

# CAPITAL FACILITIES ELEMENT

## GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

The City has created Goals, Objectives & Policies specific to the Capital Facilities Element. These Goals, Objectives & Policies guide the City's decision making process related to capital facility issues. These goals, objectives and policies are as follows.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 1:** IMPROVE THE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF INTER-AGENCY POLICING EFFORTS AFFECTING THE MOUNT VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY.

- OBJECTIVE 1.1:** Continue to encourage all Skagit County police agencies to establish a common philosophy of policing, with strategic policies of a similar tone for engaging and involving the community in the delivery of our services and reducing crime, the fear that it creates and neighborhood decay.
- OBJECTIVE 1.2:** Study the state of police services within Skagit County. Report on what services might yet be combined, added, or deleted in the interest of efficiency and consistent service to the public.
- OBJECTIVE 1.3:** Develop a county-wide strategy addressing violent crime associated with investigating and monitoring gang activity.
- OBJECTIVE 1.4:** Support Skagit County in addressing the jail overcrowding issue.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 2:** MAINTAIN DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVENESS AS THE COMMUNITY GROWS IN AREA AND POPULATION.

- OBJECTIVE 2.1:** Update the Police Department Staffing Plan to reflect projected changes in population and call load.
- OBJECTIVE 2.2:** Increase the number of police officers to stay at pace with the Staffing Plan.
- OBJECTIVE 2.3:** Distribute staff to effectively manage the call load and meet the needs of the community.
- OBJECTIVE 2.4:** Continue to be adaptable and address community issues which develop.
- OBJECTIVE 2.5:** Increase the CSO staffing to allow for a more efficient response to calls for service.
- OBJECTIVE 2.6:** Continue to hire officers and support staff which more closely reflects the makeup of our community to improve communication between the Department and the community.
- OBJECTIVE 2.7:** Continue to plan for increased growth and future planned annexation throughout the City.
- OBJECTIVE 2.8:** Define and implement a plan for having patrol officers assigned geographic areas.
- OBJECTIVE 2.9:** Complete a review and evaluate the need to hire a non-sworn employee to serve as a forensics investigator/part time department computer technician.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 3:** PROVIDE EQUIPMENT THAT WILL IMPROVE POLICE CAPABILITY AND KEEP THE DEPARTMENT CURRENT WITH ADVANCEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY.

- OBJECTIVE 3.1:** Continue to acquire updated less-lethal equipment as technology in this area improves.
- OBJECTIVE 3.2:** Efficiently acquire patrol vehicles and other police equipment as necessary.
- OBJECTIVE 3.3:** Improve officer safety with the acquisition of equipment to assist officers in the performance of their duties.
- OBJECTIVE 3.4:** Replace the aging and outdated multi-purpose vehicle for major crime scenes, extended investigations, and high risk incidents.
- OBJECTIVE 3.5:** Add digital capability to our radio system to promote better communication by all law enforcement agencies during emergencies.
- OBJECTIVE 3.6:** Continue to develop a community camera system that monitors streets, trails, parks, and other public areas.
- OBJECTIVE 3.7:** Construct an animal kennel and covered parking areas at the existing Police and Court Campus.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 4: IMPROVE THE GENERAL POLICE RECORDS FUNCTION, TO INCLUDE ISSUES OF STAFFING, ACCESSIBILITY, STORAGE AND RETENTION.**

- OBJECTIVE 4.1:** Utilizing efficient, up to date storage methods, archive police records, and destroy hard copies as allowed by law and/or accreditation standards.
- OBJECTIVE 4.2:** Modify and implement the General Records Retention Schedule for the Department.
- OBJECTIVE 4.3:** Study and determine the necessity to increase staffing in the Records Division.
- OBJECTIVE 4.4:** Crime data is currently sent to Washington Association of Police Chief's and Sheriff's in summary reporting process. Develop a county-wide strategy to report crimes and arrest data using the NIBRS reporting system.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 5: DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND RESIDENTS OF MOUNT VERNON THAT FOSTERS OPEN COMMUNICATION AND TRUST ON ISSUES RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SECURITY.**

