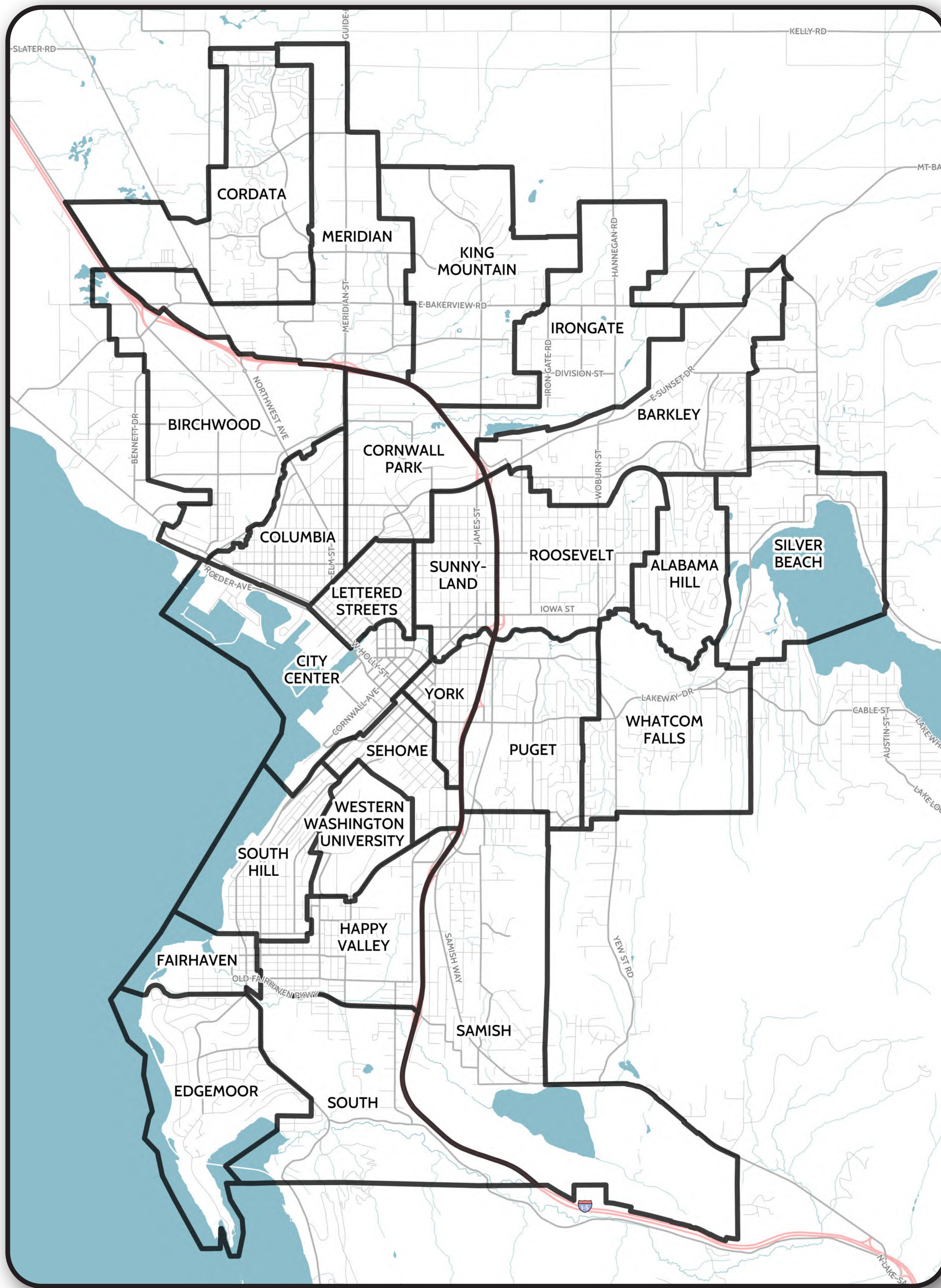


WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

Put a dot in your neighborhood to let us know who we are reaching.



I don't live in Bellingham but I...

Work in Bellingham

Visit Bellingham

UPCOMING EVENTS

In 2024

MARCH Vibrant, Equitable and Welcoming Community

6



This session explores the importance of cultivating a vibrant, equitable, safe, and welcoming community. Join us to discuss how the Bellingham Plan can support the well-being of all who live, work, attend school in, or visit our community.

APRIL Housing Affordability

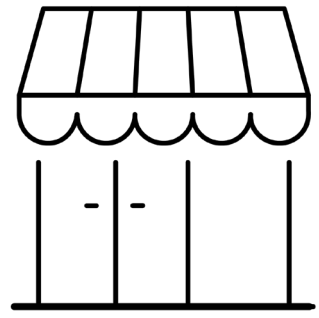
16



Housing affordability was the top issue identified by the community at the start of the Bellingham Plan project. This session will explore where gaps in the housing spectrum exist today and how local government can address those gaps with new housing types, programs, and approaches. The later Housing Types & Neighborhoods session will continue to expand on this topic.

MAY Economic Vitality

15



The Bellingham Plan includes strategies to support a strong and diverse local economy. This session will focus on how remote work, new technology, new businesses and other factors are changing the economic landscape, including the types of jobs and wages available here, and how Bellingham can adapt to maintain a resilient and sustainable workforce.

JUNE Housing types and Neighborhoods

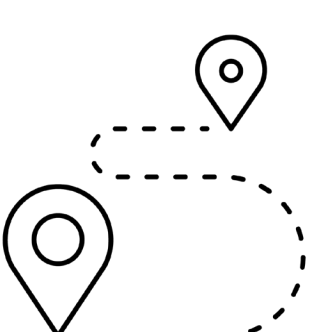
4



The Bellingham Plan prioritizes housing for everyone in our community. To support these needs and new state requirements, our housing regulations must adapt and change. This session will delve into what design considerations are most important as we plan for new housing types across all of our unique neighborhoods.

JULY How We Grow

17



Some of the best things about Bellingham are the result of intentional choices made by our community in the past. As we update the Bellingham Plan, we must choose how to balance immediate concerns, such as public safety and housing affordability with long-term goals like developing regional transportation options and adapting to climate change. This session will focus on how themes from previous discussions relate and connect with each other in an overall growth strategy for 2045.

Register for these events



To learn more visit cob.org/bellinghamplan

PHASE 1 RECAP

2023 Activities Summary

Tabling Events



Downtown Sounds
 Elizabeth Park & Boulevard Park Summer Concerts
 NW Tune-Up Bike Festival
 Birchwood International Market
 Downtown Sounds
 Noisy Waters Festival
 Bellingham Farmers Market
 Bellingham Farmers Market
 Bellingham Farmers Market
 Whatcom Housing Week
 SeaFeast Festival

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Sunrise Rotary

Public Meeting (Virtual)

Public Open House at Options High School

WWU Urban Planning Club

Rotary Club "Future Bellingham" Presentation

Association of WA Realtors

Birchwood Elementary School

WWU Open House in Viking Union

Buiding Idusry Association

Future Problem Solvers (7th & 8th graders at Fairhaven Middle School)

Bellingham High School Civics Classes

Sunnyland NH Association

Presentations & Open Houses



SURVEYS & ONLINE ACTIVITIES

- »Housing Preference Statistically Valid Survey
- »Vision Survey
- »Student Survey, Open House & Tabling Activities
- »Ways to Grow Online Activity
- »Open House Online Activity
- »Scavenger Hunt Online Activity

Which amenities are most important to have close to your home?

What would you improve about your housing situation if you could?

How do you generally get around town?

What 3 words describe the Bellingham you'd like to see in 20 years?

Phase 1 Summary Report



To learn more visit cob.org/bellinghamplan



PHASE 1 RECAP

What we heard from you.

Phase 1 Visioning Themes based on community response

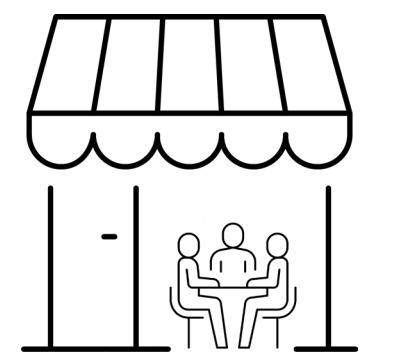


Vision Survey Summary Report



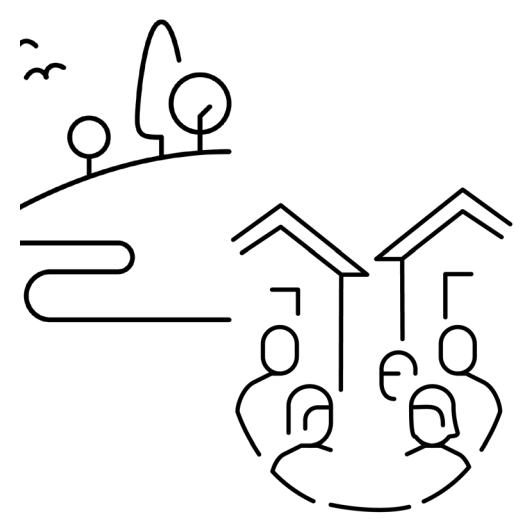
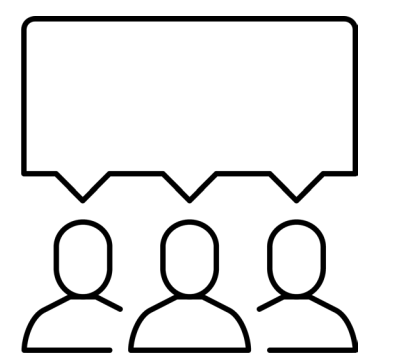
Housing types, rental protections, and affordability are clear priorities

Lively and creative, well-connected, and walkable places with services and amenities dispersed throughout the city



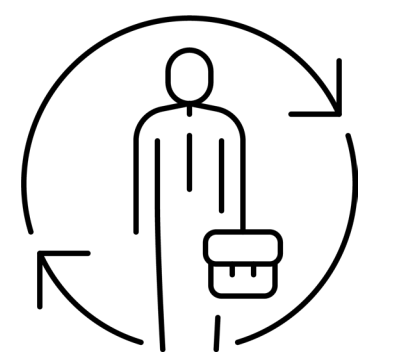
A safer Bellingham, with more accessible health and social services for all

More equitable representation of voices from historically marginalized and underrepresented community groups



Pedestrian-centric gathering and community spaces, including greenways and parks

A locally-scaled economy with an activated downtown, livable-wage jobs, and local business support



Support for arts and culture

Phase 1 Summary Report



PROJECT SCHEDULE

And engagement plan.

2023

2024

2025

July launch

Q2 Adoption

1 Vision & Foundation

We are here

2 Growth Approach

3 Draft Review

4 Legislative Process

Project awareness +
relationship building

Broad engagement:
visioning + values

Listening sessions

Identification of conflicting issues

Focused engagement on identified
issues

Round table discussions

Growth approach comparison

Review of draft
language

Public open houses

Board and
commission feedback

Public comment

Planning Commission
recomendation

City Council adoption



Phase 1
Summary
Report



Bellingham Plan Open House event at Options High School, September 2023

PROJECT SCOPE

Updates to the plan will focus on changes that...

Build upon what is valued today

- » Outdoor recreation and opportunities to explore nature
- » Convenient access to friends and family, a variety of activities, services, and more
- » Small and local businesses
- » Vibrant and unique places
- » Mitigation of climate change contributions/GHG emissions
- » Connections to Bellingham's full range of historic periods

Respond to changed conditions

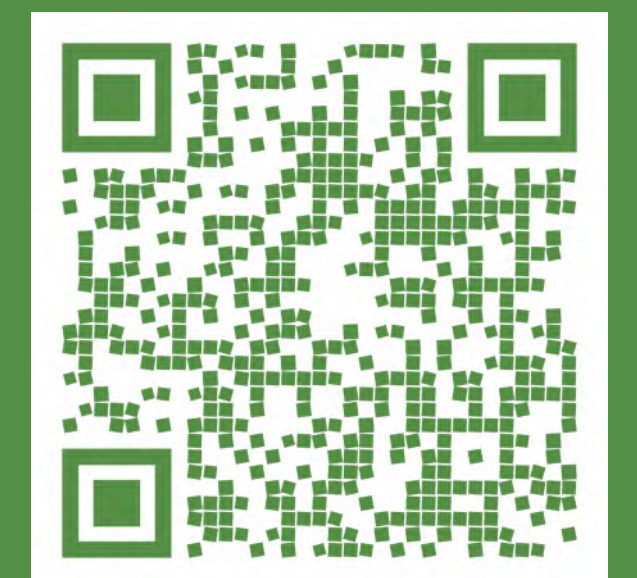
- » Expanded capacity for housing and jobs to meet expected 20-year growth
- » Planning for increased telework to jobs based both in Bellingham and elsewhere
- » Housing affordable to all income bands (HB 1220), especially those aligned with local employment
- » Integrated and comprehensive approach to address gaps in housing and human services
- » Approaches to assist vulnerable populations struggling with mental health and addiction issues
- » Opportunities to connect as a community
- » Climate resilience and adaptation (HB 1181)
- » A range of housing types to support current and future residents' housing needs, including a diversification of middle scale housing with larger units (HB 1110, HB 1337)
- » Land use investment in planned transit network improvements
- » Potential annexation and/or changes to the UGA boundary

Aspire to a brighter future

- » A safe and welcoming environment
- » A diverse community
- » A healthy community, physically and mentally
- » Economic vitality, business diversification, and living-wage jobs
- » An active community that is informed and engaged on a range of city issues
- » Gathering places of varied types and sizes across the city
- » Equitable community planning decisions and impacts

Increase access to the plan

- » Increase legibility of the plan by simplifying documents and improving usability
- » Links between related topics
- » Online interaction in addition to traditional printable format



