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HOUSE BILL 1099

State of Washington 67th Legislature 2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Duerr, Fitzgibbon, Dolan, Bateman, Ramel, Gregerson, Goodman, Ryu, Kloba, Chopp, Ormsby, Pollet, Fey, Santos, and Davis

Prefiled 01/06/21. Read first time 01/11/21. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

- AN ACT Relating to improving the state's climate response through updates to the state's comprehensive planning framework; amending RCW 36.70A.020, 36.70A.480, 36.70A.320, 36.70A.190, 36.70A.100, and 47.80.030; reenacting and amending RCW 36.70A.070; adding new sections to chapter 36.70A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70A.45 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 47.80 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 90.58 RCW.
- 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 9 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.020 and 2002 c 154 s 1 are each amended to 10 read as follows:
 - The following goals are adopted to guide the development and adoption of comprehensive plans and development regulations of those counties and cities that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and, where specified, also guide the development of regional policies, plans, and strategies adopted under RCW 36.70A.210 and chapter 47.80 RCW. The following goals are not listed in order of priority and shall be used exclusively for the purpose of guiding the development of comprehensive plans ((and)), development regulations,

and, where specified, regional plans, policies, and strategies:

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(1) Urban growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.

- (2) Reduce sprawl. Reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development.
- (3) Transportation. Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that <u>help achieve statewide targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled, and are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.</u>
- (4) Housing. Encourage the availability of affordable housing to all economic segments of the population of this state, promote a variety of residential densities and housing types, and encourage preservation of existing housing stock.
- (5) Economic development. Encourage economic development throughout the state that is consistent with adopted comprehensive plans, promote economic opportunity for all citizens of this state, especially for unemployed and for disadvantaged persons, promote the retention and expansion of existing businesses and recruitment of new businesses, recognize regional differences impacting economic development opportunities, and encourage growth in areas experiencing insufficient economic growth, all within the capacities of the state's natural resources, public services, and public facilities.
- (6) Property rights. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation having been made. The property rights of landowners shall be protected from arbitrary and discriminatory actions.
- (7) Permits. Applications for both state and local government permits should be processed in a timely and fair manner to ensure predictability.
- (8) Natural resource industries. Maintain and enhance natural resource-based industries, including productive timber, agricultural, and fisheries industries. Encourage the conservation of productive forestlands and productive agricultural lands, and discourage incompatible uses.
- 36 (9) Open space and recreation. Retain open space, enhance 37 recreational opportunities, ((conserve)) enhance fish and wildlife 38 habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and 39 develop parks and recreation facilities.

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- 1 (10) Environment. Protect the environment and enhance the state's 2 high quality of life, including air and water quality, and the 3 availability of water.
- 4 (11) Citizen participation and coordination. Encourage the 5 involvement of citizens in the planning process and ensure 6 coordination between communities and jurisdictions to reconcile 7 conflicts.

- (12) Public facilities and services. Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards.
- (13) Historic preservation. Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures, that have historical or archaeological significance.
- (14) Climate change. Ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies under RCW 36.70A.210 and chapter 47.80 RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate, support state greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements and state vehicle miles traveled goals, prepare for climate impact scenarios, foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards, and protect environmental, economic, human health, and safety.
- **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.70A.480 and 2010 c 107 s 2 are each amended to 25 read as follows:
 - (1) For shorelines of the state, the goals and policies of the shoreline management act as set forth in RCW 90.58.020 are added as one of the goals of this chapter as set forth in RCW 36.70A.020 without creating an order of priority among the ((fourteen)) 15 goals. The goals and policies of a shoreline master program for a county or city approved under chapter 90.58 RCW shall be considered an element of the county or city's comprehensive plan. All other portions of the shoreline master program for a county or city adopted under chapter 90.58 RCW, including use regulations, shall be considered a part of the county or city's development regulations.
 - (2) The shoreline master program shall be adopted pursuant to the procedures of chapter 90.58 RCW rather than the goals, policies, and procedures set forth in this chapter for the adoption of a comprehensive plan or development regulations.

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(3) (a) The policies, goals, and provisions of chapter 90.58 RCW and applicable guidelines shall be the sole basis for determining compliance of a shoreline master program with this chapter except as the shoreline master program is required to comply with the internal consistency provisions of RCW 36.70A.070, 36.70A.040(4), 35.63.125, and 35A.63.105.

- (b) Except as otherwise provided in (c) of this subsection, development regulations adopted under this chapter to protect critical areas within shorelines of the state apply within shorelines of the state until the department of ecology approves one of the following: A comprehensive master program update, as defined in RCW 90.58.030; a segment of a master program relating to critical areas, as provided in RCW 90.58.090; or a new or amended master program approved by the department of ecology on or after March 1, 2002, as provided in RCW 90.58.080. The adoption or update of development regulations to protect critical areas under this chapter prior to department of ecology approval of a master program update as provided in this subsection is not a comprehensive or segment update to the master program.
- (c) (i) Until the department of ecology approves a master program or segment of a master program as provided in (b) of this subsection, a use or structure legally located within shorelines of the state that was established or vested on or before the effective date of the local government's development regulations to protect critical areas may continue as a conforming use and may be redeveloped or modified if: (A) The redevelopment or modification is consistent with the local government's master program; and (B) the local government determines that the proposed redevelopment or modification will result in no net loss of shoreline ecological functions. The local government may waive this requirement if the redevelopment or modification is consistent with the master program and the local government's development regulations to protect critical areas.
- (ii) For purposes of this subsection (3)(c), an agricultural activity that does not expand the area being used for the agricultural activity is not a redevelopment or modification. "Agricultural activity," as used in this subsection (3)(c), has the same meaning as defined in RCW 90.58.065.
- (d) Upon department of ecology approval of a shoreline master program or critical area segment of a shoreline master program, critical areas within shorelines of the state are protected under

