of a biofuel technology to provide more options to reduce vehicular pollution (city fleet to cleaner fuels). The city will move toward biofuel technology as fleet replacement occurs and as the technology is developed and proven.
- 7.9.6 Reduce the rate of energy use per capita, both in building use and in transportation activities.
- 7.9.7 Reduce greenhouse gases by expanding the use of conservation and alternative energy sources and by reducing vehicle miles traveled by increasing alternatives to driving alone.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

GOAL 7.10 SUPPORT LESS RESOURCE CONSUMPTION THROUGH PROGRAMS AIMED TOWARD REDUCING, REUSING, AND RECYCLING OF RESOURCES.

Policies

- 7.10.1 Promote demand management and the conservation of services and facilities prior to developing new facilities.
- 7.10.2 Maintain and expand reduction, re-use, and recycling programs in the city.
- 7.10.3 Support local, regional, state, federal, and private programs aimed at reduction, re-use, and recycling of natural resources.
- 7.10.4 Allow zoning for businesses aimed at recycling materials when it does not pose a threat to the community's health and welfare.
- 7.10.5 Examine the feasibility of requiring, through zoning or other legislative mechanisms, that distributors of hazardous, noxious or toxic materials accept those materials for recycling.

GOAL 7.11 ESTABLISH A PROCESS AND IMPLEMENT DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO IDENTIFY AND SITE LOCAL ESSENTIAL PUBLIC FACILITIES, CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE GMA.

Policies

- 7.11.1 The city will not preclude the siting of essential public facilities; however, it shall enforce its Comprehensive Plan and development regulations to ensure reasonable compatibility with other land uses when considering location and intensity of development.
- 7.11.2 Local essential public facilities should be sited to support the countywide land use pattern, support economic activities, reduce environmental impacts, provide amenities or incentives, and minimize public costs. This siting process should include:
 - a. A definition of these facilities;
 - b. An inventory of existing and future facilities;
 - c. A public involvement strategy;
 - d. Assurance that the environment and public health and safety are protected; and
 - e. A consideration of alternatives to the facility.



Chapter 7 – Public Services and Utilities Element

- 7.11.3 Collaborate with public agencies and special districts to identify opportunities for the co-location of local essential public facilities.
- 7.11.4 Consider the location of local essential public facilities inside Urban Growth Areas, unless it is demonstrated that a non-urban site is the most appropriate location for such a facility. Local essential public facilities located outside of an Urban Growth Area shall be self-contained or be served by urban governmental services in a manner that shall not promote sprawl.
- 7.11.5 Develop reasonable conditions, alternatives and/or mitigation requirements to address the potential adverse impacts of siting local, regional, statewide, or federal essential public facilities.

GOAL 7.12 AS THE CITY ANNEXES NEW AREAS STRIVE FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS TO MINIMIZE FINANCIAL AND LOGISTICAL IMPACTS ON CITIZENS.

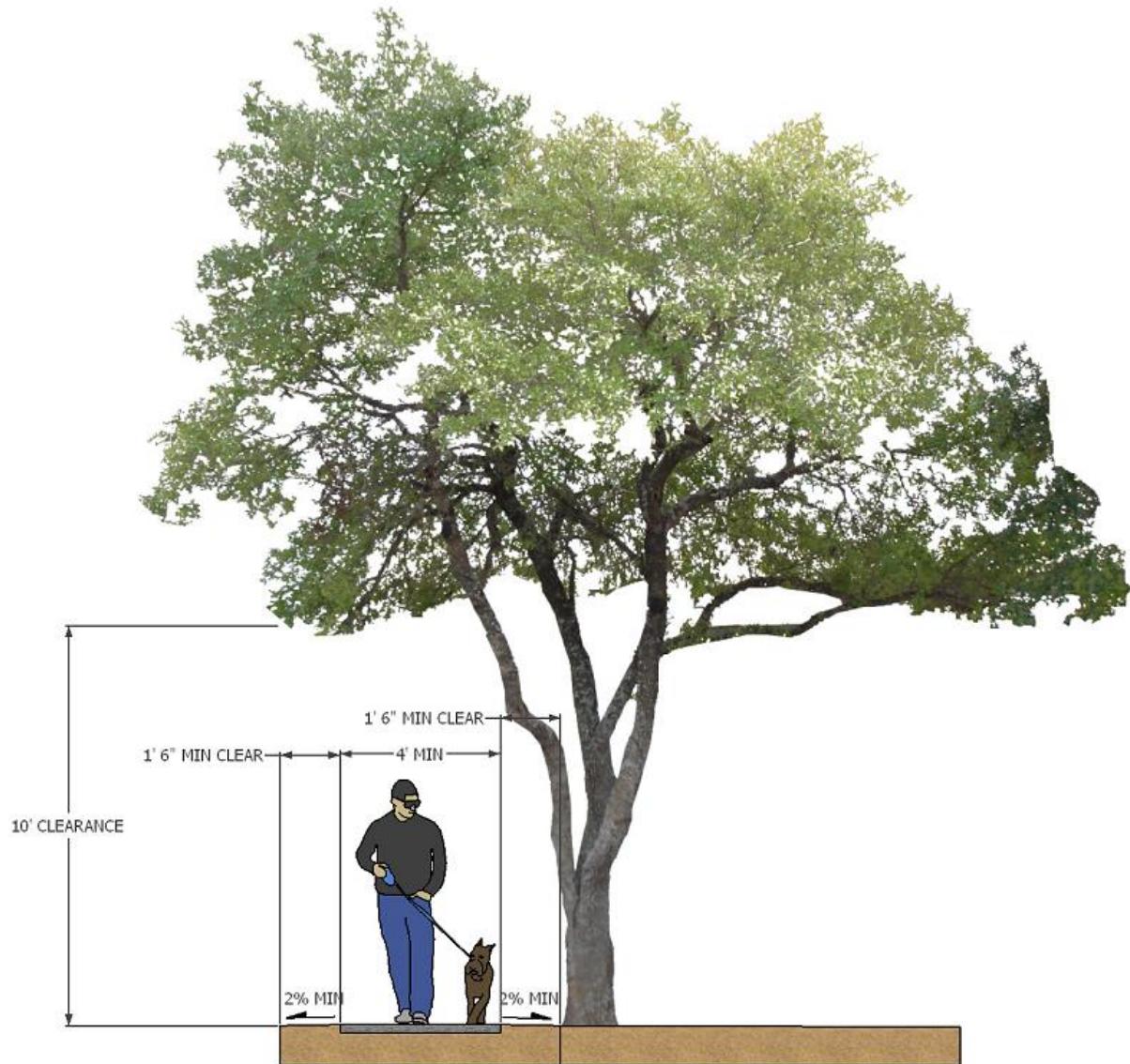
Policies

- 7.12.1 Under the Growth Management Act and Lake Stevens Comprehensive Plan the city is likely to be the provider of general government services within the Urban Growth Area. For potential annexation it is the city's policy to have interlocal agreements achieving the orderly transition of services during annexation.
- 7.12.2 Establish an interlocal agreement model with Snohomish County and other service provider agencies to facilitate the transfer of governance within the city's UGA in an expeditious and consistent manner.
- 7.12.3 The city asserts its interest in areas outside the UGA where it is possible that future UGA expansions could occur. The city will become involved in these areas' planning and decision making, both to comment on future service impacts and to assist its own service planning.

Attachment 5

Chapter 9:

Capital Facilities Element





CHAPTER 9: CAPITAL FACILITIES ELEMENT

A VISION FOR CAPITAL FACILITIES

The city will develop a realistic and achievable capital facilities plan that ensures an effective use of taxpayer and ratepayer dollars that prioritizes capital investments to maintain adopted levels of service; responds to project urgency and feasibility; is consistent with the city's growth strategy; and provides a clear community benefit.

INTRODUCTION

The Comprehensive Plan is a tool for helping government officials think strategically about all aspects of the community and the way the elements interact. The Capital Facilities Element is used to guide public decisions on the use of capital funds. It will also indirectly guide private development decisions by providing strategically planned public capital expenditures which affects the timing and scale of development. Strategic provision of capital infrastructure also helps to mitigate the impacts of growth.

Capital facilities planning requires ongoing communication and cooperation between various disciplines including engineering, finance and planning. The Comprehensive Plan is the common basis relied upon by these disciplines and is intended to provide a realistic and achievable plan. It also requires close communication between the many service providers in Lake Stevens to ensure a coordination of capital improvements and effective use of taxpayer and rate payer dollars.

The Capital Facilities Element promotes effectiveness and efficiency by requiring the city to plan in advance for capital improvements rather than relying on a mechanism with a shorter horizon such as the annual budget. Long range financial planning presents the opportunity to schedule projects so that the various steps in development logically follow one another, with regard to relative urgency, economic desirability and community benefit. In addition, the identification of funding sources results in the prioritization of needs and allows the trade-off between projects to be evaluated.



PLANNING CONTEXT

State Planning

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires that the city of Lake Stevens prepare and maintain a comprehensive plan capital facilities element. This element is required “in order to assure that public facilities will be reasonably available to accommodate planned growth over the next twenty years.” This requirement is referred to as concurrency and specifically means:

- Public facilities that are needed to serve new development and population within a jurisdiction or service area must be in place at the time of development.
- Such facilities must be sized to adequately serve the area without decreasing the services levels established by the jurisdiction.

The GMA also requires that the comprehensive plan be of at least a twenty year planning horizon and be based on population projections supplied by the Office of Financial Management (OFM), and include a capital facilities element with a six-year plan for financing identified capital needs.

WAC 365-195-315 requires that the capital facilities plan address the following:

- An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by the public entity;
- At least a six year plan that will finance such capital facilities within project funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes;
- Provide or finance capital facilities in a manner that meets concurrency and level-of-service requirements.