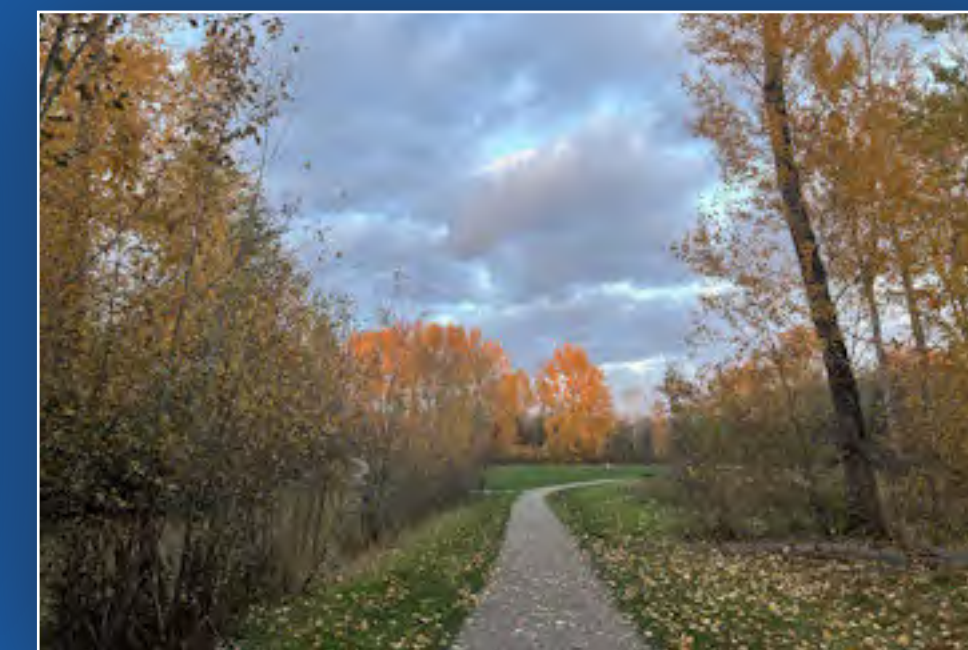
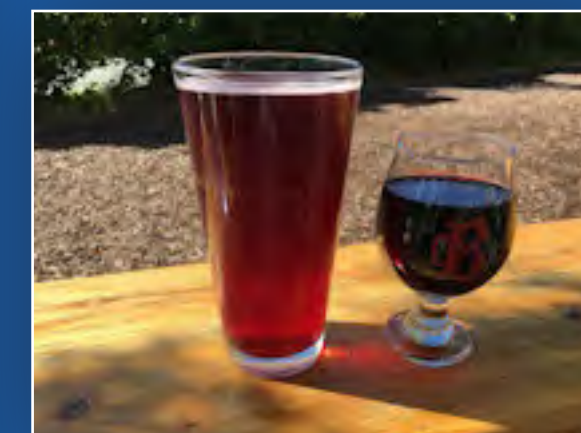
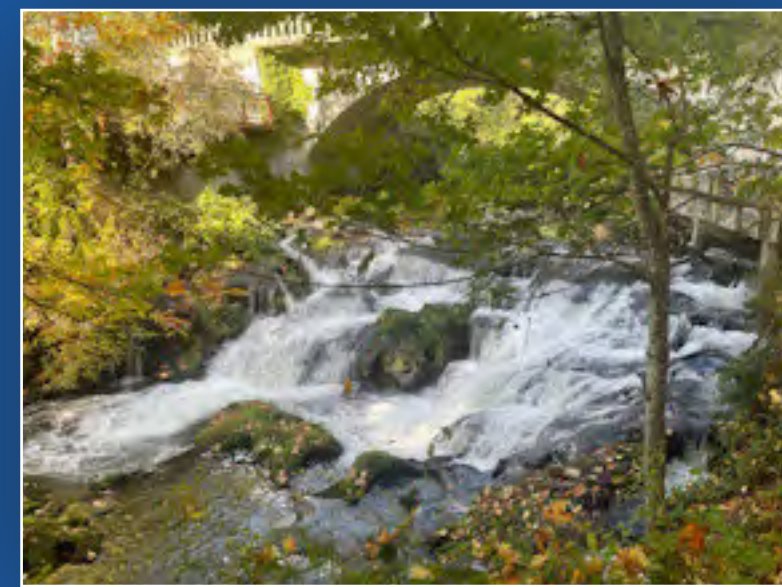
Watch this short video for more project information!



WHAT MAKES US BELLINGHAM?

Use a sticky note below to let us know what makes our town special.

Photos below were submitted as part of the Bellingham Plan Scavenger Hunt. Participants were asked to “share a photo that feels quintessentially Bellingham”



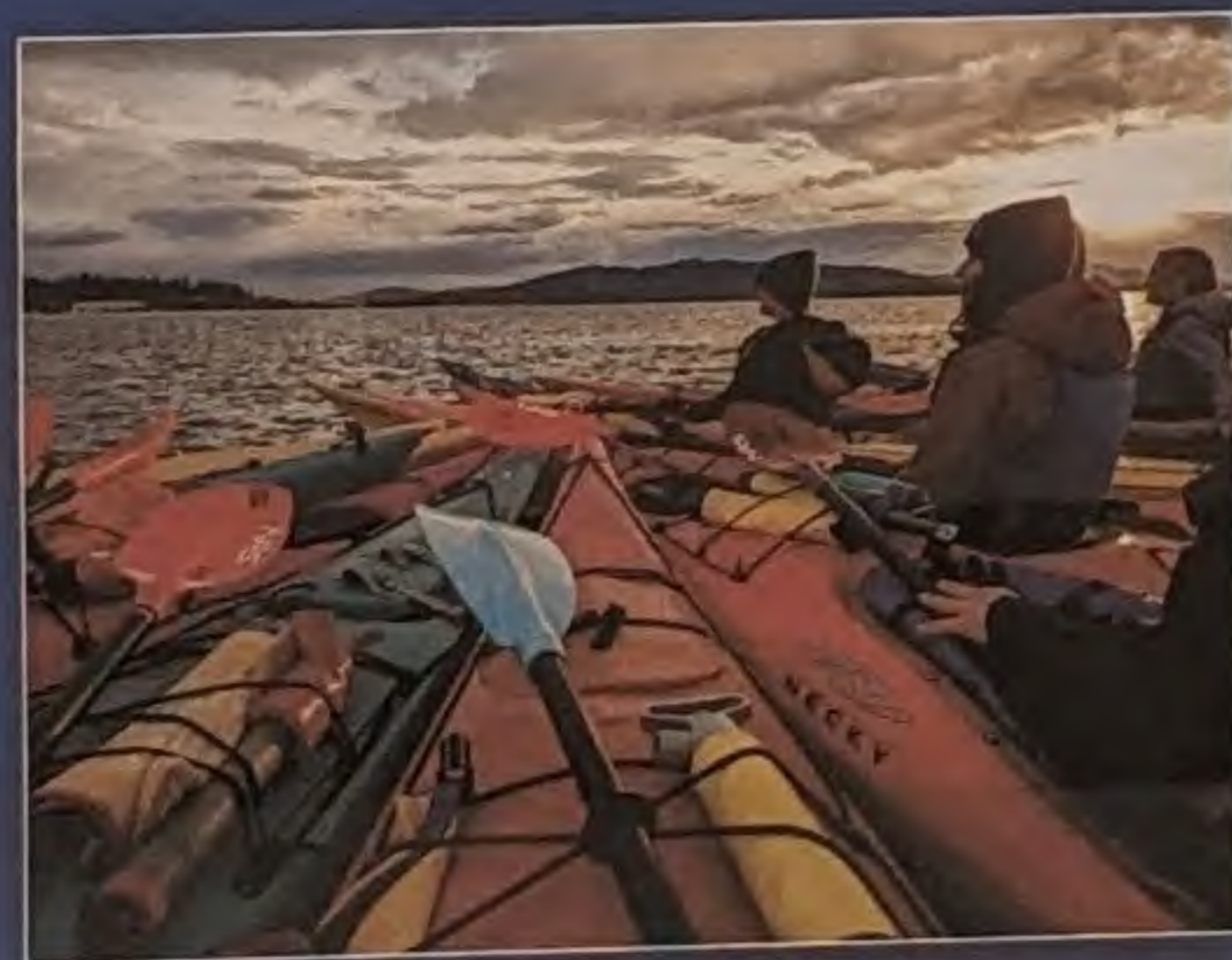
WHAT MAKES US BELLINGHAM?

Use a sticky note below to let us know what makes our town special.

A collection of handwritten sticky notes on a white background, expressing what makes Bellingham special. The notes are in various colors (orange, yellow, teal, light blue) and include the following text:

- Family
- Community members taking care of each other
- Dense, easily accessible downtown core that is easily accessible and pedestrian-friendly
- The People Surrounded by Nature Trails & Parks
- Library!
- Connected to a system for all neighborhoods
- WE NEED MORE UNDEVELOPED WATER FRONT PROPERTY
- The opportunity for wildlife corridors
- Word Class Trail system
- Amazing parks & trail system. Love the green
- outdoors + water access
- Amazing trail network and natural areas in and around the urban core.
- Recovery from destructive environmental policies!
- It's location place
- trails + parks
- Green Spaces
- Lakes with to be in min.
- Recreation + Neighborhoods up checker
- good coffee spots
- Outdoor activities + natural beauty
- Amazing outdoor access & inter-connected community
- It's a super cute town in a beautiful environment!
- Much more community equity owned homes
- W/ CROWDED GREEN RESPONSIBLE NATURE
- Housing Justice
- So many parks and trails within walking distance
- rich music/ arts scene!
- location
- Dog Parks
- Amazing outdoor access & inter-connected community
- Hikes! Teegan
- walking access to many stores, parks etc. Small size + friendly
- access to parks + community
- Safe well managed but don't let the trail (small events) stay the way they are. Can't do it all.
- Large Summer Forest + trails
- All the Colleges
- Trees/Outdoor Activities
- Trees throughout the city
- Surrounding the Bay Parks Trails Outdoor Activities Subdued Excitement!
- SAFE SMALL COMMUNITY Natural Beauty
- If you have to ask go back to where you came from!!!!!!
- Lots of Fun
- Lots of Parks
- access to natural waterways
- Parks and Trails
- Thoughtful community engagement
- Our People!
- clean air + land

Photos below were submitted as part of the Bellingham Plan Scavenger Hunt. Participants were asked to "share a photo that feels quintessentially Bellingham"



Our Connection to Local Trades & Maritime

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

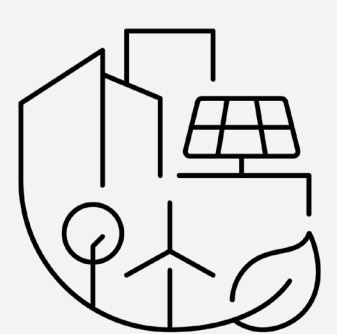
We plan for growth because...

1. People are going to move here.
2. People and jobs are shifting to urban areas all over the world.
3. Bellingham is particularly appealing to many.

When we plan for this growth intentionally:



Natural lands outside the city are protected from increased development, and the required infrastructure and transportation impacts are more efficiently located within the city.



Infrastructure such as transportation and utilities can be designed for that growth rather than overloaded by unplanned sprawl.



Real estate prices are stabilized rather than heightened by increased demand on the existing supply. Displacement of existing residents is limited.



Public benefits like open space or affordable housing can be included.

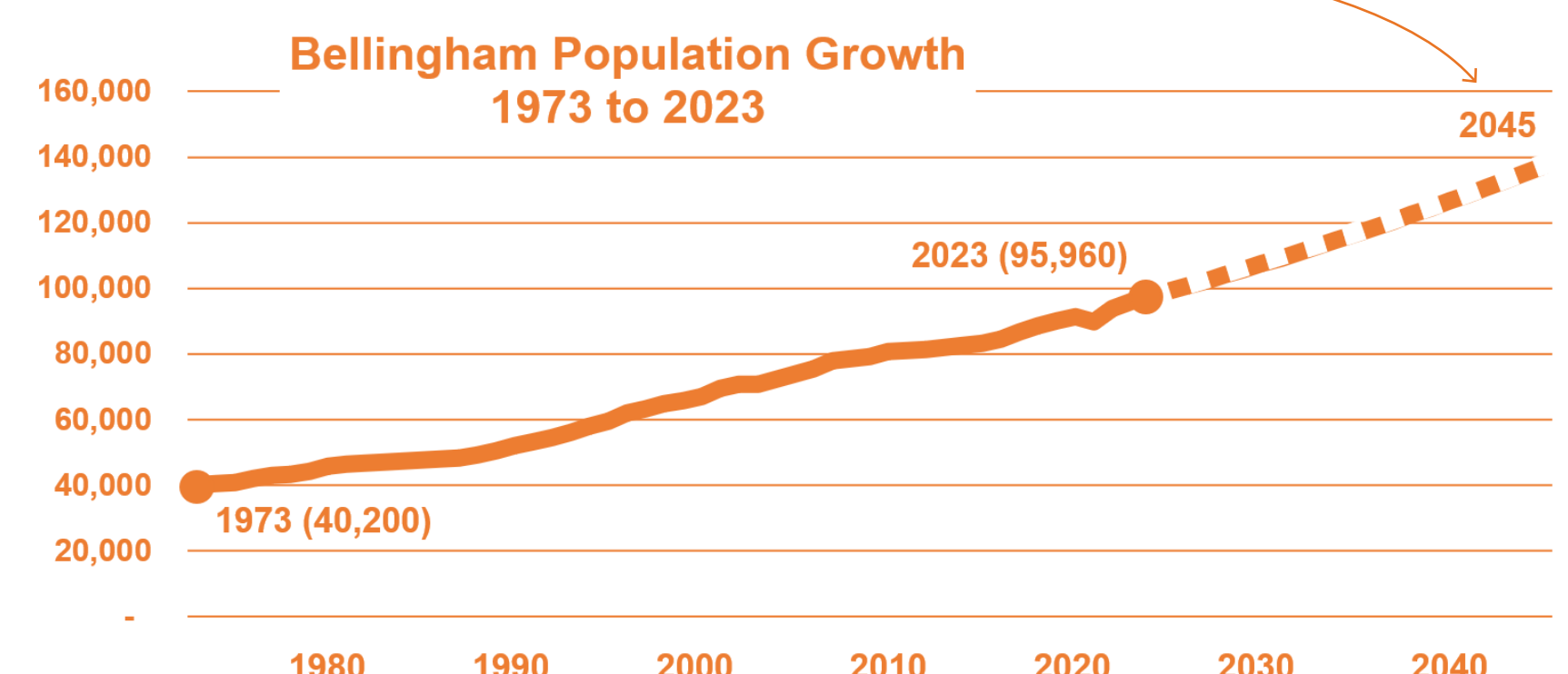
*Let's plan together
to create a vision
for Bellingham's
future*

Therefore, the State requires growth management.

The process includes several steps to guide planning decisions.

- 1 The State (OFM) continually projects population growth over the next 30 years.
- 2 The State distributes the 20-year growth forecast to each county. Whatcom's 2045 forecast is 292,714 people, a similar but slightly increased rate of growth to that seen in the last 20 years.
- 3 The cities within Whatcom County collaborate to distribute this anticipated growth between jurisdictions.
- 4 The Bellingham Plan update will plan for Bellingham's allocated 20-year growth projection.

*This represents
Whatcom's growth
extrapolated to
Bellingham.*



STATE LEGISLATION

Affecting housing affordability and supply.

House Bill 1220

Passed by Washington Legislature in 2021

Amended the GMA to instruct local governments to “plan for **and accommodate**” housing affordable to all income levels.

