



APPENDIX H

Equity and Environmental Sustainability Performance Metrics



Bellevue Comprehensive Periodic Plan EIS: Equity and Environmental Sustainability Performance Metrics

Introduction

This document includes performance metrics that allow current conditions and future alternatives to be screened for their environmental impacts and advancement of, or hurdles to, racial equity and displacement. Using the performance metrics described below, the consultant team considered how each alternative affects the elements of the environment and equitable outcomes across the EIS topics. This effort provides a cohesive evaluation framework for equity while advancing EIS topics in the context of SEPA requirements. Within the chapters of the EIS, these performance metrics are incorporated into the “Thresholds of Significance” sections.

The performance metrics selected for the EIS are informed by the Comprehensive Plan Racial Equity Toolkit as well as the community engagement that gathers and elevates the voices of marginalized communities. Using the performance metrics, for each topic, the consultant team has identified:

- **Equitable Outcomes:** Evaluate outcomes for equity.
- **Context and Conditions:** As part of a separate Region Development Index (RDI) analysis report, describe historical context and the current situation the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update seeks to change, including disparate conditions and actions that may be needed to address gaps.
- **Relationship to Engagement:** Integrate EIS Scoping comments and Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update engagement results in terms of issues addressed and mitigation offered.
- **Strategies, Recommendations, and Implementation:** Identify community-centered, actionable strategies particularly in terms of potential policies that serve as mitigation measures.

Equity and Environmental Sustainability Performance Metrics by Plan Outcomes

Exhibit 1 includes the four themes for the Bellevue 2044 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update and the desired outcomes for each. These themes inform the equity and environmental sustainability performance metrics (**Exhibit 2**).

Exhibit 1: Bellevue 2044 Themes and Desired Outcomes

Comprehensive Plan Themes	Desired Outcomes
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Plan for a range of housing types and densities that allow us to maximize recent investments in transit. B. Prioritize affordable housing for very low income families. C. Address past inequities that have shaped the city. D. Plan for residential neighborhoods that protect and promote the health and well-being of residents by supporting equitable access to parks, a clean environment, educational and economic opportunity, and transportation options.
Placemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E. Support small, locally owned businesses. F. Increase the ability to walk and bike to places close to home. G. Create more community gathering spaces.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H. Provide access to open space. I. Reduce our environmental impact. J. Support health, well-being, and resilience. K. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> L. Focus housing and job growth in places that have good access to a variety of transportation options. M. Enhance the ability to access stores, cafes, services, parks, and other amenities close to home. N. Variety of approaches to manage traffic and give people options for getting around the city and the region.

Exhibit 2 lists metrics for equity and environmental sustainability relevant to the desired outcomes identified by the city through regional planning requirements and community engagement. Metrics are incorporated into specific chapters of the EIS through the thresholds of significance used to identify impacts. In some instances, metrics are addressed in a separate Racial Disparity Index (RDI) analysis report. The column on the right identifies the chapters of the EIS the metrics map to or point to the ones included in the RDI analysis report. Metrics listed here include both equity and environmental sustainability metrics. Metrics that address equity are *italicized*.

Exhibit 2: Performance Metrics for Equity and Environmental Sustainability

EIS Element	Metric	Comprehensive Plan Theme/Desired Outcome	Notes
Land Use	Land use compatibility – potential for incompatible land use transitions between uses.	Placemaking (outcomes A and D)	
	Extent to which alternatives demonstrate housing and job capacity to accommodate growth targets.	Housing (outcome A)	
	<i>Qualitative discussion on the extent of the following across alternatives: affordable commercial space (defined as 80% of median commercial rent for Bellevue from CoStar); zoning that encourages small-scale commercial pockets in residential or mixed-use areas.</i>	Housing (outcome D), Placemaking (outcomes E, F, G), Access (outcome M)	
	<i>City resources applied to commercial anti-displacement programs.</i>	Placemaking (outcome E)	Included as a mitigation measure
	<i>Estimated commercial displacement</i>	Housing (outcomes A and D)	Addressed qualitatively in Land Use chapter
	<i>Qualitative discussion on access to community gathering spaces and amenities, including grocery stores.</i>	Placemaking (outcome G)	
	At least seven diverse uses allowed/present within ¼ mile of major transit stops.	Access (outcomes L and M)	
Aesthetics	Qualitative discussion about urban form impacts.	Housing (outcomes D), Sustainability (outcomes H and J)	
	Discussion of citywide view impacts and impacts at specific locations in the Wilburton study area.	Housing (outcome D)	
	Discussion of shadow impacts on public spaces and to specific locations in the Wilburton study area.	Placemaking (outcome G)	
	Discussion of light and glare impacts that could hinder public enjoyment of public spaces.	Placemaking (G)	