Regional Planning

The Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2040 and Vision 2050 documents specifies the Regional Growth Strategy and directs growth primarily into urban growth areas where public services and facilities are better served. The Regional Growth Strategy highlights the need for strategic investments in services and facilities, especially to support growth and development in centers and compact urban communities.

Countywide Planning

The Snohomish Countywide Planning Policies include provisions to ensure the orderly transition of unincorporated areas to city governance, including the provision of services and infrastructure financing. These policies also address the need for consistency of capital



Chapter 9 – Capital Facilities

improvement programming with local comprehensive plans, countywide planning policies and Vision 2040 and Vision 2050.

Many policies give guidance for counties (and, where appropriate, cities) to review special district plans for consistency with local comprehensive plans and VISION Vision 2040 and Vision 2050; also, they provide guidance for the review of special district criteria for location and design of schools and other public facilities. And finally, the policies direct jurisdictions to develop strategies to reduce the number of special districts where appropriate.

Lake Stevens Planning

The city of Lake Stevens is somewhat unique to its neighboring jurisdictions because it is responsible for general government services, police services, roads, stormwater and parks while special purpose districts provide all other services and utilities as identified in Chapter 7, Public Utilities and Services Comprehensive Plan Element. These include schools, wastewater, potable water, library, fire prevention, suppression and emergency medical services, and all other utility services.

Lake Stevens has established level of services standards (LOS) for the city's responsibilities detailed in these Comprehensive Plan Chapters and summarized later in this Chapter:

Level of Service Standards

SERVICE	LOCATION IN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
General Government Services:	Chapter 7- Utilities & Public Services
Police Services	Chapter 7- Utilities & Public Services
Roads and Transportation	Chapter 8 – Transportation
Stormwater	Chapter 7- Utilities & Public Services
Parks	Chapter 5 – Parks, Recreation & Open Space

The city therefore coordinates closely with community service providers to plan appropriate capital investments.



REVENUE SOURCES

Municipal Revenues

Lake Stevens faces continuing fiscal challenges common to most cities. These are driven in large part by increased costs of doing business, increased service requirements mandated by legislation and restriction or elimination of certain tax revenue streams as a result of prior voter initiatives.

A diverse mix of municipal revenue sources is important, including property taxes, utility taxes, sales taxes and others. Fiscal diversity, like economic diversity, limits risk of over-reliance on a single revenue source. Lake Stevens' General Fund, which supports citizen services and the operations of the city government itself, is heavily dependent on tax revenues and especially property tax and sales and use taxes, for its funding. Property taxes account for 30 percent of General Fund revenues and sales and use taxes account for 25 percent. Other sources of revenue are utility and other taxes, licenses and permits, intergovernmental transfers, charges for services and other minor revenue sources.

Potential New Revenue Sources

Long-term economic sustainability for the city of Lake Stevens requires one or more of the following: increased local jobs, increased municipal revenues derived from business and industry, use of additional land to support community development and retention of current jobs and revenue sources. Increasing municipal revenues from commercial sources is generally seen as one of the few ways that cities can improve their fiscal situation, recognizing the perception that housing and residents increase demands for services. Cities frequently look toward business attraction and creation to increase local revenues from utility taxes and sales taxes.

Taxes and Fees

There are limited additional sources of revenue that the city could use to meet its fiscal needs. These potential taxes and fees increase the cost of doing business or creating development in the city, and therefore may not be the solution to Lake Stevens' projected fiscal deficit with annexation.

- B&O taxes could potentially generate more revenue; however, at this stage, the city has elected to remain economically competitive by not enacting a B&O tax as a strategy to attract businesses considering locating in the city.
- Impact mitigation fees from new development are used as a means of funding portions of parks or traffic capital projects.



LAND USE PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

All land uses generate fiscal impacts on the city by changing revenue collections and the cost of providing services. Costs stem from impacts on city capital facilities and services as well as internal city operations. Revenues come from collection of taxes and fees.

Land use planning can incorporate several considerations related to the city's fiscal position: the anticipated revenues from new development; necessary infrastructure investments and on-going expenses to support future uses; and the current and future market feasibility of each use type.

Diversity of land uses is an important consideration. For example, multifamily housing can play a necessary and critical role in supporting local retail and other businesses by providing housing that workers can afford (keeping the cost of labor and prices down at local retail). Growth in population or business activity creates increased local demand for goods or services by introducing new consumers or producers. New property generates property tax revenues, while consumer spending by additional residents and businesses generates sales tax revenues. Similarly, attracting or growing businesses that draw traffic and spending from elsewhere in the region increases local economic activity and revenue.

Infrastructure investments must also be considered in land use planning. While such investments can be costly to build and support over time, those costs may be outweighed by the increase in property values and spillover effects that such investments can lead to.

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Capital Improvement Plan

This Capital Facilities Element identifies needed improvements, which are of relatively large scale, are generally a non-recurring high cost and may require multi-year financing. The list of improvements focuses on major projects, leaving smaller improvements (less than \$10,000) to be addressed in the annual budget. Figure 9.1 identifies the location of publically-owned facilities, which may be included in the capital facilities plan. Smaller facilities such as traffic signals and drainage ponds are not included on the map.

The Capital Improvement Plan is a six-year financing plan for capital expenditures to be incurred on a year-by-year basis. It is based on priority improvements taking into account, the forecasted revenue over the next six years from various sources. The six-year plan uses the long range 2035 Plan as a key factor to set priorities for capital projects that the jurisdiction plans to undertake, and presents estimates of the resources needed to finance them. The first year of the Capital Facilities Program will be converted to the annual capital budget, while the remaining five-year program will provide for long term planning. Only the expenditures and appropriations in the annual budget represent financial commitments.



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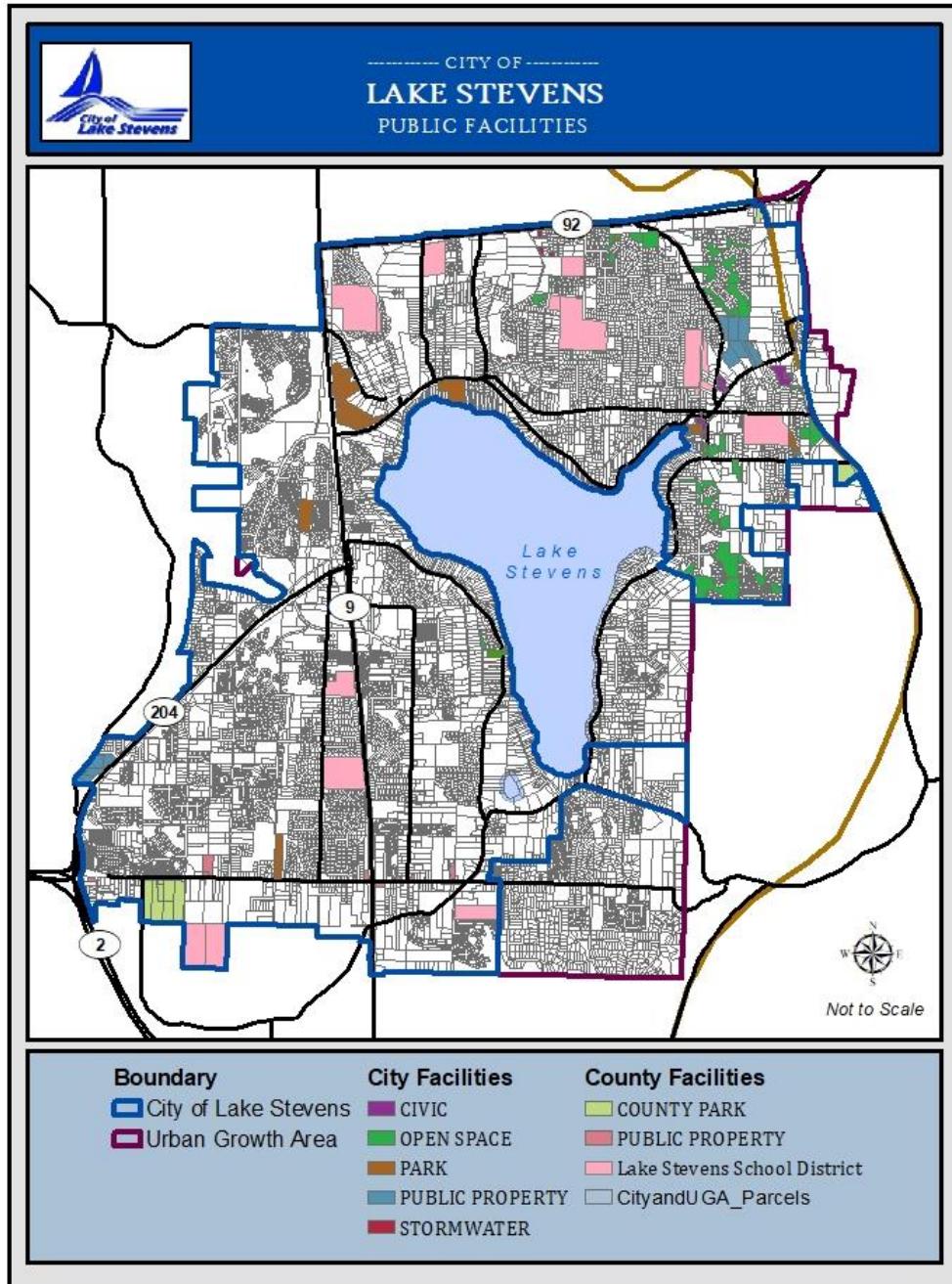


Figure 9.1 – Public Facilities Map



Definition of Capital Improvement

For the purposes of capital facility planning, “capital improvements” are major projects, activities or maintenance costing over \$10,000 and requiring the expenditure of public funds over and above annual operating expenses. They have a life expectancy of more than ten years and result in an addition to the city's fixed assets and/or extend the life of the existing capital infrastructure. The cost estimates may include design, engineering efforts, permitting, environmental analysis, land acquisition, construction, major maintenance, site improvements, energy conservation projects, landscaping and initial furnishings and equipment. Capital improvements do not include equipment or the city's rolling stock, nor does it include the capital expenditures of private or non-public organizations.