Changes to local housing elements include planning for sufficient land capacity for housing needs, including all economic segments of the population:

Extremely Low	Very Low	Low	Moderate	Upper
0% - 30%	30% - 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100 - 120%
Percent of Area Median Income (AMI)*				
<small>* Income categories defined by Commerce utilize Median Family Income</small>				

Planning for moderate density housing options, including but not limited to ADUs, duplexes, triplexes, townhomes, and multi-plex (middle-scale housing).



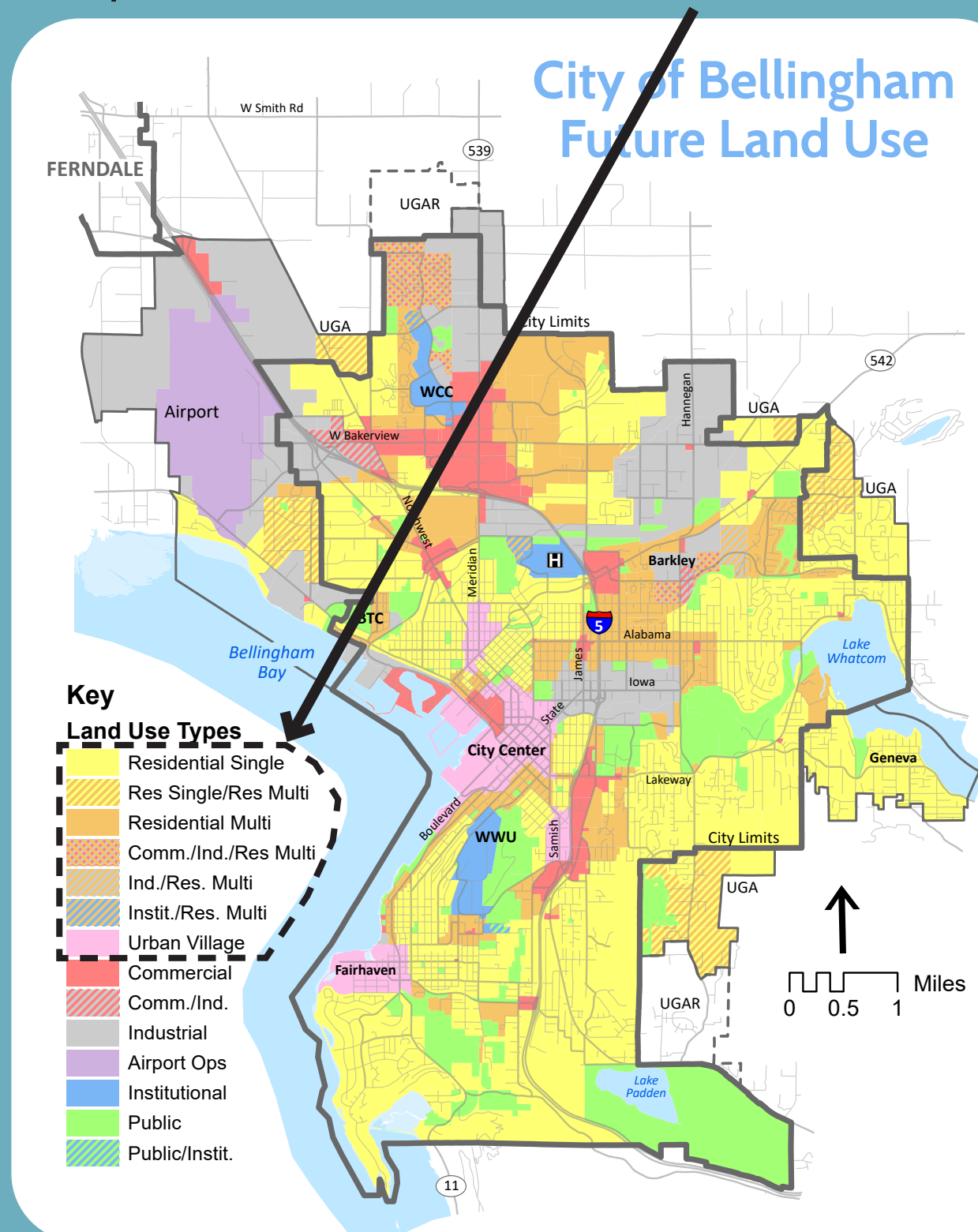
House Bill 1110

Passed by Washington Legislature in 2023

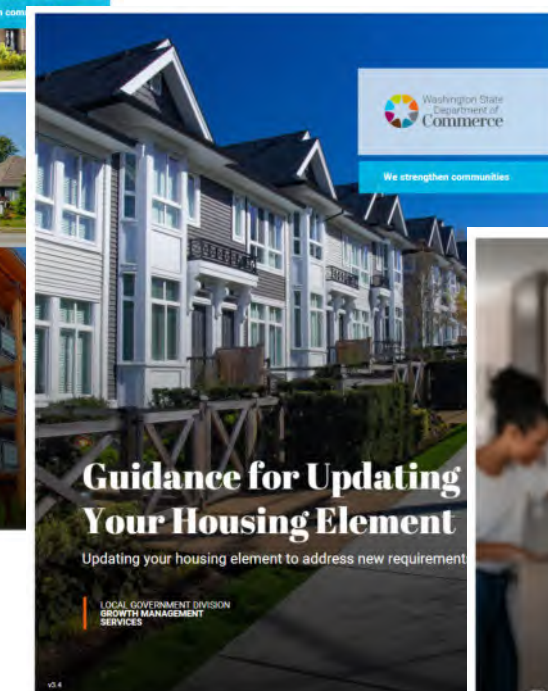
Legalizes middle housing forms in residential neighborhoods.

This bill requires jurisdictions of Bellingham’s size to allow a variety of middle-scale housing types up to four units per lot in all residential zones. Six units per lot must be allowed in some areas, depending on proximity to transit and affordability of the units. Additionally, regulations for these housing forms may not require standards that are more restrictive than those required for detached single-family housing.

Middle housing forms up to 4 or 6 units per lot must be allowed in these areas.



Planning for emergency housing and permanent supportive housing



The WA State Department of Commerce provides guidance to help jurisdictions:

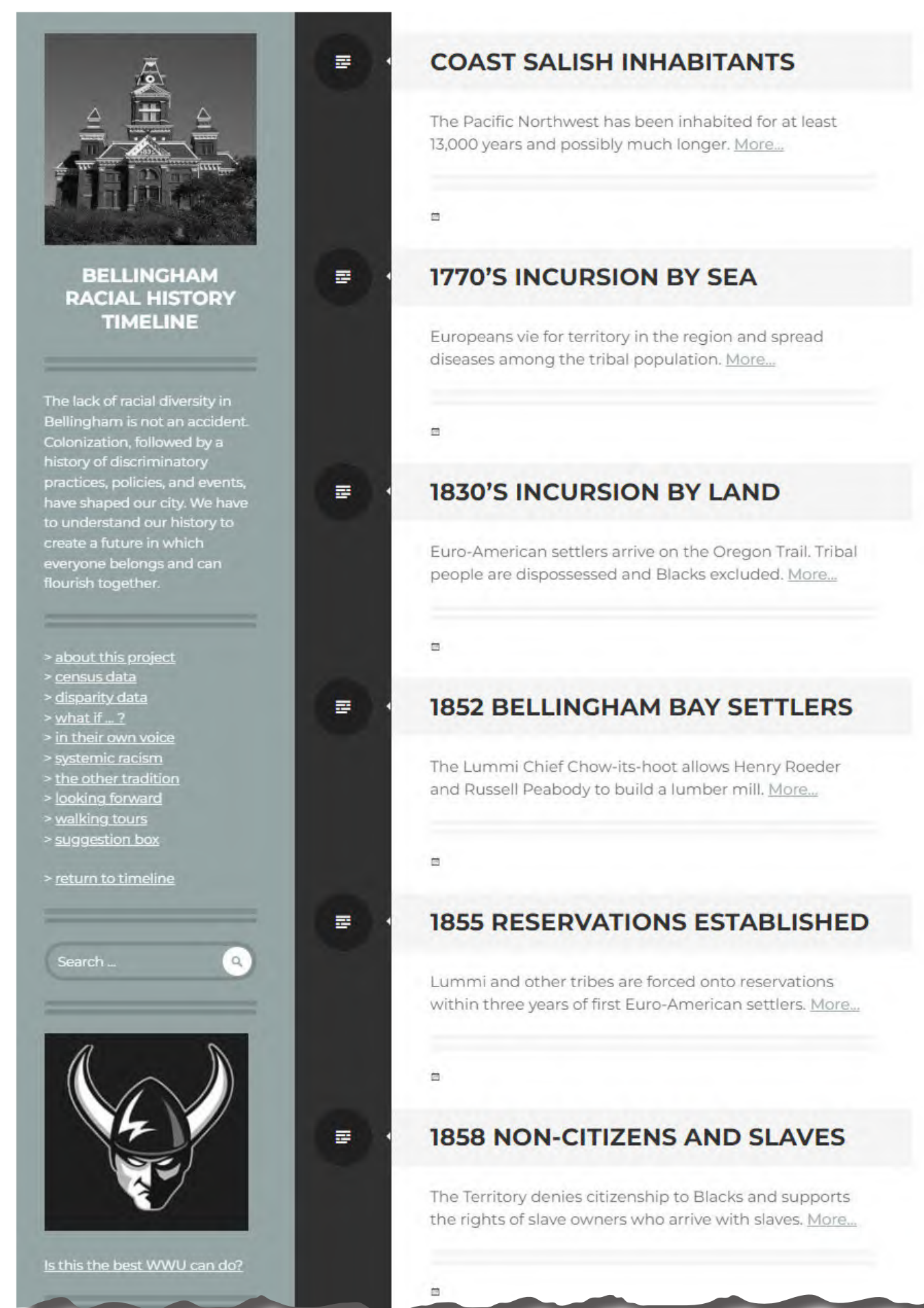
- Establish income-based housing targets.
- Evaluate and update policies and regulations to remove barriers to housing production.
- Ensure adequate capacity and opportunity exist to meet housing needs.
- Identify and address racially disparate impacts like exclusionary zoning that favors single-family detached housing over other housing types.

For a full list of recently passed legislation affecting housing supply, stability and subsidies, scan the QR code at right.



RACIAL HISTORY TIMELINE

A collaborative initiative of WWU faculty, students, and community members.



This project is a collaborative initiative of university faculty, students, and community members – from diverse racial backgrounds – who care about the future of Bellingham. We hope to see this city grow into a vibrant inclusive community that is welcoming to all.

The project is founded on the premise that humanity is one. Every individual has equal worth and should be accorded equal dignity. Our diversity is a source of beauty, richness, interdependence, and strength. The well-being of every individual and group derives from the well-being of the entire social body.

Justice therefore requires that all people have the fullest opportunity to develop their latent capacities to contribute to the betterment of the community, from which they also derive their well-being. Justice also requires truth. And this project is dedicated to telling the truth about our past so that we can build a more peaceful, just, and mutually prosperous future together.

The groundwork for this project was laid with a Diversity and Social Justice Grant from Western Washington University. The principle researchers were Michael Karlberg and Selvi Adaikkalam Zabihi.

“Justice also requires truth. And this project is dedicated to telling the truth about our past so that we can build a more peaceful, just, and mutually prosperous future together.”

Bellingham Racial History Timeline website (<https://wp.wvu.edu/timeline/about-this-project/>)

To learn more about this project and view the full digital timeline, scan the qr code at the right or visit:
<https://wp.wvu.edu/timeline>



DEFINING COMMUNITY FEATURES

...to support for future generations.

Add a dot to up to 3 features (including new stickies!) that you think should be priorities in this update

Features that are emphasized in the 2016 plan			
Beautiful natural environment	Healthy community	Safe and diverse methods of transportation	Unique and diverse neighborhoods
Expansive outdoor recreation	Innovative planning policies	Sustainable living	World-class network of parks and trails
Features we've heard need to be emphasized more in the 2025 plan			
Affordable access to healthy food	Integrated cultural resources	Supportive mental and physical health services	Unique and varied housing choices
A unique and exciting downtown experience	Safe and accessible public gathering spaces	Prioritized local businesses	Welcoming and diverse community

DEFINING COMMUNITY FEATURES

...to support for future generations.

Add a dot to up to 3 features (including new stickies!) that you think should be priorities in this update

Features that are emphasized in the 2016 plan			
Beautiful natural environment	Healthy community	Safe and diverse methods of transportation	Unique and diverse neighborhoods
Expansive outdoor recreation	Innovative planning policies	Sustainable living	World-class network of parks and trails
Features we've heard need to be emphasized more in the 2025 plan			
Affordable access to healthy food	Integrated cultural resources	Supportive mental and physical health services	Unique and varied housing choices
A unique and exciting downtown experience	Safe and accessible public gathering spaces	Prioritized local businesses	Welcoming and diverse community

Handwritten notes and sticky notes on a board:

- Walkable neighborhoods with no cars!
- Innovated density that's mixed use.
- Create a No Car pedestrian street downtown.
- Housing Affordability
- look at Blue Zone communities
- ADOPT-A-Road program for picking up trash on Kinadee
- More more language access within government
- We need to prioritize tourism - restaurants, shops, restaurants while maintaining character
- Not an HOA but a city theme
- What about affordable housing choices
- Immigration Resource Center
- access to walk through streets
- Traffic Control
- Preparing for winter/Climate Change

PAST AND PRESENT

A look back at how a few of our urban villages have evolved.