- OBJECTIVE 5.1:** Maintain the annual Citizen's Police Academy as a mechanism to accomplish the Department's Broad Goals.
- OBJECTIVE 5.2:** Steadily add neighborhoods to the Block Watch program.
- OBJECTIVE 5.3:** Utilize communications links such as the Department Web Site, e-mail, e-News, TV10, radio, newspaper, and neighborhood newsletters/notifications to provide educational and emergency information.
- OBJECTIVE 5.4:** Continue to attract potential police officer entry candidates through a wide range of strategies and tactics.
- OBJECTIVE 5.5:** Maintain the volunteer programs managed through the Crime Prevention Division which enhances our communication ability with the community, provides valuable feedback, and helps us police the community.
- OBJECTIVE 5.6:** Continue to develop a partnership with the neighborhoods which fosters two-way open communication, prevention of crime, shared responsibility, and adaptability in how we address and solve community issues which improves community safety.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 6:** PROVIDE OUR CITIZENS WITH CONSISTENTLY RAPID, EFFECTIVE RESPONSE THAT MINIMIZES THREAT TO LIFE, ENVIRONMENT AND PROPERTY. WE WILL DO THIS WITH PROFESSIONAL STAFFING FOCUSED ON MAXIMIZING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, AND TRAINING.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 7:** DEVELOP AND INITIATE ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS THAT INCLUDE A “COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC” PREEMPTIVE CLIENT VISITATION PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM WILL BE FUNDED BY OUR MEDICAL COMMUNITY.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 8:** REDUCE / MAINTAIN OUR MINIMAL FIRE LOSS FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, WITH THE ULTIMATE TARGET BEING ZERO LOSS. WE WILL DO THIS THROUGH EMPHASIS ON FIRE PREVENTION, INSPECTING OUR BUSINESSES TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH REDUCED STAFF, AND PROVIDING RAPID, WELL-TRAINED RESPONSE FIRE CALLS.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 9:** EXPAND OUR COOPERATIVE RESPONSE WITH BURLINGTON TO OTHER NEIGHBORING AGENCIES TO ENHANCE OUR RESPONSE CAPABILITIES REDUCING REDUNDANCY WHILE INCREASING OUR FIRE RESPONSE.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 10:** WORK WITH THE SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE FIRE PROGRAM TO INTEGRATE STUDENT FIREFIGHTERS INTO OUR DEPARTMENT AS PART OF THEIR LEARNING PROCESS WHILE PROVIDING SUPPORT FUNCTIONS TO CAREER AND VOLUNTEER STAFF.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 11:** AT THE NEXT RATING PERIOD (36 MONTHS), RESTORE THE WSRB RATING TO CLASS 4.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 12:** ACQUIRE FUNDING FROM EMS LEVY TO SUPPORT THE INCREASING DEMAND ON OUR AMBULANCE SERVICES.

## LIBRARY

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 13:** INCREASE THE PUBLIC’S AWARENESS OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 14:** UPHOLD THE PRINCIPLES OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND THE PUBLIC’S RIGHT TO KNOW BY PROVIDING CITIZENS OF ALL AGES WITH ACCESS AND GUIDANCE TO INFORMATION AND COLLECTIONS THAT REFLECT ALL POINTS OF VIEW.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 15:** FORM PARTNERSHIPS WITH REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE WIDEST POSSIBLE RANGE OF INFORMATION RESOURCES.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 16:** INCREASE CURRENT FUNDING BY STRONGLY PURSUING A BROAD RANGE OF OPTIONS, INCLUDING GRANTS, DONATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 17:** CONTINUE PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMMING THAT PROMOTES READING AND LIFELONG LEARNING, AND PROVIDES LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 18:** DEVELOP SPECIALIZED SERVICES THAT ADDRESS COMMUNITY NEEDS AND ARE RESPONSIVE TO CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 19:** SELECT, TRAIN AND RETAIN STAFF WHO ARE DEDICATED TO SERVING THE NEEDS OF ALL CURRENT AND POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 20:** UTILIZE TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE EFFICIENCIES THAT ENHANCE CUSTOMER SERVICE.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 21:** CONTINUE WORKING TOWARD THE FUNDING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW LIBRARY FACILITY THAT WILL BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF A GROWING POPULATION.

## **GENERAL FACILITIES**

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 22:** PROVIDE HEALTHY AND SAFE WORK ENVIRONMENTS FOR EMPLOYEES AND CITIZENS OF MOUNT VERNON.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 23:** PERFORM REQUIRED MAINTENANCE ON BUILDINGS BOTH SCHEDULED AND UNSCHEDULED.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 24:** IMPLEMENT ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES THROUGHOUT ALL CITY OF MOUNT VERNON MAINTAINED BUILDINGS. RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES IN A TIMELY MANNER.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 25:** CONTINUE TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT NEW IDEAS AND MEASURES FOR ALL CITY FACILITIES.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 26:** CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARDS A PROACTIVE APPROACH THEN A REACTIVE ONE.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 27:** PROVIDE WELL TRAINED STAFF TO MONITOR AND MAINTAIN CITY FACILITIES

## SOLID WASTE

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 28:** PROVIDE FOR THE SOLID WASTE, RECYCLE, AND YARD WASTE DISPOSAL NEEDS OF MOUNT VERNON CITIZENS.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 29:** WORK CLOSELY WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND JURISDICTIONS PROVIDING QUALITY SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 30:** WORK CLOSELY WITH SKAGIT COUNTY REGARDING ANY ISSUE AFFECTING THEIR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL RATE.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 31:** ENHANCE THE PUBLIC'S UNDERSTANDING OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND ISSUES.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 32:** CONSISTENTLY PROVIDE A SOLID WASTE UTILITY THAT IS EFFICIENTLY ADMINISTERED AND MAINTAINED.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 33:** IMPLEMENT EFFICIENT COLLECTION SYSTEMS TO ADDRESS BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL GROWTH.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 34:** WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS, WE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE COMMUNITY.

## WASTEWATER

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 35:** PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON.

