



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Transportation Commission

**From:** Kim Scrivner, Transportation Planner – Public Works  
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**Date:** June 26, 2024

**Subject:** Transportation Strategic Plan and Transportation Element (TSP) of K2044  
Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element Updates

## RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Commission should receive a report on the K2044 Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element and TSP updates and provide feedback on these components.

## BACKGROUND

The TSP covers a 20-year planning horizon and is being updated in coordination with the K2044 Comprehensive Plan Update. While the TSP is a stand-alone plan that will be adopted independently, primary components are identified in the Transportation Element within the K2044 Comprehensive Plan as part of requirements identified in the Growth Management Act (GMA). The Transportation Element (see Attachment A) has been pulled out separately from the TSP to meet the schedule of the overall Comprehensive Plan Update while the TSP is being developed.

- The **K2044 Comprehensive Plan** includes the policy direction as well as a capital and financial plan for transportation needs that support planned growth (Transportation Element and projects within the Capital Facilities Plan/Element)
  - **Transportation Element:** existing conditions, goals and policies, concurrency with future land use
  - **Capital Facilities Plan:** projected 20-year revenue for transportation and projects that can be funded through these sources
  
- The **Transportation Strategic Plan** includes all the components in the Transportation Element and Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) but also provides greater detail, context, and the full vision for the transportation system such as:

- The unfunded project list showing the full vision, the ‘universe’ for transportation needs
- Greater detail, context, and maps
- A plan to demonstrate performance and monitoring
- Narrative and direction on emerging topics
- Point to modal and corridor plans/studies for greater detail/context, but will supersede all other plans for project prioritization

## **KEY THEMES FOR TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT AMENDMENTS**

The Draft Transportation Element accomplishes many important things in support of achieving the City of Kirkland’s vision for transportation over the next 20 years, including that it:

- Updates the land use assumptions and resulting transportation projects to be concurrent with future growth.
- Establishes a new project prioritization framework to identify high priority investments in the transportation system.
- Updates the transportation goals and policies.
- Refreshes action items to implement the goals and policies.
- Incorporates the Safe System Approach and Complete Streets policies.
- Updates the inventory of transportation facilities.
- Reviews multi-modal level of service.
- Incorporates equity and sustainability as key components of the goals, policies, and actions.

The Transportation Element articulates the vision for the future of Kirkland’s transportation system and considers how people get around today and how that may change in the future. The vision for Kirkland’s transportation system is safe, connected, and multimodal. With limited roadway space, Kirkland’s transportation system must accommodate people walking, rolling, bicycling, riding transit, and driving. The element reviews existing conditions in the City’s transportation system and outlines a vision for Kirkland’s transportation future. This element also charts a course for the city to accommodate future growth and supports the Land Use Element to keep people in Kirkland moving safely and equitably regardless of their mode of choice.

Investments in Kirkland’s transportation system, which are incorporated in the Capital Facilities Element, are designed to make travel in Kirkland safer, more comfortable, and more reliable. The citywide transportation goals and policies in the Transportation Element support Kirkland’s land use vision and planning to accommodate growth through 2044. As mentioned prior, a complementary piece of the transportation vision is the TSP, which is dynamically referenced within the Transportation Element.

## **ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS IN THE TSP**

As noted above, the TSP includes greater detail, context, and the full vision for the transportation system, including:

- Transit strategy (adequacy, advocacy, innovation)
- Curb management
- Emerging technologies (e.g. SMART Cities coordination)
- Micromobility
- Engagement
- Project prioritization
- Complete Streets
- Performance Monitoring
- Implementation

The project team will be developing these sections and will review draft language with the Transportation Commission at the July and September meetings to ensure the narrative reflects the Transportation Commission direction. Commission input is sought on the components listed above, particularly if the Commission has input on the structure of the TSP or additional items to add. The project team will begin to further develop the components of the Draft TSP following the June Commission meeting.

## **TSP DRAFT PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND LEVELS OF SERVICE**

Monitoring TSP implementation is a core component to the Plan. This includes both measuring levels of service as required through GMA and also through monitoring trends such as safety and collision injury rates. The Commission has provided input on the updated performance measures for this TSP as recently as the April meeting. The project team has updated the performance measures to reflect the Draft Transportation Element and are seeking Commission feedback and assistance in refining the program.

See Attachment B for the proposed performance monitoring program.

## **KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

The project team will be seeking feedback from the Transportation Commission on the following topics:

- Feedback on the Transportation Element
- Performance Measures
- TSP Additional Components and Emerging Topics

## **SCHEDULE**

- July 24, 2024 – Review major elements of the TSP with the Transportation Commission, including performance measures

- August – No Commission meetings; the project team will develop the TSP draft plan document
- Sept 4, 2024 – Transportation Commission workshop to review Draft TSP (note that this meeting is TBD, need Commission concurrence on adding a special meeting)
- September 25, 2024 – Transportation Commission Public Hearing on the TSP

### **NEXT STEPS**

The Transportation Commission will continue to work with the project team to refine the Transportation Element and TSP. The Transportation Commission is slated to hold a public hearing on the Draft TSP at the September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Planning Commission will deliberate and consider public testimony on the Transportation Element following their June 27<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing.

The Transportation Element will be considered by the City Council in conjunction with the rest of the Comprehensive Plan in December 2024.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment A: Draft Transportation Element
- Attachment B: Draft Performance Measures