Waterfront District Urban Village Plan Adopted in 2013 as outlined in 2006 Comprehensive Plan



2004

2022

Samish Way District Urban Village Plan Adopted in 2009 as outlined in 2006 Comprehensive Plan



2016

2023

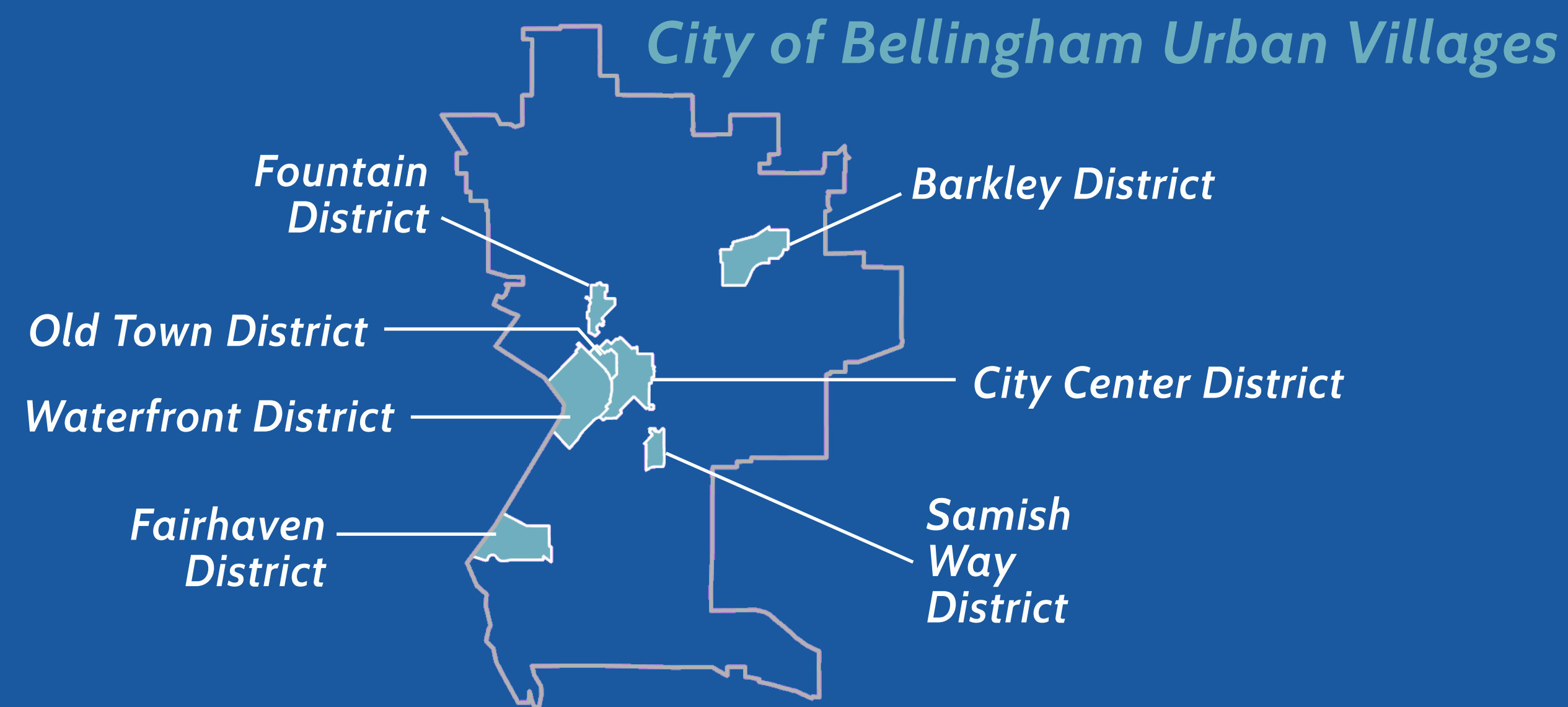
Fountain District Urban Village Plan Adopted in 2010 as outlined in 2006 Comprehensive Plan



2012

2023

The 2006 Comprehensive Plan update responded to increasing growth pressures, cost of infrastructure and regional economic changes. The 2006 Plan included an emphasis on urban villages as one of the City's primary strategies for addressing growth, offering a smart and sustainable way to grow and improve our community.



Past plans have created impactful change. Think about what the 2025 plan should change.

YOUR BELLINGHAM STORY

Share your perspective with us by answering one or both of the below prompts.

Have a staff member transcribe your story or write it down and drop it in the box.

(Note: your story can be anonymous, no need to share your identity)

Describe a positive change you have noticed while living here that you want Bellingham to retain moving forward for all to benefit from and enjoy.

Imagine yourself 20 years into the future. How would you want to describe Bellingham to a friend who is interested in moving here?

*To participate digitally in this exercise,
Scan the qr code at the right
You may submit your story anonymously*



HOUSING NEEDS

...for all income ranges, life stages and preferences.

Housing need may vary throughout a person's life...

Below are questions to consider when making housing choices, with the understanding that there are often trade-offs involved when finding a place to live.

Do you want more privacy or more of a community feel?

Can you manage stairs? Or do you need a ground floor unit?

Do you need parking, bike storage, or transit access?

Do you regularly need to be near a certain part of town, such as for work, school, or caring for a family member?

How many people will live in your home?

Are you willing to share your home with others who are not part of your household, such as a part of a co-op or bedroom rental?

Would you prefer to rent or own?

What can you realistically afford?

How close to shops, restaurants, or activities do you want to be?

What kind of outdoor space might you want? Can you handle yardwork?



HOUSING NEEDS

...for all income ranges, life stages and preferences.

Housing need may vary throughout a person's life...

Below are questions to consider when making housing choices, with the understanding that there are often trade-offs involved when finding a place to live.

Permanent Supportive housing for all who need/want it

More privacy

Do you want more privacy or more of a community feel?

Bike storage is difficult with only stairs to my apartment

Can you manage stairs? Or do you need a ground floor unit?

Do you need parking, bike storage, or transit access?

Eliminate Parking Minimums

Do you regularly need to be near a certain part of town, such as for work, school, or caring for a family member?

How many people will live in your home?

Are you willing to share your home with others who are not part of your household, such as a part of a co-op or bedroom rental?

build housing on top of parking lots & rec centers

Prefer more of a community feel, with denser housing development near existing infrastructure (not in forests/green areas)

Would you prefer to rent or own?

Stairs are cool

What can you realistically afford?

How close to shops, restaurants, or activities do you want to be?

What kind of outdoor space might you want? Can you handle yardwork?

No! Live our privacy
\$20-\$5000 a year where?

Prefer to own my home

cannot afford to buy

\$1500/month

World like to be able to walk to grocery store

Need Grocery store in neighborhood

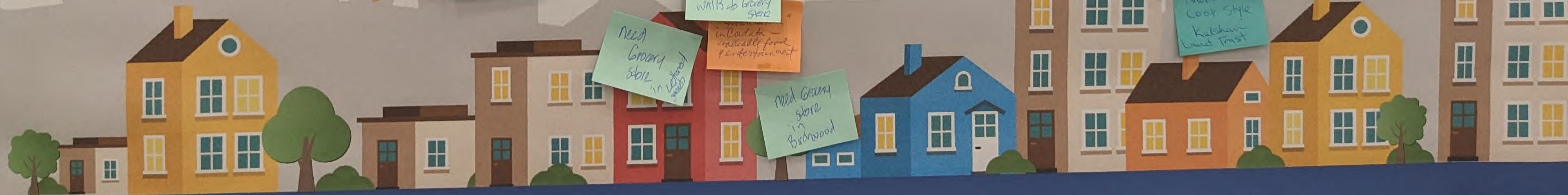
in Barabara - walkable food & entertainment

Need Grocery store in Bradwood

Community gardens

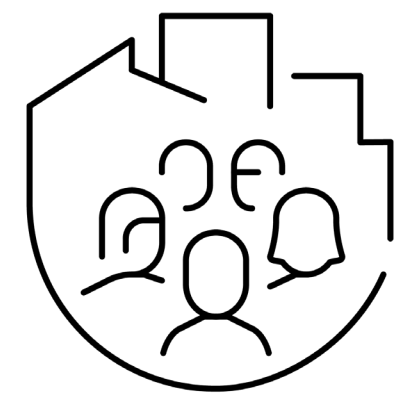
Yard for dogs. Yes Yards!

More Coop style Ketchikan Land Trust

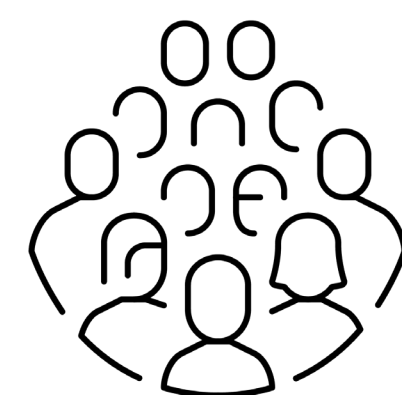


HOUSING PREFERENCE SURVEY

Key findings



When asked what type of neighborhood they would **prefer** to live in the most common choices were **small-scale residential** (31%) and **urban residential** (27%). These neighborhoods include a **diversity of housing** forms with single-family, duplex, triplex, townhome, and small apartment and condominium blocks mixed with commercial services, **good bicycle and pedestrian connectivity, and access to transit.**



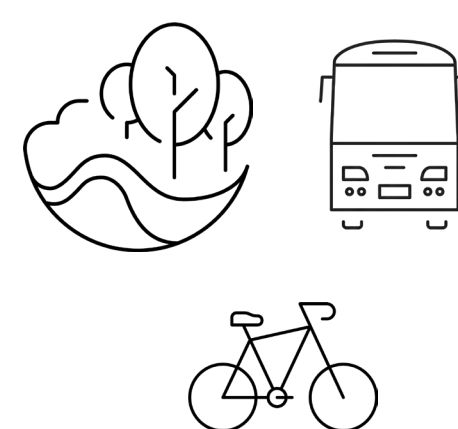
Most respondents were generally **satisfied** with their current living arrangements. However, those that were **less satisfied** included a higher proportion of lower-income, renter, BIPOC, 2SLGBTQIA+, young adult, and disabled community members. Historically, people in these groups have been underrepresented in the public planning process across the country.



Most of employed respondents report **working remotely a significant amount of the week.**



A clear **majority** respondents prefer **owning** rather than renting their home. And some people (up to 21%) are interested in **shared living** arrangements that are uncommon in Bellingham today.



When considering **housing and neighborhood trade-offs**, respondents indicated a preference for neighborhoods where **homes are closer together** to gain access to transit, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and parks and trails.

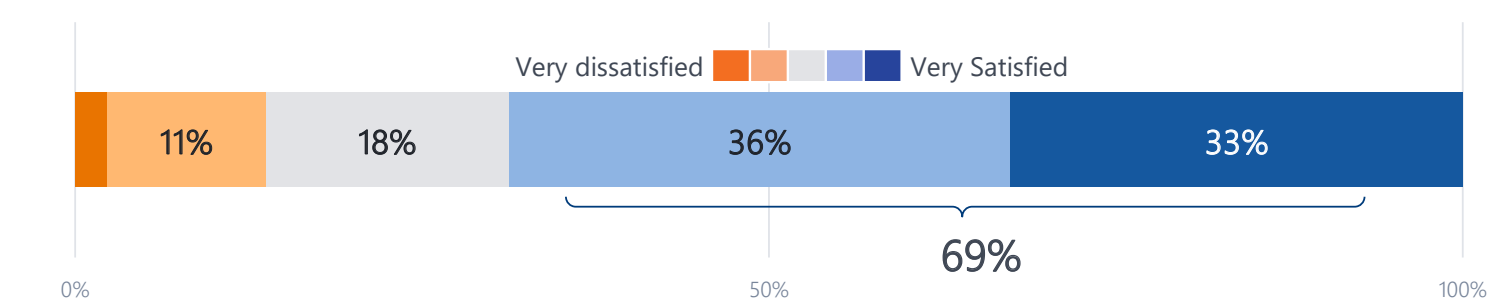


When **balancing** neighborhood and housing priorities and amenities the top concern expressed was a **feeling of safety**. Secondary priorities include being **close to parks and trails**, having a **private yard, dedicated parking**, and housing with **good quality construction and condition**. 2-bedroom units were by far the most common preference, with 3-bedroom and 1-bedroom units following and 4-bedrooms and studios the least popular.

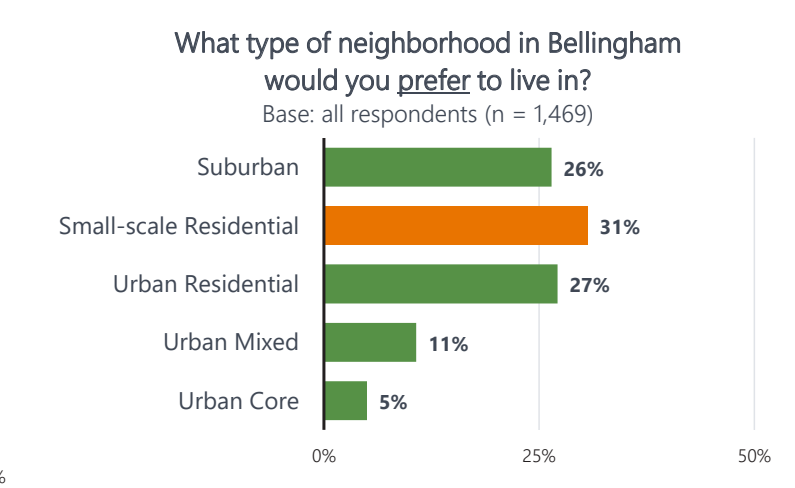
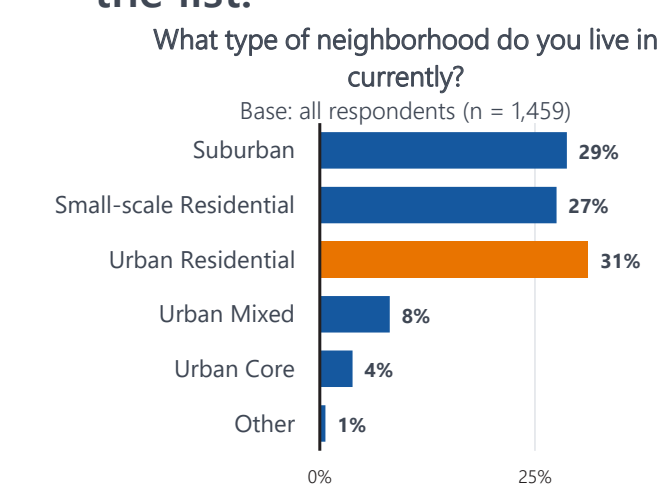
This survey of 1,475 respondents provided information about housing needs and preferences, both regarding the housing itself and its surrounding neighborhood. Responses represented the broader community along several key demographics.

Most respondents (69%) were satisfied with their current housing situation.

