

# CHAPTER SIX UTILITIES ELEMENT

# What you will find in this chapter:

- A description of the utility systems and providers in the City of Kent;
- Goals and policies for providing utility services to Kent's residents; and
- Strategies for implementing the City's policies and working with private utility providers.

# **Purpose Statement:**

Provide utility services and facilities to support the envisioned urban growth pattern.

# **CHAPTER SIX**

# **UTILITIES ELEMENT**

# **Purpose**

Utility facilities and services that are addressed in this Element include electricity, natural gas, domestic water, storm, sewer, solid waste and telecommunications. Availability of these facilities and services affects the health, safety and general welfare of the Kent community, as well as whether, how and when growth occurs.

Both City- and non-City-owned utilities operating within Kent are described in this Element, and relevant comprehensive utility plans are adopted by reference. These comprehensive utility plans provide additional details on the availability of services to meet the growth strategy, forecasts and targets adopted under the Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2040 and the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

# Issues

#### **Coordination of Service Providers**

The City-managed utilities must coordinate with providers of utility services outside of the City service areas. Neighboring water and sewer districts may include service areas within the city limits of Kent. These districts have completed concurrency analyses on their systems and provide for planned growth through infrastructure upgrades that are funded through service rates.

# **Concurrency and Implications for Growth**

Utility projects and other capital facilities must be in place to accommodate growth.

# **Keeping the Telecommunications System Current**

Telecommunication systems and services change rapidly. The City needs to keep pace with the technical and electronic expectations of public service users.

# System Sustainability, Rehabilitation, Replacement and Retrofit

To maintain sustainable utilities, it is necessary to plan and implement maintenance and replacement of utility infrastructure. Utility system improvements are designed to meet federal, state and local requirements.

# **Regional Coordination for Landfill**

The City participates in a regional effort to divert waste from the landfill, with an intent to keep the Cedar Hills operational to 2030.

# **Environmental Sustainability**

Utility planning and operations require environmental protection efforts to preserve the quality of the natural environment including preservation and enhancement of fish habitat.

# **Climate Change**

As additional scientific information is identified regarding climate change, the City will evaluate the potential impacts to its existing utilities. Kent's primary sources of municipal water supply are not snow pack dependent. Utilities will follow Greenhouse Gas Reduction policies adopted by the City.

# **Funding**

Public utilities are funded by the rate payers. When applicable, the City will apply for grants to help offset the cost of large capital projects.

#### **KENT UTILITY PROVIDERS**

#### Water

City of Kent

City of Auburn

City of Renton

Highline Water District

King County Water District No. 111

Lakehaven Utility District

Soos Creek Water & Sewer District

#### **Sewer**

City of Kent

City of Auburn

City of Tukwila

Lakehaven Utility District

Midway Sewer District

Soos Creek Water & Sewer District

# **Surface Water**

City of Kent

# **Electricity**

Puget Sound Energy

# **Natural Gas**

Puget Sound Energy

#### **Telecommunications**

AT&T Broadband

CenturyLink

Comcast

# **System Descriptions**

#### Water

The service area of the City of Kent Water Utility encompasses 24 square miles and serves most of the incorporated City, as well as small areas of unincorporated King County and the City of Auburn. Adjacent franchise areas of neighboring water purveyors serve the remainder of Kent and the PAA.

Current and near future peak day demands for water are met through Kent Springs, Clark Springs and supplemental well facilities. To meet long-term demands, the City executed a partnership agreement for an additional water source. Although existing water supply can meet the needs of projected growth to 2030 as outlined in the Comprehensive Water System Plan adopted by the City Council in 2011, additional storage reservoirs will be needed to deliver this water to customers. A Comprehensive Water System Plan update is required by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) every six years. The Plan is adopted by reference as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Proposed water system projects include development of a new 640 pressure zone on the East Hill to improve water pressures at high elevations, a new reservoir on the West Hill to meet increasing storage demands and water main replacements, including upsizing older portions of the distribution system to improve capacity. The costs of improvements to the water system range from \$150 million to \$160 million in 2008 dollars, and funding of these projects will be accomplished through a combination of water rate increases and bonding.

Water supply service areas and facilities serving Kent's Planning Area are illustrated in Figure U-1.

#### Sewer

The service area of the City of Kent Sewer Utility encompasses approximately 23 square miles and includes most of the incorporated City, as well as adjacent franchise areas within unincorporated King County. Since the existing collection system already serves most of the City's service area, expansion of this system will occur almost entirely by infill development, which will be accomplished primarily through developer extensions and local improvement districts.

