Everett Comprehensive Plan – Climate Change

Land Use Element

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4867

Policy 2.16.1 Support standards and regulations that protect public health, improve air quality, improve visibility and address climate change.

Housing Element

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4868

III. Inventory and Analysis of Existing and Projected Housing Needs

C. Projected Housing Needs

14. Increasing political awareness and knowledge of the impacts of the built environment on greenhouse gas emissions and climate change could result in additional regulations that require new and renovated housing to be carbon neutral.

Transportation Element

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4860

Section 1: Introduction

ROLE OF THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

The Transportation Element serves both as a functional plan to guide the City' s transportation investments and as a required element addressing the overarching framework for transportation in Everett' s Comprehensive Plan. The document also ensures coordination with the other elements of the City' s Comprehensive Plan, including the Land Use and Climate Change Elements, and other major planning efforts, such as the Bicycle Master Plan.

Capital Facilities Element

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4861

I. Introduction

F. Climate Change

Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants, and addressing climate change are included in the overarching goals of the Puget Sound Regional Council' s (PSRC) Vision 2040. Global climate change presents a clear and compelling threat to our environment, our economy, and our future. Everett joined the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) in 2007 and began its GHG emissions inventory for municipal operations, which was presented to City Council in 2008. In 2010 the City of Everett retained ICLEI to update the GHG inventory and prepare the City of Everett Climate Action Plan for Municipal Operations, which was completed in 2011. The Plan reviewed actions the City had already taken to reduce GHG emissions, and identified programs and policies to further reduce GHG

emissions from municipal operations. The City has also addressed the impacts of climate change in the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plans, the Surface Water Comprehensive Plan, and the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Goal 6.5 Climate Change / Sustainablity Support actions to reduce GHG emissions and promote sustainability in the design, construction, and operation of capital facilities. Objective 6. 5. 1 To continue to reduce GHG emissions from municipal operations and to strengthen the community' s resilience and increase its adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change.

Policy 6.5.1 The City should encourage the reduction of GHG emissions through waste reduction, recycling, and composting both community -wide and in municipal operations.

Policy 6.5.6 Evaluate the impacts of climate change on consumption by humans, agriculture and natural resources - fisheries and in -stream flows, and the potential challenges and opportunities for new markets for the sale of water.

Policy 6.5.9 Implement cost- effective retrofits of City facilities to reduce GHG emissions.

Implementation
10. Continue to update the City' s evaluations regarding the impacts of climate change as new information is available and the Comprehensive Water, Sewer, and Surface Water Plans and the Hazard Mitigation Plans are updated.

14. Expand precipitation monitoring and evaluation capabilities to enhance understanding of neighborhood -scale climate impacts.

Economic Development Element

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4862

I. Sustainable Development
This plan update addresses sustainable development in the Climate Change and Sustainability Element as well as throughout the various elements.

Policy 7.1.4 Actively attract new business / manufacturing sectors that include technologies and products that will be needed on a global basis to reduce greenhouse gases and the impacts of climate change, including, but not limited to, clean fuel production and carbon sequestration. Encourage training programs related to these technologies.

Climate Change and Sustainability Element (Ordinance 3454-15)

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4862

A Climate Change and Sustainability Background Report prepared for the Comprehensive Plan update provides the basis for the goals and policies in this element. It is available at https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2756. The report includes excerpts from recent reports addressing climate change; describes actions the City, other local jurisdictions, the state, and others have taken to address climate change; and includes the regional and countywide policies related to climate change. See this document for more information about existing adopted policies / plans that address climate change impacts and adaptation, including but not limited to the City of Everett Hazard Mitigation Plan, Comprehensive Water Plan, Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Surface Water Comprehensive Plan, and Ordinance No. 2995-07 Adopting a Sustainable Building and Infrastructure Policy.

This element addresses actions the City can take to plan for climate change, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Note that the federal and state governments have the potential to have a much greater impact with adoption of tools such as emissions taxes, cap and trade programs, and vehicle fuel economy standards.

Everett's greatest impact on emissions reductions will likely be through promoting a dense, compact land use pattern with mixed-uses that support walking, bicycling, and transit use with open space conservation. Compact land use patterns have great potential to reduce GHG emissions related to vehicles and building energy use. The Land Use and Transportation Elements of the Comprehensive Plan set the stage for this vision by directing new development to centers and arterial corridors served by transit, promoting a balanced multi-modal transportation system, and reducing the need to travel by car. In order to achieve the desired land use pattern, the City must compete with other less dense communities and areas closer to Seattle to attract people of all ages to live here. The goals, objectives, and policies in other Elements of the Comprehensive Plan are key to creating a community where people want to live, work and play. Examples include the Urban Design and Historic Preservation Element (preserving historic structures and creating a vibrant, livable community), the Parks Element, and the Economic Development Element (economic health and quality of life policies).

Goals, objectives and policies that specifically address climate change and sustainability are located throughout other elements. For example the Land Use Element contains policies protecting critical areas and air quality, encouraging clean up and redevelopment of brownfields sites, and providing access to healthy food. The Capital Facilities and Utilities Element contains policies for water and energy conservation, solid waste reduction, upgrading the stormwater and combined sewer systems to accommodate increased flows from more frequent extreme storm events, and the use of green stormwater infrastructure to reduce flows and support, enhance and restore natural habitats.

Many of the actions identified in this element benefit multiple city goals. For example, trees, vegetation, and green roofs can reduce heating and cooling energy use and associated air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, remove air pollutants, sequester and store carbon, help lower the risk of heat-related illnesses and deaths, improve stormwater control and water quality, reduce noise levels,

create habitats, improve aesthetic qualities, and increase property values.[1]

Comprehensive Plan Climate Change & Sustainability Element Background Report

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2756
January 2015

Everett Bicycle Master Plan

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/6461

Metro Everett Plan, Draft

Environment-Parks-Open Space Chapter (8-2-17 draft)
Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/documentcenter/view/11682

EPO-8: The city should support, and take the lead where appropriate, to add ***electric vehicle charging stations***. Stations should be located in public places, such as Everett Station and City Hall, and integrated into parking garages as standard practice for new development.

EPO-11: The city should provide incentives to make ***buildings energy efficient***. In particular, the city should encourage the reduction of direct natural gas use for heating and promote installation of solar panels for electricity.

Transportation Chapter (7-24-17 draft)
Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11373

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) refers to strategies aimed at increasing the efficient use of transportation systems. Benefits of TDM include reduction in road and parking congestion, pollution reduction, increase in transit ridership and efficient land use. Given the cost of parking development and the limited land available, the following strategies can be used to influence travel decisions:

- Ride sharing
- Ride home programs
- Telecommuting and flex work hours
- Parking management (pricing)
- Financial incentives (e.g. free or reduced bus fares)
- Pedestrian and bicycle support (e.g., bike parking, showers, lockers, safe walking paths)
- Marketing of program

[1] Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Website on Urban Heat Islands.

T-13: ***TDM measures*** should be required for development receiving reduced transportation impact fees and/or parking reductions.

Urban Carbon Reduction Strategies and Wedge Analysis

Online Link: https://everettwa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12206

III. Priority Recommendations

Because Snohomish PUD provides low-carbon electricity (81% hydropower as of 2014), Everett's carbon dioxide emissions primarily derive from transportation and direct natural gas use for heating. As a result, Everett could consider the following as top priorities for reduction:

1. Embracing cleaner vehicles and lower carbon fuels for transport
2. Reducing vehicle miles traveled
3. Reducing direct natural gas use for heating through energy conservation and building efficiency