

**APPLICATION  
FOR TEXT AMENDMENT  
TO PIERCE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

A Text Amendment is a proposed change or revision to the policies of the Comprehensive Plan text.

Applications will not be accepted in the following community plan areas as they are currently under an update process:

- Frederickson Community Plan
- Mid-County Community Plan
- Parkland-Spanaway-Midland Communities Plan
- South Hill Community Plan

Please refer to the [Community Plans update webpage](#).

**NOTE:** An application must be completed for all proposed amendments, whether initiated by the County Council, County Executive, or a city or town with jurisdiction in Pierce County. No application is considered officially initiated until: 1) the Executive forwards the application to the County Council for inclusion in the Council resolution initiating amendments; 2) a city or town forwards the application to the County Council for inclusion in the Council resolution initiating amendments; or 3) the County Council includes the application in the resolution initiating amendments. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide the completed application and to check on the status of the request. If you want a city or town to initiate an amendment, you need to work directly with the city or town. See the handout [Guidelines for Submitting Applications for Amendments to the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan](#) for additional information.

The deadline to submit an application is 4:00 p.m., **July 31, 2020**. Complete all the blanks in this application form. A letter or report in lieu of this application will not be accepted. However, reports, photos or other materials may be submitted to support your application.

**A \$3,000.00 fee for each Comprehensive Plan amendment is required. Whether a request to initiate an amendment is made to the County Executive or County Council, a non-refundable submittal fee of \$500.00 is required at time of application. If the Council approves to initiate the amendment, the remaining \$2,500.00 fee shall be required within ten (10) working days after the amendment is initiated by the County Council. If an applicant fails to pay the required fee, staff will be unable to proceed with the review of an application(s), and this will result in the expiration and cancellation of an application(s).**

For additional information, contact Pierce County Planning and Public Works, Long Range Planning Division, by phone at (253) 798-3736 or by email at [Jessica.Nappi@piercecountywa.gov](mailto:Jessica.Nappi@piercecountywa.gov).

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**DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:**

1. General description of proposal:

These proposed amendments to the Transportation Element acknowledging the Comprehensive Plan’s land use element’s intent to build communities that can be better served by transit and other non single occupant vehicle travel.

2. Write text as it currently appears in the Comprehensive Plan (include element/chapter and Pierce County Code citation):

The Planning and Public Works Department will submit transportation policy text as found on pages 12-6 to 12-17. There is the possibility that policy text found in other portions of the Comprehensive Plan may also be amended as needed.

3. Write proposed amendment (if new, indicate the proposed location by specifying the document, page number, and location on the page):

To be determined.

4. Why is the text amendment needed and being proposed?

Ordinance No. 2019-67s called for the Planning and Public Works Department to review the transportation and land use policies of the County’s comprehensive plan and develop policy language that “could be effective in improving delivery and access to transit service in the community”.

Attach additional sheets if necessary.

ADDITIONAL PAGE

2021 Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Amendment: Description of Amendment

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3. Write proposed amendment (if new, indicate the proposed location by specifying the document, page number, and location on the page):

*Comprehensive Plan / Capital Facilities Element (pages 3-2 through 3-5 exact location TBD)*

*ADD new goals:*

GOAL CF-# Pierce County should consider locating government services in areas that are served by transit.

GOAL CF-# Encourage locating community facilities and health and human services whenever possible near transit for all to access services conveniently.

*Comprehensive Plan / Economic Development Element / Economic Vitality (page 6-12)*

*ADD new goal:*

GOAL EC-1 Encourage employment growth within designated areas throughout the County.

EC-1.1 Protect existing viable business activities from incompatible neighboring uses.

EC-1.1.1 Recognize the urban or rural context of the area where business development efforts are pursued.

EC-1.2 Create and encourage partnerships between government and business.

EC-1.2.1 Develop coordinated programs that provide a variety of assistance to small businesses.

EC-1.2.2 Develop an inventory of available business assistance programs.

EC-1.2.3 Provide information and technical assistance to aid the retention and expansion of existing business.

EC-1.2.4 Create new mechanisms to fund infrastructure and support commercial and industrial development.

EC-1.2.5 Encourage redevelopment to convert outdated and underutilized land and buildings to high-valued or appropriate land uses, when such ventures provide public benefits.

EC-1.3 Assist businesses with government regulation.

EC-1.4 Consider the cumulative financial impacts on businesses when adopting new regulations, policies, and decision making processes.

EC-1.4.1 Coordinate with other local and regional jurisdictions and organizations to minimize duplication of efforts and maximize resources.