Subarea Capital Facilities Planning

The city has embarked on subarea planning over the past few years. As part of these subarea plans, the city adopted a Subareas Capital Facilities Plan which is an important associated document to this Element. The study describes utility infrastructure required for redevelopment of the Lake Stevens Center, 20th Street SE Corridor, and Downtown Lake Stevens including transportation, sewer, water and stormwater. The city is currently responsible for transportation outside of state routes, except that the city is responsible for maintenance of state routes within city limits and stormwater facilities. Special purpose districts provide sewer and water infrastructure and services.

The proposed projects are described in the Capital Facilities section of the plans with estimated costs representing costs typical for public works projects competitive bidding in accordance with Washington State law. The estimated costs are partitioned by expected funding, which could change based on available public funding, grants, development or private financing, or negotiated development agreements. The capital plan describes the infrastructure requirements, phasing, cost partitioning and proposed financing alternatives for the subareas.

PROJECTION OF CAPITAL FACILITY NEEDS

Identified Needs

All public facility needs have been identified in the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Through the process of developing this Capital Facilities Element the financial feasibility of the other elements has been ensured. The other Plan elements describe the location and capacity of any facilities available through December 31, 2014 and analyze the need for increased capacity from 2015-2035. The capital improvements needed to satisfy future and existing substandard development and maintain adopted level of service standards are identified and listed in Table 9.4, and include projects from the adopted Subarea Capital Facilities Plan, adopted by Council on September 24, 2012, which provides a detailed discussion and list of infrastructure needs and projects in the subareas.



Table 9.1, which includes the adopted Subarea Capital Facilities Plan, provides a brief description of each of the capital improvement projects with an estimate of the total project costs. The year indicates when the projects must be completed in order to maintain the adopted level of service standards for the respective facilities. Capital improvement projects have been identified for transportation, parks and recreation, government and stormwater drainage facility improvements. Facilities for wastewater, potable water, fire protection, schools and solid waste are contained in district and agency plans, coordinated with, but independent of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

Prioritization of Capital Facilities

The capital improvement needs listed in Table 9.1 (attached at the end of the chapter) that includes the projects found in the adopted Subarea Capital Facilities Plan were developed by the city staff based on community-wide input and the other elements of this Comprehensive Plan. The following criteria were applied in developing the final listing of proposed projects:

- Service Considerations: Safety, Health and Welfare Factors, Environmental Impact, Effect on Quality of Service;
- Economic Considerations: Potential for Financing, Impact on Future Operating Budgets, Timeliness of Opportunity, Benefit to Economy and Tax Base;
- Feasibility Considerations: Legal Mandates, Citizen Support, Staff Availability; and
- Consistency Considerations: Goals and Objectives in Other Elements of this Plan, Linkage to Other Planned Projects, Plans of Other Jurisdictions, County-Wide Planning Policies.

Cost estimates in this element are presented in 2020 dollars and were derived from various federal and state documents, published cost estimates, records of past expenditures and information from private contractors.

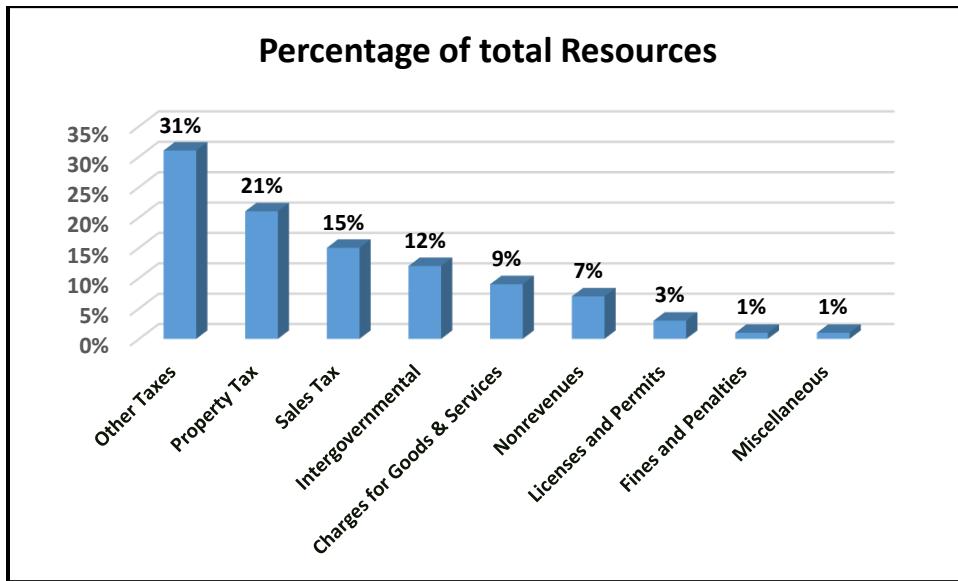
FUTURE NEEDS AND ALTERNATIVES

Current Revenue Sources

The largest single source of non-restricted revenue for the city is the *ad valorem* property tax, which generally accounts for 20 percent of city revenue. The city's assessment for this tax is usually set at the maximum rate. Figure 9.2 depicts the distribution of revenue sources for the city.



FIGURE 9.2 – Source of Existing City Resources, Average 2014



FINANCIAL RESOURCES

To ensure that the city is using the most effective means of collecting revenue, the city inventoried the various sources of funding currently available. Financial regulations and available mechanisms are subject to change; furthermore, changing market conditions influence the city's choice of financial mechanism. Therefore, the city should periodically review the impact and appropriateness of its financing system. The following list of sources includes all major financial resources available and is not limited to those sources which are currently in use or will be used in the six-year schedule of improvements.

Debt Financing

Short-Term Borrowing: The high cost of many capital improvements requires local governments to occasionally use short-term financing through local banks.

Revenue Bonds: These bonds are financed by those benefiting from the capital improvement. The debt is retired using charges collected from the users of public facilities such as sewer systems and electrical power plants. Interest rates tend to be higher than for general obligation bonds and issuance of the bonds may be approved without a voter referendum.

Industrial Revenue Bonds: Bonds issued by a local government, but actually assumed by companies or industries that use the revenue for construction of plants or facilities. The attractiveness of these bonds to industry is that they carry comparatively low interest rates



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due to their tax-exempt status. The advantage to the jurisdiction is the private sector is responsible for retirement of the debt.

General Obligation Bonds: Bonds backed by the value of the property within the jurisdiction. Voter-approved bonds increase property tax rates and dedicate the increased revenue to repay bondholders. Councilmanic bonds do not increase taxes and are repaid with general revenues. Revenue may be used for new capital facilities, or maintenance and operations of existing facilities. This debt should be used for projects that benefit the city as a whole.

Local Multi-Purposes Levies

Ad Valorem Property Taxes: Tax rate in millions (1/10 cent per dollars of taxable value). The maximum rate is \$3.60 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The city is prohibited from raising its levy more than 1 percent of the previous year's amount levied before adjustments, new construction and annexation. A temporary or permanent access levy may be assessed with voter approval. Revenue may be used for new capital facilities, or maintenance and operations of existing facilities.

Local Single Purpose Levies

Emergency Medical Services Tax: The EMS tax is a property tax levy of \$0.50 for emergency medical services. Revenue may be used for new capital facilities, or maintenance and operations of existing facilities. The city's EMS service are currently provided by the Lake Stevens Fire District.

Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax: This tax is paid by gasoline distributors and distributed by the Department of Licensing. Revenues must be spent for highway (city streets, county roads and state highways) construction, maintenance or operations; policing of local roads; or related activities.

Local Option Fuel Tax: This is a countywide voter approved tax equivalent to 10 percent of Statewide Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax and a special fuel tax of 2.3 cents per gallon. Revenue is distributed to the city on a weighed per capita basis. Revenues must be spent for highway (city streets, county roads and state highways) construction, maintenance or operations; policing of local roads; or highway-related activities.



Local Non-Levy Financing Mechanisms

Reserve Funds: Revenue that is accumulated in advance and earmarked for capital improvements. Sources of funds can be surplus revenues, funds in depreciation reserves or funds resulting from the sale of capital assets.

Fines, Forfeitures and Charges for Services: This includes various administrative fees and user charges for services and facilities operated by the jurisdiction. Examples are franchise fees, sales of public documents, property appraisal fees, fines, forfeitures, licenses, permits, income received as interest from various funds, sale of public property, rental income and all private contributions to the jurisdiction. Revenue from these sources may be restricted in use.

User Fees, Program Fees and Tipping Fees: Fees or charges for using park and recreational facilities, solid waste disposal facilities, sewer services, water services, surface water drainage facilities. Fees may be based on measure of usage, a flat rate or design features. Revenues may be used for new capital facilities, or maintenance and operations of existing facilities.

Street Utility Charge: Fee up to 50 percent of actual costs of street construction, maintenance and operations charged to businesses and households. The tax requires local referendum. The fee charged to businesses is based on the number of employees and cannot exceed \$2.00 per employee per month. Owners or occupants of residential property are charged a fee per household that cannot exceed \$2.00 per month. Both businesses and households must be charged. Revenue may be used for activities such as street lighting, traffic control devices, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, parking facilities and drainage facilities.

