



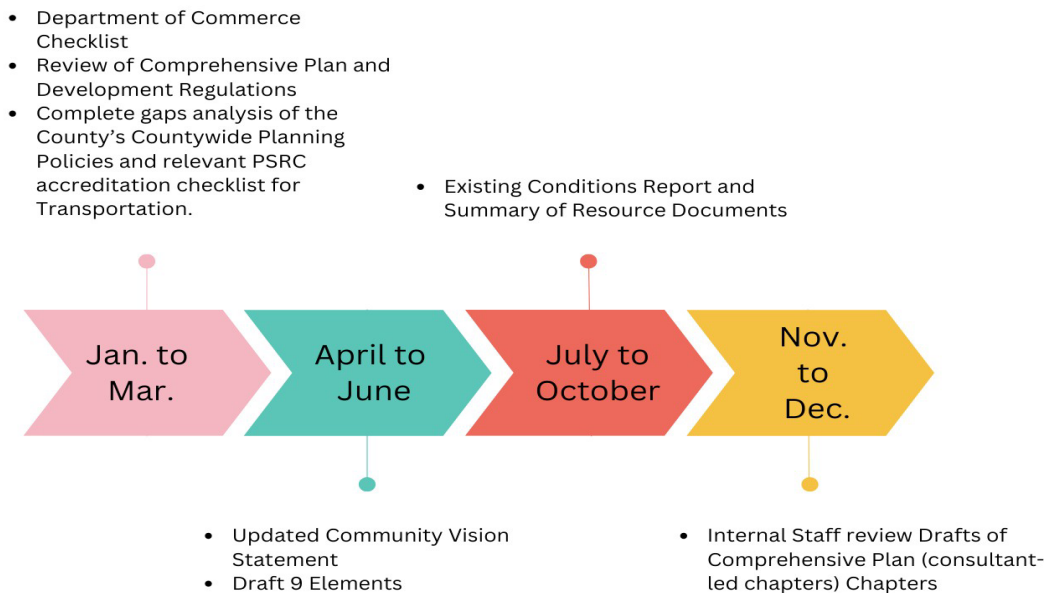
2024 DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN USER GUIDE

About the Process...

Updating the 2024 Comprehensive Plan is a two-year process which started in January 2023 and will end in December 2024. Please see the project timeline below for each year.

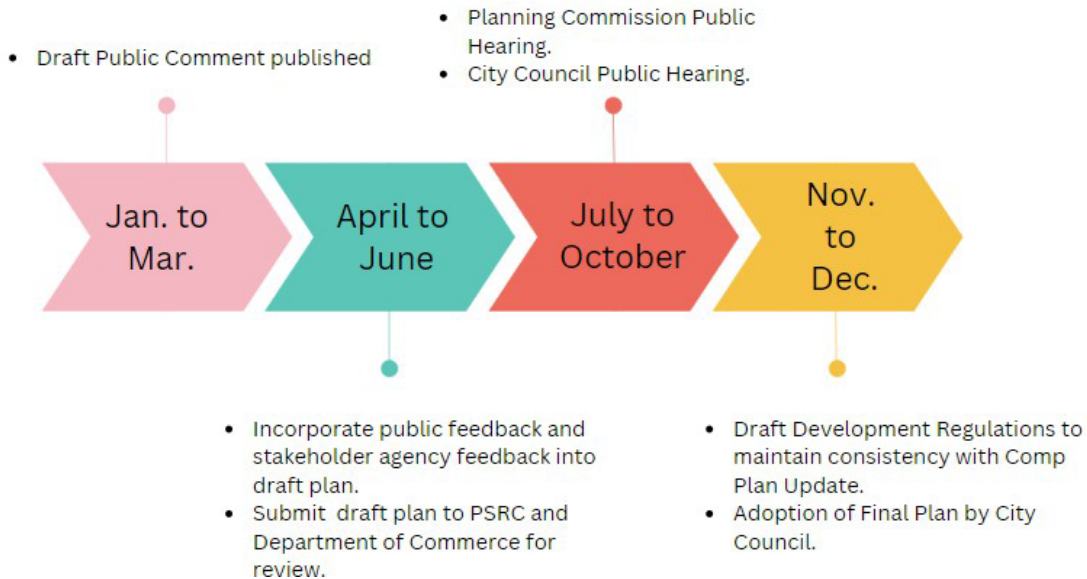
2023 Comprehensive Plan Timeline

2023



2024 Comprehensive Plan Timeline

2024



We are currently in the first phase of 2024 (January to March) with the Draft Plan available for public view and comment.