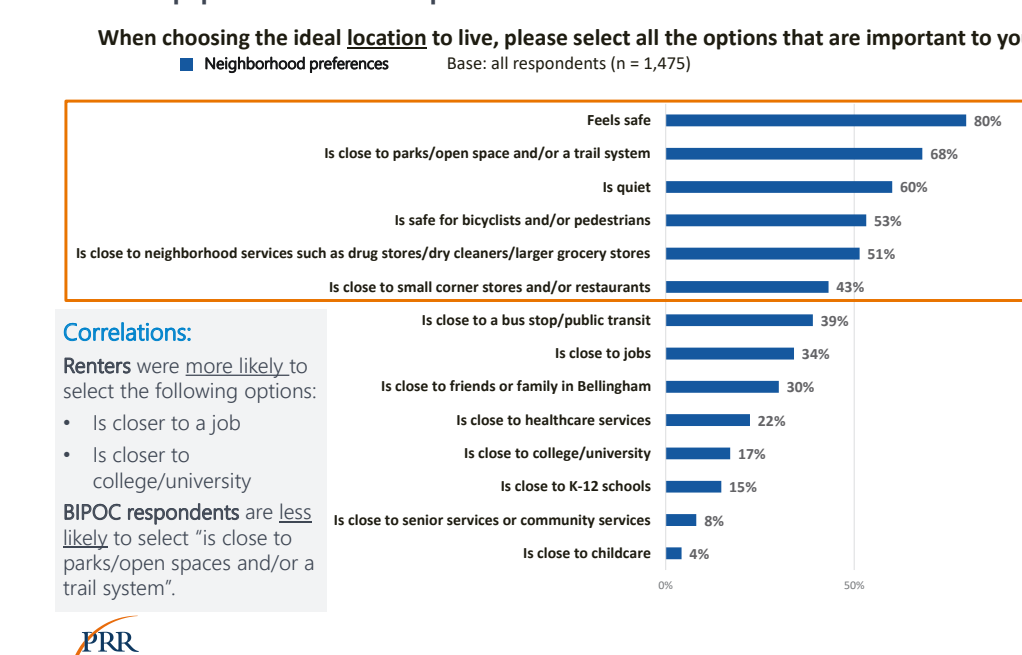
How satisfied are you currently with your housing situation?
Base: all respondents (n = 1,469)



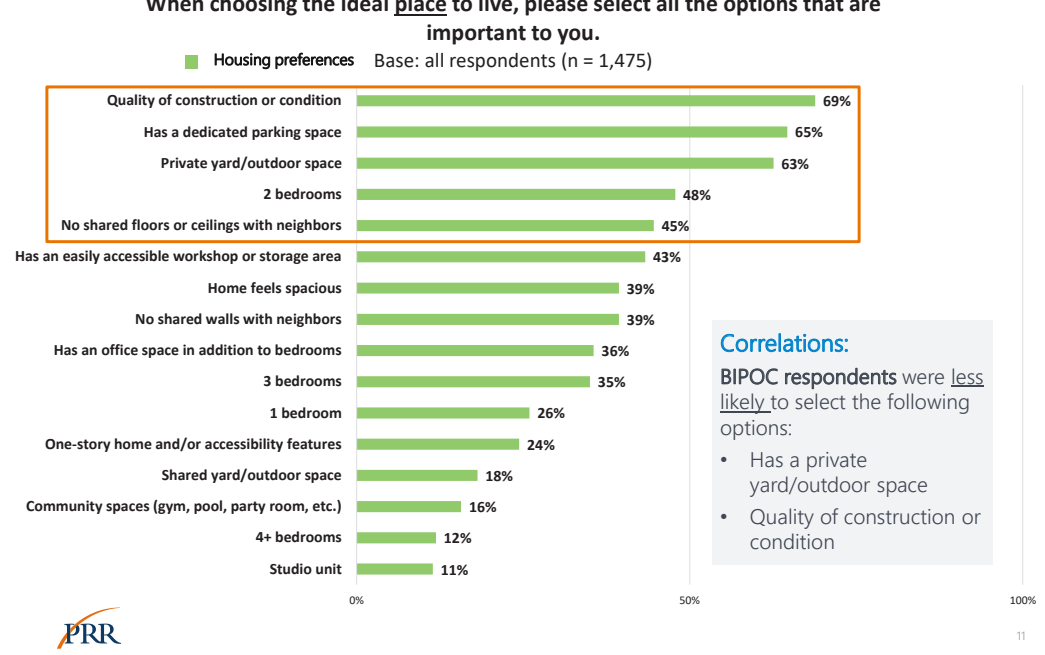
Small-scale residential was the most preferred neighborhood type. Among those who preferred a neighborhood type other than their own, urban residential and small-scale residential top the list.



Neighborhoods that feel safe and quiet, are close to parks, trails, commercial services, and have bicycle and pedestrian connectivity were top priorities for respondents.



Housing with quality construction and condition, dedicated parking, a private yard, and two-bedroom size with no neighbors above or below were top priorities for respondents.



To view the full survey results from the Housing Preference Survey, follow the QR code at right



HOUSING PREFERENCE SURVEY

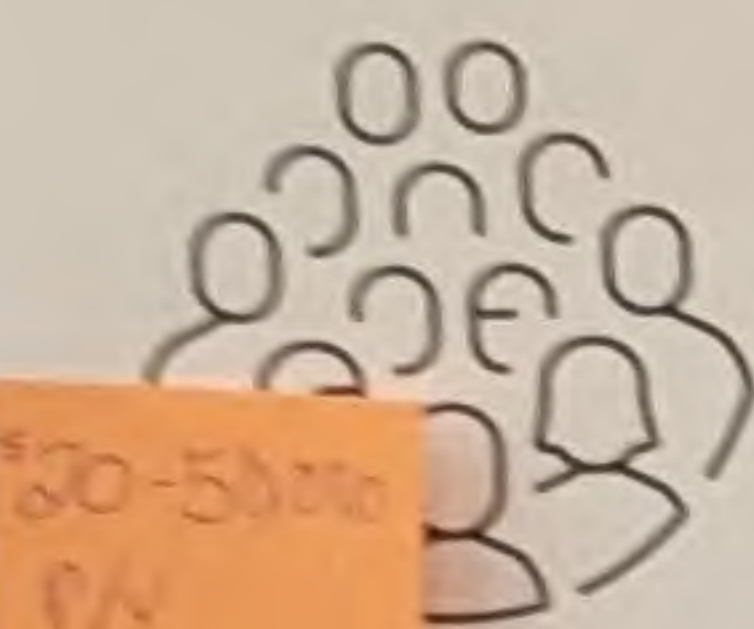
Key findings

When asked what type of neighborhood they would prefer to live in the most common choices were **small-scale residential** (31%) and **urban residential** (27%). These neighborhoods include a **diversity of housing forms** with single-family, duplex, triplex, townhome, and small apartment and condominium blocks mixed with commercial services, **good bicycle and pedestrian connectivity, and access to transit.**



Handwritten note: "Need (diversity) people from all income & middle income have my"

Most respondents were generally **satisfied** with their current living arrangements. However, those that were **less satisfied** included a higher proportion of lower-income, renter, BIPOC, 2SLGBTQIA+, young adult, and disabled community members. Historically, people in these groups have been underrepresented in the public planning process across the country.



Handwritten note: "20-50% BIPOC Work force"

Most of employed respondents report **working remotely a significant amount of the week.**



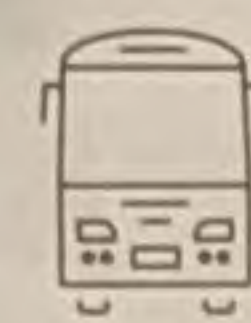
Handwritten note: "this says a lot of work is engaging"



Handwritten note: "Stop building ugly complexes by wharton cc"

A clear **majority** respondents prefer **owning** rather than renting their home. And some people (up to 21%) are interested in **shared living** arrangements that are uncommon in Bellingham today.

When considering **housing and neighborhood trade-offs**, respondents indicated a preference for neighborhoods where **homes are closer together** to gain access to transit, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and parks and trails.



Handwritten note: "Keep trying with Bar Key Village"

When **balancing** neighborhood and housing priorities and amenities the top concern expressed was a **feeling of safety**. Secondary priorities include being **close to parks and trails**, having a **private yard, dedicated parking**, and housing with **good quality construction and condition**. 2-bedroom units were by far the most common preference, with 3-bedroom and 1-bedroom units following and 4-bedrooms and studios the least popular.



This survey of 1,475 respondents provided information about housing needs and preferences, both regarding the housing itself and its surrounding neighborhood. Responses represented the broader community along several key demographics.

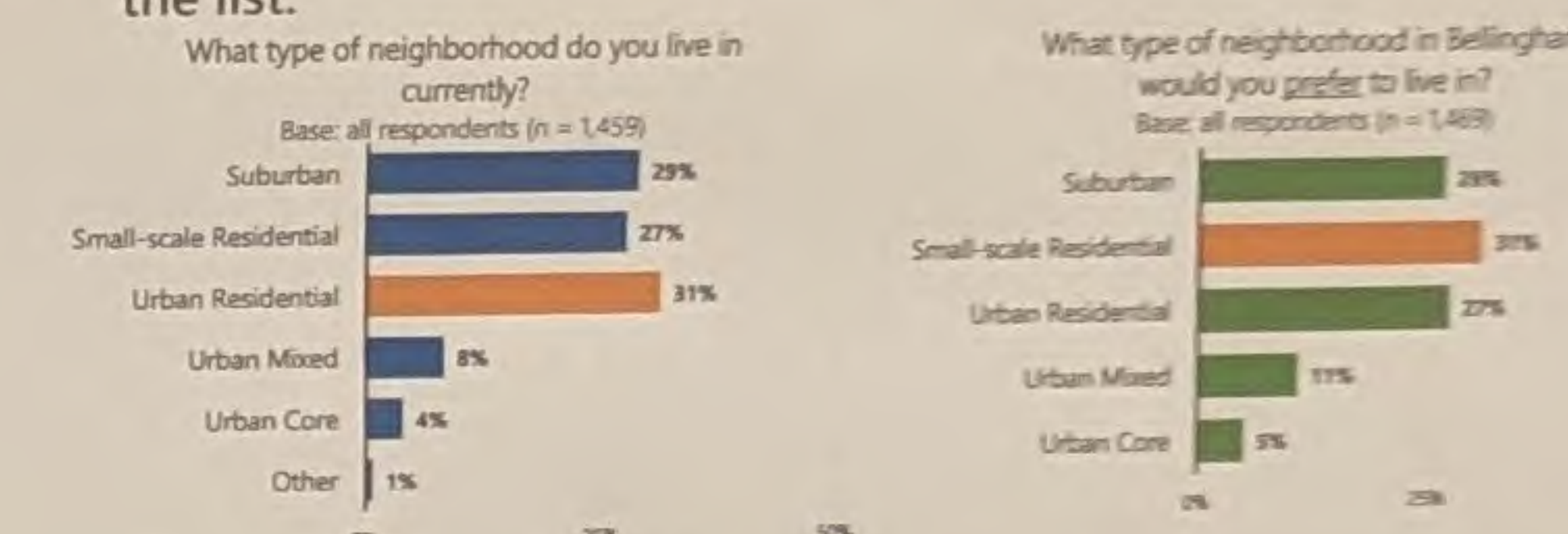
Most respondents (69%) were satisfied with their current housing situation.

How satisfied are you currently with your housing situation? Base: all respondents (n = 1,469)

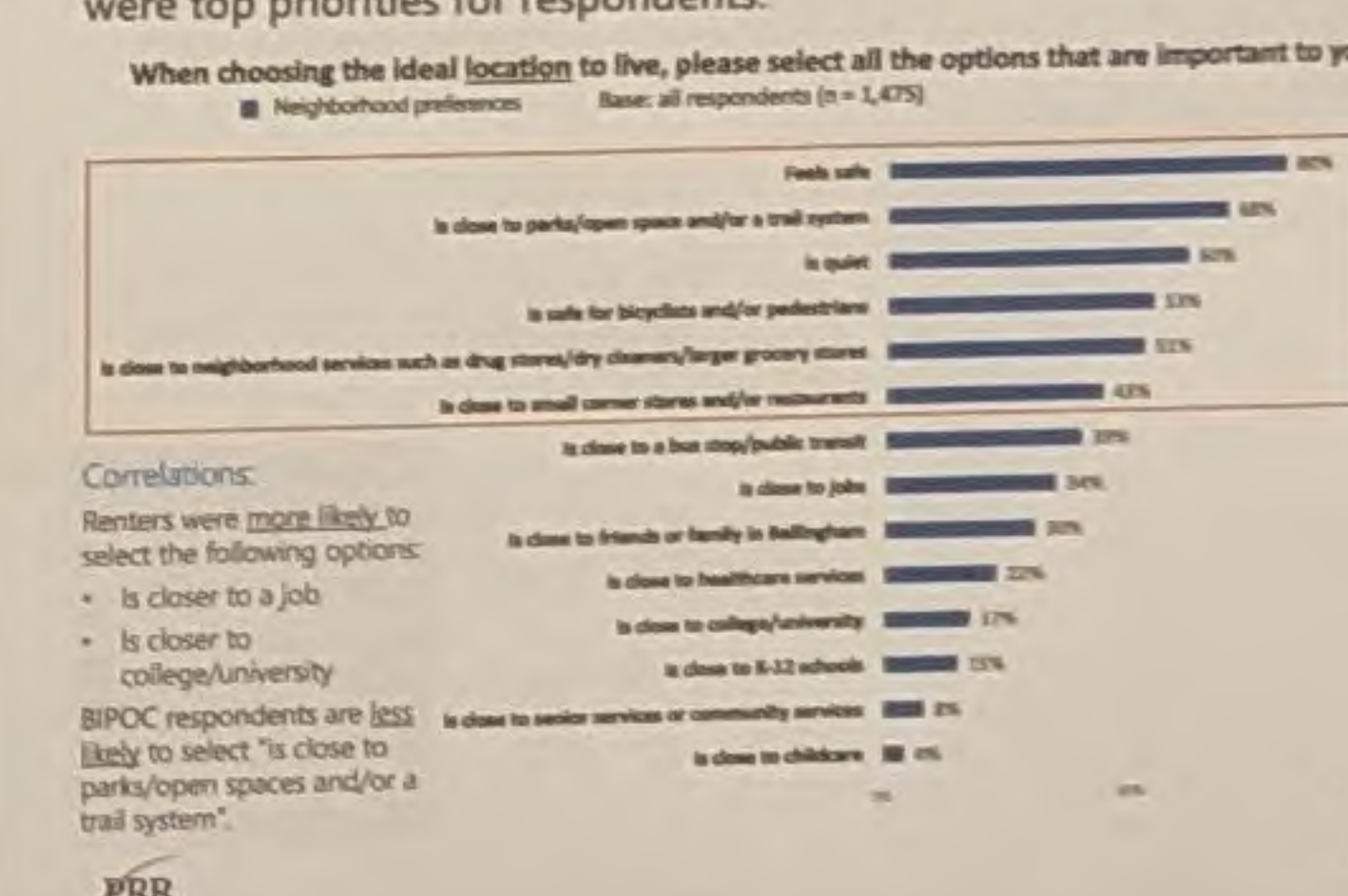


Handwritten note: "Check The Survey Demographic"