EC-1.5 Expand economic activity and diversify the economic base by encouraging growth opportunities and recruiting new business to the region.

EC-1.5.1 Support the work of the Puget Sound Regional Council's Prosperity Partnership and regional economic development strategy.

EC-1.5.2 Support the work of the Economic Development Board in promoting local industry clusters.

EC-1.6 Support work to enhance the military value of Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

EC-1.7 Encourage programs that support tourism and recreation.

EC-1.7.1 Encourage the development of appropriate facilities for tourist use

EC-1.8 Explore strategies that focus job and employment density in the Urban Growth Area near existing or future transit routes with high frequency service.

EC-1.9 Support opportunities to serve or increase transit service to high-employment commercial and industrial centers within the Urban Growth Area.

**ADDITIONAL PAGE**

**2021 Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Amendment: Description of Amendment**

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*Comprehensive Plan / Housing Element / Affordable Housing (pages 9-12 through 9-14 exact location TBD)*

*ADD new goals:*

**GOAL H-#** Explore strategies that increase housing density and affordable housing opportunities in the Urban Growth Area near existing or future transit routes with high frequency service that could include implementation of transit-supportive zoning, regulations, and incentives.

**GOAL H-#** Periodically review the changing demographics of the County to identify the degree to which the needs of minority and low-income communities are served by transit. The County should participate in review of the transit agencies assessment of the benefits, burdens, and relative impacts of transit plans and projects to help determine whether they will be equitably distributed among underserved and non-underserved persons and communities.

ADDITIONAL PAGE

2021 Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Amendment: Description of Amendment

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*Comprehensive Plan / Transportation Element (page 12-11)*

ADD

*Under TRANSIT*

GOAL T-16 Encourage and cooperate with transit agencies to provide services that meet the needs of residents.

T-16.1 Coordinate with transit agencies to increase the number of routes and frequency, as funding becomes available, especially to underserved areas and designated centers within the unincorporated area.

T-16.2 Work with transit agencies to address first and last mile barriers to transit use and connections to jobs and housing.

GOAL T-# Work with Pierce Transit and Sound Transit to seek opportunities to increase transit service.

GOAL T-# The County and Pierce Transit should periodically assess the County's land use goals, changing demographics, and travel needs of the Urban Growth Area in determining the potential demand for transit services and the need to re-examine the Pierce Transit Benefit Area boundary.

GOAL T-# Explore strategies the County could implement that lead to higher levels of transit service.

These strategies could include:

T-# Working with Pierce Transit and Sound Transit, WSDOT, and other jurisdictions in identifying infrastructure needs of common interest to the broader transit system.

T-# Working with transit agencies to identify and implement transit-supportive design into Pierce County infrastructure, such as well-connected street networks, transit signal priority/preemption, bus bulbs/islands, bus turnouts, and queue jump lanes.

T-# Working with the transit agencies and other stakeholders in identifying appropriate places to locate bicycle lanes and sidewalks that may best serve transit routes.

T-# In areas not well served by fixed route transit, the County should work with partners to develop a range of alternative service options such as community shuttles, real-time rideshare, community vans, and other innovative options.

T-# Encouraging Pierce Transit to explore and implement cost effective transit service to and from existing cities/towns in rural areas.

T-# Exploring partnerships with local railroad operators to provide passenger rail service on existing railways throughout Pierce County.

*Under TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT (page 12-6)*

GOAL T-1 Collaborate in the development of a countywide multimodal transportation system that considers the mobility needs of all residents, emphasizes safety, minimizes impacts to the natural and built environments, and facilitates goods movement.

T-1.1 Strategically expand capacity and increase efficiency of the system to move goods, services, and people to and within the Urban Growth Area.

T-1.2 Focus on investments that produce the highest benefits with the least amount of environmental impacts.

T-1.3 Provide information to users of all modes on the rules of the road.

T-1.4 Support development and implementation of technology innovations in the transit and transportation systems that improve safety, efficiency, system performance and infrastructure return on investment.

**ADDITIONAL PAGE**

**2021 Pierce County Comprehensive Plan Amendment: Description of Amendment**

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*Under TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT (page 12-14)*

GOAL T-28 Encourage alternate travel modes within an efficient multimodal transportation system that reduces and shifts travel demand to improve the flow of people and goods.

GOAL T-28.1 Partner with other agencies to implement travel demand management (TDM) programs.

GOAL T-28.2 Emphasize transportation investments that provide and encourage alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel and increase travel options, especially to and within centers, and along corridors connecting centers.

GOAL T-28.3 Support transit services focusing on transit stations and park and ride lots.