City of Bothell
2015 Periodic Plan and Code Update

Planning Commission
Recommendation

Imagine Bothell... Comprehensive Plan
Bothell Vision Statement

WE, THE PEOPLE OF BOTHELL,

hereby set forth and pledge our commitment to achieve a common vision for the future of the Bothell community.

Our vision is drawn from scores of hopes and dreams offered by interested citizens responding to an open invitation from the City of Bothell to imagine our community in the future. From these hopes and dreams, rooted in a deep appreciation for Bothell’s rich history and for its growth over time into a vibrant, diverse, multi-faceted city, emerge the central values which we as a community hold in common:

- We believe that the essence of a prosperous and vibrant city is found not in its structures but in the collective spirit of those who live and who work within the community. We hold that the built aspects of a community—its transportation network, utilities system, buildings and other facilities—should not be considered as ends in themselves, but as means for enhancing the quality of life and enriching the human spirit.

- We believe that certain controls on the choices of individual action are appropriate to ensure that the community’s best interests are realized.

- We believe that human activities should be considered as one component of a complex system of relationships among living things and their environment and that we have an obligation—

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested that the values preamble be amended to reflect the community’s appreciation of Bothell’s past, and to incorporate a reference to responsible development. Staff proposed the following revisions, which included additional language considered necessary to ensure the cohesiveness of the statement.

PC 3/5/14 - The Commission requested a refinement to the last line of the third value, and otherwise concurred in the proposed amendments.

PC 3/11/15 - The Commission requested additional language in the values preamble reflecting Bothell’s evolution into a successful full-services city.
Imagine Bothell… Comprehensive Plan

Vision Statement

2015 Periodic Plan and Code Update

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission discussed whether to consolidate statements or leave them separate. A concern was expressed that by consolidating them, the statements would lose their impact and be diluted. Staff’s notes indicate support for leaving the statements separate.

PC 3/5/14 - The Commission concurred.

OUR VISION FOR BOTHELL,

based on the above values, is of a community which:

1. Celebrates and respects its picturesque setting by achieving harmony between the built and natural environments;

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission supported inclusion of more references promoting economic development in Bothell.

2. Fosters the fulfillment of human potential through an assortment of employment, educational, recreational and cultural opportunities available to individuals and families of all ages, incomes and ethnic backgrounds;

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested that the statement concerning public safety be moved up in order. Insofar as 1, 2 and 3 above are very broad, over-arching statements, the following location appears most appropriate.

PC 3/5/14 - The Commission concurred.

3. Demonstrates a commitment to sustainability through the actions of residents, businesses and public institutions, by living and working in ways that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested that the statement concerning public safety be moved up in order. Insofar as 1, 2 and 3 above are very broad, over-arching statements, the following location appears most appropriate.

PC 3/5/14 - The Commission concurred.

4. Ensures the safety and security of community residents, employees and visitors through responsive police, fire and emergency medical aid services;

PC 3/11/15 - The Commission requested that “natural” be added to the following statement.

4.5. Demonstrates a commitment to the conservation of scarce natural resources through the actions of residents, businesses and public institutions;

5.6. Develops and maintains a transportation system which serves land use and conservation goals and offers a variety of motorized and non-motorized modes of travel, placing emphasis on each, so as to maximize individual choice;
Imagine Bothell... Comprehensive Plan

Vision Statement

2015 Periodic Plan and Code Update

PC 2/19/14 - There was a proposal to add “dissemination of goods and services to neighborhoods” to statement 6 - now 7 - but it was pointed out that such an objective was already addressed in statement 8 - now 9. Staff’s notes indicate support for keeping the language as is.

PC 3/5/14 - The Commission concurred.

6.7. Maintains strong residential neighborhoods through public investments in physical improvements intended to enhance neighborhood identity and through public policy decisions intended to protect neighborhoods from intrusion by incompatible uses;

7.8. Conveys an overall single family residential character while offering a range of housing types and prices to ensure an adequate choice of attractive living accommodations to persons desiring to reside in Bothell;

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested refinement of language regarding choices in transportation modes.

8.9. Provides commercial areas which offer multiple transportation modes including walking, bicycling and a variety of transit choices; are pedestrian-, bicycle- and transit-oriented, vibrant and inviting by design; and are located and sized so as to ensure adequate selection and availability of goods and services for all Bothell residents;

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission supported inclusion of more references promoting economic development in Bothell.

9.10. Provides an appealing business environment and thriving employment "hub" for residents of North King County and South Snohomish County, offering job opportunities which are generated by diverse, sustainable and environmentally sound economic activities; sufficient in number and concentrations to support employee-oriented transit, recreation and human services; and located in settings characterized by high quality design; thereby placing Bothell at a competitive advantage with its peer cities for attracting and retaining businesses, and generating economic value for the community;

10.11. Honors its past and provides a perspective for the future by preserving significant historic buildings and other links to the early years of the City;

11.12. Protects, preserves and enhances those features of the natural environment which are most sensitive to human activities;

12.13. Promotes protection of native wildlife habitats, recognizing that the human species is but one of many within the Bothell area;

13.14. Provides a diversity of active and passive recreation opportunities through recreation programs and a system of parks, open spaces and interlinking trails;

14.15. Possesses a range of affordable and physically accessible human services to assist individuals and families in need;
Planning Commission Recommendation

Staff original proposal - The following proposed amendment reflects the growth and diversification of telecommunications and data transmission as a utility service since the last Plan update; and applies more accurate terminology to storm water.

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission endorsed a staff proposal to substitute “wastewater” for “sewerage”.

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission discussed whether to include a specific reference to “wireless”, or whether the term “telecommunications” already encompasses wireless. The federal Telecommunications Act does cover wireless: consequently, staff has not included a specific reference.

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested language noting that utility services can be provided by public or private entities.

15.16. Ensures necessary utility services via public or private providers including clean water supply, electricity, telecommunications and data transmission, telephone, natural gas, storm water management, drainage, and disposal of wastewater and solid waste in a manner which is fiscally and environmentally responsible;

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested the following statement be moved up in order. It has been relocated and re-numbered statement 4.

16. Ensures the safety and security of community residents, employees and visitors through responsive police, fire and emergency medical aid services;

17. Continually strives to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of municipal services, and extends those services through annexation at the request of residents of adjacent unincorporated areas;

18. Recognizes that each community's decisions affect other communities and that certain issues are most effectively addressed on a regional level, and therefore works closely with other public agencies at the city, county, state and federal levels to ensure that local and regional goals are achieved; and

PC 2/19/14 - The Commission requested refinement of statement 19.

19. Through realization of the preceding components of this vision statement, fosters a sense of belonging and pride in Bothell's unique and distinctive community; and a feeling of well-being; and a commitment towards an ever-improving City in the future.