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chapter 90.58 RCW and are not subject to the procedural and substantive requirements of this chapter, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section. Nothing in chapter 321, Laws of 2003 or chapter 107, Laws of 2010 is intended to affect whether or to what extent agricultural activities, as defined in RCW 90.58.065, are subject to chapter 36.70A RCW.

- (e) The provisions of RCW 36.70A.172 shall not apply to the adoption or subsequent amendment of a local government's shoreline master program and shall not be used to determine compliance of a local government's shoreline master program with chapter 90.58 RCW and applicable guidelines. Nothing in this section, however, is intended to limit or change the quality of information to be applied in protecting critical areas within shorelines of the state, as required by chapter 90.58 RCW and applicable guidelines.
- (4) Shoreline master programs shall provide a level of protection to critical areas located within shorelines of the state that assures no net loss of shoreline ecological functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources as defined by department of ecology guidelines adopted pursuant to RCW 90.58.060.
- (5) Shorelines of the state shall not be considered critical areas under this chapter except to the extent that specific areas located within shorelines of the state qualify for critical area designation based on the definition of critical areas provided by RCW $36.70A.030((\frac{(5)}{(5)}))$ (6) and have been designated as such by a local government pursuant to RCW 36.70A.060(2).
- (6) If a local jurisdiction's master program does not include land necessary for buffers for critical areas that occur within shorelines of the state, as authorized by RCW $90.58.030(2)((\frac{f}{f}))$ (d), then the local jurisdiction shall continue to regulate those critical areas and their required buffers pursuant to RCW 36.70A.060(2).
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW to read as follows:
- 34 (1) The requirements of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction 35 subelement of the climate change and resiliency element set forth in 36 RCW 36.70A.070 apply only to those counties, and the cities within 37 those counties, that meet either of the following criteria on or 38 after January 1, 2021:

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1 (a) A county with a population density of at least 100 people per square mile and a population of at least 200,000; or

- (b) A county with a population density of at least 75 people per square mile and an annual growth rate of at least 1.75 percent as determined by the office of financial management.
- (2) Once a county meets either of the sets of criteria set forth in subsection (1) of this section, the requirement to conform with the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement of the climate change and resiliency element set forth in RCW 36.70A.070 remains in effect, even if the county no longer meets one of these sets of criteria.
- (3) If the population of a county that previously had not been required to conform with the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement of the climate change and resiliency element set forth in RCW 36.70A.070 changes sufficiently to meet either of the sets of criteria set forth in subsection (1) of this section, the county, and the cities within that county, shall adopt a greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement of the climate change and resiliency element set forth in RCW 36.70A.070 at the next scheduled update of the comprehensive plan as set forth in RCW 36.70A.130.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 36.70A.070 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 18 s 4 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 16 s 4 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

The comprehensive plan of a county or city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall consist of a map or maps, and descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards used to develop the comprehensive plan. The plan shall be an internally consistent document and all elements shall be consistent with the future land use map. A comprehensive plan shall be adopted and amended with public participation as provided in RCW 36.70A.140. Each comprehensive plan shall include a plan, scheme, or design for each of the following:

(1) A land use element designating the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land, where appropriate, for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce, industry, recreation, open spaces, general aviation airports, public utilities, public facilities, and other land uses. The land use element shall include population densities, building intensities, and estimates of future population growth. The land use element shall provide for protection of the quality and quantity of

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1 groundwater used for public water supplies. The land use element should give special consideration to achieving environmental justice 2 in its goals and policies. In addition, the land use element must 3 avoid creating or worsening environmental health disparities. 4 Wherever possible, the land use element should consider utilizing 5 6 urban planning approaches that promote physical activity and reduce vehicle miles traveled. Where applicable, the land use element shall 7 review drainage, flooding, and stormwater runoff in the area and 8 nearby jurisdictions and provide guidance for corrective actions to 9 mitigate or cleanse those discharges that pollute waters of the 10 11 state, including Puget Sound or waters entering Puget Sound. The land 12 use element must reduce and mitigate the risk to lives and property posed by wildfires including, but not limited to, by reducing 13 residential development in the wildland urban interface area. 14

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- (2) A housing element ensuring the vitality and character of established residential neighborhoods that: (a) Includes an inventory and analysis of existing and projected housing needs that identifies the number of housing units necessary to manage projected growth; (b) includes a statement of goals, policies, objectives, and mandatory provisions for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing, including single-family residences; (c) sufficient land for housing, including, but not limited to, government-assisted housing, housing for low-income manufactured housing, multifamily housing, and group homes and foster care facilities; and (d) makes adequate provisions for existing and projected needs of all economic segments of the community. counties and cities subject to the review and evaluation requirements of RCW 36.70A.215, any revision to the housing element shall include consideration of prior review and evaluation reports and any reasonable measures identified.
- (3) A capital facilities plan element consisting of: (a) An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities; (b) a forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities; (c) the proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities; (d) at least a six-year plan that will finance such capital facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes; and (e) a requirement to reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use

