

Please Note: DCD staff met with Public Works staff after the 11/28 Committee meeting to follow up on earlier discussions about the wording of goals that relate to stormwater, water quality and quantity and flood control. Public Works staff suggested additional wording changes to some of the goals the Committee has already reviewed. Where there has been a staff proposed revision to language the Committee has already reviewed, that change is shown in **green** rather than **red**.

Environmental Quality and Stewardship

Proposed Goals:

The City's air, land and water resources are restored and protected for future generations. (in lieu of Goal 4.1)

An informed community that understands Tukwila's ecosystems and acts responsibly to maintain and protect **them** the city's ~~ecosystem~~ functions. (modified from Goal 4.4)

Placeholder for possible stewardship goal or see if policy statements are sufficient

Proposed Policies:

- ~~Create an~~ **Expand** educational programs for all segments of the community **about** ~~on~~ the multiple **benefits** ~~purposes~~ of the City's sensitive areas and on individual responsibilities **for their stewardship**. ~~regarding it,~~ (modified from policy 4.4.1)
- Sponsor joint City and citizen cleanup and **restoration** ~~rehabilitation~~ **projects** ~~programs~~ **in the City's natural areas**. (formerly part of policy 4.4.1)
- **Provide individualized technical support to property owners regarding sensitive area stewardship**. (new policy)
- **Continue to support** the Tukwila Backyard Wildlife ~~Sanctuary~~ Program. (formerly an implementation strategy)

Water Resources

Overall Goal: ~~A system of w~~Water resources that functions as a healthy, integrated ~~system whole, and~~ provides a long-term public benefit from enhanced environmental quality **and has the potential to reduce public infrastructure costs.**
(modified from Goal 4.5)

Wetlands/Watercourses/Fish Habitat

Proposed Goals:

Vital and self-sustaining fish and wildlife habitat areas that **also provide opportunities for recreational and educational uses, where appropriate.**
(modified from Goal 4.2)

Watercourse buffers, wetlands and wetland buffers protected from encroachment and degradation and improved through enhancement and restoration projects. (proposed new goal)

Proposed Policies:

- Regulate land use and development, using Best Available Science, to protect **and improve** natural vegetation and hydrology **in order** to prevent significant erosion, sedimentation, or degradation of areas of potential geologic instability, wetlands, watercourses, **fish and wildlife habitat areas** and their associated buffers. (modified from Policy 4.1.1)
- Require appropriate **and timely** mitigation ~~timed~~ **in order** to ensure no net loss **of sensitive area functions and designed to replace sensitive area acreage, and/or restore or enhance sensitive area functions lost due to development.** (modified from policy 4.1.6)
- **Ensure the effectiveness of sensitive area mitigation by requiring adequate sensitive area studies and mitigation plans, the application of mitigation sequencing to reduce potential adverse impacts to sensitive areas, and by improving City oversight of maintenance and**

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monitoring of mitigation sites. *(new policy based on existing policy 4.1.5)*

- Require adequate financial guarantees to ensure that mitigation installation and mitigation maintenance and monitoring are implemented. *(new policy)*
- Establish internal processes for watershed-scale evaluations of surface water management impacts for new private and public development, redevelopment and drainage system retrofits. *(new policy)*
- Allow off-site wetland ~~and flood control~~ mitigation when there is an ~~equivalent~~ greater functional benefit ~~affected basin~~, no significant adverse impact to the adjacent property, and no significant adverse impact to existing wetlands or watercourses. ~~and where it may be combined with City-sponsored programs.~~ Preference for mitigation sites shall be given first within Tukwila's portion of the Green-Duwamish watershed and then elsewhere in the watershed. *(modified from policy 4.1.8)*
- Allow payment into an in-lieu fee program for mitigation outside of Tukwila where ecological benefits of such actions will be significantly greater than mitigation locations in the City. ?? *(possible new policy)*
- Develop an in-lieu fee program in the City for future wetland mitigation. ?? *(possible new policy)*
- Restore watershed function through sensitive area restoration projects on publicly owned lands and by working with property owners to restore/improve sensitive areas on private property. *(modified from policy 4.1.3)*
- Where a drainage ditch conveys a natural water course, develop and follow surface water drainage and street maintenance practices to avoid eliminating native riparian vegetation. Where riparian

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vegetation is disturbed through maintenance activities, restore vegetation with native species to improve riparian function. *(proposed new policy)*

- Provide staff and financial support for restoration projects, wherever feasible to enhance salmonid habitat in watercourses, wetlands and the Green/Duwamish River, including projects identified in the Shoreline Master Program Habitat Restoration Program and the Water Resource Inventory Area 9 Salmon Habitat Plan. *(proposed new policy)*
- Prohibit piping of watercourses except where unavoidable for access purposes. Where feasible and practical to create healthy riparian habitat, encourage removal of piped sections of watercourses as part of new or redevelopment and public projects. *(modified policy 4.1.3)*
- Prohibit creation of new fish barriers and, where possible, eliminate existing barriers (as identified in the Surface Water Comprehensive Plan) to fish passage through implementation of capital improvement projects and by providing incentives to private sector development. ~~open channels for watercourse conveyance.~~ *(modified policy 4.1.3)*

