



MONROE CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Bill No. 20-048

SUBJECT:	Discussion: Proposed Amendments - Growth Management Policy Board Recommendation for Vision 2050
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DATE:	DEPT:	CONTACT:	PRESENTER:	ITEM:
03/17/2020	Administration	Deborah Knight	Deborah Knight	Discussion Items #2

Discussion: 03/17/2020

- Attachments:**
1. Letter to Puget Sound Regional Council January 21, 2020
 2. Presentation of Snohomish County Amendment to PSRC Executive Board February 27, 2020
 3. Description of Vision 2050 "Cities and Towns"

REQUESTED ACTION: Review the amendment submitted by Snohomish County to the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Executive Board on February 27, 2020, to reduce the growth allocation to "Cities and Towns" from eleven to nine percent and increase the "Rural" population from three to six percent. Discuss the City Council's policy direction regarding the proposed Snohomish County amendment.

POLICY CONSIDERATION

Section 15 of the City Council Rules of Procedure states: "If a Councilmember or the Mayor appears on behalf of the City before another Governmental Agency, a community organization or the media for the purpose of commenting on an issue, the majority position of the Council, if known, is to be stated. Personal opinions and comments which differ from the Council majority may be expressed if it is clearly stated the comments do not reflect the majority Council position."

The purpose of this agenda bill is to introduce the proposed Snohomish County Amendment in order to provide guidance to Councilmember Rousey while representing the City during discussions and voting of the Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Committee.

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

What is PSRC?

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Puget Sound region, including Pierce, King, Kitsap, and Snohomish Counties and establishes the Multi-County Planning Policies.

PSRC develops policies and coordinates decisions about regional growth, transportation and economic development planning within King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap counties. PSRC is composed of over eighty jurisdictions, including all four counties, cities and towns, ports, state and local transportation agencies, and tribal governments within the region.

VISION 2050, which contains the Multi-County Planning Policies, is a regional strategy for accommodating the 5.8 million people expected to live in the region by 2050. The Multi-County Planning Policies (MPPs) provide a common framework for local plans, implement the Regional Growth Strategy, and provide the policy structure for other regional plans.

VISION 2050 actions outline responsibilities and tasks for PSRC, local governments, and others to implement the plan. The Regional Growth Strategy is a part of VISION 2050.

The Regional Growth Strategy identifies where to plan for population and job growth throughout the region.

How is growth distributed within the region and within each county?

The Regional Growth Strategy outlines the shares of growth to regional geographies within individual counties. One of the goals of VISION 2050 is to have cities, towns, and neighborhoods of various sizes and character in the future, so different levels of growth are provided for different types of places.

The charts below show how growth is distributed by county through the Regional Growth Strategy. Growth is also distributed differently within each county to reflect local characteristics. For example, in King County, the Metropolitan cities of Seattle and Bellevue represent a large share of the county population, while Snohomish County has more small cities and urban unincorporated areas with planned high-capacity transit. These differences are reflected in the county growth shares.

How is rural growth addressed?

The Regional Growth Strategy supports the long-term trends, which have been showing declining growth in rural areas far from major employment centers. The Growth Management Policy Board developed a Regional Growth Strategy that closely reflects the Transit Focused Growth alternative and allocates less growth in rural areas than VISION 2040. The draft plan also includes policies and actions supporting conservation techniques to maintain rural character over the long term.

How is the Regional Growth Strategy implemented?

Under the Growth Management Act, counties and cities work together to adopt population and employment growth targets for each jurisdiction. These growth targets are used in local comprehensive plans and planning throughout the region for land use, transportation, and services.

While the allocations shape local targets, the strategy also supports flexibility by grouping places into “regional geographies,” extending the planning horizon beyond local plans, and including guidance and policies that recognize that flexibility and adjustments over time may be needed.