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- element, capital facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.
- 3 Park and recreation facilities shall be included in the capital 4 facilities plan element.
- 5 (4) A utilities element consisting of the general location, 6 proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed 7 utilities, including, but not limited to, electrical lines, 8 telecommunication lines, and natural gas lines.
- 9 (5) Rural element. Counties shall include a rural element 10 including lands that are not designated for urban growth, 11 agriculture, forest, or mineral resources. The following provisions 12 shall apply to the rural element:

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- (a) Growth management act goals and local circumstances. Because circumstances vary from county to county, in establishing patterns of rural densities and uses, a county may consider local circumstances, but shall develop a written record explaining how the rural element harmonizes the planning goals in RCW 36.70A.020 and meets the requirements of this chapter.
- (b) Rural development. The rural element shall permit rural development, forestry, and agriculture in rural areas. The rural element shall provide for a variety of rural densities, uses, essential public facilities, and rural governmental services needed to serve the permitted densities and uses. To achieve a variety of rural densities and uses, counties may provide for clustering, density transfer, design guidelines, conservation easements, and other innovative techniques that will accommodate appropriate rural economic advancement, densities, and uses that are not characterized by urban growth and that are consistent with rural character.
- (c) Measures governing rural development. The rural element shall include measures that apply to rural development and protect the rural character of the area, as established by the county, by:
 - (i) Containing or otherwise controlling rural development;
- (ii) Assuring visual compatibility of rural development with the surrounding rural area;
- (iii) Reducing the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development in the rural area;
- 37 (iv) Protecting critical areas, as provided in RCW 36.70A.060, 38 and surface water and groundwater resources; and
- (v) Protecting against conflicts with the use of agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands designated under RCW 36.70A.170.

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(d) Limited areas of more intensive rural development. Subject to the requirements of this subsection and except as otherwise specifically provided in this subsection (5)(d), the rural element may allow for limited areas of more intensive rural development, including necessary public facilities and public services to serve the limited area as follows:

- (i) Rural development consisting of the infill, development, or redevelopment of existing commercial, industrial, residential, or mixed-use areas, whether characterized as shoreline development, villages, hamlets, rural activity centers, or crossroads developments.
- (A) A commercial, industrial, residential, shoreline, or mixeduse area are subject to the requirements of (d)(iv) of this subsection, but are not subject to the requirements of (c)(ii) and (iii) of this subsection.
- (B) Any development or redevelopment other than an industrial area or an industrial use within a mixed-use area or an industrial area under this subsection (5)(d)(i) must be principally designed to serve the existing and projected rural population.
- (C) Any development or redevelopment in terms of building size, scale, use, or intensity shall be consistent with the character of the existing areas. Development and redevelopment may include changes in use from vacant land or a previously existing use so long as the new use conforms to the requirements of this subsection (5);
- (ii) The intensification of development on lots containing, or new development of, small-scale recreational or tourist uses, including commercial facilities to serve those recreational or tourist uses, that rely on a rural location and setting, but that do not include new residential development. A small-scale recreation or tourist use is not required to be principally designed to serve the existing and projected rural population. Public services and public facilities shall be limited to those necessary to serve the recreation or tourist use and shall be provided in a manner that does not permit low-density sprawl;
- (iii) The intensification of development on lots containing isolated nonresidential uses or new development of isolated cottage industries and isolated small-scale businesses that are not principally designed to serve the existing and projected rural population and nonresidential uses, but do provide job opportunities for rural residents. Rural counties may allow the expansion of small-

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- 1 scale businesses as long as those small-scale businesses conform with the rural character of the area as defined by the local government 2 according to RCW 36.70A.030(($\frac{(16)}{(16)}$)) $\underline{(20)}$. Rural counties may also 3 allow new small-scale businesses to utilize a site previously 4 occupied by an existing business as long as the new small-scale 5 6 business conforms to the rural character of the area as defined by the local government according to RCW 36.70A.030(((16))) (20). Public 7 services and public facilities shall be limited to those necessary to 8 serve the isolated nonresidential use and shall be provided in a 9 manner that does not permit low-density sprawl; 10
- 11 (iv) A county shall adopt measures to minimize and contain the 12 existing areas or uses of more intensive rural development, as appropriate, authorized under this subsection. Lands included in such 13 14 existing areas or uses shall not extend beyond the logical outer boundary of the existing area or use, thereby allowing a new pattern 15 16 of low-density sprawl. Existing areas are those that are clearly 17 identifiable and contained and where there is a logical boundary 18 delineated predominately by the built environment, but that may also 19 include undeveloped lands if limited as provided in this subsection. The county shall establish the logical outer boundary of an area of 20 21 more intensive rural development. In establishing the logical outer boundary, the county shall address (A) the need to preserve the 22 23 character of existing natural neighborhoods and communities, (B) physical boundaries, such as bodies of water, streets and highways, 24 25 and land forms and contours, (C) the prevention of abnormally 26 irregular boundaries, and (D) the ability to provide public facilities and public services in a manner that does not permit low-27 28 density sprawl;
- 29 (v) For purposes of (d) of this subsection, an existing area or 30 existing use is one that was in existence:
- 31 (A) On July 1, 1990, in a county that was initially required to 32 plan under all of the provisions of this chapter;

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- (B) On the date the county adopted a resolution under RCW 36.70A.040(2), in a county that is planning under all of the provisions of this chapter under RCW 36.70A.040(2); or
- (C) On the date the office of financial management certifies the county's population as provided in RCW 36.70A.040(5), in a county that is planning under all of the provisions of this chapter pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040(5).