What is new in this Draft?

- There are new policies to ensure the plan complies with the Growth Management Act (GMA), Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies, PSRC's VISION 2050 Regional Growth Strategy.
- Each element used to have its own vision section, but these were redundant with the goals and policies of the elements, so they were removed. This new draft plan has an updated, overarching vision statement that guides the entire plan and the City's goals and policies for the next 20 years.
- The Community Character Element from the previous plan was renamed as the Community Development Element.
- The Climate Resilience Element was added. A change to the GMA requires Comprehensive Plans to include a Climate Resilience element with policies addressing climate resilience and greenhouse gas reduction.

- The previous plan included long discussion sections that were not actual policies. In the new draft, these discussions were incorporated into policy language or deleted.
- The document was redesigned to improve readability and to add photos of Fircrest.

What stayed the same?

- Most of the existing introduction, state planning context, regional planning context, and local planning context sections remain the same, with some copy edits and editing for conciseness.
- The general organization of the elements has stayed the same.
- Most maps stayed the same but were redrawn to improve their visual clarity. Some maps were updated with new information.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- The new proposed vision statement was drafted with input from community members, the Planning Commission, and City Council.
- The plan incorporates comments and edits from City staff and based on feedback from the community survey conducted in 2023.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Introduction Element



What stayed the same?

- Most of this Introduction Element stayed the same, with some information updated where appropriate.
- The general organization of this Element is the same.

What is new in this Draft?

- There is now a section in the Introduction Element called “How to Use This Comprehensive Plan” It outlines key points, or “principles” of the vision statement that can be found throughout the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Community Demographic information has been updated based on current data.
- The Introduction from the previous plan was reorganized, and some sections renamed, for clarity, but all sections from the previous plan were maintained.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- We have updated some of the history and Table I-1 “Planning for Fircrest – Major Highlights” based on edits from City staff.
- This draft includes a new proposed vision statement that was drafted with input from community members, the Planning Commission, and City Council.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Community Development Element



What stayed the same?

- Most of the goals and policies in this Element stayed the same, with some copy edits to condense and clarify where appropriate.
- The general organization of this Element is the same.

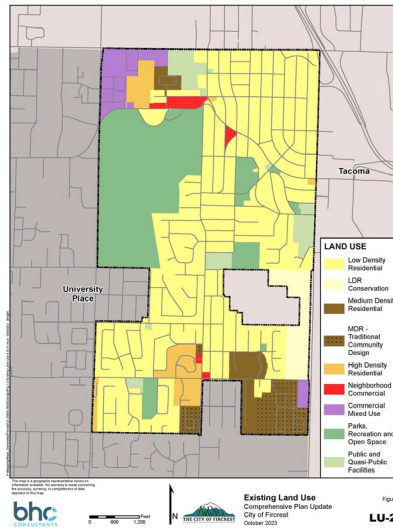
What is new in this Draft?

- The previous plan's Community Character Element was renamed for this draft to be called "Community Development". The change was made to reflect City goals of enriching the sense of community and design standards in Fircrest.
- The previous plan's community character vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity considerations and to comply with regional and state planning requirements.
- The historical background section of the previous element was incorporated into the Introduction Element's history section.
- Most of the discussion text from the previous plan was incorporated into policy language or deleted where appropriate.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- Some edits were made based on City staff direction.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Land Use Element



What stayed the same?

- The planning context sections as well as many of the goals and policies remain the same, aside from a few edits for clarity.
- The general organization of this Element is the same.

What is new in this Draft?

- The previous plan's land use vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- The Land Use Element was shortened to focus on the goals and policies, and the introduction was condensed.
- The land use inventory and background information sections were updated and moved to Appendix A.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity and climate change considerations and to comply with regional and state planning requirements.
- Most of the discussion text from the previous plan was incorporated into policy language or deleted.
- The maps have been updated and new photos added.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- The background information and some policies were edited based on City staff feedback and updated information from the City.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Housing Element



What stayed the same?

- Most of the goals and policies in this Element stayed the same, with some copy edits to condense and clarify where appropriate.
- The general organization of this Element is the same.