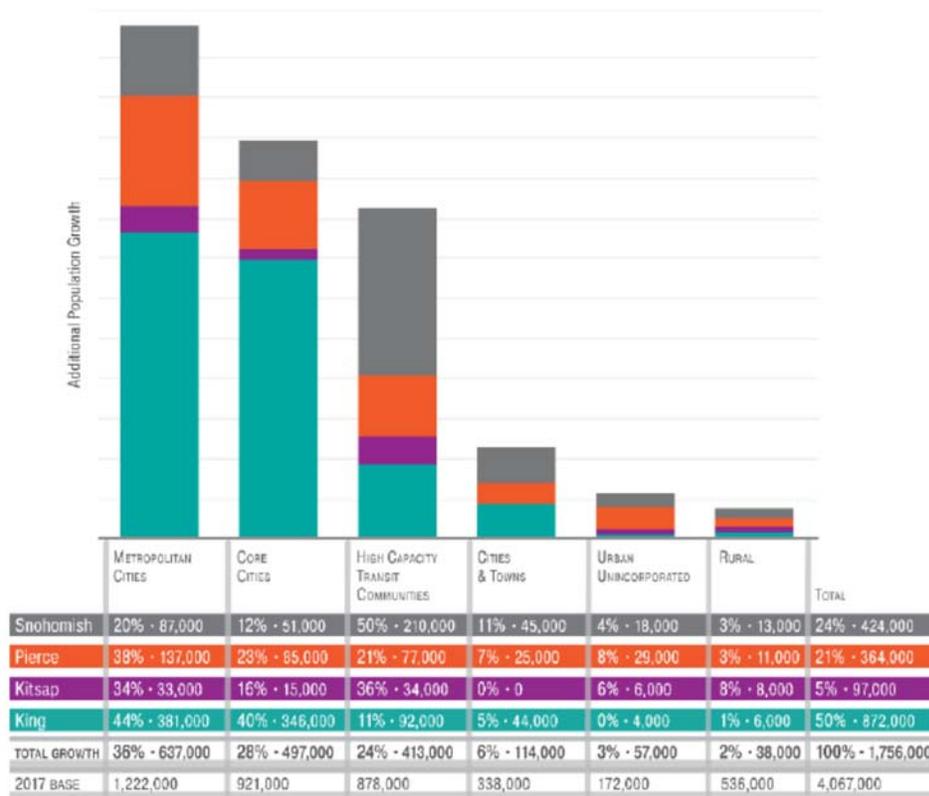
How Does Vision 2050 allocate growth?

The Regional Growth Strategy is intended to coordinate growth among the region’s cities and towns as they periodically update local housing and employment growth targets and amend their local comprehensive plans. Countywide growth targets are based on population forecasts developed by the state Office of Financial Management and regional employment forecasts from PSRC.

The Regional Growth Strategy calls for different “regional geographies” – Metropolitan Cities, Core Cities, High Capacity Transit, Cities and Towns, Unincorporated and Rural, to accommodate different shares of population and employment growth—within the region as a whole, as well as within each county. While relative amounts may differ somewhat between counties, the roles of regional geographies within each county are consistent for the region as a whole.

Within each county, the relative distribution of growth to individual cities and unincorporated places will be determined through countywide target-setting, taking into account local circumstances.

Figure 6 – Population Growth 2017-50, Preferred Alternative



What is Monroe’s growth allocation?

Monroe is classified as one of forty-two “cities and towns” with the region (Attachment 3). Cities and Towns include a diverse array of jurisdictions, including places near major cities, small residential towns, and free-standing cities and towns surrounded by rural and resource lands.

The region’s forty-two Cities and Towns are expected to accommodate relatively less growth than historical trends and remain relatively stable for the long term.

Cities inside the contiguous urban growth area will likely be able to accommodate a larger share of growth due to their proximity to the region’s large cities, existing and planned transportation systems, and other supporting infrastructure. Small residential towns that have limited potential for accommodating growth are likely to receive a lesser share of cities and towns growth.

Free-standing cities and towns are separated from the contiguous urban growth area and should serve as hubs for relatively higher-density housing choices and as job and service centers for surrounding rural areas. These cities should be the focal points of rural-based industries and commerce and the location of schools and other institutions serving rural populations. Due to their physical isolation from the rest of the designated urban growth area, they will likely receive a lesser overall share of growth and are not expected to grow as much as cities and towns in the contiguous urban growth area.

The Regional Growth Strategy calls for forty-two Cities and Towns to accommodate six percent of the region’s population growth and four percent of its employment growth by the year 2050.

What is the Snohomish County amendment?

Snohomish County proposes growth strategy allocations for Snohomish County to match the July 2019 draft VISION 2050, decreasing the allocation to “cities and towns” from eleven to nine percent and increasing the rural allocation from three to six percent.

	Metropolitan Cities	Core Cities	High Capacity Transit Communities	Cities & Towns	Urban Unincorporated	Rural
GMPB Recommendation - Population	20% 87,000	12% 51,000	50% 210,000	11% 45,000	4% 18,000	3% 13,000
Snohomish County Proposed - Population	20% 87,000	11% 47,000	50% 210,000	9% 37,000	4% 18,000	6% 25,000

Why does Monroe support the GMPB Recommendation?

The City of Monroe supports the Growth Management Planning Board’s December 5, 2019, recommendation to the Executive Board to adopt a three percent growth rate for the rural areas of Snohomish County and a four percent growth rate for the urban unincorporated areas.

This policy accommodates the region’s growth first and foremost into the urban growth area (MPP-RGS-4); avoids increasing development capacity inconsistent with the Regional Growth Strategy in regional geographies not served by high-capacity transit (MPP-RGS-11); plans for commercial, retail, and community services that serve rural residents to locate in neighboring cities to avoid the conversion of rural land into commercial purposes (MPP-RGS-12); and manages and reduces rural growth rates overtime to maintain rural landscapes and lifestyles and protect resource lands and the environment(MPP-RGS-13).

In the event the Executive Board supports the Regional Growth Strategy proposed by Snohomish County for the rural and urban unincorporated areas of Snohomish County, the City of Monroe requested in the January 21, 2020, letter (Attachment 1) the Executive Board direct growth to areas with enough existing and vested vacant lots to accommodate allocated growth without further subdividing rural lands.