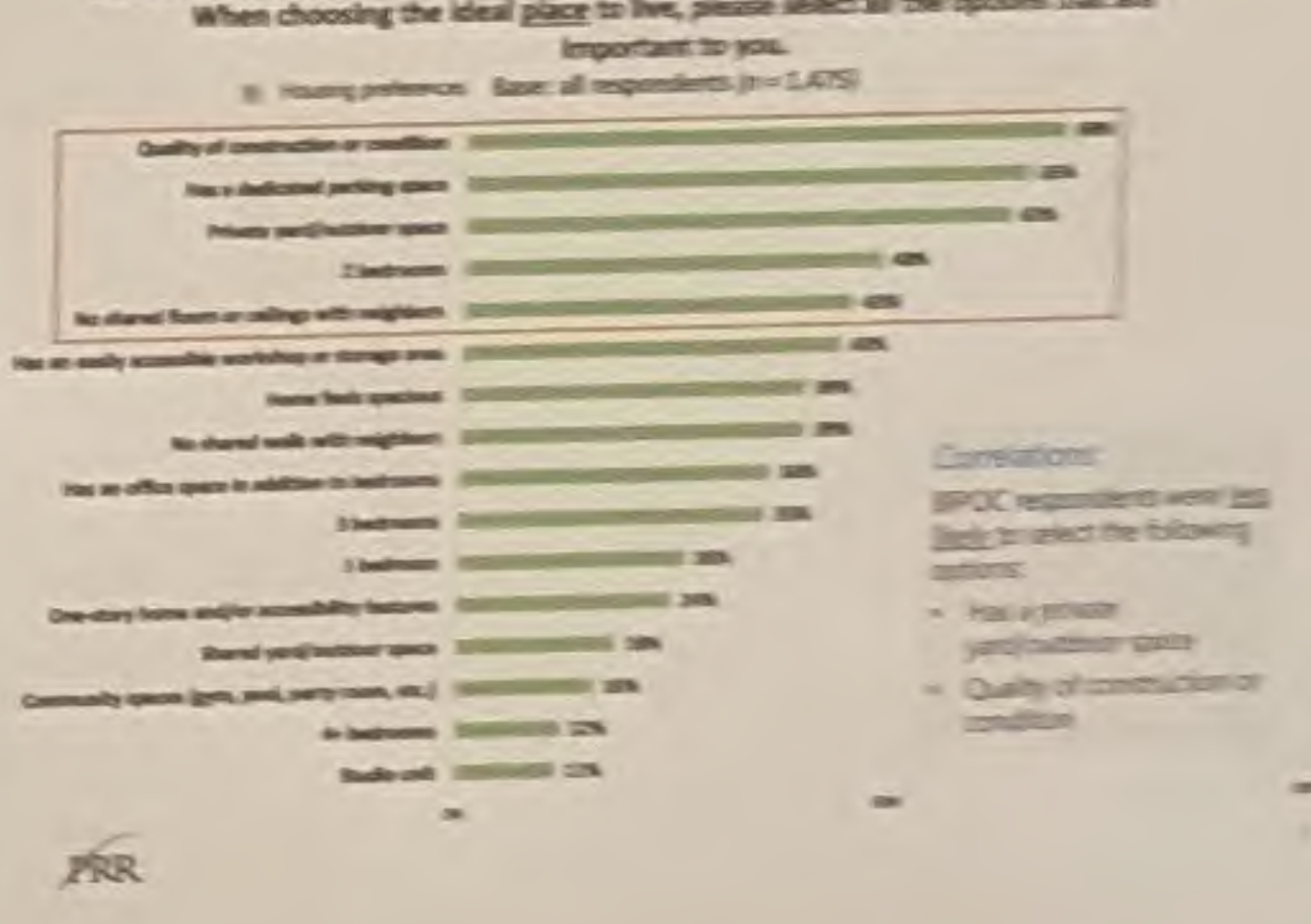
Small-scale residential was the most preferred neighborhood type. Among those who preferred a neighborhood type other than their own, urban residential and small-scale residential top the list.



Neighborhoods that feel safe and quiet, are close to parks, trails, commercial services, and have bicycle and pedestrian connectivity were top priorities for respondents.



Housing with quality construction and condition, dedicated parking, a private yard, and two-bedroom size with no neighbors above or below were top priorities for respondents.



To view the full survey results from the Housing Preference Survey, follow the QR code at right



Handwritten note: "107"



REMOTE WORK

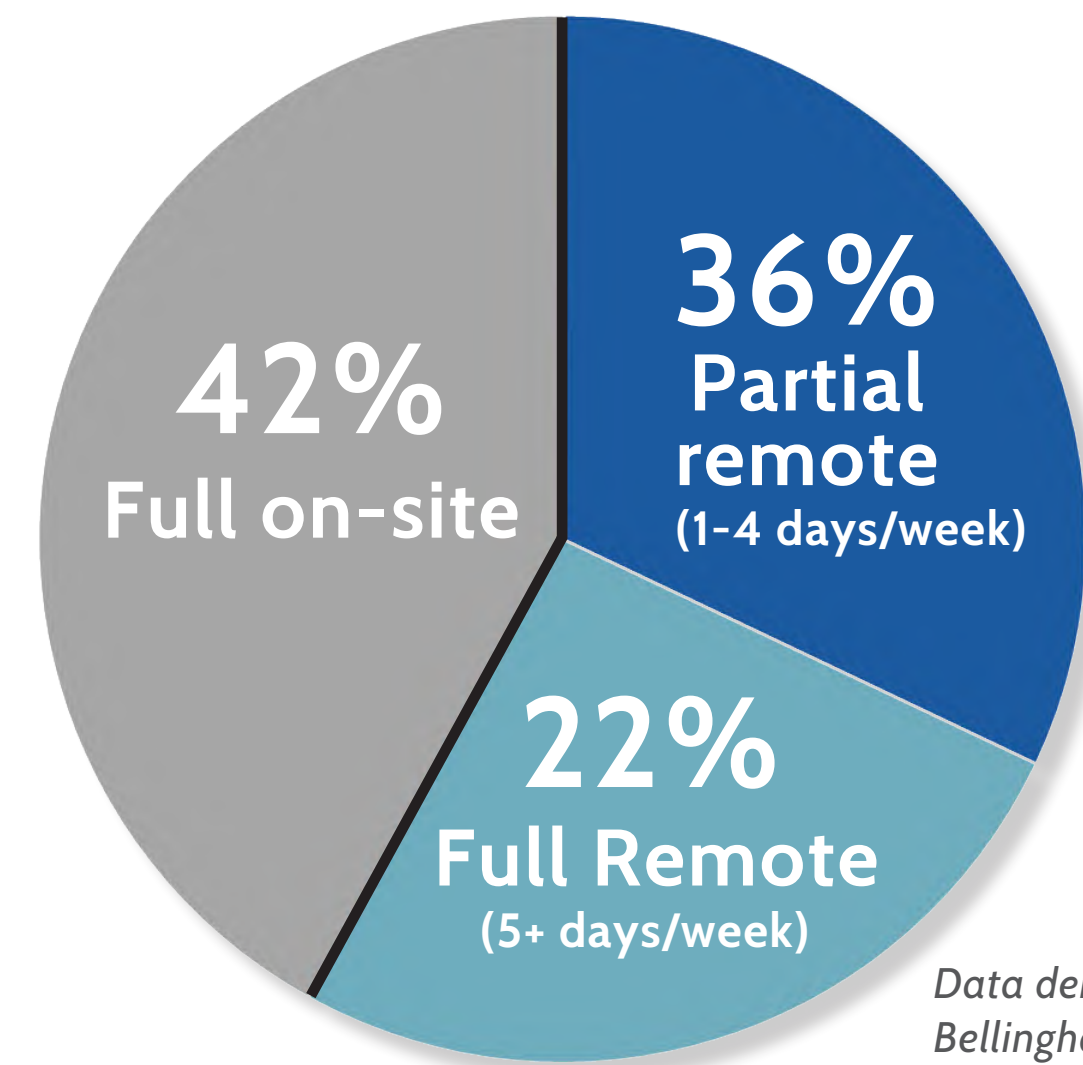
Bellingham's economy continues to shift over time.

Now, most employees in Bellingham work remotely for at least some part of the week.

The presence of remote work has economic, social, and larger regional impacts.

On-site vs. remote work

Base: Respondents who are employed (n=931)



Data derived from 2023 City of Bellingham Housing Preference Survey

Using sticky notes, write down what you think the biggest impacts of remote work are in Bellingham and what it means for our future. Include a note detailing why.

To view the full survey results from the Housing Preference Survey, follow the QR code at right



REMOTE WORK

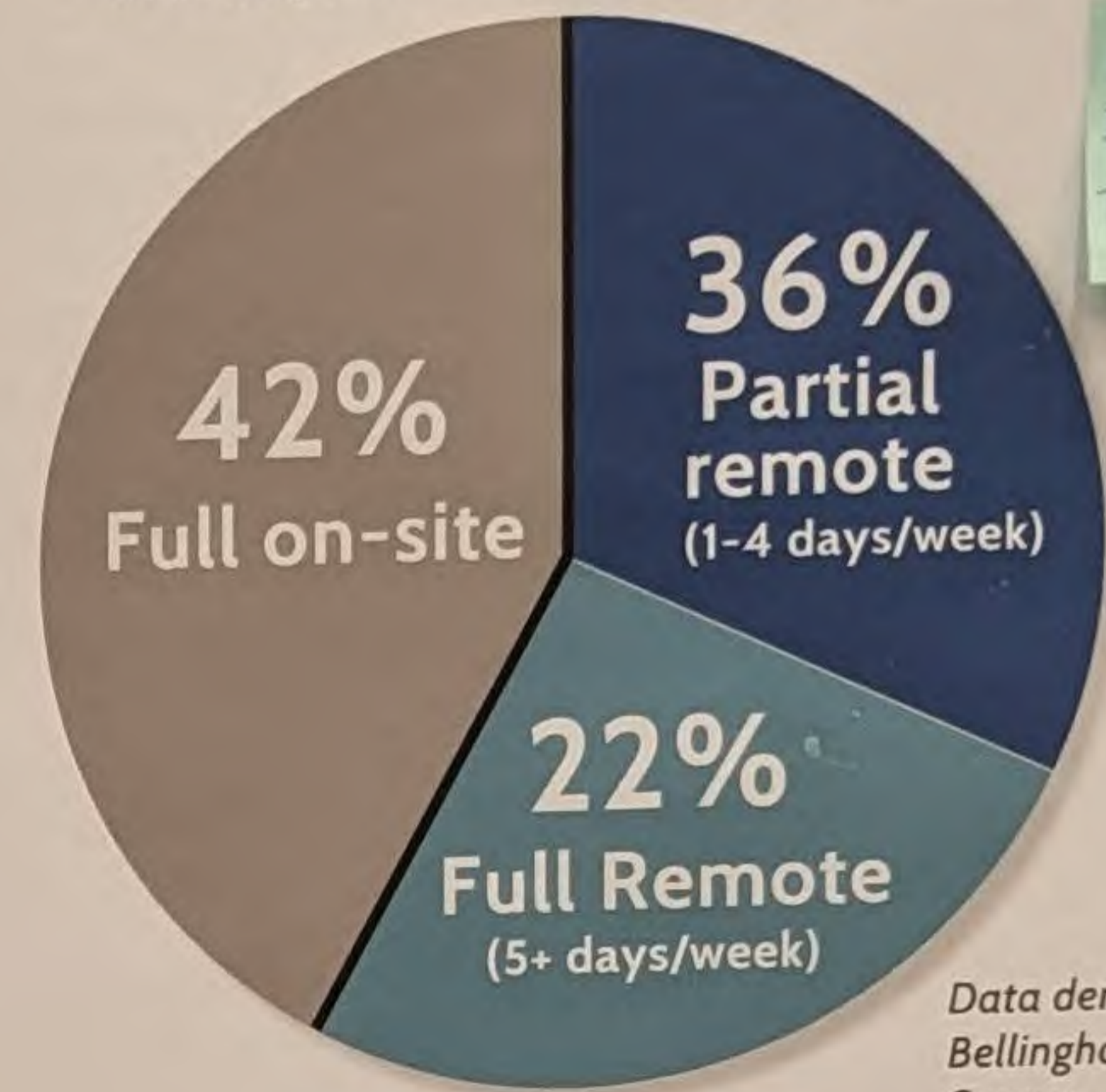
Bellingham's economy continues to shift over time.

Now, most employees in Bellingham work remotely for at least some part of the week.

The presence of remote work has economic, social, and larger regional impacts.

On-site vs. remote work

Base: Respondents who are employed (n=931)



Check Respondent Demographic

Data derived from 2023 City of Bellingham Housing Preference Survey

Using sticky notes, write down what you think the biggest impacts of remote work are in Bellingham and what it means for our future. Include a note detailing why.

- More inclusive opportunities for working families
- Better work/life balance
No expensive commute
Childcare
- Remote work makes sick day less stressful
- Have a community lunch/water cooler break
- Re-invest office space
work/life downtown
- Outside people moving to Bellingham & renting houses
prices up
- An increase of cost of living & less engaged community members
- More people that are not invested in local jobs -
- Requires more things to do near where people live
- We need to make sure we are supporting those that work retail/restaurants/etc. they are getting priced out of living here
- Less need for parking for cars. Opportunities for flexible use of building space.
- Cost to live here
- Remote workers drive less. Eliminate parking minimums citywide

To view the full survey results from the Housing Preference Survey, follow the QR code at right



CLIMATE ACTION

The City of Bellingham is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the resiliency of our community to prepare for the coming impacts of climate change that we are already experiencing. Our climate work is guided by the city's Climate Action Plan.

Timeline of Recent Climate-Related Engagement

2017 - 2018

Outreach to community interest groups and a public hearing regarding Climate Action Plan update

2018 - 2019

Climate Task Force meetings open to the public, with subject specific meetings and a City Council public hearing

2019 - 2023

Climate workplan presentations to Council

2023

Engaged community members on discussions of three main topic areas: transportation electrification, building electrification, and renewable energy

Current Workplan Programs Include Approaches To:

- » Increase the use of electric vehicles
- » Reduce emissions in homes and other buildings
- » Plan and respond to extreme heat and wildfires
- » Assess risk for sea level and storm surge
- » Create and buy renewable energy
- » Consider community resilience facilities
- » Coordinate with other stakeholders across all sectors

How does this relate to “the Bellingham Plan?”

Consistent with House Bill 1181, signed into law in 2023, the City will be updating the Bellingham Plan to include a climate element (the most recently added mandatory element). This climate element will include goals and policies that:

- **Focus on resiliency – improving climate preparedness, response, and recovery efforts**
- **Maximize economic, environmental, and social co-benefits and prioritize environmental justice**
- **Reduce overall emissions and vehicle miles traveled**

Learn more about the City's Climate Action Plan at cob.org/climate.

For questions, email Seth Vidaña at savidana@cob.org

YOUR SAFETY STORY

Safety is a common theme of our feedback, what does it mean to you?

In what context don't you feel safe in Bellingham? What causes you to feel that way?

Place a sticky note on the category (or two) that reflect why you might not feel safe. Include a note detailing why. If you prefer, submit your comment in the comment box below.