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- (e) Exception. This subsection shall not be interpreted to permit in the rural area a major industrial development or a master planned resort unless otherwise specifically permitted under RCW 36.70A.360 and 36.70A.365.
- 5 (6) A transportation element that implements, and is consistent 6 with, the land use element.
 - (a) The transportation element shall include the following subelements:
 - (i) Land use assumptions used in estimating travel;

- (ii) Estimated traffic impacts to state-owned transportation facilities resulting from land use assumptions to assist ((the department of transportation)) in monitoring the performance of state facilities, to plan improvements for the facilities, and to assess the impact of land-use decisions on state-owned transportation facilities;
 - (iii) Facilities and services needs, including:
 - (A) An inventory of air, water, and ground transportation facilities and services, including transit alignments, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and general aviation airport facilities, to define existing capital facilities and travel levels ((as a basis for)) to inform future planning. This inventory must include stateowned transportation facilities within the city or county's jurisdictional boundaries;
 - (B) Level of service standards for all locally owned arterials ((and)), locally and regionally operated transit routes, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities to serve as a gauge to judge performance of the system and success in helping to achieve the goals of this chapter at the least cost. These standards should be regionally coordinated;
- (C) For state-owned transportation facilities, level of service standards for highways, as prescribed in chapters 47.06 and 47.80 RCW, to gauge the performance of the system. The purposes of reflecting level of service standards for state highways in the local comprehensive plan are to monitor the performance of the system, to evaluate improvement strategies, and to facilitate coordination between the county's or city's six-year street, road, pedestrian, bicycle or transit program and the office of financial management's ten-year investment program. The concurrency requirements of (b) of this subsection do not apply to transportation facilities and services of statewide significance except for counties consisting of

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- islands whose only connection to the mainland are state highways or ferry routes. In these island counties, state highways and ferry route capacity must be a factor in meeting the concurrency requirements in (b) of this subsection;
 - (D) Specific actions and requirements for bringing into compliance ((locally owned)) transportation facilities or services that are below an established level of service standard;
 - (E) Forecasts of ((traffic)) multimodal transportation demand for at least ten years based on the adopted land use plan to ((provide information on the location, timing, and capacity needs of future growth)) inform the development of a transportation element that balances transportation system safety and convenience to accommodate all users of the transportation system to safely, reliably, and efficiently provide access and mobility to people and goods;
 - (F) Identification of state and local system needs to <u>equitably</u> meet current and future demands. Identified needs on state-owned transportation facilities must be consistent with the statewide multimodal transportation plan required under chapter 47.06 RCW. <u>Local system needs should reflect the regional transportation system</u>, <u>local goals</u>, and strive to equitably implement the multimodal network;
 - (iv) Finance, including:

- 23 (A) An analysis of funding capability to judge needs against 24 probable funding resources;
 - (B) A multiyear financing plan based on the needs identified in the comprehensive plan, the appropriate parts of which shall serve as the basis for the six-year street, road, or transit program required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems. The multiyear financing plan should be coordinated with the ten-year investment program developed by the office of financial management as required by RCW 47.05.030;
 - (C) If probable funding falls short of meeting the identified needs of the transportation system, including state transportation facilities, a discussion of how additional funding will be raised, or how land use assumptions will be reassessed to ensure that level of service standards will be met;
 - (v) Intergovernmental coordination efforts, including an assessment of the impacts of the transportation plan and land use assumptions on the transportation systems of adjacent jurisdictions;

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(vi) Demand-management strategies;

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- (vii) Pedestrian and bicycle component to include collaborative efforts to identify and designate planned improvements for pedestrian and bicycle facilities and corridors that address and encourage enhanced community access and promote healthy lifestyles.
- (b) After adoption of the comprehensive plan by jurisdictions required to plan or who choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, local jurisdictions must adopt and enforce ordinances which prohibit development approval if the development causes the level of service on a locally owned or locally or regionally operated transportation facility to decline below the standards adopted in the transportation element of the comprehensive plan, unless transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are made concurrent with the development. These strategies may include pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements, increased or enhanced public transportation service, ride-sharing programs, management, and other transportation systems management strategies. For the purposes of this subsection (6), "concurrent with the development" means that improvements or strategies are in place at the time of development, or that a financial commitment is in place to complete the improvements or strategies within six years. If the collection of impact fees is delayed under RCW 82.02.050(3), the sixyear period required by this subsection (6)(b) must begin after full payment of all impact fees is due to the county or city. If it is possible to provide for the transportation needs of a development through pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements, increased or enhanced public transportation service, ride-sharing programs, demand management, or other transportation systems management strategies funded by the development, a development approval may not be denied because it fails to meet traffic level of service standards.
 - (c) The transportation element described in this subsection (6), the six-year plans required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems, and the ten-year investment program required by RCW 47.05.030 for the state, must be consistent.
- (7) An economic development element establishing local goals, policies, objectives, and provisions for economic growth and vitality and a high quality of life. A city that has chosen to be a residential community is exempt from the economic development element requirement of this subsection.