Water Quality/Quantity

Proposed Goals:

Improved water quality in Tukwila's wetlands, watercourses, fish and wildlife habitat areas and the Green/Duwamish River. (proposed new goal)

Stormwater from urban development that does not exceed pre-development discharge rates and provides water quality treatment where required. ~~levels and aquatic resources that are protected from harmful stormwater discharges.~~ (proposed new goal)

Proposed Policies:

- Encourage the use of low-impact development techniques for stormwater management in new and existing development. *(proposed new policy)*
- Ensure that proposed development and mitigation plans consider hydrology on a watershed scale to avoid adverse impacts to sensitive areas from changes in hydrologic patterns. *(proposed new policy)*
- Retrofit existing City stormwater systems to improve water quality of stormwater discharges where there are significant water quality benefits. *(proposed new policy)*
- Prevent streambank erosion and sedimentation of water resources through adequate implementation of surface water and land clearing regulations and inspections. *(proposed new policy)*
- Initiate educational and management programs to reduce the use of chemicals with negative impacts on the environment or human health. *(proposed new policy)*
- Promote natural yard care by Tukwila residents through educational programs and publicity. *(proposed new policy)*

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- Continue inspection programs to ensure proper maintenance of stormwater management systems. *(proposed new policy)*
- Continue City monitoring for illicit surface water discharges and ensure that action is taken to eliminate any such discharges. *(modified from policy 4.1.4)*
- Carry out capital improvement projects and eliminate harmful pollutants from stormwater inflows to improve water quality in Tukwila Pond in order to better support fish and waterfowl habitat and enhance public enjoyment of the Tukwila Pond Park. *(proposed new policy)*

Flood Control

Proposed Goal: The natural functions of wetlands, floodplains and floodways are protected to help prevent damage to life, property and public safety.

Proposed Policy: Minimize adverse impacts to water resources by using bioengineering and natural solutions for bank stabilization or flood control projects, wherever feasible. *(proposed new policy)*

Earth Resources

Proposed Goal: Potential impacts and liabilities associated with development in areas of potential geologic instability **and coal mine hazard areas are minimized.**
(modified from existing Comp Plan Goal 4.3)

Proposed Policies:

- **On steep slopes, require areas where vegetation remains undisturbed to protect slope stability on sites cleared for development and require significant replanting with appropriate plants upon completion of development.** *(modified from policy 4.3.3)*
- **For development on steep slopes, require setbacks where needed from the top and/or toe of steep slopes to reduce risks of slope failure and risks to public safety.** *(proposed new policy)*
- **Require measures to minimize erosion during and after construction activities on steep slopes.** *(proposed new policy)*
- **Incorporate information from geotechnical reports and documented landslide and erosion-prone areas into the City's GIS.** *(proposed new policy)*
- **Ensure that proposed development projects in mapped coal mine hazard areas adequately consider and mitigate for possible risks.** *(proposed new policy)*

Archaeological, Paleontological, and Culturally Significant

Resources sites (move shaded section to Chapter 1 and combine with Historical Preservation) Add the following new text to the Natural Environment chapter narrative:

“The protection of archaeological, paleontological and culturally significant resources crosses several Comprehensive Plan topic categories – these areas can be viewed as environmentally sensitive but the City’s Parks and Open Space Plan also includes a number of goals or policies on natural areas, historical resources (including archaeological resources). For the purposes of the Comprehensive Plan, these topics will be addressed in Chapter 1, Community Image.”

Proposed Goal: ~~Protected~~ Paleontological and archaeological artifacts and sites with cultural significance are protected and preserved (*modified from existing Comp Plan Goal 4.6*)

Proposed Policies:

- ~~Inventory sites and adopt~~ **Implement** measures existing regulations to ensure that paleontological and archaeological materials and site details are preserved for posterity. (*modified from Policy 4.6.1*)
- **Ensure that the potential for the existence of paleontological and archaeological sites is considered during development of new construction projects.** (*proposed new policy*)
- **Identify and protect culturally significant sites and develop interpretive information about them to foster public appreciation of historical traditions and practices.**

Open Space Network (leave in Community Image Chapter?)

Existing /Proposed Goal: A network of lands, connected where possible with other ~~such regional~~ **open space** networks, that includes and connects Tukwila's recreational amenities, historical sites, water resources, **wildlife corridors** and other natural resources and provides visually and environmentally significant bands of vegetation that contrast with the built environment. (modified from **Comprehensive Plan Goal 1.10, Community Image Chapter**).

Urban forestry/trees (new – to be developed)