The Regional Growth Strategy should not be used to justify creative measures such as UGA “land swaps” to amend or expand the Urban Growth Area into rural areas where vested vacant lots are not already in place.

FISCAL IMPACTS

This policy discussion does not have any direct budget impacts.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

The PSRC Executive Board is scheduled to discuss the proposed Snohomish County amendment at its next meeting on March 26, 2020. Councilmember Rousey plans to attend the meeting to hear the discussion and represent the City.

ALTERNATIVES TO REQUESTED ACTION

Council may discuss the proposed amendment and choose not to provide direction to Councilmember Rousey in which case, she may not represent the full Council at the Executive Board meeting.



January 20, 2019

Puget Sound Regional Council
 Executive Board
 Attn: Sheila Rogers
 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
 Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Growth Strategy - GMPB Recommendation for VISION 2050

The City of Monroe supports the Growth Management Planning Board's December 5, 2019 recommendation to the Executive Board to adopt a 3% growth rate for the rural areas of Snohomish County and a 4% growth rate for the urban unincorporated areas.

This policy accommodates the region's growth first and foremost into the urban growth area (MPP-RGS-4); Avoids increasing development capacity inconsistent with the Regional Growth Strategy in regional geographies not served by high-capacity transit (MPP-RGS-11); Plans for commercial, retail, and community services that serve rural residents to locate in neighboring cities ...to avoid the conversion of rural land into commercial purposes (MPP-RGS-12); and Manages and reduces rural growth rates overtime...to maintain rural landscapes and lifestyles and protect resource lands and the environment(MPP-RGS-13).

In the event the Executive Board supports the Regional Growth Strategy proposed by Snohomish County for the rural and urban unincorporated areas of Snohomish County, the City of Monroe respectfully requests the growth is directed to areas with enough existing and vested vacant lots to accommodate allocated growth without further subdividing rural lands. The Regional Growth Strategy should not be used to justify creative measures such as UGA "land swaps" to amend or expand the Urban Growth Area into rural areas where vested vacant lots are not already in place.

As counties and cities update their comprehensive plans in 2023-24 to accommodate growth targets and implement the Regional Growth Strategy, the City of Monroe supports a full range of strategies, including zoning and development standards, incentives, infrastructure investments, housing tools and economic development, to achieve a development pattern that aligns with VISION 2050 to reduce rural growth rates overtime and focus growth in cities. The City strongly opposes any efforts to increase densities outside of urban, incorporated areas.

Sincerely,

Mayor Pro-Tem

**THE ADVENTURE
 STARTS HERE!**

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 Discussion Item #2
 AB20-048

VISION 2050

ATTACHMENT 2

Growth Management Policy Board Recommendation

February 27, 2020
Executive Board



Review Process

Today

Continued review of GMPB recommendation
Consider amendments

March

Issue Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
Ask for board for recommendation to General Assembly