The City's sewer system has been designed and constructed in accordance with the growing needs of the City. Because Kent's sewer service area is not coincident with the city limits, the City uses the future population forecast for the actual area served by Kent sewer. Population forecasts are based on the Land Use Plan for ultimate build out in accordance with Department of Ecology requirements. The City of Kent Comprehensive Sewerage Plan, which is adopted by reference as part of the Comprehensive Plan, has identified various undersized lines, as well as others that require rehabilitation.

King County Wastewater Treatment is responsible for interception, treatment and disposal of wastewater from the City of Kent and communities throughout south and north King County. King County is providing additional wastewater capacity to serve a growing population in the Puget Sound area through its Brightwater Treatment Plant and is also expanding the South Treatment Plant to handle additional flow from south and east King County. The City of Kent does not incur any direct capacity-related capital facilities requirements or costs for sanitary sewer treatment.

Service connections and interlocal agreements ensuring continuous service exist between the City of Kent and adjacent sewer utilities providing service to Kent homes and businesses. *Figure U-2* illustrates the locations of the sanitary sewer service areas and facilities.

# **Surface Water Management**

The majority of the City of Kent is located within the Green River watershed, with stormwater flowing either directly to the Green River or to the Green River via a tributary creek. The two main tributaries that convey stormwater from Kent to the Green River are Big Soos Creek on the East Hill and Springbrook Creek in the valley. Mill Creek and Garrison Creek flow into Springbrook Creek in the northern area of the valley in Kent. A smaller portion of the City, generally located west of I-5, flows either to Bingamon, Massey or McSorley Creeks, which drain directly to Puget Sound. These watersheds are shown in *Figure U-3*. The City's Clark Springs water supply properties are located in the Rock Creek watershed, which flows into the Cedar River and then on to Lake Washington.

The stormwater system is comprised of a nearly 325-mile network of ditches, pipes and stormwater quantity and quality control facilities that connect individual parcels with the City's surface water systems. The City also owns, operates and

# **CHAPTER SIX**

# **UTILITIES ELEMENT**

maintains several regional quantity and quality control facilities. The City has established a replacement program to repair or replace segments of the pipes each year. Segments also may be targeted for improvements before the end of the service life, usually due to inadequate capacity after increases in development. An analysis of the existing storm drainage pipes within the City indicated approximately 41 percent have failed to meet the minimum requirements for passing a 25-year storm event. These systems are noted within the 2009 Drainage Master Plan (DMP).

The DMP included an evaluation of watersheds and drainage basins, analysis of open channel components (receiving water) for insufficient capacity and a determination and prioritization of projects needed to reduce flood risks, improve water quality, enhance fish passage and instream/riparian habitats and efficiently serve planned growth in a cost–effective way. Further details on each project are located in Chapter 7, Table 7-1 of the DMP. Total project costs range from \$52 million to \$67 million in 2008 dollars.

Specific requirements (level-of-service standards) for on-site stormwater management and stream protection are contained in the City's 2002 Surface Water Design Manual, which is a modified version of the 1998 King County Surface Water Design Manual. Portions of the stormwater system are improved to these standards as public and private development projects are constructed. These standards have been adjusted as necessary to meet equivalency requirements of the Washington State Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.

Program components of the DMP include compliance with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE)-mandated National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Permit and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Programs. The DMP included recommendations to meet the required elements of the Lake Fenwick TMDL and NPDES Phase II Permit for tracking, monitoring, maintenance and operation elements including the necessary resources to meet these needs.

As a result of the 1999 listing of Chinook Salmon and Bull Trout and the 2007 listing of Steelhead under the Federal Endangered Species Act, the City has been participating in various regional salmon restoration efforts, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Green/Duwamish Ecosystem Restoration Program and the Salmon Habitat Forums for Watershed Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) 8 (Cedar/Lake Washington/Lake Sammamish) and 9 (Green Duwamish).

The City is also an active participant in the Technical and Advisory Committees for the King County Flood Control District, which constructs, operates and maintains the levees along the Green River and other areas of King County.

