



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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www.commerce.wa.gov

February 7, 2025

Chris Jensen
King County
35030 SE Douglas Street Suite 210
Seattle, WA 98065

Re: King County's progress toward completing its 2024 Periodic Update

Dear Chris:

Thank you for submitting a Notice of Final Adoption for King County comprehensive plan to the Washington State Department of Commerce Growth Management Services Unit (Commerce) as part of your 2024 periodic update. We recognize the substantial investment of time, energy, and resources that this represents, and we congratulate you for completing this process as part of your comprehensive plan review and update required under the Growth Management Act (GMA), RCW 36.70A.130¹⁶³.

Next Steps to Complete the Periodic Update

RCW 36.70A.130 requires that counties and cities take action to review and revise, if necessary, update their comprehensive plans and development regulations, and critical areas ordinances, every ten-years. At this time, our records indicate King County still needs to finalize the review and update of its development regulations and critical areas ordinance. As a result, King County will be listed as "Overdue" on the Growth Management Progress Report [status list](#) until its development regulations and critical areas ordinance are adopted as part of the 2024 periodic update.

If you are able to adopt your overdue development regulations before December 31, 2025, then your community may be eligible for grants and loans that require GMA compliance, which may also make you eligible to adopt your critical areas ordinance on or before December 31, 2025, under the substantial progress exception¹⁶⁴. Please contact your regional planner for additional information.

Please note that with exception to development regulations for accessory dwelling units¹⁶⁵, middle housing¹⁶⁶ (applicable to [cities listed here](#)), and design review¹⁶⁷, which must be adopted

¹⁶³ [RCW 36.70a.130: Comprehensive plans—Review procedures and schedules—Implementation progress report.](#)

¹⁶⁴ [RCW 36.70A.130\(7\)\(b\)](#)

¹⁶⁵ [Engrossed House Bill 1337](#) (Chapter 334, Laws of 2023)

¹⁶⁶ [Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1110](#) (Chapter 332, Laws of 2023)

¹⁶⁷ [Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1293](#) (Chapter 333, Laws of 2023)

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on or before June 30, 2025¹⁶⁸, **all other development regulation amendments for the 2024 periodic update were due December 31, 2024.**

Finalizing the Periodic Update Process

Commerce recommends that your final legislative action documents the entire review process and declares that the periodic update required in RCW 36.70A.130(1) is complete. **Your final action of the periodic update process (resolution or ordinance) should include a declaration stating that the jurisdiction has completed all requirements of the update under RCW 36.70A.130.** When you have taken final action, we will send you a congratulatory letter to acknowledge completion of the process. Your regional planner may contact you, if necessary, for further clarification or interpretation. However, **a cover letter informing us that your process is complete will aid us in documenting your update status.** The Commerce [Periodic Update](#) webpage contains various resources related to periodic updates and as well as [example plans, ordinances, and resolutions for your reference.](#)

Upon completion, please send a signed and dated copy of the adopted ordinance(s) or resolution(s) to Commerce, and notify the department that the update is complete (see info about [submitting documents to the state](#)). Following this process will ensure that we update our records to indicate whether your community is eligible for grants and loans that require GMA compliance.

Congratulations to you, your planning commission, staff, and involved citizens for the good work represented by adopting your comprehensive plan. If you have any questions or concerns, and/or require technical assistance, please contact Jeff Aken at (360) 725-2869 or jeff.aken@commerce.wa.gov. We extend our continued support to King County in achieving the goals of growth management.

Sincerely,



David Andersen, AICP
Managing Director
Growth Management Services

:SVEL

cc: Jeff Aken, Senior Planner, Growth Management Services
Valerie Smith, AICP, Deputy Managing Director, Growth Management Services
Ben Serr, AICP, Eastern Regional Manager, Growth Management Services
Carol Holman, MUP, Western Regional Manager, Growth Management Services
Anne Fritzell, AICP, Housing Section Manager, Growth Management Services

¹⁶⁸ See Commerce's [fact sheet about preemptive state laws for infill housing](#).