May 28

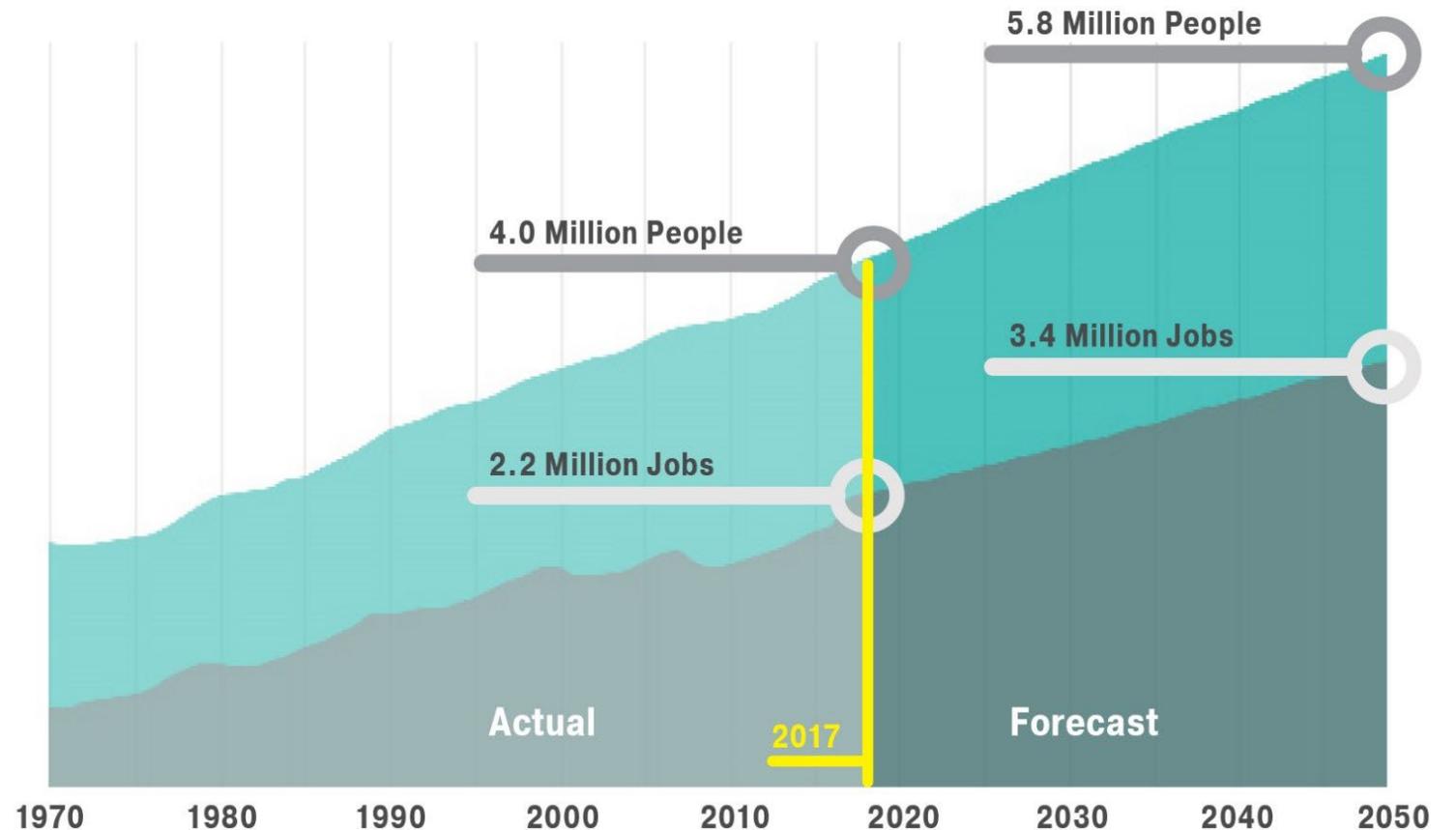
General Assembly
Publish final version after General Assembly

2050 Forecast



The long-range forecast is for continued growth

- The region is projected to grow by about **1.8 million people** between 2017 and 2050
- The region is projected to add about **1.2 million jobs** between 2017 and 2050