# **Solid Waste**

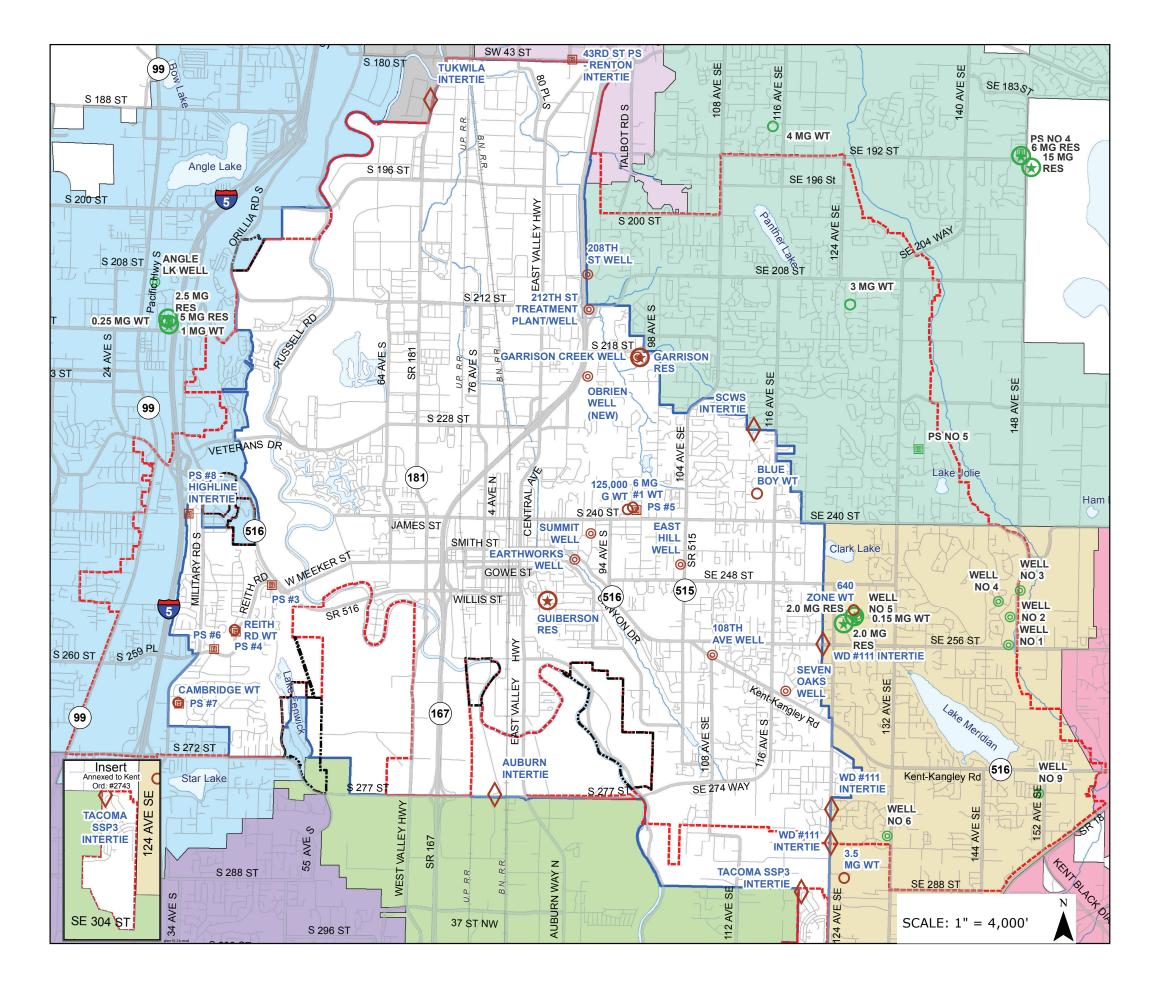
Solid Waste collection, transportation and disposal in Kent is governed by state and local regulations, an interlocal agreement with King County and collection contracts with solid waste providers. Through a competitive multi-year contract with the City, Republic Services provides comprehensive garbage, recyclables and yard and food waste collection services to residential, multifamily and commercial customers.

Kent has implemented mandatory garbage collection to curb illegal dumping, litter and accumulation of trash/garbage on private property.

The City's solid waste is ultimately taken to King County's Cedar Hills Landfill for disposal. As part of the Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with King County, Kent and other parties will develop plans and alternatives to waste disposal at Cedar Hills Landfill in advance of its closure in 2025; the information will be incorporated into the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

Kent has entered into an interlocal agreement with King County Solid Waste and most other municipalities in the county to collectively manage solid waste. At the current rate, Cedar Hills, which is the last remaining landfill in the county, will last until 2030. Alternatives are identified in the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. Municipalities operating under this plan strive to divert as much waste from the landfill as possible. The residential sector in Kent is currently diverting just over 50 percent of the solid waste from the landfill through recycling and yard and food waste collection. Since 2010, participation in the yard and food waste collection program has increased from 36 percent to over 95 percent.

Kent residents are able to participate in the countywide Hazardous Waste Management program adopted by the King County Board of Health in 2010. Its mission is "to protect and enhance public health and environmental quality in King County by reducing the threat posed by the production, use, storage and disposal of hazardous materials."



