

## CPA #2009-T-02 COMMUNITY PLANNING ELEMENT

Initiated by: City of Renton

Applicant: City of Renton

### General Description

This proposal aims to amend the Community Planning Element, which was adopted into the Comprehensive Plan in 2008. Policies will be added to guide the public participation process. The current Community Planning Areas Map will be replaced with a specific map showing the boundaries of each Community Planning Area.

### Text Amendment

A number of small changes are proposed to be made to the text that do not detract from the overall policy direction established by the element when it was created in 2008. Replacement of the concept Community Planning Areas Map with a more specific map showing the boundaries of each Community Planning Area is also proposed. A policy specifically on public participation should be added. It reads:

*Community Plans will include public outreach in a variety of formats, which may include, but is not limited to: community workshops, City-sponsored open house events, Commission and Council meetings, and integration into other community events.*

### Impact Analysis

#### Effect on rate of growth, development, and conversion of land as envisioned in the Plan

This amendment will not affect the rate of growth, development, and conversion of land as envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan. This amendment will establish a public participation process and Community Planning Areas, which have no impacts in this area. Community Planning, in general, is intended to support the policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

#### Effect on the City's capacity to provide adequate public facilities

This amendment will not affect the City's capacity to provide adequate public facilities. This amendment will establish a public participation process and Community Planning Areas, which have no impacts in this area. Community Planning, in general, is intended to make the provision of adequate public facilities even more efficient and tied to community needs.

#### Effect on the rate of population and employment growth

This amendment will not affect the rate of population and employment growth. This amendment will establish a public participation process and Community Planning Areas, which have no impacts in this area. Community Planning, in general, is intended to support Comprehensive Plan policies for managing and encouraging growth.

#### Whether Plan objectives are being met as specified or remain valid and desirable

Further amendment of the Community Planning Element is consistent with the existing objectives of the Element: to implement the goals of the City and the Growth Management Act (GMA) (see discussion on "Consistency with GMA, the Plan, and Countywide Planning Policies" below), to foster community character and identity, and to ensure consistency with the

Comprehensive Plan. Adding policies on public participation and refining the Community Planning Areas Map furthers and enhances the objectives of the Community Planning Element.

Effect on general land values or housing costs

This amendment will not affect general land values or housing costs. This amendment will establish a public participation process and Community Planning Areas, which have no impacts in this area.

Whether capital improvements or expenditures are being made or completed as expected

Not applicable.

Consistency with GMA, the Plan, and Countywide Planning Policies

The proposal is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan because it supports the idea in the Vision that the quality of life and sense of community in Renton can be enhanced through neighborhoods meeting and working together to make their portion of the City more attractive and functional. It is also consistent with the existing objectives of the Community Planning Element (as discussed above in "Whether Plan objectives are being met as specified or remain valid and desirable). This statement in Renton's Vision also builds from the GMA goal of public participation because it supports the idea of citizen involvement and coordination in planning processes.

Countywide Planning Policies are not applicable to this amendment.

Effect on critical areas and natural resource lands

Not applicable.

Effect on other considerations

Not applicable.

**Review Criteria**

RMC 4-9-020G states that the proposal shall demonstrate that the requested amendment is timely and meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. The request supports the Vision embodied in the Comprehensive Plan, or
2. The request supports the adopted business plan goals established by the City Council, or
3. The request eliminates conflicts with existing elements or policies, or
4. The request amends the Comprehensive Plan to accommodate new policy directives of the City Council.

This amendment meets Criteria #1 and #2. As discussed in "Consistency with GMA, the Plan, and Countywide Planning Policies" (above), this amendment supports the Vision in the Comprehensive Plan. Similarly, this amendment supports the 2009-2014 Business Plan Goal to promote strong neighborhoods by supporting the vitality and appearance of neighborhoods through community involvement.

**Staff Recommendation**

Amend the Community Planning Element to update the Community Planning Area Map and add policies on public outreach and participation.

**Implementation Requirements**

Not applicable.