Special Assessment District: District created to service entities completely or partially outside of the jurisdiction. Special assessments are levied against those who directly benefit from the new service or facility. This includes Local Improvement Districts, Road Improvement Districts, Utility Improvement Districts and the collection of development fees. Funds must be used solely to finance the purpose for which the special assessment district was created.

Special Purpose District: District created to provide a specified service. Often the district will encompass more than one jurisdiction. This includes districts for fire facilities, hospitals, libraries, metropolitan parks, airports, ferries, parks and recreation facilities, cultural arts, stadiums and convention centers, sewers, water flood controls, irrigation and cemeteries. Voter approval is required for airport, parks and recreation and cultural arts, stadium and convention districts. District has authority to impose levies or charges. Funds must be used solely to finance the purpose for which the special purpose district was created.



Transportation Benefit Districts: Chapter 36.73 RCW enables cities and counties to create transportation benefit districts in order to finance and carry out transportation improvements necessitated by economic development and to improve the performance of the transportation system.

Lease Agreements: Agreement allowing the procurement of a capital facility through lease payments to the owner of the facility. Several lease packaging methods can be used. Under the lease-purchase method the capital facility is built by the private sector and leased back to the local government. At the end of the lease, the facility may be turned over to the municipality without any future payment. At that point, the lease payments will have paid the construction cost plus interest.

Privatization: Privatization is generally defined as the provision of a public service by the private sector. Many arrangements are possible under this method ranging from a totally private venture to systems of public/private arrangements, including industrial revenue bonds.

Impact Fees: These fees are paid by new development based upon its impact to the delivery of services. Impact fees must be used for capital facilities needed by growth, not for current deficiencies in levels of service, and cannot be used for operating expenses. These fees must be equitably allocated to the specific entities which will directly benefit from the capital improvement and the assessment levied must fairly reflect the true costs of these improvements. Impact fees may be imposed for public streets and roads, publicly owned parks, open space and recreational facilities, school facilities and fire protection facilities (in jurisdictions that are not part of a fire district).

Storm Drainage Utility Charge: Utility district created to specifically provide storm and drainage management, maintenance and operation. Fees would be levied against properties receiving benefit of storm water management.

State Grants and Loans

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Grant funds available for public facilities, economic development, housing and infrastructure projects which benefit low and moderate income households. Grants distributed by the Department of Community Development primarily to applicants who indicate prior commitment to project. Revenue restricted in type of project and may not be used for maintenance and operations.

Community Economic Revitalization Board: Low-interest loans (rate fluctuates with State bond rate) and occasional grants to finance infrastructure projects for a specific private sector development. Funding is available only for projects which will result in specific private developments or expansions in manufacturing and businesses that support the trading of goods and services outside of the State's borders. Projects must create or retain



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jobs. Funds are distributed by the Department of Trade and Economic Development primarily to applicants who indicate prior commitment to project. Revenue restricted in type of project and may not be used for maintenance and operations.

Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF): Low interest loans to finance capital facility construction, public works emergency planning and capital improvement planning. To apply for the loans the city must have a capital facilities plan in place and must be levying the original 1/4 real estate excise tax. Funds are distributed by the Department of Community Development. Loans for construction projects require matching funds generated only from local revenues or state shared entitlement revenues. PWTF revenues may be used to finance new capital facilities, or for maintenance and operations of existing facilities.

Federal Project Grants (LWCF): Federal monies are available for the acquisition and construction of outdoor park facilities from the National Park Service's (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The grants are administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).

NPS grants usually do not exceed \$150,000 per project and must be matched on an equal basis by the local jurisdiction. The RCO assigns each project application a priority on a competitive statewide basis according to each jurisdiction's need, population benefit, natural resource enhancements and a number of other factors. In the past few years, project awards have become extremely competitive as the federal government has significantly reduced the amount of federal monies available under the NPS program. The state has increased contributions to the program over the last few years using a variety of special funds, but the overall program could be severely affected by pending federal deficit-cutting legislation.

Applicants must submit a detailed comprehensive park and recreation plan to be eligible for NPS funding. The plan must demonstrate facility need and prove that the city's project proposal will adequately satisfy local park and recreation needs and interests. This Comprehensive Plan functions as the city's detailed park and recreation plan for such grant purposes (See Chapter 5).

State Project Grants (ALEA): Washington State created a number of new programs in recent years for park and recreation development purposes using special state revenue programs. Recently enacted programs include the 1985 Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act (ALEA) using revenues obtained by the Washington Department of Natural Resources from the lease of state owned tidal lands. The ALEA program is administered by RCO for the development of shoreline-related trail improvements and may be applied for the full cost of the proposal.

Urban Arterial Trust Account (UATA): Revenue available for projects to alleviate and prevent traffic congestion. Entitlement funds are distributed by the State Transportation Improvement Board (STIB) subject to UATA guidelines and with a 20 percent local matching requirement. Revenue may be used for capital facility projects to alleviate roads that are



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structurally deficient, congested with traffic, or have accident problems.

Transportation Improvement Account: Revenue available for projects to alleviate and prevent traffic congestion caused by economic development or growth. Entitlement funds are distributed by the State Transportation Improvement Board with a 20 percent local match requirement. For cities with a population of less than 500 the entitlement requires only a 5 percent local match. Revenue may be used for capital facility projects that are multi-modal and involve more than one agency.

Centennial Clean Water Fund: Grants and loans for the design, acquisition, construction and improvement of Water Pollution Control Facilities and related activities to meet state and federal water pollution control requirements. Grants and loans are distributed by the Department of Ecology with a 50-25 percent matching share. Use of funds limited to planning, design and construction of Water Pollution Control Facilities, storm water management, ground water protection and related projects.

Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund: Low interest loans and loan guarantees for water pollution control projects. Loans distributed by the Department of Ecology. Applicant must show water quality need, have a facility plan for treatment works and show a dedicated source of funding for repayment.

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office: Provides leadership, grant funding and technical assistance for the building of trails, parks, boating facilities, water access and more. Office administers 12 grant programs for providing recreation, conserving habitat, measuring farmland and recovering salmon. Applicants must complete a planning process before applying for funding. Most grants require either a cash or in-kind contribution of up to 50 percent of the cost of the project.

Federal Grants and Loans

Federal Aid Bridge Replacement Program: Funds available with a 20 percent local matching requirement for replacement of structurally deficient or obsolete bridges. Funds are distributed by the Washington State Department of Transportation on a statewide priority basis. Therefore, the bridge must be on the State of Washington Inventory of Bridges.

Federal Aid Safety Programs: Revenue available for improvements at specific locations which constitute a danger to vehicles or pedestrians as shown by frequency of accidents. Funds are distributed by Washington State Department of Transportation from a statewide priority formula and with a 10 percent local match requirement.



Federal Aid Emergency Relief: Revenue available for restoration of roads and bridges on the federal aid system which are damaged by extraordinary natural disasters or catastrophic failures. Local agency declares an emergency and notifies Division of Emergency Management, upon approval entitlement funds are available with a 16.87 percent local matching requirement.

Department of Health Water Systems Support: Revolving, low-interest loans for upgrading existing small water systems, ensuring effective management and achieving maximum conservation of safe drinking water. Grants distributed by the State Department of Health through intergovernmental review.

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA): ISTEA (referred to as "ice tea") provides funding to the State for transportation oriented projects. Several federal programs were combined to create one umbrella program. Separate areas of funding are made available through Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) or the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) focusing on motor vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, carpooling, HOV lanes, commuter trains, bridges, highway safety, environmental and "enhancement" projects. Grants are generally awarded on a competitive basis within the County, Puget Sound region or the State.

CAPITAL FACILITY STRATEGIES

In order to realistically project available revenues and expected expenditures on capital facilities, the city must consider all current policies that influence decisions about the funding mechanisms, as well as policies affecting the city's obligation for public facilities. The most relevant of these are described below. These policies along with the goals and policies articulated in the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan were the basis for the development of various funding scenarios. Any variations from the current policies in the development of the six-year Capital Improvement Plan Table 9.2 were incorporated into the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mechanisms to Provide Capital Facilities

Increase Local Government Appropriations: The city will investigate the impact of increasing current taxing rates and will actively seek new revenue sources. In addition, on an annual basis the city will review the implications of the current tax system as a whole.

Analysis of Debt Capacity: Generally, Washington State law permits a city to ensure a general obligation bonded debt equal to 1.5 percent of its property valuation without voter approval. By a 60 percent majority vote of its citizens, a city may assume an additional general obligation bonded debt of 1 percent, bringing the total for general purposes up to 2.5 percent of the value of taxable property. The value of taxable property is defined by law as



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being equal to 100 percent of the value of assessed valuation. For the purpose of supplying municipally-owned electric, water or sewer service, and with voter approval, a city may incur another general obligation bonded debt equal to 2.5 percent of the value of taxable property. At the current time, the city of Lake Stevens does not supply these services; however, the city has an interest in where the utility purveyors invest in infrastructure. With voter approval, cities may also incur an additional general obligation bonded debt equal to 2.5 percent of the value of taxable property for parks and open space. Thus, under State law, the maximum general obligation bonded debt which a city may incur cannot exceed 7.5 percent of the assessed property valuation.

Municipal revenue bonds are not subject to a limitation on the maximum amount of debt which can be incurred. These bonds have no effect on the city's tax revenues because they are repaid from revenues derived from the sale of services.

The city of Lake Stevens has used general obligation bonds and municipal revenue bonds very infrequently. Therefore, under state debt limitations, it has ample debt capacity to issue bonds for new capital improvement projects as shown in Table 9.3. However, the city does not currently have policies in place regarding the acceptable level of debt and how that debt will be measured.

The city has developed the 20-year Capital Facilities Program to address future growth plans and anticipates new development will pay a proportionate share of impacts to meet concurrency requirements.