#### FIGURE U-1

# WATER SUPPLY SERVICE AREAS AND FACILITIES

# **LEGEND**

POTENTIAL ANNEXATION AREA
CITY LIMITS
KENT WATER FRANCHISE

**KENT FACILITIES** 

WELL

RESERVOIR

O WATER TANK

PUMP STATION

INTERTIE

# **OTHER AGENCY FACILITIES**

WELL

RESERVOIR

WATER TANK

PUMP STATION

# **WATER DISTRICTS**

AUBURN WATER DISTRICT

COVINGTON WATER DISTRICT

HIGHLINE WATER DISTRICT

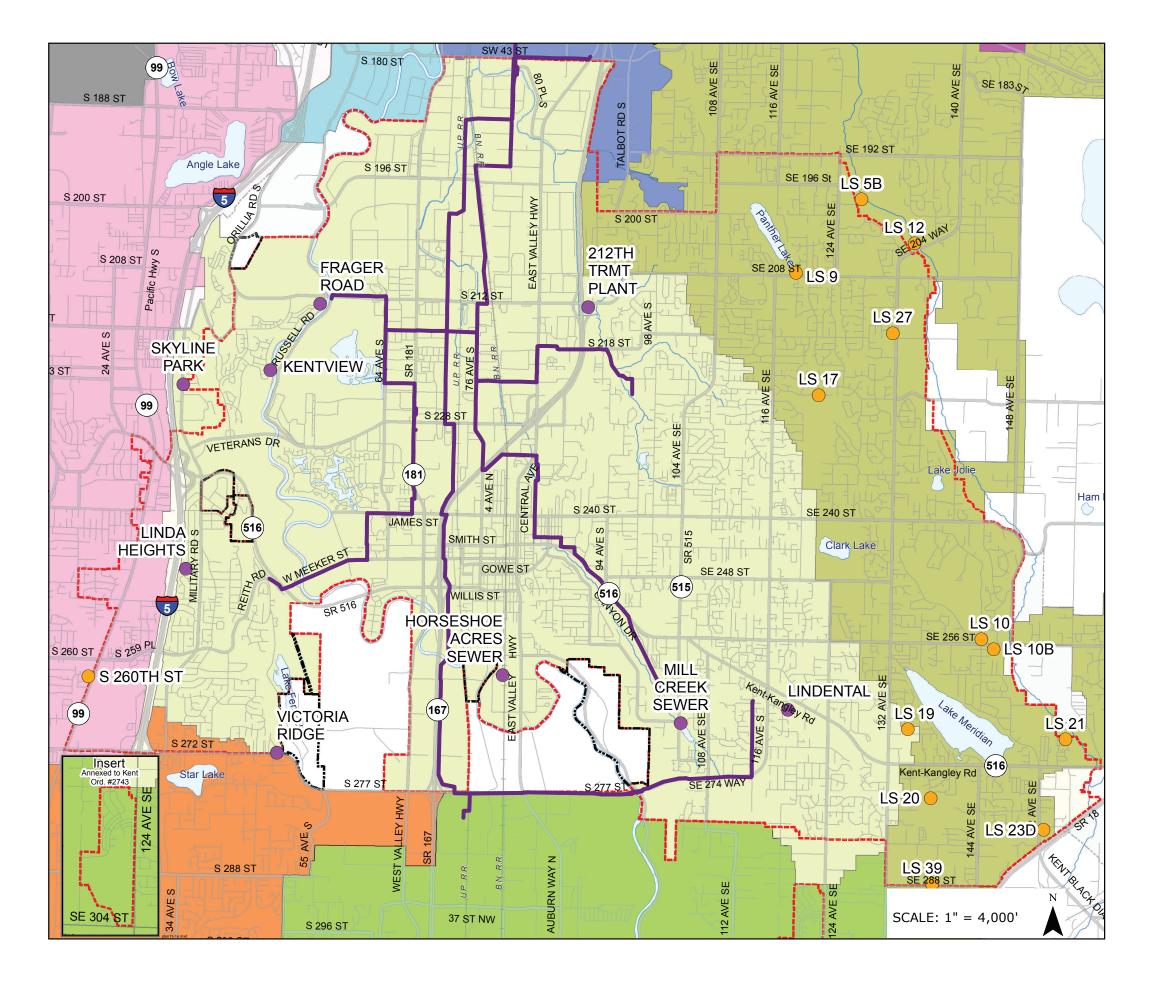
LAKEHAVEN WATER DISTRICT

RENTON WATER DISTRICT

SOOS CREEK WATER DISTRICT

TUKWILA WATER DISTRICT

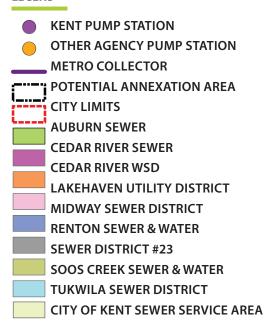
DISTRICT #111

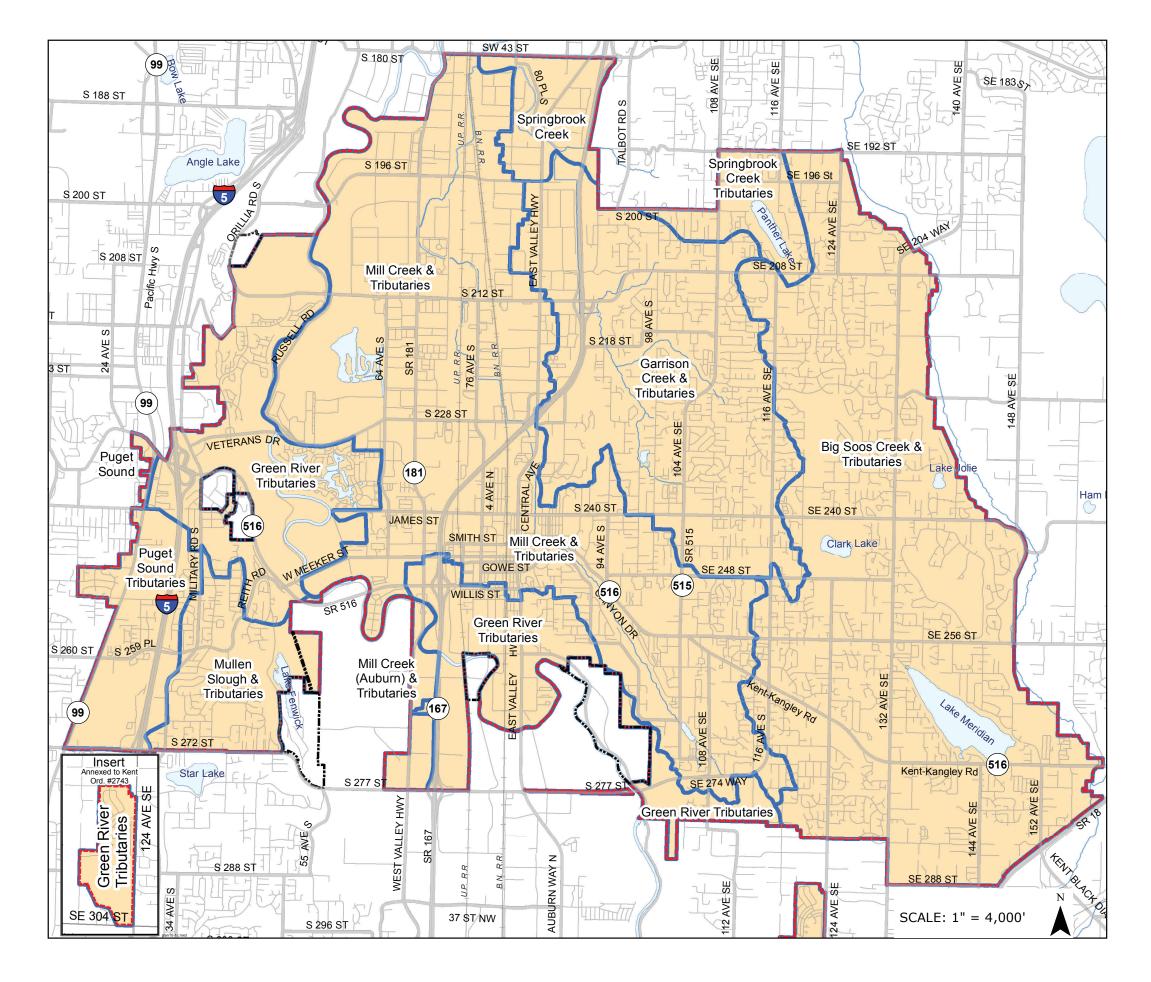


# FIGURE U-2

# SEWER SERVICE AREAS AND FACILITIES

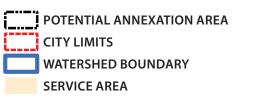
# **LEGEND**





# STORM DRAINAGE SERVICE AREA

# **LEGEND**





# **Electricity**

Kent is served by Puget Sound Energy (PSE), a private electric utility whose operation and rates are governed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, the National Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Electricity is produced elsewhere and transported to switching stations in Kent and Renton through high-voltage transmission lines, then reduced and redistributed through lower-voltage transmission lines, distribution substations and smaller transformers.

PSE provides electrical service to approximately 57,300 electric customers in Kent. There are 230 kilovolt (kV) high-voltage transmission lines running north and south within the City of Kent that move bulk power from transmission stations in Renton and Kent. Also within the City are several 115kV transmission lines and a number of neighborhood distribution substations.

PSE also has its own hydro, thermal, wind and solar power-generating facilities. Additionally, there are about 1,500 small, customer-owned generation facilities that are interconnected with PSE's system and can export surplus energy into the grid. The vast majority of these are solar panel installations.