**OBJECTIVE 35.1:** Ensure that the sanitary sewer system is adequate to meet the demands of the community.

- Policy 35.1.1: Adequate sewer service capacity should be assured prior to the approval of any new development application.
- Policy 35.1.2: Seek broad funding for sanitary sewer services and facilities.
- Policy 35.1.3: Development should be conditioned on the orderly and timely provision of sanitary sewers.
- Policy 35.1.4: Actively encourage all residents within the City to connect to public sewer.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 36:** CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH OUR NPDES (NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM) PERMIT.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 37:** CONTINUE FINE TUNING THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF OUR TREATMENT PLANT PROCESS.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 38:** CONTINUE EFFORTS IN CONVERTING SANITARY AND STORM PUMP STATIONS TO FIBER OPTIC COMMUNICATIONS.

## **SURFACE WATER**

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 39:** PROVIDE, MAINTAIN AND UPGRADE SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS TO MINIMIZE IMPACTS ON NATURAL SYSTEMS AND TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, PROPERTY, SURFACE WATER BODIES, AND GROUNDWATER FROM CHANGES IN THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF STORMWATER RUNOFF DUE TO LAND USE CHANGES.

**OBJECTIVE 39.1:** Provide storm drainage collection and discharge systems that protect public and private property and the natural environment. Ensure that existing and future stormwater systems are properly operated and maintained.

Policy 39.1.1: Design storm drainage systems to minimize potential erosion and sedimentation problems, and to preserve natural drainage systems including rivers, streams, flood plains, lakes, ponds and wetlands.

Policy 39.1.2: Seek broad funding for stormwater system improvements.

Policy 39.1.3: Promote and support public education and involvement programs that address surface water management issues.

Policy 39.1.4: Storm and surface water management programs should be coordinated with adjacent local and regional jurisdictions.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES GOAL 40:** CONTINUE TO BUILD THE SURFACE WATER CIP PROGRAM CONSISTENT WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN. DEVELOP SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND STANDARDS TO ACHIEVE FULL COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL WATER QUALITY REGULATIONS. CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE RESTORATION OF THE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS AS PART OF THE “STORM SYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM”.

## **NON-CITY OWNED FACILITIES**

**CAPITAL FACILITY GOAL 41:** FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL UTILITIES AT THE APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF SERVICE TO ACCOMMODATE THE GROWTH THAT IS ANTICIPATED.

**OBJECTIVE 41.1:** Provide an adequate level of public utilities to respond to and be consistent with existing and planned land uses within the City.

Policy 41.1.1: Promote the co-location of new public and private utility distribution lines with planned or existing systems that are both above and below ground in joint trenches and/or right-of-way where environmentally, technically, economically and legally feasible. The City understands that some utilities may have unique safety and maintenance requirements which limit their inclusion in joint use corridors.

Policy 41.1.2: Whenever a street replacement or repavement occurs the City shall coordinate with all utilities to ensure that any utility replacement or extension occurs before the street repaving or construction occurs. A five (5) year moratorium on street cuts

- shall be in place following the replacement or repaving of a street.
- Policy 41.1.3: Encourage the appropriate siting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of all utility systems in a manner that reasonably minimizes impacts on adjacent land uses.
- Policy 41.1.4: Continue to mandate the coordination of non-emergency utility trenching activities and street repair to reduce impacts on mobility, aesthetics, noise and other disruptions.
- Policy 41.1.5: Where appropriate require landscape screening of utilities.
- Policy 41.1.6: Identify utility capacity needed to accommodate growth prior to annexation. Do not annex areas where adequate utility capacity cannot be provided.
- Policy 41.1.7: Coordinate with utility providers to ensure that the general location of existing and proposed utility facilities is consistent with other elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

**OBJECTIVE 41.2:** Ensure that non-City managed utilities provide service commensurate with required state and federally mandated service obligations and established safety and welfare standards.

- Policy 41.2.1: Coordinate the exchange of data with utility providers. Provide utility providers with current information on development patterns and permit activity within the City. Provide relevant information on population, employment, and development projections.
- Policy 41.2.2: New telecommunications and electric utility distribution lines should be installed underground within the City, where practical, in accordance with rules, regulations, and tariffs applicable to the serving utility.
- Policy 41.2.3: New, reconstructed or upgraded towers and transmission lines should be designed to minimize aesthetic impacts appropriate to their surroundings whenever practical.

## GENERAL CAPITAL FACILITIES

**CAPITAL FACILITY GOAL 42:** Ensure that an adequate supply and range of public services and capital facilities are available to provide reasonable standards of public health, safety, and quality of life.

**OBJECTIVE 42.1:** Provide an acceptable level of public services and capital facilities to accommodate anticipated growth

- Policy 42.1.1: Assess impacts of residential, commercial and employment growth on public services and facilities in a manner consistent with adopted levels-of-service.
- Policy 42.1.2: Ensure that public services and capital facilities needs are addressed in updates to Capital Facilities Plans and Capital Improvement Programs, and development regulations as appropriate.
- Policy 42.1.3: Coordinate the review of non-City managed capital facilities plans to ensure consistency with the City Comprehensive Plan.
- Policy 42.1.4: Ensure that appropriate funding sources are available to acquire or bond for the provision of needed public services and facilities.