

(DRAFT) AGENDA
Regular Meeting – Bremerton Planning Commission
(Subject to PC approval)
November 20, 2023
5:30 P.M.
345 6th Street, Bremerton
First Floor Chambers

Zoom Meeting Option

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89651517986?pwd=b0dnVVhvSmd5KzFGL0lJS1NwVjJ3dz09>

Webinar ID: 896 5151 7986

Password: 948868

Dial by your location:

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Remote Participation:

To be recognized during Call to the Public
“Raise Your Hand” on Zoom, press *9
on your phone

One tap mobile:

+1 253 215 8782 89651517986# *948868#
US (Tacoma)

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2024

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 16, 2023 meeting

VI. PUBLIC MEETING

A. Call to the Public: Public comments on any item not on tonight’s agenda

B. Workshop:

1. Update on Transportation Element (including draft community survey)
2. Economic Development, Goals & Policies

VII. BUSINESS MEETING

A. Chair Report: Richard Tift

B. Director’s Report: Andrea Spencer

C. Old Business:

D. New Business:

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The next special meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on January 22, 2024.

Planning Commission meeting packets are available on-line at
<http://www.BremertonWA.gov/AgendaCenter/Planning-Commission-4>

DRAFT

CITY OF BREMERTON

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING October 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Tift called the regular meeting of the Bremerton Planning Commission to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present

Chair Tift
Vice Chair Rich
Commissioner Mosiman
Commissioner Pedersen
Commissioner Coviello

Staff Present

Andrea Spencer, Director, Department of Community Development
Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager, Department of Community Development
Christina Raine, Project Assistant, Department of Community Development

Commissioners Excused

Commissioner Wofford

Quorum Confirmed

CHAIR CALL FOR MODIFICATIONS TO AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COMMISSIONER MOSIMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2023, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER COVIELLO SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC MEETING

Call to the Public (public comments on any item not on the agenda)

No comments were made

Workshop (INFORMATION ONLY):

Environmental Chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan for the 2024 Update – A Power Point presentation was provided by Department of Community Development Planning Manager Garrett Jackson.

A Comment from the public in regard to Environmental Chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan for the 2024 Update was provided by Jim Cline.

Workshop (INFORMATION ONLY):

Draft Development Standards for the Downtown Subarea Plan Update – A Power Point presentation was provided by Department of Community Development Planning Manager **Garrett Jackson**.

Comments from the public in regard to Draft Development Standards for the Downtown Subarea Plan Update were provided by **Brandon Bishop, Jim Cline, Nick Knapton, and Phil Babcock**.

Questions and comments were submitted by Planning Commissioners **Coviello, Mosiman, Pedersen, Rich** and **Tift** with responses provided by **Garrett Jackson**, and **Andrea Spencer**

BUSINESS MEETING

Chair Report

Chair Tift reminded everyone that there is a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Commissioner Wofford and Commissioner Coviello will be up for reappointment in November.

Director Report

Director Spencer updated the commission on the comprehensive plan schedule and asked Commissioners to prepare for November elections of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning Commission.

Old Business

Chair Tift highlighted development on Wheaton Way and the Planning Commission’s role in development.

New Business

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectively Submitted by:

Andrea L Spencer, AICP
Executive Secretary

Rick Tift, Chair
Planning Commission

**CITY OF BREMERTON, WASHINGTON
PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

AGENDA TITLE: Workshop for Comprehensive Plan Update: Transportation Element
DEPARTMENT: Community Development
PRESENTED BY: Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager; (360) 473.5289

MEETING PURPOSE

As part of the ongoing 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, this workshop is intended to gather public input on the Transportation chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan. This is the second installment of the Transportation Element series, the first having been introduced in June earlier this year. This workshop will provide a brief update on the Transportation Element, and focus on draft survey questions to later be released to the public.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

“Bremerton2044” is the title of the City of Bremerton’s Comprehensive Plan Update, which focuses on evaluating which aspects of the plan are working and what needs to be adjusted. The update is required by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) in order to demonstrate that Bremerton has the capacity to absorb population and employment increases forecast to the year 2044. Population estimates indicate that the City will grow to 63,757 persons and 58,258 jobs by 2044. As the US Census Bureau estimates that Bremerton’s population was 43,505 with 44,083 jobs in 2020, this means the City is forecast to increase its population by over 46%, with a 32% increase in the number of jobs. The Comprehensive Plan must also be consistent with regional planning goals established in Puget Sound Regional Council’s (PRSC) [Vision 2050](#) and County level planning efforts per the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC) [Countywide Planning Policies](#). The overarching principles and general concepts within the 2016 Comprehensive Plan continue to be applicable, however, some alterations are necessary to reflect changes in State and regional planning standards and to ensure that the document still represents the community.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Staff is requesting the Planning Commission consider public comment received at the Workshop, and provide Staff with direction on the adequacy of the draft survey, and any changes needed prior to making the survey available to the public. The Planning Commission should consider:

- ***Are there important topics missing from this survey?***
- ***Are there any questions that aren’t clear?***

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Draft Survey Questions

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER

Each element of the Comprehensive Plan is accompanied by a *Vision* statement, that is later further broken down into more specific goals and policies. In June of this year, the Planning Commission reviewed the Vision, Goals, and Policies for the Transportation Element; here is [a link to the complete packet](#). While the goals and policies are not a topic of discussion for the Planning Commission at this meeting, they are provided with the packet for reference. The Transportation Element *Vision* reads:

“Bremerton strives to promote, manage, and maintain a safe, efficient, and integrated multi-modal transportation system to support a healthy and vibrant community.”