PSE's 2013 Integrated Resource Plan forecasted that PSE would have to acquire approximately 4,900 megawatts of new power-supply capacity by 2033. Roughly half of the need can be met by energy efficiency and the renewal of transmission contracts. The rest is likely to be met most economically with added natural gas-fired resources.

Some new transmission lines and substations will need to be constructed, as well as existing ones rebuilt or maintained. Specific construction that is anticipated includes the following:

- Autumn Glen neighborhood substation and the reconfiguration of the 115kV lines near the intersection of 104th Ave. S.E. and S.E. 272nd St.
- New 115kV line from the existing O'Brien substation north along the PSE right-of-way to S. 204th St. and then west to 68th Ave. S.E.
- Briscoe Park neighborhood substation located just outside the city limits of Kent in Tukwila. Although located in Tukwila this substation will eventually serve customers in Kent.

# **Natural Gas**

Puget Sound Energy provides natural gas service to more than 750,000 customers in six Western Washington counties. It is estimated that PSE currently serves over 26,800 gas customers within the City of Kent.

Natural gas is transported through interstate pipelines to Puget Sound Energy's gate stations. From the gate stations, the natural gas is transported through supply mains and district regulators to distribution mains which feed individual residential service lines.

PSE Gas System Integrity-Maintenance Planning has several DuPont manufactured main and service piping and STW main replacements planned for 2015. There will be several pipe investigations throughout the City to determine the exact location of the DuPont manufactured pipe. Identified DuPont manufactured piping in PSE's entire system will be ranked and replaced accordingly.

New projects can be developed in the future at any time due to:

- 1. New or replacement of existing facilities to increase capacity requirements due to new building construction and conversion from alternate fuels.
- 2. Main replacement to facilitate improved maintenance of facilities.
- 3. Replacement or relocation of facilities due to municipal and state projects.

# **CHAPTER SIX**

# **UTILITIES ELEMENT**

#### **Telecommunications**

As telecommunications technologies have evolved, convergence of these technologies has occurred, resulting in multiple communication services migrating into consolidated networks.

Telecommunications in Kent include both wired and wireless telephone services, cable and satellite television and high-speed broadband technology. Through partnerships with franchised telecommunications companies, internal public works projects and completion of capital projects, the City has a robust conduit infrastructure that would enable and facilitate future fiber optic connectivity projects benefiting the City, its residents and businesses and project partners. The City has joined a connectivity consortium of cities and other public partners that would construct and maintain a regional fiber-optic telecommunications system. This fiber-optic system would provide redundancies, enhance communications networks and emergency operations.

# **Cable and Satellite Television**

The City of Kent has a non-exclusive franchise agreement with Comcast Corporation to construct, operate and maintain a cable system in compliance with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations. Comcast's network provides high-definition television capacity and high-speed internet access through cable modems, and includes coaxial and fiber optic cabling systems deployed both underground and overhead using utility poles leased from power and telephone companies. Comcast has provided the City of Kent with the capability to broadcast live from City Hall on the Government Access Channel (i.e., Kent TV21).

Satellite television competes directly with cable television by delivering hundreds of channels directly to mini-dishes installed in homes and businesses throughout Kent.

# **Wireline and Wireless Communications**

Many companies offer telecommunications services including integrated voice and data, and voice over internet telephony (VoiP) technology. CenturyLink, the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC), is now joined by several Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) in providing more communications service options to Kent residents and businesses.

With expansion of telecommunications infrastructure, new technologies and competition, telecommunications utilities are expected to meet voice, video and broadband demands during the planning period.

# **Goals and Policies**

# **Water and Sewer**

# Goal U-1

Ensure that public utilities services throughout the City and other areas receiving such services are adequate to accommodate anticipated growth without significantly degrading the levels-of-service for existing customers.

**Policy U-1.1:** Coordinate the planning and provision of public utilities services and facilities with other agencies providing such services to Kent homes and businesses.