User Charges and Connection Fees: User charges are designed to recoup the costs of public facilities or services by charging those who benefit from such services. As a tool for affecting the pace and pattern of development, user fees may be designed to vary for the quantity and location of the service provided. Thus, charges could be greater for providing services further distances from centers.

Mandatory Dedications or Fees in Lieu of: The jurisdiction may require, as a condition of plat approval, that subdivision developers dedicate a certain portion of the land in the development to be used for public purposes, such as roads, parks, or schools. Dedication may be made to the local government or to a private group. When a subdivision is too small or because of topographical conditions a land dedication cannot reasonably be required, the jurisdiction may require the developer to pay an equivalent fee in lieu of dedication.

The provision of public services through subdivision dedications not only makes it more feasible to serve the subdivision, but may make it more feasible to provide public facilities and services to adjacent areas. This tool may be used to direct growth into certain areas.



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Table 9.3 – Limitation of Indebtedness

I. INDEBTEDNESS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES WITHOUT A VOICE OF THE PEOPLE			
Councilmanic: Legal Limit 1.5% of taxable property	Capacity	Less Outstanding	Remaining Debt Capacity
1.5% times 4,926,997,520 equals	73,904,963	11,106,000	62,798,963
II. INDEBTEDNESS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES WITH A 3/5 VOTE OF THE PEOPLE			
Councilmanic: Legal Limit 2.5% of taxable property	Capacity	Less Outstanding	Remaining Debt Capacity
2.5% times 4,926,997,520 equals	123,174,938	0	123,174,938
I & II. TOTAL INDEBTEDNESS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES			
Councilmanic: Legal Limit 2.5% of taxable property	Capacity	Less Outstanding	Remaining Debt Capacity
2.5% times 4,926,997,520 equals	123,174,938	11,106,000	112,068,938
III. INDEBTEDNESS FOR CITY UTILITY PURPOSES WITH A 3/5 VOTE OF THE PEOPLE			
Councilmanic: Legal Limit 2.5% of taxable property	Capacity	Less Outstanding	Remaining Debt Capacity
2.5% times 4,926,997,520 equals	123,174,938	0	123,174,938
IV. INDEBTEDNESS FOR OPEN SPACE AND PARK FACILITIES WITH A 3/5 VOTE OF THE PEOPLE			
Councilmanic: Legal Limit 2.5% of taxable property	Capacity	Less Outstanding	Remaining Debt Capacity
2.5% times 4,926,997,520 equals	123,174,938	0	123,174,938
TOTAL	7.50%	TOTAL CAPACITY	TOTAL LESS OUTSTANDING
		369,524,814	11,106,000
			TOTAL REMAINING DEBT CAPACITY
			358,418,814



Negotiated Agreement: Agreement whereby a developer studies impact of development and proposes mitigation for city's approval. These agreements rely on the expertise of the developer to assess the impacts and costs of development. Such agreements are enforceable by the jurisdiction. The negotiated agreement will require lower administrative and enforcement costs than impact fees.

Impact Fees: Impact fees may be particularly useful for a community that is facing rapid growth and with existing residents desiring to minimize the impacts to the existing levels of service.

Obligation to Provide Capital Facilities

Coordination with Other Public Service Providers: Local goals and policies as described in the other Comprehensive Plan elements are used to guide the location and timing of development. However, many local decisions are influenced by state agencies, special purpose districts and utilities that provide public facilities within the city of Lake Stevens. The planned capacity of public facilities operated by other entities is essential not only for the location and timing of public services, but also in the financing of such services and for the community to realize infrastructure and growth sustainability.

The city's plan for working with the natural gas, electric and telecommunication providers is detailed in the Public Services and Utilities Element Chapter 8. This Plan includes policies for sharing information and a procedure for negotiating agreements for provision of new services in a timely manner.

The Level of Service Standards for other public service providers such as school districts, sewer provider and private water providers are addressed in their respective Capital Facility programs. The city's policy is to exchange information with these entities and to provide them with the assistance they need to ensure that public services are available and that the quality of the service is maintained.

Level of Service Standards: Level of service standards are an indicator of the extent or quality of service provided by a facility that are related to the operational characteristics of the facility. They are a summary of existing or desired public service conditions. The process of establishing level of service standards requires the city to make quality of service decisions explicit. The types of public services for which the city has adopted level of service standards will be improved to accommodate the impacts of development and maintain existing service in a timely manner with new development.

Level of service standards will influence the timing and location of development, by clarifying which locations have excess capacity that may easily support new development and by delaying new development until it is feasible to provide the needed public facilities.



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TABLE 9.4 – LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

FACILITY	ADOPTED LOS
Streets and Roads	
Major and Minor Arterials	LOS E
Collector Roadways	LOS E
Local Access Roadways	LOS C
SR9, SR204 and SR92*	LOS set by Puget Sound Region Council
Transit*	Coordination with Community Transit
Domestic Water*	
Domestic Supply	100 per capita per day - Adopted by Snohomish County PUD
Commercial	Adopted by Snohomish County PUD
Fire Flow	
Domestic and Commercial	Per IFC
Sewer	
Residential & Equivalent Commercial*	70 gallons per capita per day
Schools*	
Early Learning	State mandated LOS
K-5	State mandated LOS
6-8	State mandated LOS
9-12	State mandated LOS
Home School Program	State mandated LOS
Fire Protection*	
Fire Response	COORDINATE WITH Lake Stevens FD
Medical Response	COORDINATE WITH Lake Stevens FD
Law Enforcement	
Emergency Response	3 – 4 minutes
Non-emergency Response	6 – 10 minutes
Parks, Recreation and Open Space	
Community Parks	> 10 acres, within 2.5 miles
Neighborhood Parks	≤ 10 acres, within 1 mile
Mini-Parks	≤ 1 acre, within ½ mile residential or commercial
School Parks	Varies
Special Use Parks & Facilities	Varies
Trails & Pedestrian Facilities	Varies, within 1 mile of residential
Open space	Varies
Libraries*	
Building	Coordinated with Sno-Isle Library District
Solid Waste*	
Residential	3.3 pounds per capita per day
Other Government Services	
Building	Varies

*City considers and adopts special purpose district Capital Planning Document



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In addition, to avoid over extending public facilities, the provision of public services may be phased over time to ensure that new development and projected public revenues keep pace with public planning. The city has adopted a level of service standard for six public services. The specific standards are identified in Chapters 5, 7 and 8 and summarized in Table 9.4 below.

Concurrency Management System Ordinance: The city adopted a concurrency implementation ordinance which contains procedures for reviewing proposed development within the city based on the available capacity of public facilities coupled with the adopted Level of Service standard for them.

Methods for Addressing Shortfalls

The city will not be able to finance all proposed capital facility projects, therefore, it has clearly identified the options available for addressing shortfalls and how these options will be exercised. The city evaluates capital facility projects on both an individual basis and a system-wide basis. In deciding how to address a particular shortfall the city will balance the equity and efficiency considerations associated between each of these options.

When the city identifies a potential shortfall, the city may address it by increasing revenue, examining and adjusting levels of service as appropriate, look for additional creative, cost effective solutions for constructing the facility, use a phasing solution to implement the facility construction and/or other methods as appropriate.

Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Financial Assumptions

The following assumptions about future operating conditions in the local government and market conditions were used in the development of the six-year Capital Improvement Plan Table 9.2:

- The city will maintain its current fund accounting system to handle its financial affairs.
- The cost of running the local government will continue to increase due to inflation and other factors, while revenues will decrease.
- New revenue sources, including new taxes, may be necessary to maintain and improve city services and facilities.
- Significant capital investment is needed to maintain, repair and rehabilitate the city's aging infrastructure and to accommodate future growth.
- Public investment in capital facilities is the primary tool of local government to support and encourage economic growth.



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- A comprehensive approach to review, consider and evaluate capital funding requests is needed to aid decision-makers and citizenry in understanding the capital needs of the city.
- Special purpose districts will cooperate and coordinate in the city's approach to capital facility planning to ensure growth is guided as directed.

In accordance with the existing accounting system, financial transactions are recorded in individual "fund" accounts. Capital improvements will be financed through the following funds:

- General Fund
- Capital Improvement Fund
- Transportation Improvement Fund
- Enterprise Fund

PROJECTED REVENUES

Projected Tax Base

The city's tax base was projected to increase at a 1 percent annual rate of growth for the adjusted taxable value of property (including new construction). The assessment ratio is projected to remain stable at 100 percent. This is important to the overall fiscal health of the city; however, capital improvements are also funded through non-tax resources.

Revenue by Fund

General Fund: This is the basic operating fund for the city, however, historically a number of capital improvements have been financed through this fund. Ad valorem tax yields were projected using the current tax rate and the projected 1 percent annual rate of growth for the city's assessed valuation. The General Fund will generally be allocated 72 percent of the annual tax yield from ad valorem property taxes. Sales tax projection estimates are based on historical trend data and increase approximately 1 percent per year.

Transportation Funds: Expenditures from these funds include direct annual outlays for capital improvement projects as well as the operating expenditures of the Street Fund. The revenues in this fund represent total receipts from state and local gas taxes. The projection estimates are based on state projections for gasoline consumption, current state gas tax revenue sharing methodologies and continued utilization of local option gas taxes at current levels. This fund also includes state and federal grant monies dedicated to transportation improvements.



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Capital Improvement Funds: These revenues are committed to annual debt service and capital projects. The revenues in this fund represent continued capture of the real estate excise tax revenues necessary to meet annual debt service obligations on outstanding general obligation bonds.

Enterprise Fund: The revenue in this fund is used for the annual capital, debt service and operating expenditures for services that are operated and financed similar to private business enterprises. The projected revenues depend upon income from user charges, bond issues, state or federal grants and carry-over reserves.