The *Vision* statement for this element foresees a diversified transportation system that meets the needs of our community. The goals of the Transportation Element section are provided below; the full text of this element is provided with the June 2023 packet.

T1. Promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy.

T2. Acknowledge the existing built environment and maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services.

T3. Provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation users and the transportation system.

T4. Enhance Bremerton's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, healthy communities, aesthetics and protect the environment.

T5. Continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

TRANSPORTATION REVIEW

The [June 26, 2023 Planning Commission Packet](#) relayed that the transportation network in Bremerton is integrated with standards from other jurisdictional transportation authorities, like the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), Peninsula Regional Transportation Organization (PRTO), Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC), Kitsap Transit, Washington State Ferries, and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). Links to each agencies long range plans, and descriptions of how they interact with the City of Bremerton, are provided in the June 2023 packet.

The June packet also described the process that lead to potential transportation projects being implemented. Once a potential transportation improvement is identified, it can be added to the 20-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the CIP is then broken down into Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) which identifies what level of funding each project has received. Once funding has been secured, general CIP projects are further defined through the planning process which includes City staff, City lead Committees (such as the ADA Committee and Complete Streets Committee), industry professionals, and the public. Several examples of transportation studies and projects were provided in the June packet. The [Joint Compatibility Transportation Study \(JCTP\)](#) is an example of a current study being conducted to ensure the shared transportation system in the City meets the needs of both

Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) and the City of Bremerton. Results of the JCTP are scheduled to be presented to the City Council December 6th, interested parties should visit the [City Council webpage](#) as that date approaches for more information. Interested parties can also view the [City Projects Webpage](#) for more information on other pending improvements.

The June packet also provided examples of subjects that City transportation planners will be researching with this Comprehensive Plan update, including, but not limited to:

- High Capacity Transit – The City will be working with transportation planners at Kitsap Transit to better define how High Capacity Transit identified in the [Kitsap Transit Long Range Plan](#) can be integrated into the overall traffic plan for Bremerton.
- Level of Service (LOS) – City Transportation Planners will evaluate whether the current transportation LOS is sufficient. LOS measures how quickly traffic is able to move on Bremerton streets, and how proposed development may have to mitigate for impacts to the adopted LOS. The City will also investigate a potential Level of Stress (LOS) which is related to impacts on nonmotorized modes of transportation.
- Active Transportation Plan – The City will be updating the Nonmotorized Plan, including transitioning the name of the plan to the *Active Transportation Plan*. This plan evaluates potential improvements to nonmotorized transportation like pedestrians and bikes.

TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

This meeting will focus on receiving feedback on the Draft Transportation Survey provided as Exhibit A. Transportation Planners from the Public Works Department will attend the November 20th meeting to provide the Commission with an update on the Transportation Element, and to engage on the draft survey questions. The survey will provide the City with direction from the public on transportation service improvements. This feedback will inform potential updates to the survey, that will later be presented to the Public Works Committee for additional feedback public review. The following are examples of survey questions, provided in their entirety with Exhibit A.

- Overall, how would you rate the transportation system in the city?
Excellent
Good
Fair
Poor
- How would you rate the job the city has done making sure the roadway system has kept up with the rate of development and growth in the city?
Excellent
Good
Fair
Poor
I don't know
- How would you rate the job the city has done addressing the needs of all road users (pedestrians, bicyclists, transit) in the city?
Excellent
Good

Fair
Poor
I don't know

- How much of a problem is traffic congestion where you live or work in Bremerton?

Not at all a problem
Not too serious
Somewhat serious
Very serious

- How would you rate walking conditions in Bremerton?

Excellent
Good
Fair
Poor

I don't walk in Bremerton

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Staff is requesting the Planning Commission consider public comment received at the Workshop, and provide Staff with direction on the adequacy of the draft survey, and any changes needed prior to making the survey available to the public. The Planning Commission should consider:

- ***Are there important topics missing from this survey?***
- ***Are there any questions that aren't clear?***

DRAFT Bremerton Transportation Plan Survey

Introduction:

We want to hear how you travel around Bremerton!

The City of Bremerton is working to update their Transportation Plan, as part of a larger Comprehensive Plan update, to meet the community's future needs. By sharing how you get around Bremerton you will make your voice heard and help improve travel for you and others in the Bremerton area.

This survey is for adults (18+ years) and takes about 10 minutes to complete. After the survey, you can share your name and email address.

Thank you for participating!