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(8) A park and recreation element that implements, and is consistent with, the capital facilities plan element as it relates to park and recreation facilities. The element shall include: (a) Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period; (b) an evaluation of facilities and service needs; ((and)) (c) an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand; and (d) consideration of the health disparities map, published by the department of health, to increase greenspace in the most pollution-burdened locations.

- (9) A climate change and resiliency element that is designed to result in reductions in overall greenhouse gas emissions and that must enhance resiliency to and avoid the adverse impacts of climate change. The greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement of the climate change and resiliency element is mandatory for the jurisdictions specified in section 3 of this act and is encouraged for all other jurisdictions, including those planning under RCW 36.70A.040 and those planning under chapter 36.70 RCW. The resiliency subelement of the climate change and resiliency element is mandatory for all jurisdictions planning under RCW 36.70A.040 and is encouraged for those jurisdictions planning under chapter 36.70 RCW.
- (a) The greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement of the comprehensive plan must be designed to:
 - (i) Result in reductions in overall greenhouse gas emissions generated by the transportation and land use systems within the jurisdiction consistent with the guidelines published by the department of commerce pursuant to section 5 of this act;
 - (ii) Result in reductions in vehicle miles traveled within the jurisdiction consistent with the guidelines published by the department of commerce pursuant to section 5 of this act; and
- (iii) Prioritize reductions in communities that experience disproportionate impacts and harm due to air pollution in order to maximize the cobenefits of reduced air pollution.
- (b) The resiliency subelement must equitably enhance resiliency to, and avoid or substantially reduce the adverse impacts of, climate change on people, property, and ecological systems through goals, policies, and programs consistent with the best available science and scientifically credible climate projections and impact scenarios that moderate or avoid harm, enhance the resiliency of natural and human systems, and enhance beneficial opportunities. The resiliency

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- subelement must prioritize actions in communities that will disproportionately suffer from compounding environmental impacts and will be most impacted by natural hazards due to climate change. A natural hazard mitigation plan or similar plan that is guided by RCW 36.70A.020(14) and complies with the applicable requirements of this act, including the requirements set forth in this subsection (9) (b), may be adopted by reference to satisfy those requirements. Specific goals, policies, and programs of the resiliency subelement must include, but are not limited to, those designed to:
 - (i) Identify and protect natural areas resilient to climate impacts, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe passage and species migration; and

- (ii) Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, including sea level rise, landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke, wildfire, and other effects of changes to temperature and precipitation patterns.
- (c) For the jurisdictions set forth in section 3 of this act, updates to comprehensive plans made during the update cycle that begins in 2024 need not comply fully with the requirements set forth in (a) of this subsection. For these jurisdictions, updates to comprehensive plans made during the update cycle that begins in 2024 must adopt goals, policies, and actions that are likely to result in reductions of greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled that comply with the reductions set forth in RCW 70A.45.020. A jurisdiction's adoption and implementation of a climate action plan, or an equivalent document that addresses greenhouse gas emissions reductions, satisfies this requirement if such adoption and implementation achieves meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled.
- (d) For the jurisdictions set forth in section 3 of this act, updates to comprehensive plans made during the update cycle that begins in 2032 must comply fully with the requirements set forth in (a) of this subsection.
- ((+9)) (10) It is the intent that new or amended elements required after January 1, 2002, be adopted concurrent with the scheduled update provided in RCW 36.70A.130. Requirements to incorporate any such new or amended elements shall be null and void until funds sufficient to cover applicable local government costs are appropriated and distributed by the state at least two years before

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- local government must update comprehensive plans as required in RCW 36.70A.130.
- 3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 70A.45 4 RCW to read as follows:
- 5 The department of commerce, in consultation with the department of ecology, the department of health, and the department 6 7 of transportation, shall publish guidelines that specify the proportionate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions associated with 8 9 passenger cars and light trucks that must be accomplished within the 10 geographical area of each regional transportation planning 11 organization or metropolitan planning organization, as those terms are described in chapter 47.80 RCW, that comprises one or more 12 jurisdictions described in section 3 of this act or, for cities and 13 counties described in section 3 of this act that are not members of a 14 15 regional transportation planning organization or a metropolitan 16 planning organization, the proportionate reductions in greenhouse gas 17 emissions associated with passenger cars and light trucks that must 18 be accomplished within each such city and county, in order to achieve proportionate shares of the statewide greenhouse gas emissions 19 20 reductions set forth in RCW 70A.45.020(1), allowing for consideration of the emissions reductions achieved through the adoption 21 22 statewide programs. The guidelines must prioritize reductions in communities that have experienced disproportionate harm due to air 23 24 pollution and may draw upon the most recent health disparities data from the department of health to identify high pollution areas and 25 disproportionately burdened communities. In addition to a total 26 27 proportionate share, the department of commerce shall also publish an advisory proportionate share for each county and city described in 28 29 section 3 of this act in order to aid the regional transportation 30 planning organization or metropolitan planning organization 31 allocating reductions. The guidelines must be based on:
 - (a) The most recent greenhouse gas emissions report prepared by the department of ecology and the department of commerce pursuant to RCW 70A.45.020(2); and