Table 9.5 indicates the expected revenue available to the city to finance capital improvements and related operation and maintenance costs for the years 2015-2020.

Revenue amounts projected are based on past trends.

Table 9.5 – Revenue Projections Affecting Capital Improvements (Thousands)

FUNDS	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
General Fund	9,229	8,741	8,696	8,789	8,878	8,985
Total General	9,229	8,741	8,696	8,789	8,878	8,985
Street Fund	2,155	2,209	2,264	2,321	2,379	2,438
Total Transportation	2,155	2,209	2,264	2,321	2,379	2,438
Storm Water Management	1,545	1,560	1,576	1,592	1,608	1,624
Total Proprietary	1,545	1,560	1,576	1,592	1,608	1,624
CIP - Development Contributions	315	99	28	28	28	28
REET	804	614	620	626	633	639
Sidewalk Capital Project	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Project	1,119	713	648	654	661	667

Plan Implementation and Monitoring

Projected Expenditures

For the purpose of this fiscal assessment, projected capital expenditures have been aggregated to include:

- The direct cost of scheduled capital improvement projects presently underway;



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- Capital improvement debt service expenditures for outstanding and planned bond issues; and
- The direct cost of capital facilities in Table 9.1.

These expenditures represent additional costs to maintain adopted level of service standards under projected growth conditions.

The Six-Year Schedule of Funded Improvements referred to as the 6-Year CIP (Table 9.2) is the mechanism by which the city can stage the timing, location, projected cost and revenue sources for the capital improvements identified for implementation in the other Comprehensive Plan Elements. The Six-Year Schedule of Funded Improvements is economically feasible within the target revenues discussed in the preceding sections of this element entitled Inventory and Analysis.

Table 9.1 lists the capital facilities by type and provides estimates of project costs by year. The distribution among years matches the years in which capital improvement work is planned in order to achieve or maintain the adopted Level of Service standards and measurable objectives for various public facilities.

The capital improvement projects listed in Table 9.2 are inclusive of all anticipated capital improvements as assessed by city departments for the six year planning period.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation are essential in ensuring the effectiveness of the Capital Facilities Program Element. This element will be regularly reviewed and amended to verify that fiscal resources are available to provide public facilities needed to support adopted LOS standards and measurable objectives. The review will reevaluate the following considerations in order to determine their continued appropriateness:

1. Any needed changes to costs, revenue sources, acceptance of dedicated facilities, or the date of construction of any facility enumerated in the element.
2. The Capital Facilities Element's continued consistency with the other elements and its support of the Land Use Element.
3. The priority assignment for addressing public facility deficiencies.
4. The city's progress in reducing or eliminating deficiencies.
5. The criteria used to prioritize capital improvement projects.
6. The city's effectiveness in maintaining the adopted LOS standards and achieving measurable objectives.
7. The city's effectiveness in reviewing the impacts of plans and programs of state agencies that provide public facilities with the city's jurisdiction.



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8. The effectiveness of impact fees and dedications for assessing the degree to which new development pays for its impacts.
9. The impacts of special districts and any regional facility and service provision upon the city's ability to maintain its adopted LOS standards or to achieve its measurable objectives.
10. Success of securing grants or private funds to finance capital improvements.
11. Capital improvements needed for the latter part of the planning period for update of the Six-Year Schedule of Improvements.
12. Concurrency status.

Analysis of Infrastructure

Capacity of Infrastructure

City Hall Facilities: As the city continues to grow, so has the need for updated facilities. In 2016, the city of Lake Stevens purchased property to house new civic buildings near Chapel Hill and 99th Ave NE. In 2017, the city began a master planning exercise and needs assessment to identify preferred alternatives for a centralized city campus that may include a potential location for a new library. In 2019, the city of Lake Stevens purchased property in the Fire District Complex off South Lake Stevens Road to house the new Police Station.

Water System: The quality of the water provided by the PUD is good and the service meets present needs, with each household using approximately 300 gallons of water per day. Relying on standards developed for previous water supply plans, the city has decided to adopt 100 gallons of water per capita per day as a level of service standard.

Provision of water to future development not only depends on capacity, but also on design considerations. The PUD anticipates having enough capacity to serve the projected population; however, the costs of providing this service will vary significantly due to design. The PUD will also need to carefully consider the impact of very large industrial developments.

Wastewater Disposal Facilities: The city of Lake Stevens and the Lake Stevens Sewer District have a combined sewer system currently operated by the Sewer District. The Sewer District completed construction of a new wastewater treatment plant to serve the larger population in the city and the urban growth boundary for the planning period. The plant is capable of expansion to service additional needs beyond 2035.

There are few homes still on septic within the city and most of these do not pose a health threat. If such a threat becomes imminent, city ordinance does allow the city to mandate that a home with a failing septic system and within 300 feet of a sewer line be hooked up to the



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system. Most new homes being built are on the sewer system, as the minimum parcel size for a septic system to be used is 12,500 square feet.

Solid Waste Disposal: The County anticipates that it will have adequate landfill capacity during this planning period, especially since most jurisdictions have or are initiating a curbside recycling program. The city has a mandatory garbage and recycling program.

Medical and Emergency Facilities: The city is adequately served by Providence Hospitals. EMS services are provided by the Lake Stevens Fire Prevention District No.8.

Police and Fire Protection: The provision of safe, commercial and industrial areas improves the quality of life for current residents and makes the city more attractive for new residents and businesses. As specified in Public Services and Utilities Element Chapter 7, the Police Department will strive for a level of service that maintains an Emergency Response Time of 3 to 4 minutes and a non-emergency response time of 6 to 10 minutes. Periodic staffing review will ensure the level of service is being met.

Public Education Facilities: To meet the demand generated by growth, the Lake Stevens School Districts' capital facilities plan calls for construction of two new elementary schools and a middle school in that time frame.

Library: Current library space is undersized to serve the existing library service area. The city is currently working with Sno-Isle Regional Library on a joint location for a new facility.

Transportation Facilities: Various types of land uses will need different types of transportation and will place different demands on the transportation system. Residential areas need access to centers of employment; commercial and industrial enterprises need access to supplier and consumer markets; and transportation corridors are often used to extend public services and utilities. This plan projects future transportation needs according to the Land Use Plan and recent annexations.

Parks: Chapter 5 is the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element, which establishes specific goals and policies to guide decision-making and contains a detailed needs assessment for planning, acquisition, development and improvement of facilities and lands. The needs assessment provides the framework for the capital parks and recreation projects identified in Table 9.1.



GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL 9.1 THE CITY WILL STRIVE TO BE A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY AROUND THE LAKE WITH UNSURPASSED INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY OF LIFE.

Policies

- 9.1.1 Ensuring good fiscal stewardship.
- 9.1.2 Using smart growth principles to understand how the city's planned growth pattern affects the investments that will be needed, and investing in where new growth should occur.
- 9.1.3 Expertly planning for the short and long term costs to support infrastructure expenditures and leave a quality legacy.

GOAL 9.2 PROVIDE PUBLIC FACILITIES IN A MANNER WHICH PROTECTS INVESTMENTS IN, AND MAXIMIZES USE OF, EXISTING FACILITIES AND PROMOTES ORDERLY COMPACT URBAN GROWTH.

Policies

- 9.2.1 Capital improvements shall be provided to correct existing deficiencies, to replace worn out or obsolete facilities and to accommodate desired future growth.
- 9.2.2 Capital improvement projects identified for implementation in this Plan and at a cost of at least \$10,000 shall be included in the Six-Year Schedule of Improvement. Capital improvements with a cost of less than \$10,000 should be reviewed for inclusion in the six-year Capital Improvement Program and the annual capital budget.
- 9.2.3 Proposed capital improvement projects shall be evaluated and prioritized in consideration of the following criteria:
 - a. Need exists to correct existing deficiencies, replace facilities, or to provide for growth;
 - b. Elimination of public hazards;
 - c. Elimination of capacity deficits;
 - d. Financial feasibility;
 - e. Site needs based on projected growth patterns;



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- f. Environmental impacts;
- g. New development and redevelopment;
- h. Plans of state agencies; and
- i. Local budget impact including costs for operations and maintenance.

GOAL 9.3 DEVELOPMENT SHALL BEAR ITS FAIR SHARE OF COSTS OF PROVIDING PUBLIC FACILITIES AT THE ADOPTED LEVELS OF SERVICE.

Policies

- 9.3.1 Transportation and park impact fees shall be sufficient to pay the fair share of improvement costs necessitated by new development.
- 9.3.2 Appropriate funding mechanisms for developments' contribution of a fair share of other public facility improvements [such as recreation, drainage and solid waste] will be considered for implementation as the city develops them.

GOAL 9.4 PROVIDE NEEDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO MAINTAIN ADOPTED LEVELS OF SERVICE.

Policies

- 9.4.1 The city shall continue to adopt an annual capital budget and a six-year capital improvement program as part of its budgeting process.
- 9.4.2 Debt shall be managed so that city general obligation debt will not exceed debt limitations set by state law and the city's ability to pay. There are no limits placed on revenue bonds other than the ability to pay.
- 9.4.3 Efforts shall be made to secure grants or private funds whenever available to finance the provision of capital improvements.
- 9.4.4 Fiscal policies to direct expenditures for capital improvements will be consistent with other Comprehensive Plan Elements.

GOAL 9.5 COORDINATE LAND USE DECISIONS AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES WITH A SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO MEET ADOPTED LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS, MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES.

Policies

- 9.5.1 Certain public facilities and services needed to support development shall be available concurrent with the development. The city shall adopt a concurrency



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program subject to concurrency requirements which shall include transportation, parks and sanitary sewer. The city will consider in the future the feasibility of implementing concurrency for stormwater and potable water.