Draft Survey Questions

Section 1: Understand community needs and preferences

1. How often do you usually travel to or in Bremerton? [Show map of Bremerton]
 - A. Less than once per month
 - B. 1-3 days per month
 - C. 1-3 days per week
 - D. 4-7 days per week
 - E. I have not traveled to or in Bremerton in the past year

2. What is the purpose of your travel to or in Bremerton during a typical week? Please select all that apply.
 - A. Travel to/ from work
 - B. Non-commute travel for work (e.g., realtors, electricians, truck/bus drivers, etc.)
 - C. Travel to / from school , education, or training for myself
 - D. Travel to / from home
 - E. Get to/from childcare or school for a child
 - F. Get to/ from healthcare visit, medical appointment, or treatment
 - G. Get to/from grocery shopping or getting food
 - H. Get to/ from other errands (bank, post office, airport, etc.)
 - I. Get to/from recreational/ fun activities (shopping, restaurants and bars, etc.)
 - J. Get to/from visiting family or friends
 - K. Other (please tell us more):

3. How do you typically get to work or school?
 - A. Drive alone
 - B. Car pool or van pool
 - C. Taxi or ride-share service (e.g. Uber, Lyft)
 - D. Ride the bus
 - E. Ride the ferry
 - F. Walk or bike

4. [Only seen if participant selects that they travel to/from work] Thinking about your work commute, what time of day do you usually leave to go to your work destination?
 - A. 5:00 am – 9:00 am
 - B. 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
 - C. 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm
 - D. 7:00 pm – midnight
 - E. midnight –5:00 am

5. [Only seen if participant selects that they travel to/from work] Thinking about your work commute, what time of day do you usually leave your work destination?
 - A. 5:00 am – 9:00 am
 - B. 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
 - C. 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm
 - D. 7:00 pm – midnight
 - E. midnight –5:00 am

6. [Only seen if participant selects that they travel to/from work, show map] Please indicate the district number where you usually start your work commute?
 - District 1
 - District 2
 - District 3
 - District 4
 - District 5
 - District 6
 - District 7I commute from outside of Bremerton

7. [Only seen if participant selects that they travel to/from work, show map] Please indicate the district number where your work is located. (if you travel for your work (e.g., realtors,

ATTACHMENT A

electricians, truck drivers, etc.) please use your physical or local office as your work location).

District 1

District 2

District 3

District 4

District 5

District 6

District 7

I work outside of Bremerton

[If select "I work outside of Bremerton"] Where is your primary place of employment located?

Within Kitsap County/other city or town

Outside Kitsap County

8. Thinking about your travel during a typical week, which of the following do you use to travel? Please select all that apply.
- A. Walk, includes using a wheelchair or mobility aid
 - B. Bike, includes e-bike or bike share
 - C. Motorcycle or moped
 - D. Bus
 - E. Vanpool service (a program that provides vans so groups can commute together)
 - F. Take a ferry, please specify destination: _____
 - G. Drive alone
 - H. Drive with friends or family
 - I. Carpool (two or more people sharing a ride to work or school)
 - J. Other, please specify: _____

9. [Based on what folks selected above..] For each travel method that you typically use, indicate which days you use that method.

<i>Travel methods</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	<i>Sun</i>
<i>Walk includes wheelchair or mobility aid</i>	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
<i>Bike, includes e-bike or bike share</i>							
<i>Motorcycle or moped</i>							
<i>Bus</i>							
<i>Vanpool service</i>							

Take a ferry	
Drive with friends or family	
Drive alone	
Carpool	
Other	

Section 2: Improvements

10. [Only those who selected drive alone] What are the top reasons you would drive alone instead of using other travel modes for your travel to or in Bremerton? (Please select up to 3)

- A. Driving alone is my only option
- B. My job requires me to use my car for work
- C. Driving alone is easier or allows for more flexibility
- D. Driving is less stressful
- E. I have to make stops on my way to/from work (such as drop children at day care/school, run errands, family obligations etc.)
- F. Walking or biking isn't safe
- G. Riding public transit isn't safe
- H. Other (please tell us more): _____
- I. Not applicable – I do not have a car or SUV

11. What are the top three things that would motivate you to use public transit more often for travel to or in Bremerton? (Please only select up to 3)

- A. More direct service that does not require transfers (getting to your destination without having to change transport vehicles)
- B. Shorter wait times between transfers
- C. Extended times (e.g., service available earlier or later in the day)
- D. More frequent service
- E. Improved comfort at transit stops (such as shelters and lighting)
- F. Improved safety at transit stops
- G. Express service with fewer stops (a service that stops less frequently and gets you to your destination faster compared to regular service)
- H. Better information on transit routes, schedules, and real-time arrivals
- I. More parking at park and ride lots or transit centers
- J. Reliability and on-time arrivals and departures
- K. Lower cost of transit fares
- L. More routes going more places
- M. Other (please tell us more): _____
- N. I have no interest in using transit

