

SPC Recommendations on Overarching Themes for the Comprehensive Plan

Purpose:

- Support the community, Office of Planning and Community Development and other City Departments
- SPC practice of recommending focus/ theme for Comp Plan major updates
- Early guidance as the major update starts

Timeline:

- First reviewed draft letter on March 11
- Subsequent discussions May 13, May 27 and June 10
- Will be followed by more specific short, issue papers

Contents Summary

Emphasize meaningful, effective and adequately resourced community engagement

Recommendations:

1. Racial equity, resilience and quality of life as central themes
2. Provide for reparations & racial equity outcomes
3. Reevaluate the Growth Strategy & revise land use policies
4. Further accessibility in the built environment

Contents Summary

5. Equitably promote public health
6. Seek guidance from and consult with Tribes
7. Expand transit and establish a hierarchy for modal plans
8. Repurpose the right-of-way
9. Embed climate actions
10. Invest in graphic design that increases the accessibility and utility of the Plan

Edits

However, the commission is concerned that the currently proposed funding for community outreach, which is actually less than that allotted for the previous major comprehensive plan update, is inadequate to attain this level of success..

(third paragraph, page 3)

Edits

Paired with anti-displacement strategies, all residential areas including existing single-family zoned parcels, can become more sustainable, walkable, and diverse by increasing the share of housing they welcome. We recommend developing a vision for connected, complete neighborhoods, with a greater quantity and variety of housing, frequent transit service, and diversity of uses ~~beyond the boundaries of existing~~ citywide.

(first full paragraph, page 4)

Edits

Parking requirements increase the cost of housing, promote car use and resultant traffic, inhibit walkability, degrade urban design, and penalize people who can't afford a car or who do not drive.
(point 7, page 6)

Edits

The opportunity to make progress on Seattle's most challenging issues with this major update means that the accessibility and use of the Plan should be a high priority. While this may feel like an administratively focused recommendation, the graphic design and structure of the Plan ~~has~~ significantly affects its approachability, use and impacts. ~~on its use and approachability~~
(last paragraph, page 8)

Discussion