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- 35 (b) The most recent city and county population estimates prepared 36 by the department of commerce pursuant to RCW 43.62.035.
- 37 (2) The department of commerce, in consultation with the 38 department of transportation, shall publish guidelines that specify 39 the proportionate reductions in passenger car and light truck vehicle

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1 miles traveled that must be accomplished within the geographical area of each regional transportation planning organization or metropolitan 2 planning organization, as those terms are described in chapter 47.80 3 RCW, that comprises one or more jurisdictions described in section 3 4 of this act or, for cities and counties described in section 3 of 5 6 this act that are not members of a regional transportation planning organization or a metropolitan planning organization, those cities 7 and counties, in order to achieve their proportionate shares of the 8 transportation sector's, passenger car and light truck segment, 9 proportionate share of overall greenhouse gas emissions that must be 10 accomplished in order to achieve the statewide greenhouse gas 11 emissions reductions set forth in RCW 70A.45.020(1). In addition to a 12 total proportionate share of reduction of vehicle miles traveled for 13 each regional transportation planning organization and metropolitan 14 planning organization, the department of commerce shall also publish 15 16 an advisory proportionate share for each county and city described in 17 section 3 of this act in order to aid each regional transportation 18 planning organization and metropolitan planning organization in 19 allocating reductions.

The guidelines must be based on:

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- (a) The most recent greenhouse gas emissions report prepared by the department of ecology and the department of commerce pursuant to RCW 70A.45.020(2);
- 24 (b) The most recent city and county population estimates prepared 25 by the department of commerce pursuant to RCW 43.62.035; and
 - (c) The most recent summary of vehicle miles traveled as compiled by the department of transportation.
 - (3) The department of commerce shall first publish the guidelines described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section no later than December 31, 2025. The department of commerce shall update these guidelines every four years thereafter based on the most recently available data.
- 33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A 34 RCW to read as follows:
- 35 (1) A greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement required by RCW 36.70A.070 becomes effective when approved by the department as provided in this section. The department shall strive to achieve final action on a submitted greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement within 180 days of receipt and shall post an annual

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assessment related to this performance benchmark on the agency website.

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- (2) Upon receipt of a proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, the department shall:
- (a) Provide notice to and opportunity for written comment by all interested parties of record as a part of the local government review process for the proposal and to all persons, groups, and agencies that have requested in writing notice of proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelements. The comment period shall be at least 30 days, unless the department determines that the level of complexity or controversy involved supports a shorter period;
- (b) In the department's discretion, conduct a public hearing during the 30-day comment period in the jurisdiction proposing the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement;
- (c) Within 15 days after the close of public comment, request the local government to review the issues identified by the public, interested parties, groups, and agencies and provide a written response as to how the proposal addresses the identified issues;
- (d) Within 30 days after receipt of the local government response pursuant to (c) of this subsection, make written findings and conclusions regarding the consistency of the proposal with the policy of RCW 36.70A.070 and, after they are adopted, the applicable guidelines adopted by the department pursuant to section 5 of this act and any reduction allocations made pursuant to RCW 36.70A.100, provide a response to the issues identified in (c) of this subsection, and either approve the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement as submitted, recommend specific changes necessary to make the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement approvable, or deny approval of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement in those instances where no alteration of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement appears likely to be consistent with the policy of RCW 36.70A.070 and the applicable guidelines. The written findings and conclusions shall be provided to the local government, and made available to all interested persons, parties, groups, and agencies of record on the proposal;
- (e) If the department recommends changes to the proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, within 90 days after the department mails the written findings and conclusions to the local government, require the local government to:

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(i) Agree to the proposed changes by written notice to the department; or

- (ii) Submit an alternative greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement. If, in the opinion of the department, the alternative is consistent with the purpose and intent of the changes originally submitted by the department and with this chapter it shall approve the changes and provide notice to all recipients of the written findings and conclusions. If the department determines the proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement is not consistent with the purpose and intent of the changes proposed by the department, the department may resubmit the proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement for public and agency review pursuant to this section or reject the proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement.
- (3) The department shall approve a proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement unless it determines that the proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement is not consistent with the policy of RCW 36.70A.070 and, after they are adopted, the applicable guidelines.
- (4) A greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement takes effect when and in such form as approved or adopted by the department. The effective date is 14 days from the date of the department's written notice of final action to the local government stating the department has approved or rejected the proposed greenhouse gas reduction subelement. The department's written notice to the local government must conspicuously and plainly state that it is the department's final decision and that there will be no further modifications to the proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement. The department shall maintain a record of each greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, the action taken on any proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, and any appeal of the department's action. The department's approved document of record constitutes the official greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement.
- (5) Promptly after approval or disapproval of a local government's greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, the department shall publish a notice consistent with RCW 36.70A.290 that the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement has been approved or disapproved. This notice must be filed for all greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelements.