12. What travel methods besides driving alone are you open to using to travel to or in Bremerton? Please select all that apply.
- A. Walk
 - B. Bike, includes e-bike or bike share
 - C. Motorcycle or moped
 - D. Bus
 - E. Vanpool service (a program that provides vans so groups can commute together)
 - F. Take a ferry, please specify destination: _____
 - G. Drive with friends or family
 - H. Carpool (two or more people sharing a ride to work or school)
 - I. None
13. [Based on what folks selected above..] What are the top things that would motivate you to use a vanpool more often for your travel to or in Bremerton? Vanpool is a group of 5-15 commuters who ride to work together in a van provided by a transit agency or employer. (Please only select up to 3)
- 1. Free parking for vanpoolers at my workplace
 - 2. Reserved parking for vanpoolers at my workplace
 - 3. Lower parking rates for vanpoolers at my workplace
 - 4. Free ride home from service provider, taxi, or ride share in case of emergencies
 - 5. Help establishing a vanpool at my workplace
 - 6. Learning more about the vanpool program
 - 7. Lower cost to use vanpool
 - 8. Other (please tell us more): _____
14. [Based on what folks selected above..] What are the top things that would motivate you to carpool more often for your trips to or in Bremerton? (Please select up to 3)
- 1. Free parking for carpoolers at my workplace
 - 2. Lower parking rates for carpoolers at my workplace
 - 3. Free ride home from service provider, taxi, or ride share in in case of emergencies
 - 4. Help creating a carpool (such as a carpool matching service)
 - 5. Other (please tell us more): _____
15. [Based on what folks selected above..] What are the top things that would motivate you to bike more often for your trips to or in Bremerton? (Please select up to 3)
- 1. Improve existing bike lanes (visible paint, reflective cones, freestanding barriers, "one-way" bike lanes, etc.)
 - 2. New bike lanes
 - 3. Add electric signals or signs for bikes

- 4. Increased access to shared bikes for rent through a private company
- 5. Bike lockers and shower facilities at my workplace or transit station
- 6. Other (please tell us more): _____

16. What do you think would reduce congestion in Bremerton? (please select up to 3)

- 1. Add more lanes to roadways
- 2. Add more HOV lanes
- 3. Add more transit-only lanes
- 4. Coordinate traffic signals to improve traffic flow
- 5. More turn lanes at intersections
- 6. More roundabouts
- 7. Provide more bus routes
- 8. Provide more frequent bus routes
- 9. Provide more parking at park-and-rides
- 10. Encourage people to work from home more often Other (please tell us more):

17. What do you think would improve accessibility and mobility in Bremerton? (please select your top 3)

- a. New or improved sidewalks
- b. New or improved bike lanes
- c. Other, please specify: _____

Section 3: Barriers and opinions

18. Overall, how would you rate the current transportation system (describe) in the city?

- A. Excellent
- B. Good
- C. Fair
- D. Poor

19. Overall, how would you rate the conditions of the roadway system (describe) in Bremerton?

- E. Excellent
- F. Good
- G. Fair
- H. Poor

20. Overall, how would you rate the condition of the sidewalks or bike lanes in Bremerton?

- I. Excellent
- J. Good
- K. Fair
- L. Poor

21. How would you rate walking conditions in Bremerton?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

22. How would you rate biking conditions in Bremerton?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

23. How would you rate transit service (Bus, ferry, Vanpool, etc) in Bremerton?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

24. How would you rate road safety in Bremerton?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

25. How often are you able to get to the places you need to go?

- A. Never
- B. Less than half of the time
- C. About half of the time
- D. Over half of the time
- E. All of the time

26. Which of the following services are you unable to reach within a 15-minute walk or 5-minute bike ride from your home?

- A. Daycare or school
- B. Grocery stores
- C. Shopping (clothes, home goods, etc.)
- D. Friends or family
- E. Hospital/medical center or clinic, vet services

- F. Post office/ shipping services (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.)
- G. Bank or ATM
- H. Parks, playgrounds, walking or hiking trails, nature
- I. Public transportation stops, stations or park and ride lots
- J. Restaurants, cafes, bars
- K. Entertainment (Museums, galleries, movie theaters)
- L. Fitness centers, gym
- M. Work

27. In your opinion, what are the top transportation challenges for travelling through and around Bremerton? Select up to 3.

- A. Parking issues
- B. Traffic issues
- C. Pedestrian issues
- D. Biking issues
- E. Transit issues
- F. Other, please specify: _____
- G. I have no transportation concerns

28. [Based on the options they select] What are the main parking issues in Bremerton?

- A. Too expensive
- B. Not enough off-street parking
- C. Not enough on-street parking
- D. Parking is too far away from my destination
- E. Too much parking
- F. Other, please specify: _____

29. What are the main traffic issues in Bremerton?

- A. Speed of traffic
- B. Condition of the roads (pot holes, etc)
- C. Difficult to get around
- D. Progression through traffic signals
- E. Other, please specify

30. What are the main pedestrian issues in Bremerton?

- A. Sidewalk not wide enough
- B. No sidewalks in my area or sidewalks are unusable

- C. Crossing time at signalized intersections
- D. Condition of sidewalks is unsafe (gaps, lips, cracks, slipperiness)
- E. Condition of sidewalks: cleanliness
- F. Conflict with vehicles (speed, traffic volume, etc)
- G. Not enough lighting or visibility
- H. Weather conditions make walking unsafe or unusable
- I. Other, please specify: _____

31. What are the main bicycle issues in Bremerton?

- A. Not enough bicycle lanes
- B. Takes too long to get to where I need to go
- C. Conflict with vehicles (speed, traffic volume, etc)
- D. Poor connection to other areas of Bremerton
- E. Poor pavement condition
- F. Unsafe road conditions (lane gets blocked, cracks, potholes. Etc)
- G. Other, please specify: _____