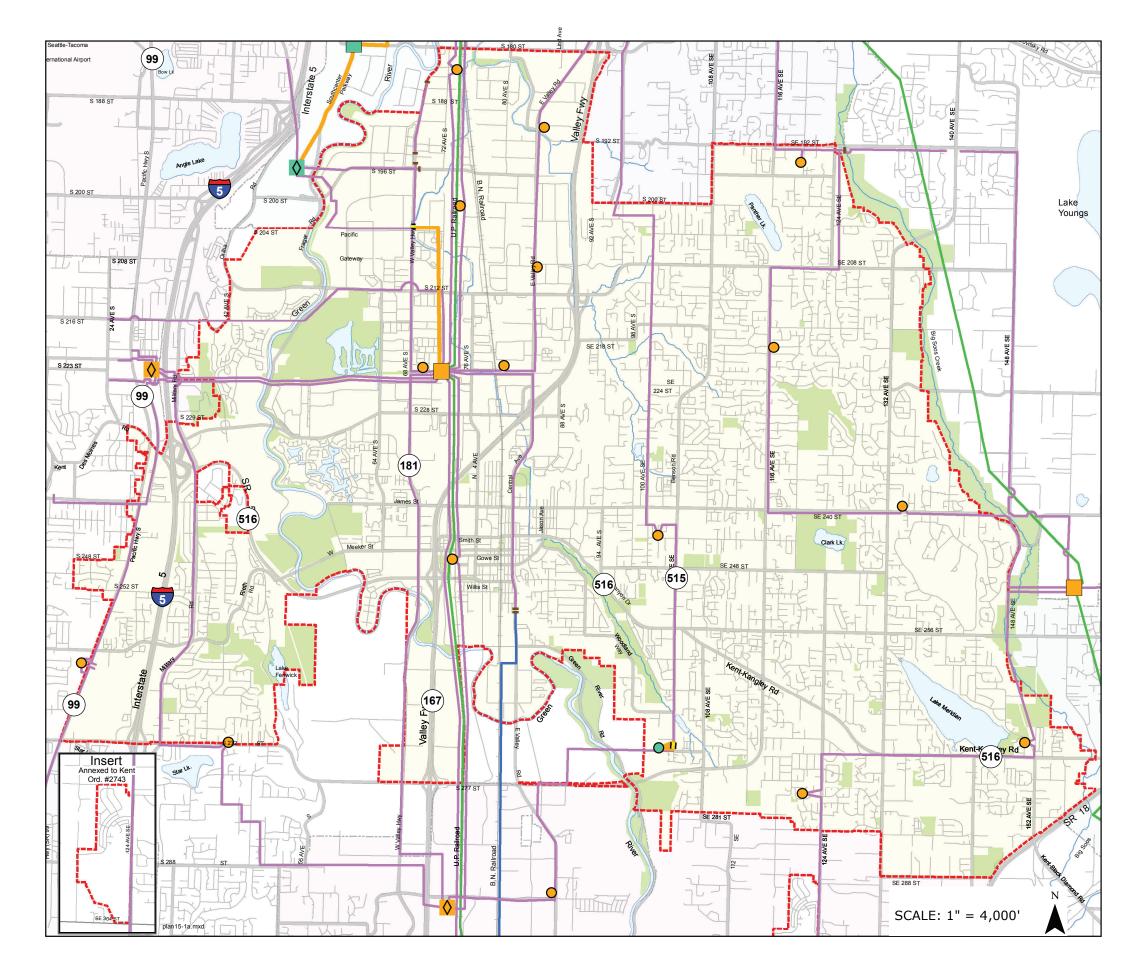
**Policy U-1.2:** Consider existing demand units in assessing levels-of-service for future provision of services and facilities.

#### Goal U-2

Provide water to the City's existing customers and for future development consistent with the short and long range goals of the City.

**Policy U-2.1:** Identify capital improvement projects needed to meet the potable water supply and fire protection needs of current customers and the forecast for future demand within the areas served by the City of Kent Water System.

**Policy U-2.2:** Ensure system capacity (i.e. sources, pump stations transmission mains, etc.) is sufficient to meet current and projected peak day demand and fire flow conditions.