Road traffic (walking, biking, driving, etc.)	Visibility (lack of nearby activity, poor lighting, etc.)	Familiarity with surroundings (don't know the way, don't know people, etc.)	Property (concern for property safety due to theft or damage)	Job stability (security in finding or keeping a good job)	Other
People you don't know (people you see seem dangerous or a general concern for personal safety from strangers)	People you know (bullying, harassment, etc.)	Social network (don't have family/friends to rely on)	Health (personal health challenges, access to healthy food, etc.)	Housing stability (security in making rent or mortgage payments)	

To participate digitally in this exercise, scan the qr code at the right
You may submit your story anonymously



YOUR SAFETY STORY

Safety is a common theme of our feedback, what does it mean to you?

In what context don't you feel safe in Bellingham? What causes you to feel that way?

If you check more than one category (or two) that reflect why you might not feel safe. Include a note detailing why. If you have a comment, include your comment in the comment box below.

On street parking on street like people parked along street dangerous

Take away car access in fairhaven

More Bikes Yes!

sidewalks are an accessibility liability 1550

Every road/street should have a safe way to walk. SIDE WALKS!

Bike route are unusable many take pedestrian route. Also unsafe

There were better crosswalks on all our busy roads! + across the crosswalks!

Better sidewalk access, would love to see a sidewalk on Squacicum

Low light ordinance for Bellingham!

WE NEED LIGHTING ORDINANCES TO ELIMINATE LIGHT POLLUTION/BLINDING

Fast, too close for pedestrians. Let's build space for people, not cars.

Will not ride bike on city st

Fast traffic

Road traffic (walking, driving, etc.)	Visibility (lack of nearby activity, poor lighting, etc.)	Familiarity with surroundings (don't know the way, don't know people, etc.)	Property (concern for property safety due to theft or damage)	Job stability (security in finding or keeping a good job)	Other
People you don't (people you see seem dangerous or a general concern for personal safety from strangers)	People you know (bullying, harassment, etc.)	Social network (don't have family/friends to rely on)	Health (personal health challenges, access to healthy food, etc.)	Housing stability (security in making mortgage payments)	

Participate digitally in this exercise, scan the qr code at the right
 You may submit your story anonymously

PROJECT PRIORITIES

What legacies should be left by this project for future generations?

- 1 Use sticky notes to share your big-picture ideas on this board. We are looking for high-level ideas like:
 - ...bring more mixed uses into neighborhoods across the city
 - ...invest in developing near transit
 - ...create more pedestrian-only streets
- 2 Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map on the table below to share where you would like to see those big-picture ideas.

PROJECT PRIORITIES

What legacies should be left by this project for future generations?

1

Use sticky notes to share your big-picture ideas on this board. We are looking for high-level ideas like:

- ...bring more mixed uses into neighborhoods across the city
- ...invest in developing near transit
- ...create more pedestrian-only streets

2

Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map on the table below to share where you would like to see those big-picture ideas.

More mixed use
have more community
spots with transit
access and paths
to ownership

Housing Affordability

Owner-occupied
multi-
housing.

Create a housing
system that
guarantees
affordable homes
for everyone.

Time capsule
of how we feel
about our city.

WWII
Job
Native
students Why
we
came
to
Bham

more affordable
housing
everywhere
(no privileged
neighborhoods)

Strategic
incentives for
local youth
to stay to
return

green cycles
or scooters?
individual
alternatives
to mass
transit

7
generation
perspective

Neighborhood
development
concentrated
events

PROJECT PRIORITIES

What legacies should be left by this project for future generation

Need to find housing for those that currently are homeless

1

Use sticky notes to share your big-picture ideas on this board. We are looking for high-level ideas like:

- ...bring more mixed uses into neighborhoods across the city
- ...invest in developing near transit
- ...create more pedestrian-only streets

2

Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map on the table below to share where you would like to see those big-picture ideas.

Half-mile Hubs, Cafe, Pub, Grocery, Transit, Car, Bike, Retail, etc. (with 100' front setback)

Non-street bike paths (or separated from traffic)

Covered metal piles and/or NO metal piles

Seniors should not have to worry about being housed

Affordable housing w/ saving as much of the canopy as possible

Follow the Climate Action Task Force recommendations: electric mass transit, electric heating, hot water, solar on both sides of homes

Resilient city - Plan now for earthquakes & tsunamis, water front, security, Unintentional massing plan

We need a second hospital

WE NEED A LIGHTING ORDINANCE

- RESTRICT LIGHT TRESSPASS
- ELIMINATE BLINDING "SECURITY" LIGHTING
- ELIMINATE LIGHT POLLUTION
- PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

PURCHASE AND PROTECT AS MUCH WATERFRONT PROPERTY AS POSSIBLE BEFORE DEVELOPMENT BEGINS. WHAT MAKES THE CURRENT BELLEVUE AREA AS WONDERFUL AS IT IS NOW.

PLEASE PROTECT HISTORICAL BAY VILLAGES, HOUSING, ETC.

TRAFFIC PLANNING FOR FUTURE.

- FEELS LIKE CURRENT PROJECT DESIGN IS ONLY BASED ON CURRENT NUMBERS.
- WE NEED DEDICATED BIENZIUM LANES AT INTERSECTIONS

PROTECT CHUCKANUT MARINA FROM FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

- EXPAND LAUREL'S SONS PARK 4 MILES NORTH AND SOUTH

The city needs to get rid of the Albertsons non-complete class

Make our waterfront more like Zuerich

Housing w/ better mass transit

Chuckanut Corridor Plan revisit!

Mature tree canopy interwoven through neighborhoods (ie. in new developments) not just in Greenways and Parks.

Make Alderwood UGA a part of the City of Bellevue

Green Buffer along Freeway

Green spaces

FISHING PIER

More bike + walk-friendly places w/ crosswalks + sidewalks

Safeguarding all mature trees in the city.

- Plans to reforest areas wherever possible
- Focus on renovating existing buildings to create more housing

City Owned Housing

Pedestrian only zones, car-free downtown, bus services from power neighborhoods to marina

Pedestrian Corridor to waterfront

Walking trails/paths to marina + waterfront

Pedestrianize Railroad Ave

Parks w/ 1) Wildflowers (native) 2) No mow areas

delete metal piles. Add another marina

allow water-taxis

Say no to heavy industry.

Bike + Trail System expansion

- Tax Breaks if Safety or other Businesses would open "Sub-streets" to create more walkable neighborhoods. If some economies of scale but recognizing needs to be enabled in some locations.

Waterfront w/ housing + businesses (urban village)

Community centers @ where people in the neighborhoods can get together

Widen hiking trails to fit wheelchairs Connley Creek area.

Bypass Railroad on outskirts

Better Street Lighting in Fairhaven especially @ crosswalks

Local ownership

More mixed-use density in all neighborhoods, mimicing pre-car communities #Newurbanism

- with economic tax breaks for providing needed services: faster, cheaper, easier permitting process.

ban single family zoning

Smaller Busses Shorter Times Between Stops Free Rides

Down town a NO Car Zone

STOP ATTRACTING MORE PEOPLE



PROJECT PRIORITIES

What legacies should be left by this project for future generations?

1 Use sticky notes to share your big-picture ideas on this board. We are looking for high-level ideas like:

- ...bring more mixed uses into neighborhoods across the city
- ...invest in developing near transit
- ...create more pedestrian-only streets

2 Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map on the table below to share where you would like to see those big-picture ideas.

Everyone deserves the right to be able to walk to work

More services like medical & spas in every neighborhood walkable communities

MOAR BUSES!

Upgrade roads so cars can see the lanes + road edges

Keep streets nice & clean + keep affordable

Inter-mixed & Balanced Zoning

Protect the Arts - Support cultural policies

Support for the Arts - please continue

Safety
- Crime
- Roads - working lanes

Housing Affordability - Manage rent increases

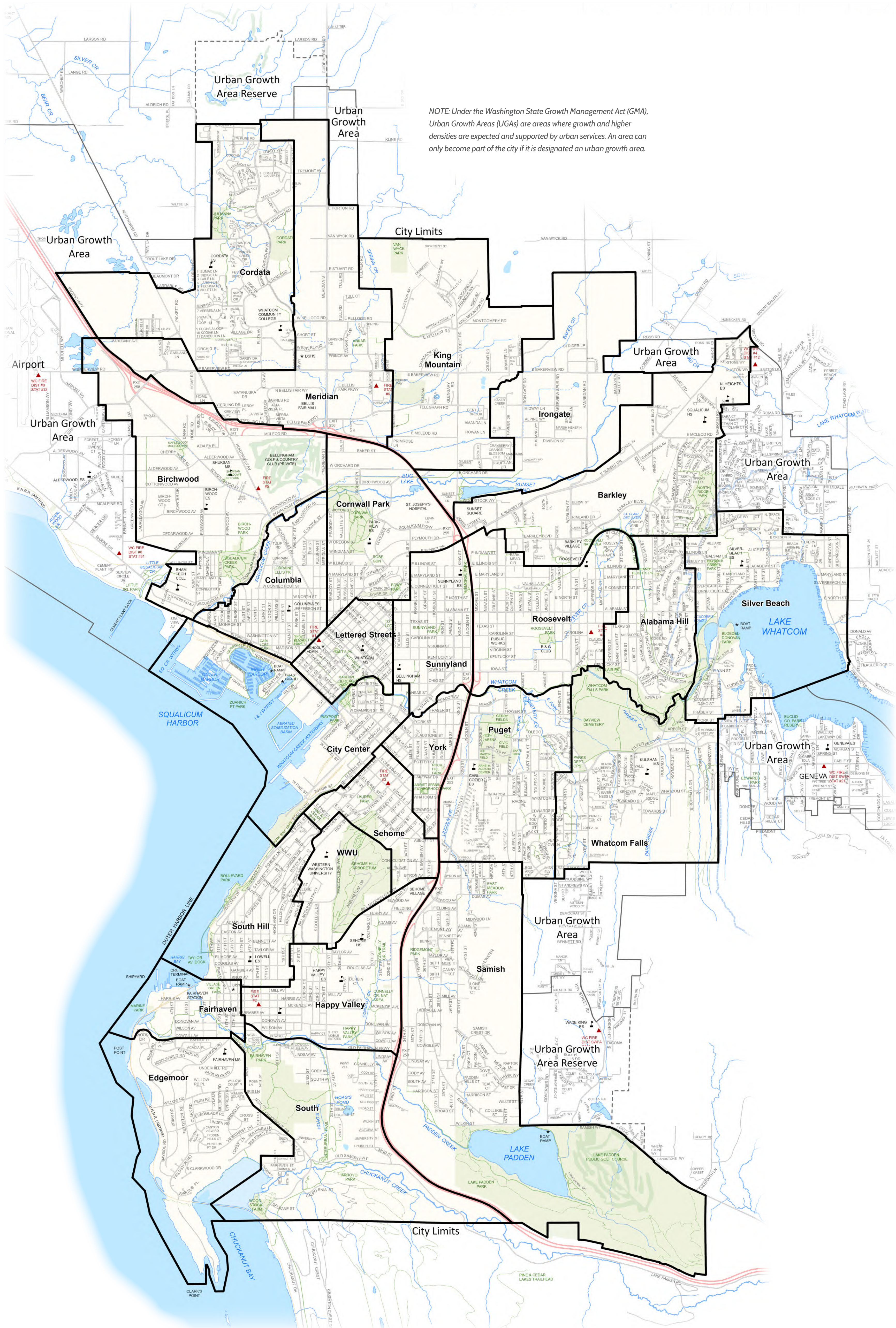
Protect trees everywhere
- Regrow areas where most trees are gone
- Developments plan for green space - even where denser growth occurs
- Encourage "homegrown national park"
- Encourage rooftop gardens
(Group of 6 houses)

trails that can more wheeled + foot traffic

neighborhoods connected by walking/biking

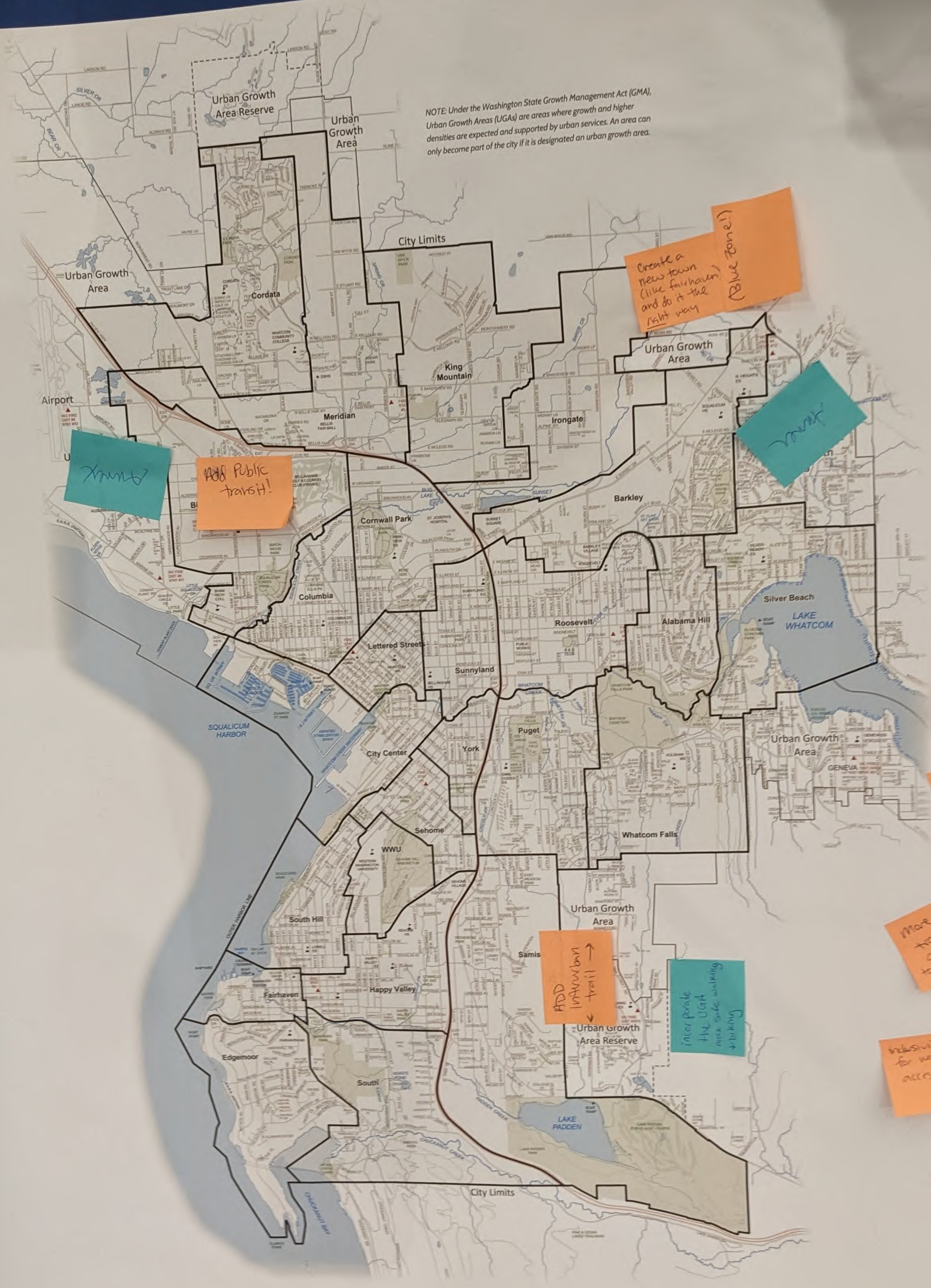
PROJECT PRIORITIES

Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map to share where you would like to see changes.