32. What are the main transit issues in Bremerton?

- A. Service delays or reroutes
- B. Service cancelations
- C. Not reliable
- D. There are no or limited routes/ services where I need to go
- E. Other, please specify

Section 4: Strategies and Priorities

33. What is most important to you as the City of Bremerton plans for a better transportation system?

- a. Increase/improve bus service
- b. Pedestrian Improvements (sidewalks, crosswalks etc.)
- c. Signal light changes/improvements
- d. Road improvements (widening, roundabouts etc.)
- e. Bicycle Transportation Projects
- f. Connectivity Improvement Projects
- g. Improvements/projects to reduce congestion
- h. Speed limits/ reduce speeding traffic
- i. Reduce/curb growth to improve transportation or until transportation infrastructure supports the growth
- j. Other (please tell us more)
- k. None

34. What transportation update goals do you think are the most important to achieve? Select up to 5.
- a. Make it safer and easier to walk to your destination (work, store, school, bus stop etc.)
 - b. Make it safer and easier to walk for recreation, exercise and enjoyment
 - c. Make it safer and easier to bike to your destination (work, store, school, bus stop etc.)
 - d. Make it safer and easier to bike for recreation, exercise and enjoyment
 - e. Make it safer and easier to ride the bus
 - f. Reduce traffic congestion
 - g. Increase traffic safety
 - h. Shorten travel distances between destinations by improving street connectivity (e.g. reducing barricades and adding more through streets) Improve connections between Bremerton and other parts of the region (e.g. improve ferry service, add more transit service)
35. [show only to respondents who supported funding for bike infrastructure improvements above, respondents who bike at least once a week, etc.] Which of the following priorities for bicycle improvements is more favorable to you?
- Signing some roads as bike routes
 - Adding striped shoulders to some roads
 - Adding bicycle only lanes on some roads
 - None of the above

Section 5: Demographics

36. How do you identify? Select all that apply:
- Man
 - Woman
 - Non-binary
 - Gender(s) not listed here
 - Prefer not say

37. How long have you lived in Bremerton:
- Less than 2 years
 - 2 -5 years
 - 6 – 10 years
 - 11 – 20 years
 - 21 -30 years
 - More than 30 years

38. Which of the following best describes you? (select all that apply):

- a. Employed full-time (including self-employed)
- b. Employed part-time (including self-employed)
- c. Unemployed but looking for work
- d. Unemployed but not looking for work
- e. Retired
- f. Student
- g. Caregiver to a relative or loved one
- h. Other (please tell us more):

39. What is your age?

- A. Under 18
- B. 18 – 24
- C. 25 – 34
- D. 35 – 44
- E. 45 – 54
- F. 55 – 64
- G. 65 – 74
- H. 75 or older

40. What was your household's total yearly household income for 2022 before taxes?

- A. Less than \$25,000
- B. \$25,000 to \$49,999
- C. \$50,000 to \$74,999
- D. \$75,000 to \$99,999
- E. \$100,000 to \$149,999
- F. \$150,000 to \$199,999
- G. \$200,000 to \$249,999
- H. \$250,000 or more
- I. Prefer not say

41. How do you identify? Please select all that apply.

- A. American Indian or Alaska Native
- B. Asian or Asian American
- C. Black or African American
- D. Middle Eastern or North African
- E. Hispanic or Latina/o/x
- F. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- G. White
- H. Other race(s), please specify: _____
- I. Prefer not to say

**CITY OF BREMERTON, WASHINGTON
PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

AGENDA TITLE: Workshop for Comprehensive Plan Update: Economic Development
DEPARTMENT: Community Development
PRESENTED BY: Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager; (360) 473.5289

MEETING PURPOSE

As part of the ongoing 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, this workshop is intended to gather public input on the Environmental chapter of the City's Comprehensive Plan. This is the second installment of the Environmental Element series, the first having been introduced in May earlier this year. The earlier version in this series focused largely on climate change; this workshop will provide an overview of regulated critical areas in Bremerton.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

“Bremerton2044” is the title of the City of Bremerton’s Comprehensive Plan Update, which focuses on evaluating which aspects of the plan are working and what needs to be adjusted. The update is required by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) in order to demonstrate that Bremerton has the capacity to absorb population and employment increases forecast to the year 2044. Population estimates indicate that the City will grow to 63,757 persons and 58,258 jobs by 2044. As the US Census Bureau estimates that Bremerton’s population was 43,505 with 44,083 jobs in 2020, this means the City is forecast to increase its population by over 46%, with a 32% increase in the number of jobs. The Comprehensive Plan must also be consistent with regional planning goals established in Puget Sound Regional Council’s (PRSC) [Vision 2050](#) and County level planning efforts per the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC) [Countywide Planning Policies](#). The overarching principles and general concepts within the 2016 Comprehensive Plan continue to be applicable, however, some alterations are necessary to reflect changes in State and regional planning standards and to ensure that the document still represents the community.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

This workshop is primarily intended for educational purposes and as an opportunity for the Planning Commission to receive comments from the public regarding the Economic Development Element of the City Comprehensive Plan and provide direction to staff for any desired modifications to the vision, goals and policies. The Planning Commission should review the provided materials and be prepared to offer comments to Staff on any areas of interest.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Economic Development Draft Goals & Policies

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAPTER

Each element of the Comprehensive Plan is accompanied by a Vision statement, that is later further broken down into more specific goals and policies. The Planning Commission has reviewed all other visions, goals, and policies for each other Element of the Comprehensive Plan; the Economic Development Element is the last set of goals and policies for review. The Economic Development Element Vision reads:

“As the only Metropolitan City within Kitsap County, Bremerton expects to substantially expand employment and job variety over the next 20 years to support a growing economy and lifestyle diversity within the region.”

