

Glossary

Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)	An attached or unattached dwelling unit located on the same lot as a single-family housing unit, duplex, triplex, townhome, or other housing unit.
Active Transportation	Human-powered methods of getting around, such as walking, bicycling, using a scooter or skateboard, or rolling a wheelchair.
Adaptive Management	A decision-making process that involves ongoing, real-time learning and knowledge creation through active engagement with stakeholders.
Adaptive Transportation	Incorporation of equipment or modifications to vehicles to accommodate drivers with disabilities.
Affordable Housing	Rental or mortgage costs, plus utilities, that require no more than 30 percent of gross income.
Allocations, Housing and Employment	A process of calculating the number of dwelling units and jobs needed to meet forecasted populations within a geographic location.
Area Median Income (AMI)	The midpoint of income ranges within a geographic boundary, with half the household income earnings above and half below that point. Often shortened to AMI, it is used to determine eligibility for affordable housing properties.
Artificial Light at Night	
Climate Action Plan (CAP)	Developed by the Lake Forest Park Climate Action Committee in 2024, the CAP identifies specific ways to reduce the city's contribution to climate change and prepare the community for climate impacts.
Community Character	Description of the traits, qualities, or attributes that contribute to a physical and social environment.
Community-Based Organization	Nonprofit organizations that are "focused on issues and concerns at the local level [and provide] an innovative approach to developing communities in response to the failure of top-down development strategies."
Complete Streets	A design concept to provide safe, attractive, comfortable and accessible travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities.
Comprehensive Plan	A long-range guide that contains the goals, policies, and actions to guide a city or county's physical, economic, and social development.
Countywide Planning Policies (CPP)	Written statements used to establish a framework to develop and adopt city and county comprehensive plans. Codified as RCW 36.70A.210.
Design Guidelines	A set of parameters that apply within a neighborhood, district, or overlay zone. They are adopted public statements of intent and are used to evaluate the acceptability of a proposed project.

Density	Refers to the number of developed units in a specific area of land. Residential density, for example, is usually measured in dwelling units per acre (du/ac).
Development Regulations	A set of rules for the ways that land is used, such as those pertaining to zoning, subdivisions, critical or sensitive areas, landscaping, planned unit development, signs, and environmental policies.
Displacement	The act of a household, business, organization, or institution being forced or pressured to relocate against their wishes. Displacement can be physical, economic, and/or cultural.
Economic Development	The process to create conditions for growth and improved quality of life by expanding the capacity of individuals, businesses, and communities to maximize the use of their talents and skills to support innovation, job creation, and private investment.
Element	A chapter within a comprehensive plan, dedicated to a specific topic, and containing the goals, policies, and actions for that topic. Required topics include land use, housing, capital facilities, utilities, transportation, and climate.
Emergency Housing	Temporary indoor accommodation for individuals or families who are unhoused or at imminent risk of becoming houseless. Intended to address basic health, food, clothing, and personal hygiene needs. May or may not require occupants to enter into a lease or occupancy agreement.
Emergency Management	The practice of preparing for, responding to, mitigating the impacts of, and recovering from disasters.
Emergency Shelter	Temporary indoor accommodation for individuals or families who are currently houseless. Includes day and warming centers that do not provide overnight accommodations. Does not require lease or occupancy agreement.
Equality	The provision of treatment, resources, and opportunities that are the same for everyone, regardless of circumstances and despite inherent advantages or disadvantages that apply to certain individuals or groups of people.
Equity	The provision of treatment, resources, and opportunities that considers the specific needs, circumstances, and inherent advantages or disadvantages that apply to certain individuals or groups of people.
Gateway	A main entrance to a city, typically along a main thoroughfare/roadway, with signage or other structures to welcome residents, workers, and visitors.
Green Infrastructure	A wide array of natural assets and built structures within a physical boundary, including parks and other