PROJECT PRIORITIES

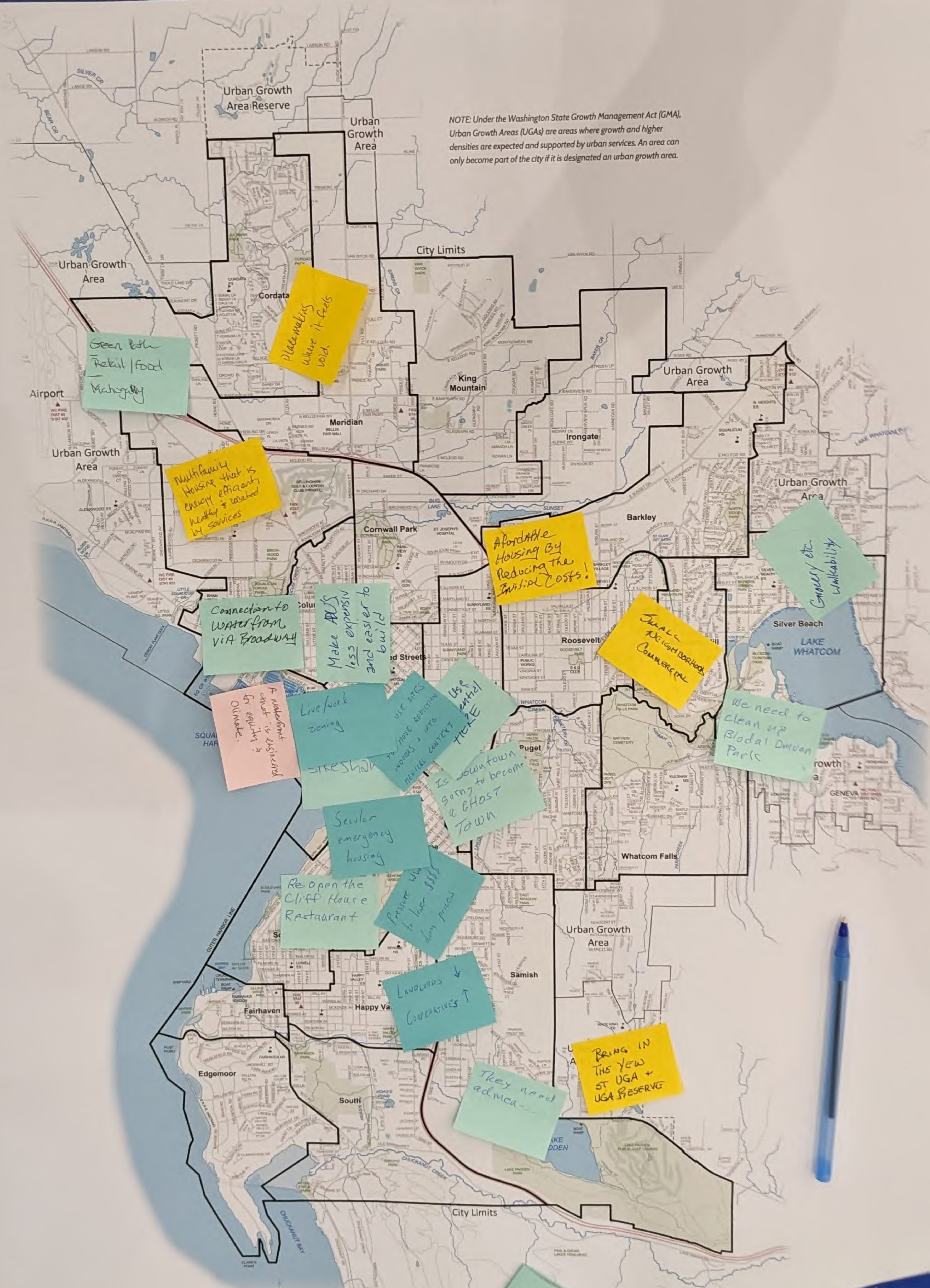
Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map to share where you would like to see changes.



NOTE: Under the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) are areas where growth and higher densities are expected and supported by urban services. An area can only become part of the city if it is designated an urban growth area.

PROJECT PRIORITIES

Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map to share where you would like to see changes.



NOTE: Under the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) are areas where growth and higher densities are expected and supported by urban services. An area can only become part of the city if it is designated an urban growth area.

Green both Petal / food Mahogany

Place making where it feels void.

Multifamily Housing that is energy efficient & related w/ services

Affordable Housing by Reducing the Initial Costs!

Greenery etc. Greenery etc. Walkability

Connection to water from via Broadway

Make APUs less expensive and easier to build

SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL

A waterfront district is designated on Clatsop.

Live/work zoning

USE SITES TO MAKE MEDICINE, NURSING, AND MEDICAL CENTER HERE

Use central HERE

Is downtown going to become a GHOST TOWN

We need to clean up Blodal Ocean Park

Secular emergency housing

Reopen the Cliff House Restaurant

Pressure who to lower rents down prices

LANDLORDS COOPERATIVES ↑

BRING IN THE NEW ST UGA + UGA RESERVE

They need admca

Hello my name is RICHARD MANEVAL

PROJECT PRIORITIES

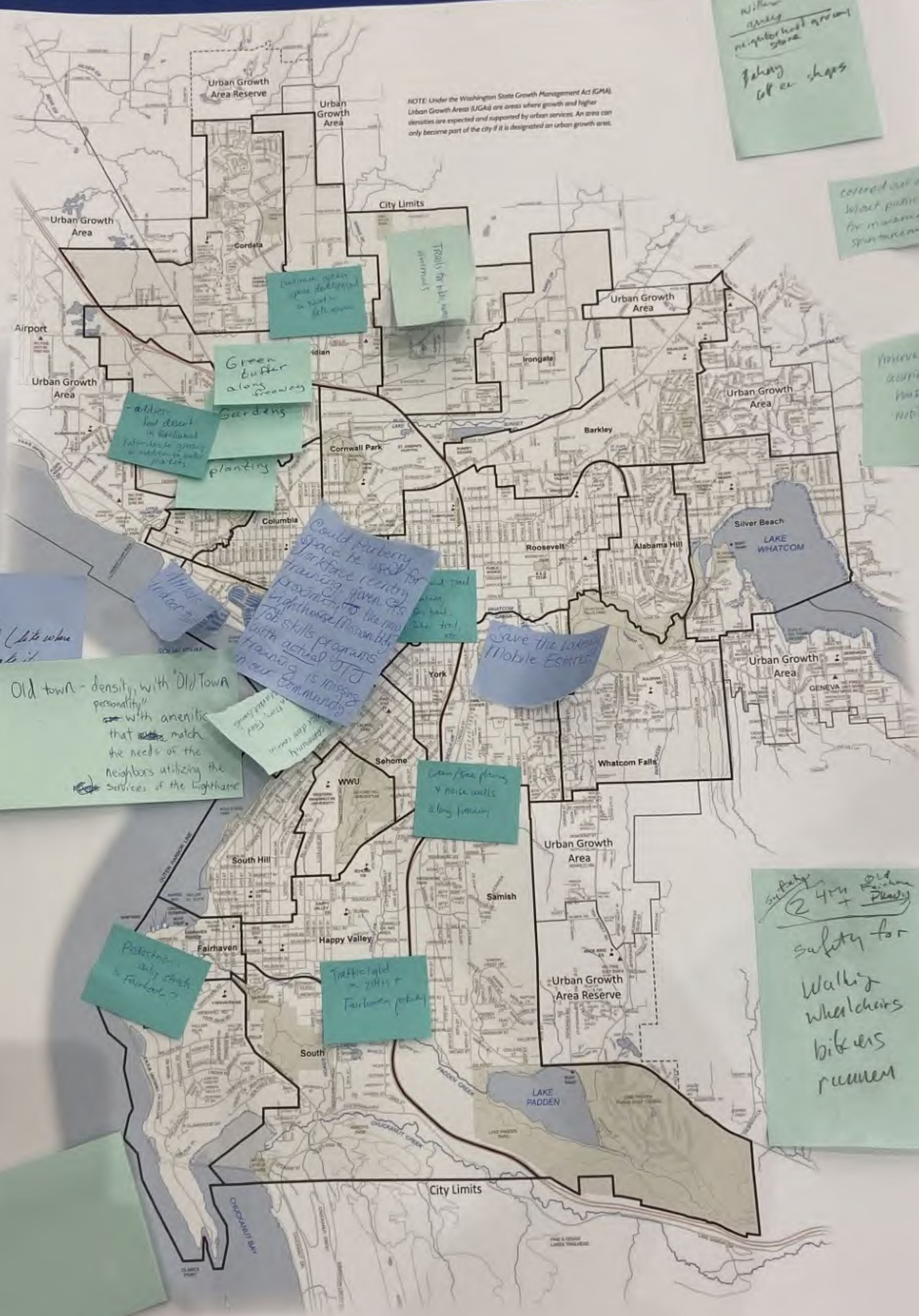
Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map to share where you would like to see changes.

Save School routes to all schools

Neighborhood business within business district neighborhood group share
 Parking at shops

covered outdoor spaces which public tables for restaurants & spontaneous recreation

Preserve naturally occurring available housing mobile home parks



Not sure when to put the cut -
 "Adopt a Hwy" for cleaning up road

Make a "plane" block off a street is: Hill & Commercial (lots where the first walk was) & make it permanent w/ trees, b...

Old town - density, with "Old Town personality" with amenities that match the needs of the neighbors utilizing the services of the Lighthouse

Could Fairberry space be used for housing, even if it's expensive, it's probably worth it. Job skills programs with actual training is missing in our community

Save the lakes Mobile Estates

Green tree planting & noise walls along freeway

Pedestrian safety streets in Fairhaven?

Traffic light in 2014 + Fairhaven parking

Subsidy 24hr + Old Fashioned Play
 safety for walking wheelchairs bikers runners

Increased density - large lots but thoughtful about lack of sidewalks and street parking
 Birchwood

PROJECT PRIORITIES

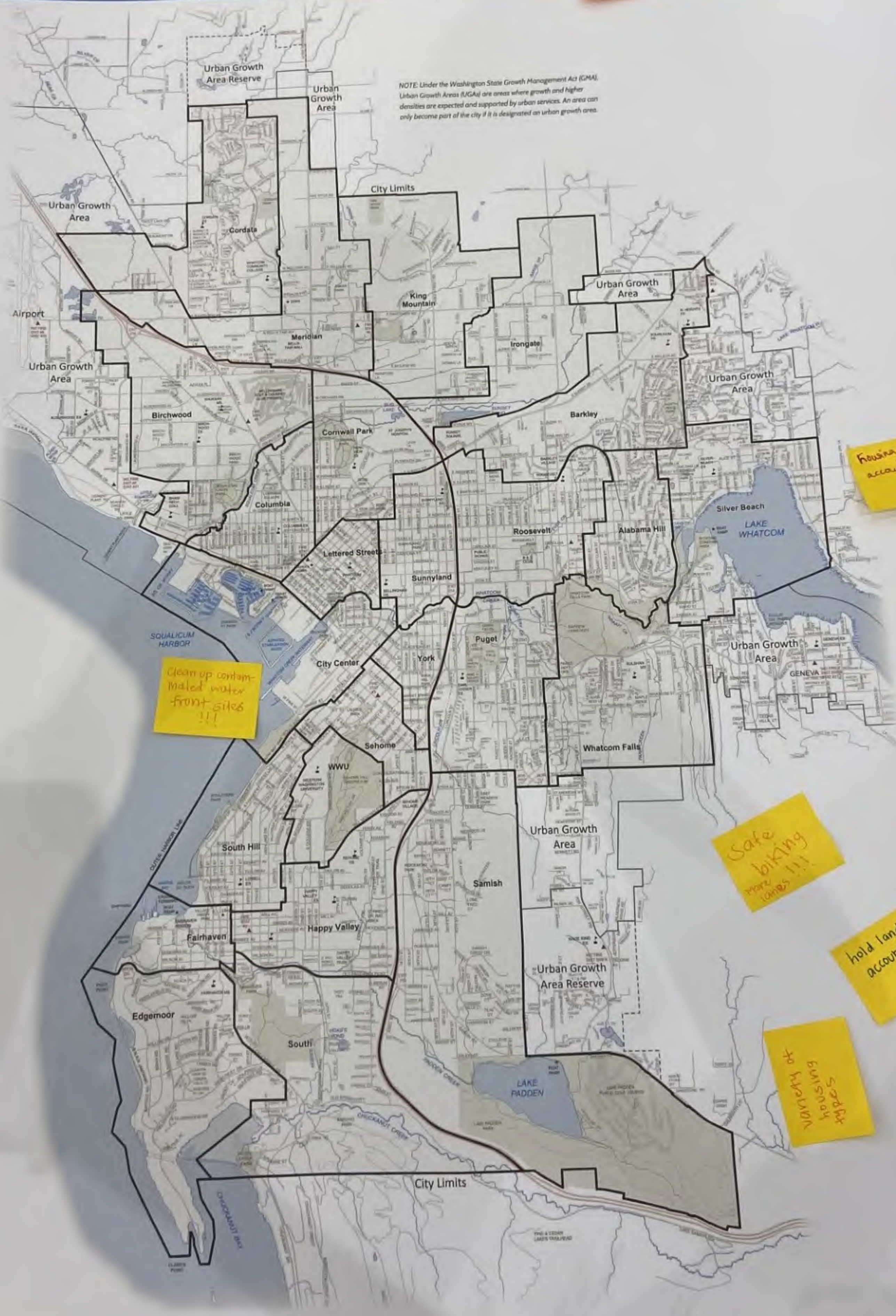
Use sticky notes and/or draw on the map to share where you would like to see changes.

Planned urban
units

Walkways
Housing
200-1000

☀️

🌲



Clean up contaminated water front sites !!!

Housing accountability

City owned affordable housing

Safe biking more lanes !!!

Mixed land use

hold landlords accountable

Support housing at whatcom

Community land trusts

housing affordability