The Puget Sound Regional Council document *Vision 2050* relays that Bremerton is 1 of 5 total Metropolitan Cities within the Puget Sound that are planned to be the most intensely urban places in the region. Accordingly, development policies within Bremerton must be framed to ensure the City can accommodate the growth associated with Metropolitan cities. The *Vision* statement for this element foresees an expansion in overall employment as well as diversification in employment types to support the varied population. The goals of the Economic Development section are provided below; the full draft goals and polices for this element are provided as Attachment A.

ED1. Support expansion of commerce by diversifying and expanding Bremerton’s commercial base.

ED2. Revitalize Bremerton’s commercial districts by upgrading and enhancing the aesthetic quality of existing buildings and street frontages.

ED3. Facilitate physical improvements to commercial districts through tax incentives, intergovernmental programs, and private-public partnerships.

ED4. Recognize the relationship between transportation and economic development by working collaboratively with other governmental agencies to improve multi-modal transportation options and routes.

ED5. Advance efforts to establish a regional perception of Bremerton as a welcoming, attractive and business friendly City.

The Planning Commission should review the provided materials in Attachment A and be prepared to offer comments to Staff on any areas of interest.

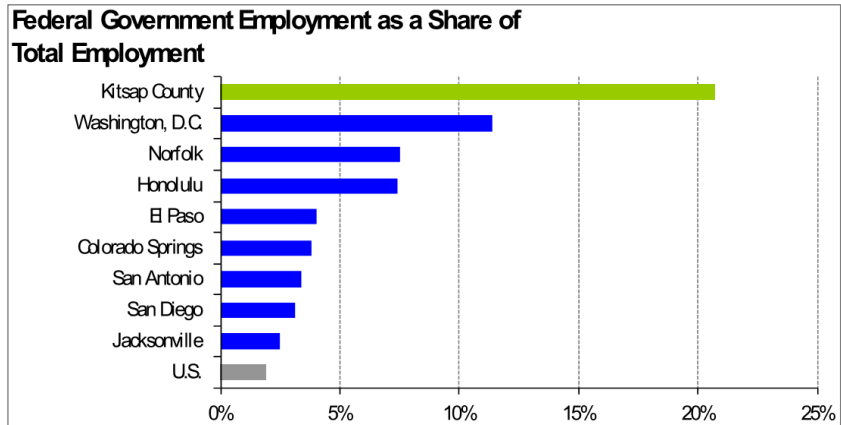
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, REVIEW

The Planning Commission has discussed Economic Development at two prior workshops. Provided here are links to the [May 16, 2022 Planning Commission Packet](#) and [November 21, 2022 Planning Commission Packet](#) where additional detail is given. Information provided in those packets was sourced from the US Census, January 2021 US Department of Housing & Urban Development market analysis, February 2022 O’Connor Consulting Group market analysis, May 2022 Rosen Consulting Group market analysis, Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), and other sources. The following provides key take aways from those workshops:

- Metropolitan Regional Center - Each County within PSRC jurisdiction has at least one Metropolitan City; the City of Bremerton is one of five total Metropolitan Cities identified in Vision 2050 to support intense urbanized areas capable of absorbing the majority of

forecasted population increases in Puget Sound. Collectively, Metropolitan Cities are projected to absorb 36% of all population growth, and 44% of employment growth.

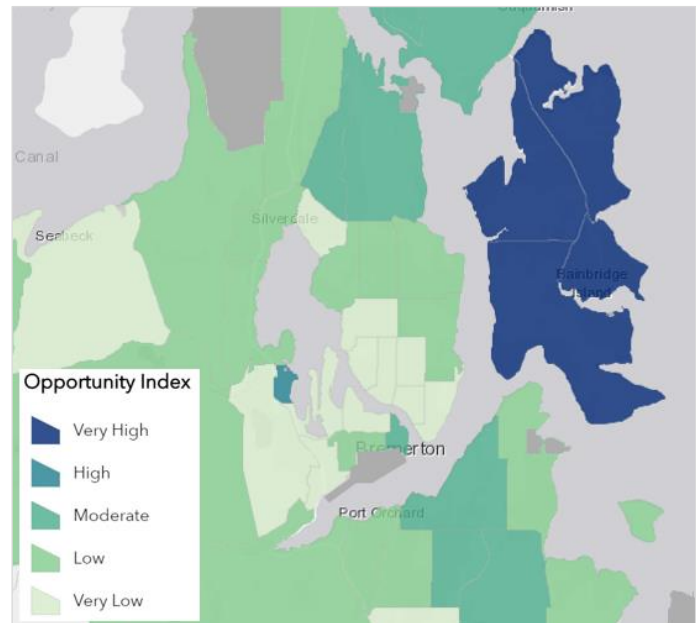
- Federal Employment – An overriding theme of the collected economic data, is the importance of the Federal government to the local economy. Interestingly, even among peer communities with similar federal employment, Kitsap’s ratio of federal employment is unmatched.