- 9.5.2 The city will support and encourage the joint development and use of cultural and community facilities with other governmental or community organizations in areas of mutual concern and benefit.
- 9.5.3 The city will emphasize capital improvement projects, which promote the conservation, preservation or revitalization of commercial, industrial and residential areas in Lake Stevens.
- 9.5.4 Proposed Plan amendments and requests for new development or redevelopment shall be evaluated according to the following guidelines as to whether the proposed action would:
 - a. Contribute to a condition of public hazards;
 - b. Exacerbate any existing condition of public facility capacity deficits;
 - c. Generate public facility demands that exceed capacity increase planning in the Six-Year Schedule of Improvements;
 - d. Conform to future land uses as shown on the future land use map of the Land Use Element;
 - e. Accommodate public facility demands based upon adopted LOS standards and attempts to meet specified measurable objectives, when public facilities are developer-provided;
 - f. Demonstrate financial feasibility, subject to this element, when public facilities are provided, in part or whole, by the city; and
 - g. Affect state agencies' facilities plans and siting of essential public facilities.
- 9.5.5 Continue to update prioritizations on Table 9.2 as needs are identified; and move projects/facilities to and/or from Table 9.1 to 9.2 as funding becomes available.



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TABLE 9.1 – 20 YEAR CAPITAL FACILITIES PROGRAM, 2015-2035

TABLE 9.1 – CAPITAL FACILITIES PROGRAM, 2020-2035 (Updated in 2020)
TRANSPORTATION

ROAD	FROM	TO	COST	YEAR/S	Local	State/Fed	Mitigation	Dev Imp
116 th Avenue NE	20 th St NE	26 th St NE	>2026	\$1,900,000	X		X	
117 th Avenue NE	20 th St NE to 26 th Street NE	150 ft. S of 28 th St NE	2020-2021	\$1,932,000	X		X	X
123rd Ave NE	20th St NE	22nd St. NE	2020-2026	\$500,000	X		X	X
123rd Ave NE	18th St NE	17th St NE	>2026	\$1,094,300	X		X	X
131 st Avenue NE	20 th St NE	Hartford Rd	2020-2026	\$1,489,000	X		X	
16 th Street NE	Main St	134 th Ave NE	>2026	\$1,737,000	X		X	
17th Pl NE-Stormwater System	114th Ave NE		2020-2026	\$300,000	X		X	X
18th St NE	Main St	125th Ave NE	>2021	\$428,820	X		X	X
18th St NE	Main St	125th Ave NE	>2021	\$2,649,804			X	X
18th St NE/Festival Street	123rd Ave NE	Main St NE	2020-2026	\$1,287,281	X		X	X
20th St NE	east of Main St	Centennial Trail	>2021	\$1,284,475	X	X	X	X
20th St NE	Grade Rd	500' w of 123rd SE	>2021	\$1,500,257	X		X	X
20th St NE & Main Intersection	Intersection		2021-2024	\$1,112,004	X	X	X	X
20th St SE	83rd Ave SE	91st Ave SE	2020-2021	\$8,000,000	X	X	X	X
20th St SE	79th Ave SE	83rd Ave SE	2020-2026	\$2,400,000	X		X	X
20th St SE	73rd Ave SE	79th Ave SE	>2026	\$2,455,200	X	X	X	X
20th St SE	US 2	73rd Ave SE	>2026	\$2,557,500	X	X	X	X
20th St SE/73rd SE - Intersection	73rd Ave SE	-	>2026	\$500,000			X	X
20th St SE/79th SE - Intersection	79th Ave SE	-	2020-2026	\$300,000	X	X	X	X
20th St SE/SR 9 - Intersection			>2026	\$4,327,000	X		X	X
20 th Street NE Widening	Main St	111 th Dr NE	>2026	\$1,668,000	X		X	
22 nd Street NE	117 th Ave NE	123 rd Ave NE	>2026	\$768,000	X		X	
24th St SE	73rd Ave SE	79th Ave SE	>2026	\$3,653,000			X	X



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24th St SE	83rd Ave SE	87th Ave SE	>2026	\$5,278,000			X	X
24th St SE	SR 9	91st Ave SE	>2026	\$3,000,000			X	X
24th St SE - Pedestrian and Road Improvement	83rd Ave SE	79th Ave SE	>2026	\$1,728,300			X	X
24th St SE/73rd SE - Intersection	73rd Ave SE	-	>2026	\$800,000			X	X
24th St SE/79th SE - Intersection	79th Ave SE	-	>2026	\$800,000			X	X
24th St SE/83rd SE - Intersection	83rd Ave SE	-	>2026	\$800,000			X	X
24th St SE/SR 9 - Intersection			>2026	\$4,000,000	X		X	X
26 th Street NE	115 th Ave NE	117 th Ave NE	>2026	\$280,000	X		X	
28 th Street NE	Old Hartford Rd	N. Machias Rd	>2026	\$470,000	X		X	
30 th Street NE non-motorized	113rd Ave NE	Cedar Rd NE	>2026	\$540,000	X	X	X	
32 nd Street NE	118 th St NE	Grade Rd	>2026	\$545,000	X		X	X
36 th Street NE	Grade Road	Old Hartford Road	2020-2026	\$1,000,000	X		X	
4th St SE	91st Ave SE	SR-9	>2026	\$622,000	X	X		
79th Ave SE - Pedestrian & Road Improvement	20th St SE	24th St SE	2020-2026	\$1,179,300			X	X
91st Ave SE - Pedestrian Improvement	20th St SE	4th St SE	>2026	\$4,770,000	X	X	X	X
91st Ave SE - Pedestrian Improvement & Road construction	20th St SE	24th St SE	2020-2026	\$4,600,000	X		X	X
91 st Ave NE- Pedestrian Improvements	8th Street NE	12 Street NE	>2026	\$610,000		X	X	
91 st Ave NE- Pedestrian Improvements	12 Street NE	20 th Street SE	>2026	\$1,100,000				
91st Ave NE (RT turn pocket on 91st Ave NE NB onto SR204)			2020-2026	\$800,000				
99th Ave NE	Market	4th St NE	>2026	\$1,170,000	X		X	X
99th Ave SE - Pedestrian Improvement	20th St SE	4th St SE	>2026	\$4,763,800	X	X	X	X
99th Ave SE - Pedestrian Improvement	20th St SE	Lake Stevens Rd	>2026	\$5,507,800			X	X
Callow Road Drainage Improvement	Drainage Easement	tributary to Lundein Creek	2020-2026	\$200,000				
Cedar Road	Forest Road	29th St NE	>2026	\$2,273,000	X	X		
East Lakeshore Drive – non motorized	Main St	7 th St NE	>2026	\$1,450,000	X	X	X	
Grade Road	20th St NE	SR 92	>2026	\$15,607,836	X	X	X	X
Hartford Rd & Drainage Imp	Catherine Creek Crossing		>2026	\$700,000	X	X	X	
Lundein Pkwy Corridor Ped Imp	Vernon Rd	99 th Ave NE	>2026	\$900,000	X		X	



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Lundeen/Vernon - Intersection	Vernon Rd	-	>2026	\$400,000	X	X	X	X
Main Street	16th St NE	20th St NE	2020-2026	\$6,500,000	X		X	X
Market Pl (EB right turn on Market Pl onto SR9-striping only)			2020-2026	\$50,000				
Mitchell Dr/118th Ave NE	N. Lakeshore Dr	20 th St NE	>2026	\$1,400,000	X		X	
Mitchell Rd/Manning Road	200ft W of 116 th Dr NE	600 ft. E of 116 th Dr NE	>2026	\$360,000	X		X	X
N Davies/FV - RAB	north Frontier Village		2022-2024	\$150,000		X		
North Lakeshore Dr	123rd Ave NE	550 west of 123rd NE	>2026	\$788,739	X	X	X	X
North Lakeshore Dr	123rd Ave NE	Main St NE	>2026	\$282,920	X		X	X
Old Hartford Road	36 th St NE	Hartford Road	>2026	\$2,323,000	X		X	
S Lake Stevens Rd - intersection improvement	S. Davies Rd		>2026	\$800,000	X		X	X
S Lake Stevens Road Multi-use path	18th St SE	East Lakeshore Drive	2020-2026	\$270,200	X	X	X	X
S Lake Stevens Road Multi-use path	East of SR9	99th Ave SE	2019-2026	\$5,000,000	X	X	X	X
SR 92 & Grade Rd RAB	Intersection		>2026	\$4,105,221	X	X	X	X
SR 92 and 127th Ave NE RAB	Intersection		>2026	\$1,750,000		X		
SR9/SR204/System (SR9/204, 91st/204, 4th/SR9	North of SR204	South of 4 th and West of 91 st	2022-2024	\$69,000		X		
Vernon Road	91st Ave NE	SR 9	>2026	\$935,000	X	X	X	X
Gateway Signs at Roundabouts	SR9	SR204	2020-2026	\$50,000				
Lake Stevens - Lake Level Study			2020-2021	\$80,000				



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**TABLE 9.1 – CAPITAL FACILITIES PROGRAM, 2020-2035 (Updated
in 2020)
FACILITIES**

FACILITIES	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	YEARS/S	COST
Police Station	Remodel existing commercial building for new police stationf	2020-2021	\$4,250,000
Old Police Station Rehabilitation	Stabilize and restore existing police station	2021	\$200,000
Public Works Shop	A tenant improvement of the City's Public Works Department Shop to include reconstruction of the office spaces and second floor. Individual offices and meeting space(s) will be added. The kitchen area will be remodeled.	2020-2021	\$1,400,000
Decant Facility	Construct a decant facility on the City's property on Hartford Road. The decant facility will have five decant bays and four material storage bays. The site will be paved with asphalt and secured with a chainlink fence.	2020-2021	\$1,414,610
Downtown Property Acquisition	Purchase property for potential parking and other public purpose	2020-2022	\$500,000