VISION 2050 Development



VISION 2050 Work Program



● Early work

● Scoping, research, planning

● SEPA review, draft plan

● Adoption

Public Comment Periods

VISION Scoping | Feb – Mar 2018

VISION DSEIS | Feb – April 2019

Draft Plan | July – Sept 2019

Research + Data

2050 Forecast

Data Trends

Displacement Risk Mapping

Opportunity Mapping

Nine Background Papers

Public Outreach

Listening Sessions

Open Houses

Public Opinion Survey

Youth Engagement

Tabling at Community Events

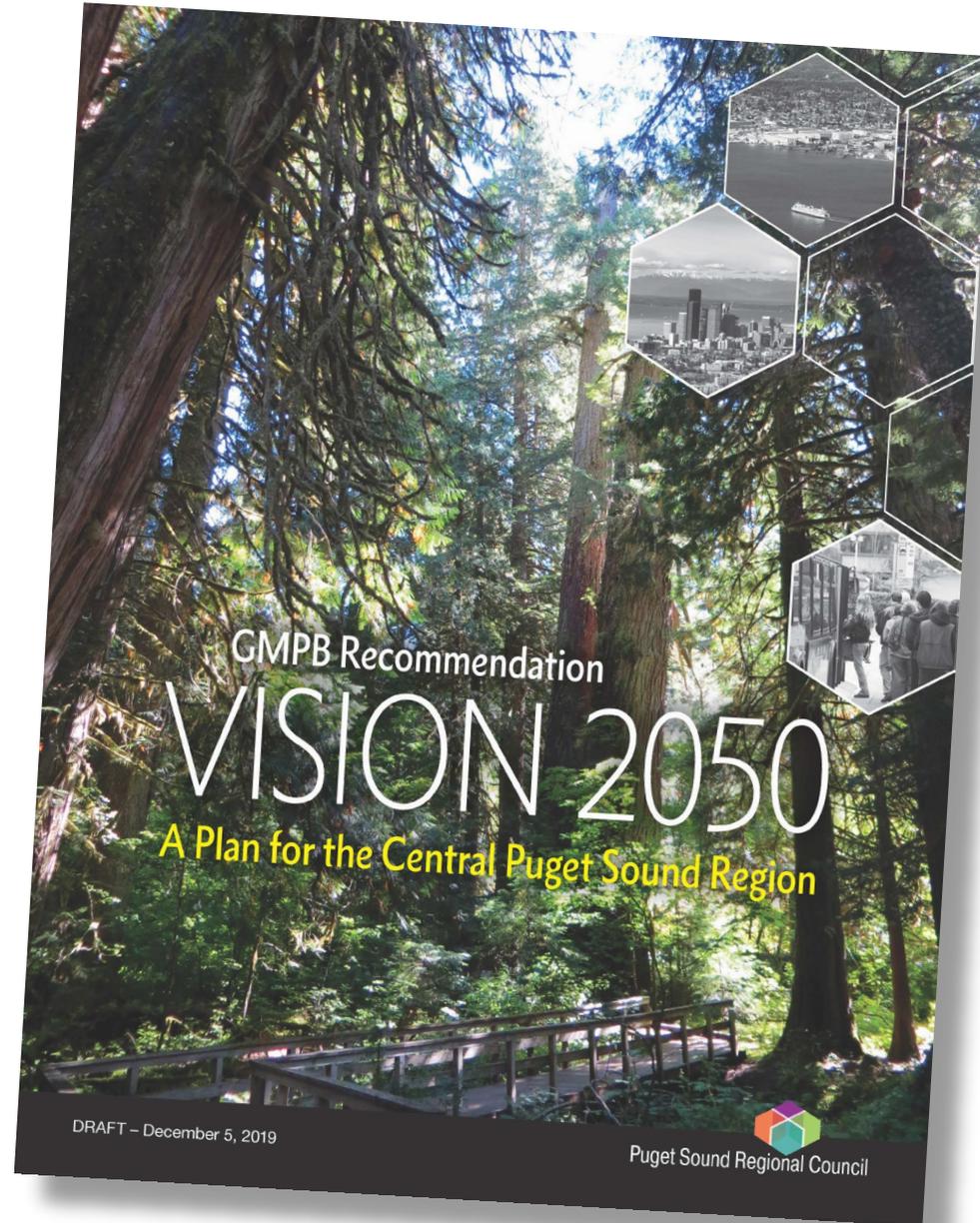
Translated Materials

Board Engagement

Topical Board Work Sessions

Nine Extended Meetings, Four Special Mtgs in 2018-19

The Growth Management
Policy Board unanimously
recommends adoption of
VISION 2050



VISION 2050 works to...

-  Increase **housing** choices and affordability
-  Provide **opportunities** for all
-  Sustain a strong **economy**
-  Significantly reduce greenhouse gas **emissions**
-  Keep the region **moving**
-  Restore the health of **Puget Sound**
-  Protect a network of **open space**
-  Growth in **centers** and near **transit**
-  Act **collaboratively** and support **local efforts**



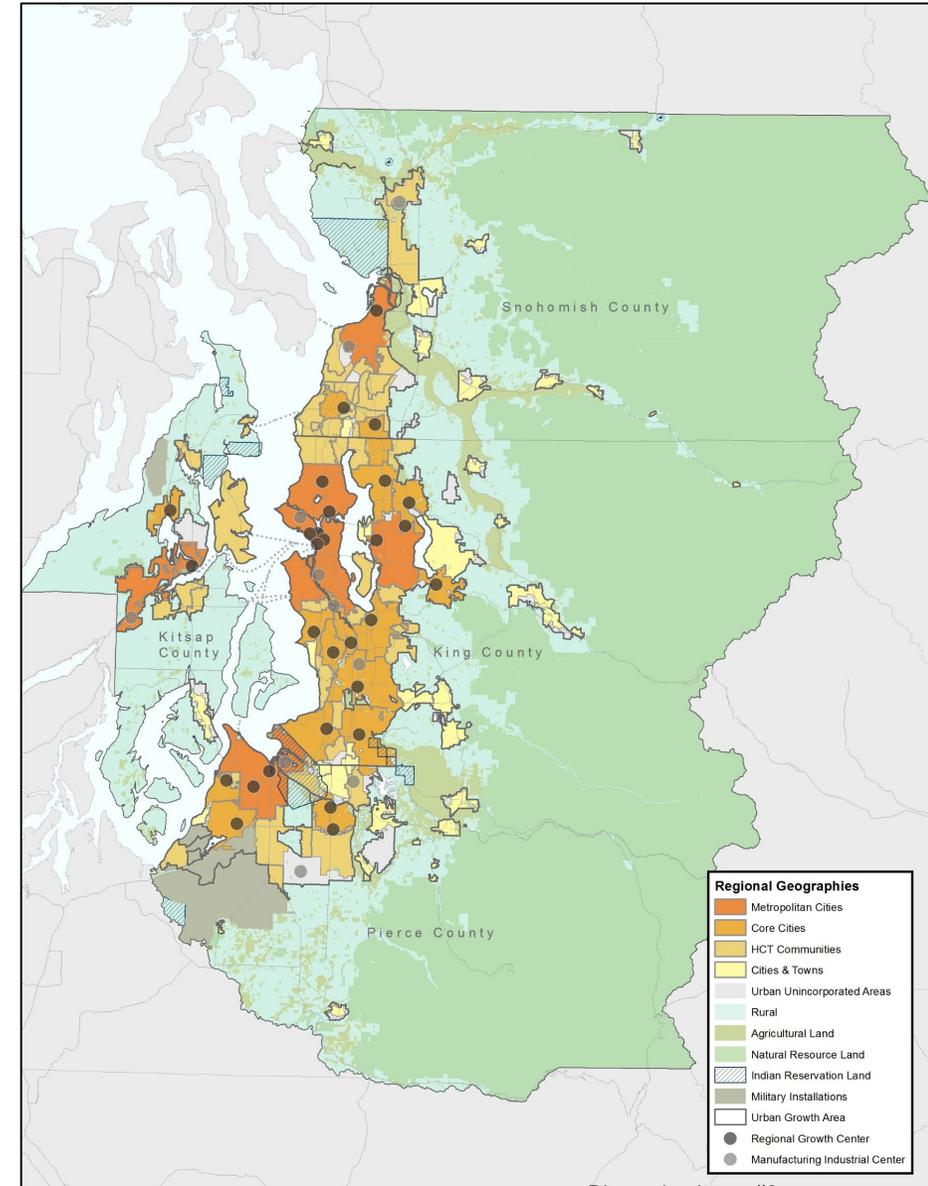
What's different from VISION 2040?