The federal government makes up 23% of all employment in Kitsap County; with all government sector jobs taking up a total of 37% of all jobs in the County. Data indicates that upwards of 54% of all economic activity in Kitsap County originates from Naval Base Kitsap and defense spending. This somewhat insulates the local economy from the large dips experienced in the economy that have occurred as a result of the Great Recession and Covid pandemic. Kitsap is home to approximately 16,200 military personnel and 15,000 dependents; 75% of military personnel reside in private, off-base housing.

- Housing Solutions - Recommendations from private reporting encourage jurisdictions to attempt to grow the housing supply by expediting the permitting process, increasing allowed densities, and allowing for additional housing types in zones that have traditionally been dedicated to single-family homes.

- Local Opportunity - While economic conditions in Bremerton have improved since the last Comprehensive Plan update, opportunity for Bremerton residents still lags behind all other jurisdictions in Kitsap County. The adjacent image illustrates an *Opportunity Index* provided by the Puget Sound Regional Council. This map indicates that Bremerton has the most concentrated lack of overall opportunity available throughout all of Kitsap County. These data represents a comprehensive index of indicators grouped into five key elements: education, economic health, housing and neighborhood quality, mobility and transportation, and health and environment. A fuller description of these elements is available through the [Opportunity Mapping Report](#). The [US Census](#) indicates that 14.8%



of Bremerton residents live in poverty, as opposed to 8.3% of Kitsap County residents live in poverty.

As relayed at the November 2022 workshop, outreach efforts have previously been made to the Charleston Business Association, Greater Kitsap Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Business Association, and Manette Business Association to encourage involvement with the Comprehensive Plan update. Additional outreach is planned to provide an update on the most current Comprehensive Plan information available.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

This workshop is primarily intended for educational purposes and as an opportunity for the Planning Commission to receive comments from the public regarding the Economic Development Element of the City Comprehensive Plan and provide direction to staff for any desired modifications to the vision, goals and policies. The Planning Commission should review the provided materials and be prepared to offer comments to Staff on any areas of interest.

Vision

As the only Metropolitan City within Kitsap County, Bremerton expects to substantially expand employment and job variety over the next 20 years to support a growing economy and lifestyle diversity within the region.

Goals & Policies

The following goals and policies form the foundation of Bremerton’s economic development strategy for the future. These goals and policies are to support the overall economic development vision stated above.

ED1. Support expansion of commerce by diversifying and expanding Bremerton’s commercial base.

ED2. Revitalize Bremerton’s commercial districts by upgrading and enhancing the aesthetic quality of existing buildings and street frontages.

ED3. Facilitate physical improvements to commercial districts through tax incentives, intergovernmental programs, and private-public partnerships.

ED4. Recognize the relationship between transportation and economic development by working collaboratively with other governmental agencies to improve multi-modal transportation options and routes.

ED5. Advance efforts to establish a regional perception of Bremerton as a welcoming, attractive and business friendly City.

Economic Development Policies

Goal ED1. Support expansion of commerce by diversifying and expanding Bremerton’s commercial base.

Implementing Policies for Goal ED1:

ED1(A): Attract new employment opportunities throughout the city by utilizing incentives for redevelopment of underutilized sites, such as encouraging adaptive re-use of existing commercial buildings.

ED1(B): Increase market elasticity and diversity of businesses by supporting a wide variety of commercial uses within the designated mixed-use Centers throughout the City. Support efforts to retain and expand industry clusters that manufacture goods and provide services for export, such as at Puget Sound Industrial Center.

STAFF NOTE: Proposed changes consistent with PSRC Vision 2050.

ATTACHMENT A

City of Bremerton 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update
Draft Economic Development Goals and Policies | November 2023

~~Strikeout~~ and Underline = Staff Recommended Amendments

ED1(C): Entice development of start-up and small businesses by supporting home occupation businesses, incubator businesses, and mobile vendors. Educate property owners in development options and interests.

ED1(D): Encourage retention and recruitment efforts to foster a positive business climate throughout the city and diversify employment opportunities. Specific areas to support:

- *Businesses that provide living wage jobs*
- *Local women and minority-owned small businesses and start-up companies*
- *Established and emerging industries, technologies, and services that promote environmental sustainability, especially those addressing climate change and resilience and improved health outcomes.*

STAFF NOTE: Proposed changes consistent with PSRC Vision 2050.

ED1(E): Support a range of employment opportunities to create a closer balance between jobs and housing.

STAFF NOTE: Proposed changes consistent with PSRC Vision 2050.

ED1(~~DF~~): Actively seek living wage jobs that benefit a broad cross-section of residents and encourage educational opportunities such as higher education and workforce training programs.