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(6) The department's final decision to approve or reject a proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement or amendment by a local government planning under RCW 36.70A.040 may be appealed according to the following provisions:

- (a) The department's final decision to approve or reject a proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement or amendment by a local government planning under RCW 36.70A.040 may be appealed to the growth management hearings board by filing a petition as provided in RCW 36.70A.290.
- (b) A decision of the growth management hearings board concerning an appeal of the department's final decision to approve or reject a proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement or amendment must be based solely on whether or not the adopted or amended greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, any adopted amendments to other elements of the comprehensive plan necessary to carry out the subelement, and any adopted or amended development regulations necessary to implement the subelement, comply with the goal set forth in RCW 36.70A.020(14) as it applies to greenhouse gas emissions reductions, RCW 36.70A.070(9) excluding RCW 36.70A.070(9)(b), the guidelines adopted under section 5 of this act applicable to the greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement, or chapter 43.21C RCW.
- **Sec. 7.** RCW 36.70A.320 and 1997 c 429 s 20 are each amended to 23 read as follows:
 - (1) Except as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of this section, comprehensive plans and development regulations, and amendments thereto, adopted under this chapter are presumed valid upon adoption.
 - (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this section, the burden is on the petitioner to demonstrate that any action taken by a state agency, county, or city under this chapter is not in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.
 - (3) In any petition under this chapter, the board, after full consideration of the petition, shall determine whether there is compliance with the requirements of this chapter. In making its determination, the board shall consider the criteria adopted by the department under RCW 36.70A.190(4). The board shall find compliance unless it determines that the action by the state agency, county, or city is clearly erroneous in view of the entire record before the board and in light of the goals and requirements of this chapter.

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(4) A county or city subject to a determination of invalidity made under RCW 36.70A.300 or 36.70A.302 has the burden of demonstrating that the ordinance or resolution it has enacted in response to the determination of invalidity will no longer substantially interfere with the fulfillment of the goals of this chapter under the standard in RCW 36.70A.302(1).

- (5) The shoreline element of a comprehensive plan and the applicable development regulations adopted by a county or city shall take effect as provided in chapter 90.58 RCW.
- 10 (6) The greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement required by
 11 RCW 36.70A.070 shall take effect as provided in section 6 of this
 12 act.
- **Sec. 8.** RCW 36.70A.190 and 1991 sp.s. c 32 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) The department shall establish a program of technical and financial assistance and incentives to counties and cities to encourage and facilitate the adoption and implementation of comprehensive plans and development regulations throughout the state.
 - (2) The department shall develop a priority list and establish funding levels for planning and technical assistance grants both for counties and cities that plan under RCW 36.70A.040. Priority for assistance shall be based on a county's or city's population growth rates, commercial and industrial development rates, the existence and quality of a comprehensive plan and development regulations, and other relevant factors.
 - (3) The department shall develop and administer a grant program to provide direct financial assistance to counties and cities for the preparation of comprehensive plans under this chapter. The department may establish provisions for county and city matching funds to conduct activities under this subsection. Grants may be expended for any purpose directly related to the preparation of a county or city comprehensive plan as the county or city and the department may agree, including, without limitation, the conducting of surveys, inventories and other data gathering and management activities, the retention of planning consultants, contracts with regional councils for planning and related services, and other related purposes.
- 37 (4) The department shall establish a program of technical 38 assistance:

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(a) Utilizing department staff, the staff of other state agencies, and the technical resources of counties and cities to help in the development of comprehensive plans required under this chapter. The technical assistance may include, but not be limited to, model land use ordinances, regional education and training programs, and information for local and regional inventories; and

- (b) Adopting by rule procedural criteria to assist counties and cities in adopting comprehensive plans and development regulations that meet the goals and requirements of this chapter. These criteria shall reflect regional and local variations and the diversity that exists among different counties and cities that plan under this chapter.
- (5) The department shall provide mediation services to resolve disputes between counties and cities regarding, among other things, coordination of regional issues and designation of urban growth areas.
- 17 (6) The department shall provide planning grants to enhance 18 citizen participation under RCW 36.70A.140.
 - (7) The department shall develop, in collaboration with the department of ecology, the department of fish and wildlife, the department of natural resources, the department of health, and the emergency management division of the military department, and adopt by rule guidance that creates a model climate change and resiliency element that may be used by counties, cities, and multiple-county planning regions for developing and implementing climate change and resiliency plans and policies required by RCW 36.70A.070(9), subject to the following provisions:
 - (a) The model element must establish minimum requirements or include model options for fulfilling the requirements of RCW 36.70A.070(9);
 - (b) The model element should provide guidance on identifying, designing, and investing in infrastructure that supports community resilience to climate impacts, including the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural infrastructure as well as traditional infrastructure and protecting natural areas resilient to climate impacts, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe passage and species migration;
- (c) The model element should provide guidance on identifying and addressing natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, including sea level rise, landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke,