- Extends planning horizon to **2050**
- Updated growth strategy and aims for **more growth near transit**
- Advocates for **sustainable funding** sources
- Increases recognition of **Native Tribes** and **military installations**
- New chapter on **climate change**
- Directs a **regional housing strategy**
- Directs a **regional equity strategy** and consideration of forming an equity advisory group



Regional Growth Strategy

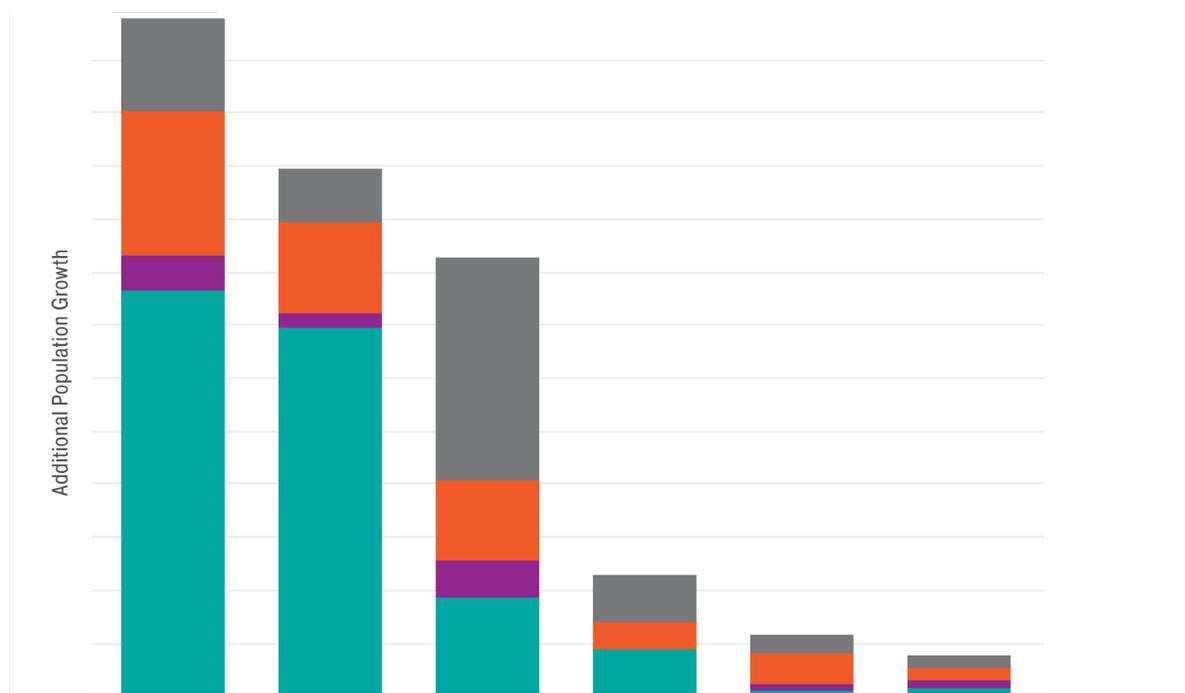
- Most growth aimed at Metro, Core, and High Capacity Transit Communities
- **65%** of region's population growth and **75%** of employment growth in regional growth centers & near HCT
- Less growth rural areas
- Better jobs-housing balance by shifting employment allocation from King County



Regional Growth Strategy

Population Growth 2017-2050, Preferred Growth Alternative

Population Growth - Draft Preferred Alternative



	METROPOLITAN CITIES	CORE CITIES	HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT COMMUNITIES	CITIES & TOWNS	URBAN UNINCORPORATED	RURAL	TOTAL
Snohomish	20% · 87,000	12% · 51,000	50% · 210,000	11% · 45,000	4% · 18,000	3% · 13,000	24% · 424,000
Pierce	38% · 137,000	23% · 85,000	21% · 77,000	7% · 25,000	8% · 29,000	3% · 11,000	21% · 364,000
Kitsap	34% · 33,000	16% · 15,000	36% · 34,000	0% · 0	6% · 6,000	8% · 8,000	5% · 97,000
King	44% · 381,000	40% · 346,000	11% · 92,000	5% · 44,000	0% · 4,000	1% · 6,000	50% · 872,000
TOTAL GROWTH	36% · 637,000	28% · 497,000	24% · 413,000	6% · 114,000	3% · 57,000	2% · 38,000	100% · 1,756,000
2017 BASE	1,222,000	921,000	878,000	338,000	172,000	536,000	4,067,000

