# Kirkland 2044 Comprehensive Plan Update

August 2024

What is the City actually considering in areas with frequent public transit, referred as *transit corridors*?

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### With the Kirkland 2044 Comprehensive Plan Update

## The City is proposing:

DRAFT Policy LU-2.4: Create additional capacity for higher-intensity residential uses along identified frequent transit corridors citywide, and ensure development regulations enable multi-unit housing types.

# The City is **NOT** proposing:

- Zoning that would allow increased height or specific density within frequent transit corridors
- New parking standards for development

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# IF APPROVED, THE POLICY ALSO STATES THAT ANY SUPPORTING ZONING AMENDMENTS WOULD ADDRESS:

- Continued and improved transit service on these corridors;
- Vehicular traffic;
- Street safety for all modes;
- A gradual transition of intensity with the highest intensity uses located closest to the center of the corridors and the lowest intensity uses located at the outer edges of the corridors;
- Adequate public services;
- The need for publicly accessible parks and open space within the key transit corridors; and
- The need for sufficient grocery, commercial, and retail services to enable a complete community centered on the key transit corridors.

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#### Why is the City proposing this?

Focusing new growth along frequent transit corridors helps promote community objectives in the following ways:

- <u>Sustainability:</u> Adding new housing along frequent bus lines gives residents the ability to take trips via transit instead of driving, reducing traffic and air pollution;
- Affordable Housing: Increased residential densities generate increased affordable housing, because multi-family residential projects in most of the City are required to set aside at least 10% of units at levels that are affordable to lower-income households;
- Housing Options: Increased residential densities also create downward pressure on the price of market-rate housing, because there is more supply, allowing people in the community who have trouble paying for housing to live in the community; and
- <u>Economic Growth:</u> Density helps foster neighborhood-serving retail uses (corner stores, etc.), creating a more walkable, sustainable community.

#### What you can do:

- Attend Planning Commission Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6 p.m.
- Email your comments specific to the question at hand (Policy LU-2.4) to <u>PlanningCommissioners@kirklandwa.gov</u>
- Stay informed by signing up for the 2044 Comprehensive Plan email list at the QR code.