What is new in this Draft?

- The “Major Housing Issues” section was updated and condensed to highlight a few key issues the City is addressing in the Comprehensive Plan.
- The previous plan’s housing vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- The Housing Element was shortened to focus on the goals and policies, and the introduction was condensed.
- The housing profile and background information sections were updated with new housing projections and moved to Appendix B.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity considerations, mitigate displacement, provide housing for various needs, and to comply with regional and state planning requirements, including the new housing bill HB1110.
- Most of the discussion text from the previous plan was incorporated into policy language or deleted where appropriate.
- The maps have been updated and new photos added.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- Some policies were updated based on City staff direction.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Transportation Element



What stayed the same?

- Most of the goals and policies remained the same, with edits to reduce redundancy.
- Most of the background information on the transportation system has remained the same as the previous draft, with updates where applicable.

What is new in this Draft?

- The introduction and the planning context sections of this element were condensed significantly to reduce redundancy.
- The previous plan's transportation vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- The transportation system inventory and background information sections were updated with new information where applicable.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity considerations and to comply with regional and state planning requirements.
- The maps have been updated and new photos added.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- We incorporated community feedback on wanting more sidewalks.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element



What stayed the same?

- Many of the existing goals and policies remained the same, with light edits for clarity and to reduce redundancy.

What is new in this Draft?

- The introduction of this element was condensed to reduce redundancy.
- The previous plan's parks vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity considerations and to comply with regional and state planning requirements.
- The parks facilities map has been updated, and new photos added.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- We have incorporated community feedback on dog parks and the swimming pool into the plan.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Capital Facilities Element



What stayed the same?

- Most of the capital facilities inventory and background information has stayed the same.
- Many of the existing goals and policies have stayed the same.

What is new in this Draft?

- The introduction of this element was condensed to reduce redundancy.
- The previous plan's capital facilities vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity and climate change considerations, and to comply with regional and state planning requirements.
- The element was reorganized to improve readability and consistency with the other elements of the plan; the inventory of public facilities was moved to the end of the element so the goals and policies could be the focus of the element.
- New photos were added.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- Some of the background text and policies were updated based on City staff direction.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Utilities Element



What stayed the same?

- Most of the utilities inventory and background information has stayed the same, with edits and updates made where appropriate.
- Many of the existing goals and policies have stayed the same.

What is new in this Draft?

- The introduction of this element was condensed to reduce redundancy.
- The previous plan's utilities vision section was redundant with the goals and policies of the element, so it was removed.
- Policies were updated, and some new policies were added, to include equity and climate change considerations and to comply with regional and state planning requirements.
- The maps were updated, and new photos were added.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- Some of the background text and policies were updated based on City staff direction.

Draft 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update: Climate Resilience Element



What stayed the same?

- This element is brand new and was drafted to comply with HB 1181 (2023) that requires comprehensive plans under the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) include a Climate Element.

What is new in this Draft?

- The GMA requires a climate element be created as part of HB 1181, this element was drafted to include both a climate resilience and a greenhouse gas mitigation sub-element.
- Many of the goals and policies in this element draw from existing policies from other elements of the comprehensive plan. Some edits were made to these policies to strengthen their climate impact and better address climate guidance from the Department of Commerce.
- Several new policies were drafted for this element based on guidance from the WA Department of Commerce and best practices.
- A brief overview, analysis, and background information for this element can be found in Appendix D.

How does this Draft respond to feedback we have received so far?

- We have not received much feedback on this element yet.

We need your help. Please provide feedback on the Draft Public Plan to make sure we are on the right track.

As you review, try to answer the following questions:

- Most Importantly: Do the goals and policies move us closer to the Vision for Fircrest?
- Thinking about the Element as a whole: Do the goals and policies address the right balance of topics? Are there any topics that have been left out?
- Thinking about specific goals or policy language: Is there goal or policy language that doesn't make sense to you? Flag the goals or policies that you think could be re-written using more plain language.



A VISION FOR FIRCREST

Proposed Vision:

Fircrest treasures its walkable and forested environment, its peaceful and quiet nature, while embracing a variety of housing choices for all people.

Fircrest is a unique community in the region. We will remain safe, resilient, flexible, and connected to our neighbors.

We value community spaces and events that bring us together.