	areas with a protected tree canopy, and practices that manage stormwater.
Green Resource	A type of renewable energy, found from sources that include solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, eligible biomass, and low-impact small hydroelectric sources.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)	Heat-trapping gases that warm the atmosphere and cause climate change, including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide.
Growth Management Act (GMA)	Legislation to prevent urban sprawl and to protect public health and the natural environment through comprehensive planning that establishes what gets to be built where and for whom. Codified as WAC 365-196 and RCW 36.70A.
House Bill (HB)	The first step in creating a new law, as introduced by the Washington House of Representatives.
Infill	Development that consists of construction on one or more lots in an area which is mostly developed, or new construction between two existing structures.
Intermodal Transportation	The movement of large-scale goods using multiple modes (e.g., truck, rail, or ship) without having to change the packing container.
King County Housing Authority	An organization that began in 1939 to provide Washington communities with affordable rental housing, rental assistance, and supportive services.
Land Use	A term to describe the designated activities and intensities permitted within a general location (e.g., agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, etc.).
Level of Service (LOS)	A measure of a public facility or service's operational characteristics used to gauge its performance in relation to population.
Low-Impact Development	An approach to managing stormwater runoff to protect water quality.
Middle Housing	Homes that are typically similar in size and height (scale) to a detached single-unit residence but provide multiple dwellings and more attainable housing choices to middle-income families.
Mitigation	The act of reasonably reducing or eliminating negative environmental impacts of development.
Mixed Use	Structures or zones that combine commercial, retail, and residential uses.
Multi-Modal Transportation	The process of moving people or goods with more than one method; for example: walking, bicycling, or driving a car to a transit stop or park-and-ride, then taking a bus.
Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC)	A nonprofit organization that helps local Washington governments serve their communities by providing legal and policy guidance on a variety of topics, such as major legislation, court decisions, and innovative examples that demonstrate effective solutions to common problems.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST)	A term that refers to the variety of indoor and outdoor places for active and passive recreation. Typically used to refer to a comprehensive plan element, and/or a separate plan that identifies future projects or improvements.
Permanent Supportive Housing	Subsidized and leased dwelling units without limits on length of stay for individuals and families who are unhoused or at imminent risk of becoming houseless. Paired with voluntary services designed to support a person with multiple barriers to stability (mental, physical, etc.) and community-based health care, treatment, or employment services.
Public Facilities	Refers to components such as streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, lighting, traffic signals, water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and recreational facilities, schools, and libraries that are not privately owned.
Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)	A regional planning and decision-making body for growth and transportation issues in King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. PSRC is designated as the regional transportation planning organization (RTPO) for those counties, as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO).
Resilience	The ability of a city, community, business, etc. to avoid, withstand, and recover from a major economic or environmental disruption or disaster.
Resilience Hub	
Retrofit	The act of installing or modifying something that was created, or of adapting something to a new purpose or need.
Riparian	Relating to, living on, or located on the bank of a natural watercourse (such as a river), lake, or tidewater.
Safe Routes to School	A program for projects within two miles of primary, middle, and high schools to improve safety and mobility for children by enabling and encouraging them to walk and bicycle to school.
Safe Streets	A project initiated by the City of Lake Forest Park in 2016 to make the streets safer for everyone and provide safe connections to transit, the Town Center, the Burke-Gilman Trail, Interurban Trail, parks, and schools.
Sensitive Areas	Geographic locations that contain fish and wildlife ecosystems, wetlands, frequently flooded areas, critical aquifer recharge areas, and geologically hazardous areas.
Special Needs Housing	
State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)	Legislation intended to minimize environmental damage from development proposals over a certain size and comprehensive plans. Codified as RCW 43.21C.

Sound Transit	A public transportation agency that builds and operates regional rail and bus services throughout the urban areas of Pierce, King, and Snohomish Counties.
Traffic Calming	Engineering and other measures in or on streets intended to reduce vehicle speeds or vehicular congestion as a method to improve the living and safety conditions for residents, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
Traffic/Transportation Impact Analysis/Assessment (TIA)	A study of the potential outcomes of a development on a location's transportation system.
Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)	An approach to creating dense, walkable residential neighborhoods with easy access (e.g., within a radius of up to 0.5 miles) to public transportation and commercial/retail uses.
Tree Canopy	A measurement which encompasses the layer of leaves, branches, and stems of trees that shelter the ground when viewed from above. Expressed as a percentage of ground area that is covered by tree crowns and related to the branching spread of trees in an urban forest.
Underserved	A term used to describe community members that face social, cultural, and economic disadvantages as a result of historic and current inequitable policies and disinvestments.
Vision	A description of the shared image and desired features of a community in the future, used to guide the development of the goals, policies, and actions in a comprehensive plan.
Walkshed	A visual representation of the area a person can travel by foot, typically displayed in measurements of minutes or fractions of miles (e.g., 10 minutes or 1/2 mile).
Zoning	A term used to describe the act of defining specific boundaries and locations on an official map, and of permitting only certain types of land uses within those boundaries.