

# Implementation Strategy

Actions for Implementation within the Next 1-3 Years
<p><b>Amend the Comprehensive Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt the Climate Element and make any necessary adjustments to Land Use, Transportation, Capital Facilities, and Utilities goals and policies. Employ multiple outreach methods and platforms to welcome and facilitate broad participation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Amend the Development Code</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt new provisions related to Middle Housing, Accessory Dwelling Units, and other housing-related changes necessary to implement Comprehensive Plan policies and state legislation. Changes are anticipated to include the allowance of up to two accessory dwelling units per lot and limited per HB 1337; authorization of several middle housing types as allowable development in residential zones; and various updates needed to reduce or eliminate barriers to development of new housing units.</li> <li>• Update the Critical Areas Ordinance to comply with current standards in the Critical Areas Handbook published by the Department of Commerce.</li> <li>• Incorporate consideration of environmental justice criteria into land use decisions. This should include amendments to legislative decisions and quasi-judicial permit decisions.</li> <li>• Require electrification or electric-ready infrastructure in all new construction as fossil fuel infrastructure is phased out.</li> <li>• In all code amendments, employ multiple outreach methods and platforms to welcome and facilitate broad participation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Environmental Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using information developed during the Climate Element planning process, develop a long-range program to reduce, minimize, or eliminate pollutants into local waterways. Establish an adaptive management plan that includes ongoing monitoring.</li> <li>• Pursue grants or state-funded revolving loan programs to convert properties from onsite sewage systems (OSS) to the City's sanitary sewer system. Support conversion efforts with educational materials provided to property owners with OSS.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Utilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with the regional agencies and neighboring jurisdictions to improve regional surface water management, resolve interjurisdictional concerns, and implement watershed action plans. When possible, identify and make use of existing forums to accomplish interagency/interjurisdictional coordination.</li> <li>• Host a summit or similar forum for water districts to discuss and plan for safeguarding the City's water supply, encouraging conservation, and otherwise improving water quality. Consider the inclusion of Tribes in this forum.</li> <li>• Coordinate with local utility providers to update regulations and policies that increase the flexibility of the electric grid and incentivize large-scale energy customers to reduce their electricity usage during peak times.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Urban Tree Canopy and Urban Forest Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update the <i>Community Forest Management Plan</i> to support the Tree Board's policy and strategies to protect large-stature species with dense wood and related goals. Create a forest management implementation plan to further advance the <i>Community Forest</i></li> </ul>

<p><i>Management Plan.</i> Make use of the 2023 urban tree canopy study to inform new policy decisions. Consider the importance of planting trees around buildings to promote energy efficiency. Include recommendations for future code amendments.</p>
<p><b>Public Parks and Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a precursor to updating the <i>Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) Plan</i>, gather data using digital mapping, walkability audits, and surveys as a basis for analyzing where the city’s infrastructure hinders safe access to parks.</li> <li>• Update the <i>Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) Plan</i>. Include an implementation component that identifies necessary improvements and prioritizes how those improvements will occur. Recommend a long-term maintenance plan that is environmentally appropriate and that relies on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Ensure equity and environmental justice criteria are included in the implementation strategy.</li> <li>• Adopt policies to ensure all park development is sensitive to adjacent uses with respect to impacts of traffic, noise, litter, light, and hours of operation.</li> <li>• Pursue grants to fund the placement of public art in public spaces.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Transportation Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with state and other agencies, develop corridor plans for SR 522 and SR 104 that holistically address adjacent land uses, all modes of transportation (including accessibility), utility undergrounding, and the connecting street network.</li> <li>• Partner with other jurisdictions to minimize impacts of high-speed vehicular dominance of residents and City facilities along the SR 522 corridor.</li> <li>• Designate “scenic routes” for bicycle and pedestrian traffic.</li> <li>• Establish signage and wayfinding standards for scenic routes.</li> <li>• Partner with outside agencies to mitigate the pedestrian and bicycle barrier created by SR 522 to the larger system of regional trails along the Burke-Gilman and other City parks and facilities adjacent to the corridor. Designate “scenic routes” that are inviting for active mode users and establish signage and wayfinding standards that promote safety.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Actions for Implementation within the Next 3-6 Years</b></p>
<p><b>Amend the Development Code</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the updated <i>Community Forest Management Plan</i>, adopt landscaping maintenance code amendments to support the long-term health of new plantings. Consider the importance of drought-tolerant and native or naturalized species.</li> <li>• Update the City’s tree ordinance to balance forest management, tree conservation, and streamlined interface between private property rights and public safety. Address tree canopy management strategies that streamline the permitting process and promote partnership between residents and the City.</li> <li>• In all code amendments, employ multiple outreach methods and platforms to welcome and facilitate broad participation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Develop Educational Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise and/or develop new educational materials, such as hand-outs or flyers, that describe how individuals can participate in planning and development processes through elected office or volunteer positions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Environmental Planning</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a wildlife incident response plan that incorporates the core values of the City's <i>Wildlife Management Plan</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Urban Tree Canopy and Urban Forest Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include trees in infrastructure and park/open space improvement projects wherever possible. Select preferred varieties that are pest-tolerant, well-adapted, low-maintenance, long-lived, and drought-resistant to ensure greater resilience.</li> <li>• Implement a greater reliance on trees to manage stormwater runoff to reduce flooding and pollutant transport. Identify appropriate areas within the city to plant trees in small groves.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a subarea study on the expansion of commercial and/or mixed-use zoning along SR 104 to promote thriving neighborhood pockets of activity that are not entirely dependent on the Town Center.</li> <li>• Consider expanding commercial zoning along SR 104 to increase the number of business owners that will enhance the quality of life for residents.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Public Parks and Facilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt a policy to require that pervious surfaces and low impact development features be used in park development and restoration.</li> <li>• Implement and monitor the necessary restoration and preservation plans for riparian and sensitive area open spaces in the City's parks.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Public Art</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a <i>Public Arts Plan</i> that includes a list or map of public art. Incorporate maintenance policies and procedures. The selection of public art for display on public property should consider inclusivity to represent a broad range of artists and residents as a criterion.</li> <li>• Adopt the One Percent for Art program.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions for Implementation within the Next 6-10 Years</b>
<b>Economic Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the information developed in the SR-104 subarea study, consider expanding commercial zoning along SR 104 to increase the number of business owners that will enhance the quality of life for residents. Consider the potential benefits of expanded commercial tax base.</li> </ul>

Actions for Implementation within the Next 10-20 Years