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- wildfires, and other effects of reasonably anticipated changes to temperature and precipitation patterns; and
- 3 (d) The rule must recognize and promote as many cobenefits of 4 climate resilience as possible such as salmon recovery, ecosystem 5 services, and supporting treaty rights.
- 6 **Sec. 9.** RCW 36.70A.100 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 10 are each 7 amended to read as follows:
- The comprehensive plan of each county or city ((that is)) adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 shall be ((coordinated)):
- 10 <u>(1) Coordinated</u> with, and consistent with, the comprehensive 11 plans adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 of other counties or cities 12 with which the county or city has, in part, common borders or related 13 regional issues; and
- 14 (2) Consistent with the regional transportation plans required 15 under RCW 47.80.030 for the region within which the county or city is 16 located.
- 17 **Sec. 10.** RCW 47.80.030 and 2005 c 328 s 2 are each amended to 18 read as follows:
- 19 (1) Each regional transportation planning organization shall 20 develop in cooperation with the department of transportation, 21 providers of public transportation and high capacity transportation, 22 ports, and local governments within the region, adopt, and 23 periodically update a regional transportation plan that:
 - (a) Is based on a least cost planning methodology that identifies the most cost-effective facilities, services, and programs;
 - (b) Identifies existing or planned transportation facilities, services, and programs, including but not limited to major roadways including state highways and regional arterials, transit and nonmotorized services and facilities, multimodal and intermodal facilities, marine ports and airports, railroads, and noncapital programs including transportation demand management that should function as an integrated regional transportation system, giving emphasis to those facilities, services, and programs that exhibit one or more of the following characteristics:
 - (i) Crosses member county lines;

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(ii) Is or will be used by a significant number of people who live or work outside the county in which the facility, service, or project is located;

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- 1 (iii) Significant impacts are expected to be felt in more than 2 one county;
 - (iv) Potentially adverse impacts of the facility, service, program, or project can be better avoided or mitigated through adherence to regional policies;
 - (v) Transportation needs addressed by a project have been identified by the regional transportation planning process and the remedy is deemed to have regional significance; and
 - (vi) Provides for system continuity;

- (c) Establishes level of service standards for state highways and state ferry routes, with the exception of transportation facilities of statewide significance as defined in RCW 47.06.140. These regionally established level of service standards for state highways and state ferries shall be developed jointly with the department of transportation, to encourage consistency across jurisdictions. In establishing level of service standards for state highways and state ferries, consideration shall be given for the necessary balance between providing for the free interjurisdictional movement of people and goods and the needs of local commuters using state facilities;
- (d) Includes a financial plan demonstrating how the regional transportation plan can be implemented, indicating resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the plan, and recommending any innovative financing techniques to finance needed facilities, services, and programs;
- 26 (e) Assesses regional development patterns, capital investment 27 and other measures necessary to:
 - (i) Ensure the preservation of the existing regional transportation system, including requirements for operational improvements, resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation of existing and future major roadways, as well as operations, maintenance, modernization, and rehabilitation of existing and future transit, railroad systems and corridors, and nonmotorized facilities; and
 - (ii) Make the most efficient use of existing transportation facilities to relieve vehicular congestion and maximize the mobility of people and goods;
- 38 (f) Sets forth a proposed regional transportation approach, 39 including capital investments, service improvements, programs, and 40 transportation demand management measures to guide the development of

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the integrated, multimodal regional transportation system. For regional growth centers, the approach must address transportation concurrency strategies required under RCW 36.70A.070 and include a measurement of vehicle level of service for off-peak periods and total multimodal capacity for peak periods; and

- (g) Where appropriate, sets forth the relationship of high capacity transportation providers and other public transit providers with regard to responsibility for, and the coordination between, services and facilities.
- (2) (a) Each regional transportation planning organization encompassing at least one jurisdiction described in section 3 of this act must adopt a regional emissions and vehicle miles reduction plan that addresses all jurisdictions comprising the organization and that:
- (i) Implements the goals adopted under RCW 47.01.440 to reduce annual per capita vehicle miles traveled; and
 - (ii) Will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in aggregate, from the transportation sector consistent with the share of emissions reductions assigned by the department of commerce under section 5 of this act to the jurisdictions comprising the organization.
 - (b) For jurisdictions described in section 3 of this act, the regional emissions and vehicle miles reduction plan shall allocate per capita vehicle miles traveled reductions and greenhouse gas emissions reductions that must be achieved by the jurisdiction's greenhouse gas emissions reduction subelement after taking into account the reductions achieved within that jurisdiction by the regional emissions and vehicle miles reduction plan. These reductions must prioritize reductions in communities that have experienced disproportionate harm due to air pollution.
 - (3) The organization shall review the regional transportation plan biennially for currency and forward the adopted plan along with documentation of the biennial review to the state department of transportation.
 - ((+3))) <u>(4)</u> All transportation projects, programs, and transportation demand management measures within the region that have an impact upon regional facilities or services must be consistent with the plan and with the adopted regional growth and transportation strategies.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 47.80 RCW to read as follows:
- The department shall compile, maintain, and publish a summary of the vehicle miles traveled annually in each city in the state, and in the unincorporated portions of each county in the state.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 90.58 7 RCW to read as follows:
- The department shall update its shoreline master program guidelines to require shoreline master programs to address the impact of sea level rise and increased storm severity on people, property, and shoreline natural resources and the environment.

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