ED1(~~EG~~): Support and encourage annexations when appropriate. Continue to monitor land supply and availability for development sites throughout the city.

ED1(~~FH~~): Continue the important efforts that the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to access federal block grant programs and funding to address a wide range of community development needs, including expanding economic opportunities, and providing a suitable living environment and decent housing--principally for our low- and moderate-income community members. As funding is limited, the City should encourage leveraging the minimal public funding available for projects that require additional private investments and commitments.

Goal ED2. Revitalize Bremerton's commercial districts by upgrading and enhancing the aesthetic quality of existing buildings and street frontages.

Implementing Policies for Goal ED2:

ED2(A): Encourage upgrades and rehabilitation of existing commercial developments through a wide variety of means, including but not limited to:

- *Promote decorative street lighting, window displays, increased security, and pedestrian public amenities (trash cans, benches, etc.).*
- *Consider recognition, preservation, and repair of historic storefronts and signage such as McGavin's Bakery that emphasize quintessential elements from our past in areas such as Downtown, Manette, and Charleston.*

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- *Investigate outdated and obsolete elements of building frontages such as façade treatment and signage. Encourage maintenance, repair, and enhancement focusing on pedestrian scale enhancements.*

ED2(B): Ensure new development promotes street level activation to encourage walkability and social interaction through site and façade design, including but not limited to the following:

- *Design standards should be required for new commercial structures, especially in Centers, that ensure buildings and site layouts are designed with a focus on pedestrian scale such as intersection anchoring, strategically locating parking to the rear of structures, recognizable access ways, promotion of weather protection etc.*
- *Promote the use of the design review board to ensure aesthetic quality, pedestrian scale of new buildings, and flexibility of development standards within the Downtown Regional Center for both new construction and substantial remodel of existing structures.*

Goal ED3. Facilitate physical improvements to commercial districts through tax incentives, intergovernmental programs, and private-public partnerships.

Implementing Policies for Goal ED3:

ED3(A): Pursue regional and state investment interests through lobbying and relationship-building, highlighting Bremerton as a stable, appealing community committed to partnerships and collaboration.

ED3(B): Encourage rehabilitation programs, grant funding, and Local Improvement Districts for clean-up/repair of existing structures and infrastructure improvements especially in designated mixed use centers.

ED3(C): Pursue state legislation, programs, and tax strategies to aid business districts in attracting and retaining a diverse commercial base. Expand existing strategies such as the Multi-Family Tax Exemption and the Empowerment Zone citywide as appropriate.

Goal ED4. Recognize the relationship between transportation and economic development by working collaboratively with other governmental agencies to improve multi-modal transportation options and routes.

Implementing Policies for Goal ED4:

ED4(A): Pursue alternative transportation monies, including federal dollars typically spent on the interstate system, for fast-ferry research and other multi-modal investments and improvements.

ED4(B): Ensure access to commerce by focusing commercial development along existing transportation corridors. Support expansion of transportation systems and facilities to improve

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access to the Bremerton National Airport, the Naval Base Kitsap, Downtown, and the designated District Centers.

ED4(C): Work with Kitsap Transit to enhance access to commerce during standard business hours, nights, and weekends.

ED4(D): Coordinate with the Naval Base Kitsap and the Washington State Ferry Service to work towards reducing parking demands and traffic influxes from commuter and shipyard workers on City streets. Continue to limit surface parking as it does not promote economic development of the City.

Goal ED5. Advance efforts to establish a regional perception of Bremerton as a welcoming, attractive and business friendly City.

Implementing Policies for Goal ED5:

ED5(A): Evaluate and work towards efficiency and effectiveness of all permit processes to ensure requirements and timelines are predictable. Encourage City Departments and Staff to provide condensed development guides to applicants that help identify code requirements.

ED5(B): Encourage a wide variety of marketing and tourism efforts that provide a welcoming sense such as:

- *Supporting the installation of way-finding signs to business districts, parks, and regional attractions within the City.*
- *Partner with private and public agencies to publicize community services and amenities.*
- *Support efforts of local business and associations to attract new business and visitors from outside the City.*
- *Support tourist attractions and amenities, by advocating for enhanced and regular ferry service between Bremerton and Seattle.*

ED5(C): Encourage community engagement and civic activities within Centers by promoting recreational activities and community events as these activities tend to enhance a sense of community and support local commerce.

ED5(D): The City should pursue access to funding opportunities for distressed areas and disadvantaged populations. This can include coordinating with a local organizations or financial institutions to seek other funding possibilities such as the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) to provide opportunities to disadvantage populations within the City.

ED5(E): Identify potential physical, economic, and cultural displacement of existing businesses that may result from redevelopment and market pressure. Identify a range of strategies to mitigate displacements to the extent possible.

STAFF NOTE: Proposed changes consistent with PSRC Vision 2050

ATTACHMENT A

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ED5(F): Promote strategies and policies that expand access to opportunity and remove barriers for economically disconnected areas within the city.

STAFF NOTE: Proposed changes consistent with PSRC Vision 2050

ED5(G): Support, recognize and enhance the contributions of the city's culturally and ethnically diverse communities, institutions, and Native Tribes.

STAFF NOTE: Proposed changes consistent with PSRC Vision 2050