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TABLE 9.1 – CAPITAL FACILITIES PROGRAM, 2020-2035 (Updated in 2019)
PARKS

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	YEAR/S	COST
Frontier Heights Park Phase II	Design and construct a parking lot and park amenities	2023	\$500,000
20 th Street Ballfields & Parking Lot Development	Construct a paved parking lot and construct other projects identified in master plan	2021	\$300,000
Lundeen Park Improvements	Replace curbing, seal coat and stripe parking lot, add amenities	2021	\$75,000
Eagle Ridge Park Phase II	Design and construct a playground and frontage improvements	2023	\$300,000
North Cove Park – Phase II	Northwest corner of North Cove Park. Project includes play structure, restroom, picnic shelter, grading, landscaping, riparian area restoration and parking lot.	2020-2021	\$1,552,596
North Cove Park – Phase III	South addition to North Cove Park	2021	\$500,000
Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition (northern section)		>2021	\$327,382
Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition (eastern section)		>2021	\$222,684
Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition (southern section)		>2021	\$1,150,000
Neighborhood Park Acquisition (near 20 th Street SE)		>2021	\$1,000,000
Shoreline Acquisition		>2020	\$1,500,000
Power Line Trail Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition		>2020	\$838,200
Powerline Trail Construction (northern segment)		>2021	\$699,600
Power Line Trail Construction (southern segment)	Design and construction of a trail from 20 th St SE to 8 th St SE	2021	\$250,000



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Hartford Road Walking Path/Trail Head		>2021	\$50,000
Catherine Creek and Centennial Woods Trail Improvements		2020	\$15,200



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Table 9.2 - 2020-2026 6-Year Capital Improvement Plan Summary

Project ID #	PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	YEAR/S	TOTAL PROJECT COST
TRANSPORTATION & STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS				
16041	79 th Ave SE Access Road	Construct 20 th Ave SE to 24 th Ave SE	2022	\$1,179,000
17005	24 th St and 91 st Ave Extensions, includes regional stormwater pond construction	Construct new collector roads between SR 9 and 20 th St SE	2020-2026	\$17,000,000
18004	South Lake Stevens Road Multi Use Path Design	Design path along 20 th St from 99 th to SR 9	2021	\$100,000
18008	20th Street SE Phase II	Additional travel lane and BAT lanes in each direction	2021	\$5,909,200
	24 th St SE Regional Pond		2021	\$642,138
	Main Street North and Roundabout Construction	RAB at Main Street and 20 th St NE	2024	\$2,500,000
	18th St NE/Festival Street	Construct festival street/18th St NE between Main street to 123rd Ave NE.	2021	\$2,200,000
18013	Main Street	Construct 16 th Street NE to 20 th Street NE	2024	\$5,800,000
18021	US 2 Trestle HOV Transit Congestion Jump (BAT) Lane	HOV lane on 20th Street SE. WSDOT State Regional Mobility Grant of \$1.8 million with a required City match of \$800,000, for a total of \$2.6M for the project.	2020-2021	\$2,411,029
18028	Callow Road Drainage Improvement	Design and construct approximately 1000 LF of drainage improvements, and a sediment settling facility along Callow road near the stream tributary east of Callow Road to minimize sediment deposit and seasonal flooding.	2020-2026	\$200,000
	Sidewalk Improvement Program	location varies annually	Annually	\$200,000 per year
18029	117th Sidewalk	Design, survey and ROW for 20 th to 26 th St NE	2021	\$175,000
18033	123rd Sidewalk	Construct 500 LF of sidewalk between 20th St. NE to 22nd St. NE	2021-2026	\$980,000
	2020 Safety Grant (4 th SE to Market Place)	Safety improvement along 91 st based on City's Safety Plan	2022	\$1,200,000



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19013	Bridge 6 Replacement & 36th St NE Road Improvement	The project is to design and replace existing Bridge 6 along 36th St NE; Work will also correct vertical sag curve on roadway near bridge.	2021-2023	\$1,700,000
19009	17th Place/114th Stormwater System in cul-de-sac	This study is to evaluate historic, current and potential future hydrologic conditions in the Lake Stevens basin and outfall as it relates to lake level management and downstream conveyance, evaluate on-going and potential future flooding and/or habitat issues associated with different precipitation or flow scenarios, and develop alternative solutions to address the identified problems.	2020-2021	\$30,000
19010	Lake Stevens lake level study	This study is to evaluate historic, current and potential future hydrologic conditions in the Lake Stevens basin and outfall as it relates to lake level management and downstream conveyance, evaluate on-going and potential future flooding and/or habitat issues associated with different precipitation or flow scenarios, and develop alternative solutions to address the identified problems.	2020-2021	\$80,000
	Weir Replacement and Channel Restoration (Design Only)	Replace the Lake Stevens outlet weir, restore stream channel capacity in outlet stream and Catherine Creek	2021	\$500,000
	EB right turn on Market Pl onto SR9	EB right turn on Market Pl onto SR9 (restriping only)	2022	\$120,000
	RT turn pocket on 91st Ave NE Northbound onto SR204	RT turn pocket on 91st Ave NE Northbound onto SR204	2020-2026	\$800,000
	10ft multi-use path along South Lake Stevens Road (East of SR9 to 99th Ave SE)	10ft multi-use path along South Lake Stevens Road (East of SR9 to 99th Ave SE)	2020-2026	\$1,000,000
	Roundabout Entry Signs	Gateway signs for Roundabouts	2021	\$90,000
	131st Ave NE sidewalk Improvement	Sidewalk between 20th St NE & Harford Dr. (possible ROW acquisition)	2026	\$2,000,000



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	Pavement Preservation Program	Overlay and Crackseal – location varies annually	Annually	\$4,077,000 (\$100,000 for study in 2022)
Project ID #	PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	YEAR/S	TOTAL PROJECT COST
FACILITY PROJECTS				
18035	Police Station	Construct tenant improvements and new evidence facility to convert the existing Fire Department Administration Complex into a police station. The City has acquired the properties from the fire district.	2020-2021	\$4,250,000
90000	Police Station Restoration – Existing Building	Repair structural deficiency	2021	\$200,000
18003	Public Works Shop	A tenant improvement of the City's Public Works Department Shop to include reconstruction of the office spaces and second floor. Individual offices and meeting space(s) will be added. The kitchen area will be remodeled.	2020-2021	\$1,400,000
	Downtown Property Acquisition	Purchase property for potential parking and other public purpose	2020-2022	\$500,000
18037	Decant Facility	Construct a decent facility on the City's property on Hartford Road. The decent facility will have five decent bays and four material storage bays. The site will be paved with asphalt and secured with a chainlink fence.	2020-2021	\$1,414,610
	Water Tower Sculpture		2021	\$25,000
	Police Boat Storage Relocation	Relocate police boats from North Cover Park to another location	2020-2026	\$45,000
	Landre Property Demolition	Demolish structure purchased by city	2021	\$60,000
	Relocate Grimm House		2021	\$50,000
PARK PROJECTS				
	<i>Planning</i>			
	Trails, Paths and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan		On-going	\$50,000
	<i>Acquisition</i>			



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	Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition (northern section)		>2021	\$237,382
	Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition (eastern section)		>2021	\$222,684
	Lakeside Path Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition (southern portion)		>2021	\$1,150,000
	Shoreline Acquisition		2020-2026	\$1,500,000
	Power Line Trail Right-of-Way/Easement Acquisition		>2021	\$838,200
	Development			
	Eagle Ridge Park Phase II	Design and Construction of Playground and frontage improvements	2023	\$300,000
18001	Lundeen Park Improvements	Replace curbing, seal coat and stripe parking lot, add amenities	2021	\$75,000
	Power Line Trail Construction (northern segment)		On-going	\$699,600
	Power Line Trail Construction (southern segment)	Design and construct a trail from 20 th St SE to 8 th St SE	2021	\$250,000
18010	Frontier Heights Phase II	Design and construct a parking lot and park amenities	2023	\$500,000
18022	20 th Street Ballfields	Provide three practice fields of various sizes that can be used for soccer, football, frisbee and other field sports. In addition, a perimeter gravel trail, a pickleball court, horseshoe pits and a natural playground will be installed. Limited perimeter fencing that does not exceed 4 feet tall will be installed to prevent park users from gaining access to nearby near utility poles. The parking lot will be installed on an adjacent City property for use by park visitors.	2021-2026	\$1,000,000
19012	North Cove Phase II	Northwest corner of North Cove Park. Project includes play structure, restroom, picnic shelter,	2020-2021	\$1,552,596



Chapter 9 – Capital Facilities

		grading, landscaping, riparian area restoration and parking lot.		
	North Cove Phase III	South addition to North Cove Park	2021	\$500,000
	North Cove Park Bridge Replacement	Replace existing wood vehicle bridge with 8' wide pedestrian bridge	2021	\$15,000
	North Cove Boat Slips		2021	\$50,000
	North Cove Vehicle Charging Stations	Install EV charging stations	2021	\$30,000
	Davies Beach Dock and Facility Restoration	Dock Restoration	2021	\$100,000
	Hartford Road Walking Path/Trail Head		>2020	\$1,300,000
	Sunset Beach Restoration	Restoration of Sunset Beach Park following acquisition from Snohomish County	2021	\$100,000
	Catherine Creek and Centennial Woods Trail Improvements		2020	\$15,200
	Oak Hill Park Improvements	Permanent shade structure	2021	\$15,000