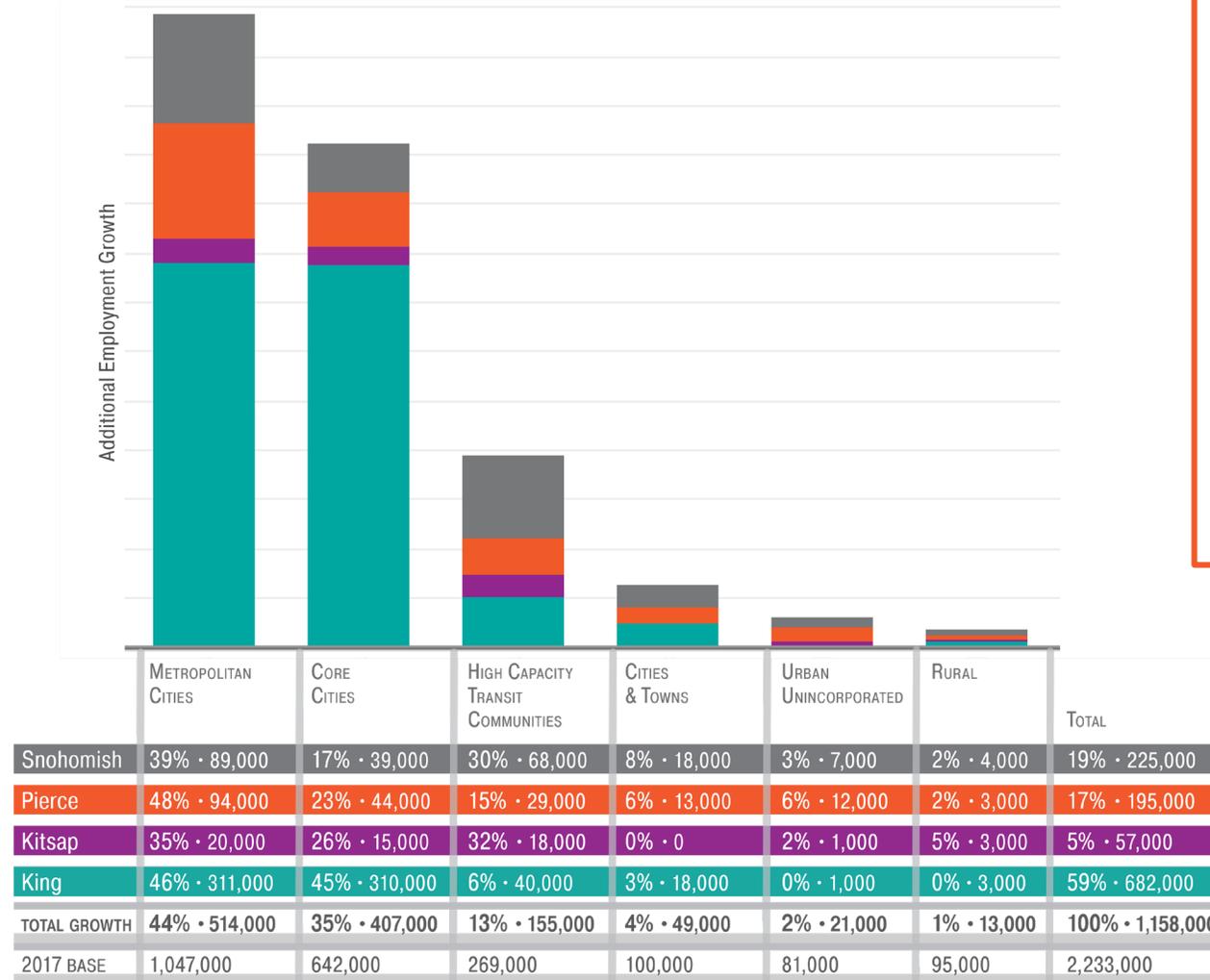
- Increased growth in mid-to large-size cities with regional growth centers and high-capacity transit
- Decreased growth in Rural areas
- Decreased growth in unincorporated areas without transit and smaller cities
- Increased jobs-housing balance in the region



Regional Growth Strategy

Employment Growth 2017-2050, Preferred Growth Alternative

Employment Growth - Draft Preferred Alternative



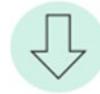
- Increased growth in mid-to large-size cities with regional growth centers and high-capacity transit
- Decreased growth in Rural areas
- Decreased growth in unincorporated areas without transit and smaller cities
- Increased jobs-housing balance in the region