EIS Element	Metric	Comprehensive Plan Theme/Desired Outcome	Notes
Relationship to Plans and Policies	Alignment with Washington State Growth Management Act.	Housing (outcome A), Transportation (outcome L)	
	Alignment with VISION 2050 Growth Strategy for Bellevue (share of growth in various geographies).	Housing (outcome A), Transportation (outcome L)	
	Alignment with King County Countywide Planning Policies.	Housing (outcome A), Transportation (outcome L)	
Population, Employment	<i>Amount of population growth in areas with high exposure to contaminated sites and areas near traffic.</i>	Housing (outcomes C and D), Sustainability (outcome J)	
	<i>Job mix alignment with the city's economic vision.</i>	Housing (outcome D)	
Housing	Number of new units by type and area median income (AMI).	Housing (outcome A)	Qualitative discussion of supply, diversity, and affordability of housing under each alternative
	Qualitative discussion of affordability based on the package of incentives or policy options in each alternative.	Housing (outcome B)	
	Availability of units that are appropriate for families and multi-generational households.	Housing (outcome A)	
	<i>Extent to which low-density, single-family zoning is modified to allow for "Missing Middle" (duplex/triplex/townhome/fourplex/stacked flats) housing.</i>	Housing (outcomes A and I)	
	<i>Amount of new housing in areas at high risk of displacement.</i>	Housing (outcome C)	
	<i>Percentage of housing units within 10-minute walkshed of grocery store.</i>	Housing (outcomes C and D), Placemaking (outcomes F and G), Environment (outcome J), Access (outcome M)	Addressed in Land Use chapter under access to community amenities
	Allowed housing units within 10-minute walkshed of existing and planned high-capacity transit.	Housing (outcomes A and D), Access (outcomes L and N)	

EIS Element	Metric	Comprehensive Plan Theme/Desired Outcome	Notes
Transportation	Jobs/housing within a quarter mile of sidewalk network.	Housing (outcome D), Placemaking (outcome F), Sustainability (outcomes I, J, K), Access (outcomes L and N)	
	Jobs/housing within a quarter mile of bicycle network.	Housing (outcome D), Connection (outcome F), Sustainability (outcomes I, J, K), Access (outcomes L and N)	
	Vehicle miles traveled (VMT).	Environment (outcomes I, K)	
	Qualitative discussion of safety.	Housing (outcome D), Sustainability (outcome F), Access (outcomes M and N)	
Public Services (schools, parks):	Percentage of housing units within 10-minute walking distance of existing or planned park or trail access point.	Housing (outcomes C and D)	RDI report includes park access
	Alternative result in increases in students and lack of facilities.	Housing (outcomes C and D)	
Utilities	Inconsistency with utility system planned growth and capital plans.	Housing (outcomes C and D), Access (outcome M)	
	<i>Qualitative discussion of gaps in sewer infrastructure and where capacity is increasing in combination with the location of septic systems.</i>	Housing (outcomes C and D)	

EIS Element	Metric	Comprehensive Plan Theme/Desired Outcome	Notes
Air, Noise, Water, and Plants and Animals	Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions: Increase in greenhouse gases above the No Action Alternative.	Housing (outcome D), Sustainability (outcomes I, J, K)	
	<i>Increase in housing units within 1,500 feet of major roadways.</i>	Housing (outcomes C and D), Sustainability (outcome J)	
	<i>Traffic noise levels of 10 dBA or more above existing noise levels.</i>	Housing (outcome D), Sustainability (outcome J)	
	<i>Impervious surfaces and overall tree canopy.</i>	Housing (outcomes C and D), Sustainability (outcomes I and J)	
	<i>Amount and percentage of population living in areas with high exposure to flooding and landslides.</i>	Housing (outcomes C and D), Sustainability (outcome J)	
None	<i>Concentration or dispersion of affordable housing within the city.</i>	Housing (outcomes A, B, C)	Included in RDI Analysis report
None	<i>Planned housing growth relative to location of higher performing schools and existing racial composition of neighborhood.</i>	Housing (outcomes C, D)	Included in RDI Analysis report