

**2044 Kirkland Comprehensive Plan Guiding Principles** Proposed revised  
for K2044 Comprehensive Plan Update  
(Includes comments from Planning Commission and City Council Retreat on May 3, 2024)  
For Public Hearing

The revised Guiding Principles express the fundamental goals for guiding growth and development in Kirkland over the 20-year horizon of the Comprehensive Plan. They are based on the aspirations and values embodied in the Vision Statement. The Principles address a wide range of topics and form the foundation of the goals and policies contained in the elements of the Comprehensive Plan. They strive to make Kirkland in 2044 an inclusive, sustainable, vibrant, and inviting place to live, work, visit, and operate a business. Although the Guiding Principles broadly apply to all Comprehensive Plan elements, some of the principles are more applicable to certain elements than others.

**LIVABLE AND WELCOMING**

Promote a high quality of life, exemplified by a safe, accessible, affordable, and well-designed community planned for people of all abilities, with convenient access to parks, open space, recreational facilities, the waterfront, community gathering places, excellent schools, effective public transit, an abundance of housing options, jobs, and local services.

Foster an inclusive and equitable community where all people can thrive in Kirkland and feel that they are valued and belong.

**SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT**

Protect and enhance natural environmental systems, including forest land, lakes, wetlands, and streams; integrate green infrastructure into urban environments; achieve net-zero emissions and decarbonization to reduce impacts of climate change; and seek to empower the community to protect the environment through sustainable actions and the values of environmental justice.

Support a vibrant economy that is prosperous and resilient, that provides access to opportunity for all people, provides needed infrastructure, and uses technology responsibly.

Ensure that City growth and services are fiscally sustainable.

Provide and develop collaborations with other partners to provide health and human services that fulfill the basic needs of all people in the city.

Create a more resilient community that can withstand and prosper after natural, human, and economic disruptions, and adapts to climate change.

**CONNECTED AND INCLUSIVE**

Build an inclusive community by engaging people in government, schools, community gathering spaces, civic events, and volunteer activities to create a sense of belonging and provide pathways for opportunity.

Create a safe, accessible, and enjoyable multimodal transportation system for people of all abilities. Provide connected, well-maintained, networks for people to walk, bike, roll, and utilize transit to access housing, jobs, services, parks, schools, and destinations throughout the region.

Support appropriate technologies that connect, inform, and involve residents, businesses, and visitors.