Performance of Preferred Growth Alternative



Land Development



Less land converted - Amount of land converted to new development is substantially less than STC or RUG alternatives



Transit ridership



Greater transit ridership - Transit increases substantially compared to 2014 baseline; more than STC and RUG



Greenhouse gas emissions



Greenhouse gas emissions reduced – Emissions, compared to 2014 baseline, decrease more than STC and RUG alternatives



Average daily drive time



Better drive times – Average drive time, compared to 2014 baseline, is a greater reduction than STC and RUG alternatives

STC = Stay the Course Alternative

RUG = Reset Urban Growth Alternative

Full analysis provided in Draft SEIS and Final SEIS

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Board Amendments

Amendments proposed by board members

- Snohomish County growth strategy allocations
- Housing related edits and new actions



Regional Growth Strategy

- Snohomish County proposes growth strategy allocations for Snohomish County to match the July draft, increasing the rural allocation

	Metropolitan Cities	Core Cities	High Capacity Transit Communities	Cities & Towns	Urban Unincorporated	Rural
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Regional Growth Strategy

- Growth Management Policy Board considered a range of growth alternatives
- Snohomish County amendment numbers were used in the draft plan release last summer
- They are within the range analyzed by the SEPA document
- The Growth Board chose to reduce the Snohomish County Rural population allocation by about 12,000 people after review of other counties and analysis of the alternatives

Housing Amendments

King County Councilmember Balducci proposes several edits related to housing, including two new action statements:

H-Action 7

Housing Choice: Counties and cities will update regulations and strategies to reduce barriers to the development and preservation of moderate density housing to bridge the gap between single-family and more intensive multifamily development, consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy.

H-Action 8

Housing Production: Counties and cities will review and amend, where appropriate and consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy, development standards and regulations to reduce barriers to the development of housing by providing flexibility and minimizing additional costs.

Housing in VISION 2050

Policies address:

- Housing **production** that meets existing and future needs
- Emphasis on the **location** of housing
- Housing in **centers** & access to transit
- Preserving and expanding housing **affordability**
- Identifying and mitigating **displacement**

Actions:

- Develop a **regional housing strategy**, including a regional needs assessment
- Technical assistance and guidance to **support local planning**



Next Steps

March

- Issue Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
- Ask board to make recommendation to the General Assembly

May 28

- General Assembly – action to adopt plan

Final version with additional formatting and graphics published after General Assembly



Thank you.

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Ben Bakkenta, AICP

Director of Regional Planning
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Cities and Towns

Cities and Towns include a diverse array of jurisdictions, including places near major cities, small residential towns, and free-standing cities and towns surrounded by rural and resource lands. Cities and Towns provide important housing, jobs, commerce, and services in their downtowns and local centers. The region's 42 Cities and Towns are expected to accommodate relatively less growth than historical trends and remain relatively stable for the long term. Many Cities and Towns are served by local transit options, but these jurisdictions are not connected to the regional high-capacity transit system. Some may not be served by scheduled fixed-route transit or be within a transit service district. Their locally-designated city or town centers provide local job, service, cultural, and housing areas for their communities. These local centers should be identified in local comprehensive plans and become priority areas for future investments and growth at the local level.

Cities inside the contiguous urban growth area will likely be able to accommodate a larger share of growth due to their proximity to the region's large cities, existing and planned transportation systems, and other supporting infrastructure. Small residential towns that have limited potential for accommodating growth are likely to receive a lesser share of cities and towns growth.

Free-standing cities and towns are separated from the contiguous urban growth area and should serve as hubs for relatively higher-density housing choices and as job and service centers for surrounding rural areas. These cities should be the focal points of rural-based industries and commerce and the location of schools and other institutions serving rural populations. Due to their physical isolation from the rest of the designated urban growth area, they will likely receive a lesser overall share of growth and are not expected to grow as much as cities and towns in the contiguous urban growth area.

The Regional Growth Strategy calls for 42 Cities and Towns to accommodate 6% of the region's population growth and 4% of its employment growth by the year 2050.



Figure 11 – Cities and Towns



Cities and Towns (42 cities, 140 square miles): Algona, Beaux Arts, Black Diamond, Bonney Lake, Brier, Buckley, Carbonado, Carnation, Clyde Hill, Covington, Darrington, Duvall, Eatonville, Edgewood, Enumclaw, Gig Harbor, Gold Bar, Granite Falls, Hunts Point, Index, Lake Stevens, Maple Valley, Medina, Milton, Monroe, Normandy Park, North Bend, Orting, Pacific, Roy, Ruston, Sammamish, Skykomish, Snohomish, Snoqualmie, South Prairie, Stanwood, Steilacoom, Sultan, Wilkeson, Woodway, and Yarrow Point

Cities and Towns are located throughout the region and represent over half of the region's incorporated jurisdictions. Cities and Towns in Snohomish and Pierce counties are expected to accommodate a relatively higher share of their countywide growth compared to King and Kitsap counties.