# **FIGURE U-4**

# **EXISTED AND PROPOSED PSE ELECTRIC FACILITIES**

# **LEGEND**

CITY LIMITS

# **EXISTING**

DISTRIBUTION SUB

TRAN SUB

TRAN SWITCH STATION

\_\_\_\_\_ 115kV

\_\_\_\_\_ 230kV

\_\_\_\_\_ 55kV

- END

# **PROPOSED**

DISTRIBUTION SUB

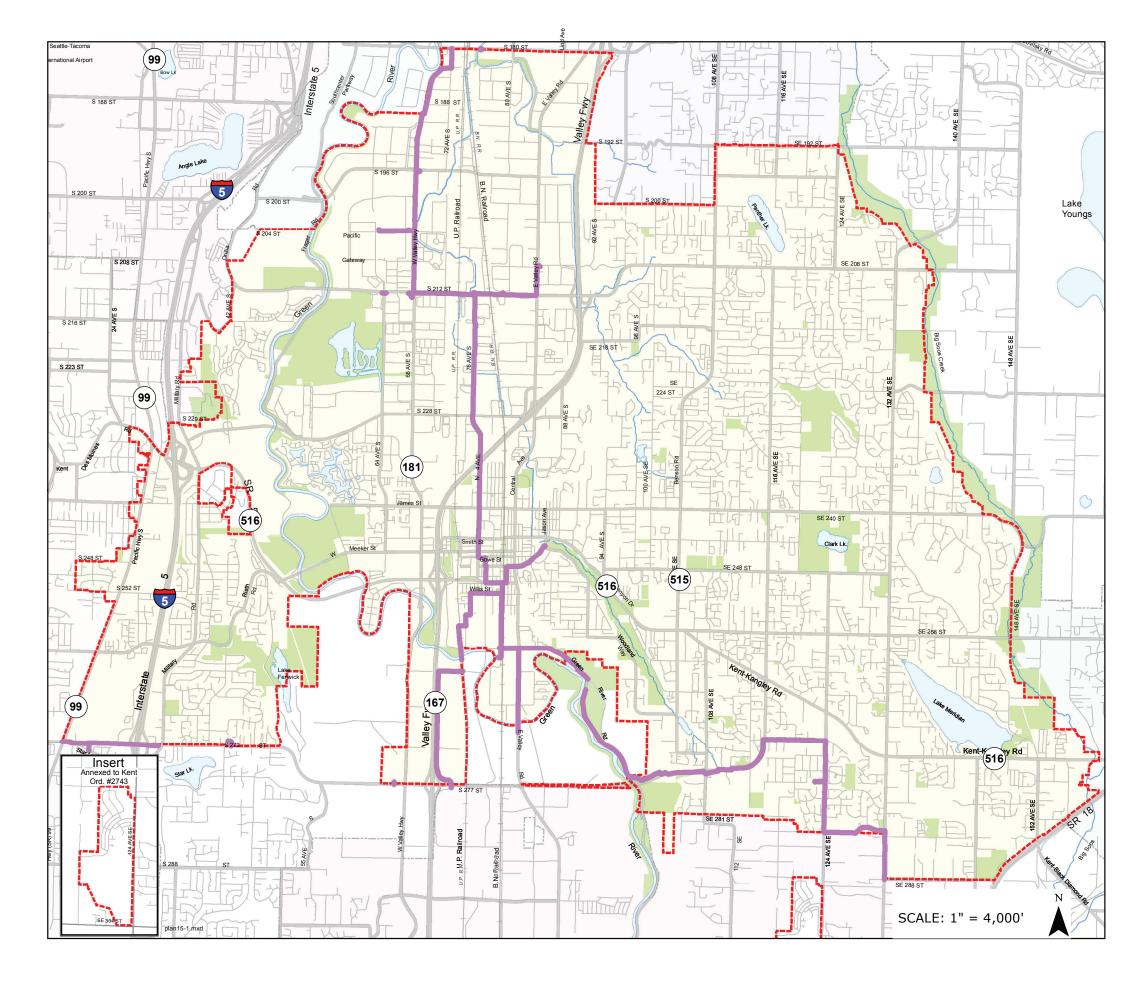
SUBSTATION

TRAN SWITCH STATION

\_\_\_\_\_ 115kV PSE

REMOVE TRANSMISSION





# EXISTING PSE GAS FACILITIES

**LEGEND** 

HIGH PRESSURE

CITY LIMITS



# Goal U-3

Protect public health and safety by providing an adequate supply of water to the City's customers.

**Policy U-3.1:** Maintain a stringent water quality monitoring and cross-connection control program consistent with current federal and state drinking water regulations.

**Policy U-3.2:** Ensure staff is continuously available to respond to water system issues and emergencies.

# Goal U-4

The City of Kent recognizes a clean water supply as a critical and finite resource and will secure the health and safety of the customers through protection of existing and future groundwater resources from contamination.

**Policy U-4.1:** Track and provide comments on land use applications within wellhead protection areas. Follow up on all of those identified as creating potential risk to the water supply until protections are in place or are determined to not affect the water system.

**Policy U-4.2:** Identify land uses within the Wellhead Protection Area that are identified as potential contaminant sources in the Wellhead Protection Program. Provide comments to applicable regulatory agencies related to the protection and sustainability of the City's groundwater resources.

**Policy U-4.3:** Educate residents, businesses and the owners of identified potential contaminant sources in wellhead protection areas about aquifer protection.

**Policy U-4.4:** Encourage the use of Best Management Practices in land management activities to reduce the use of pesticides and fertilizers.

**Policy U-4.5:** Promote the use of native landscaping to reduce the need for pesticide and fertilizer application.

# Goal U-5

Maintain the economic vitality of the City by ensuring ample water supply is available to meet existing and future customer needs, and future development as projected to meet the short and long range goals of the City.

# Goal U-6

Meet Water Use Efficiency Goals and implement additional water conservation measures to ensure the efficient use of water resources.

**Policy U-6.1:** Implement, evaluate and monitor measures to meet the City's adopted Water Use Efficiency Goals.

**Policy U-6.2:** Develop and implement on-going educational activities regarding water conservation as identified in the Water System Plan. This includes but is not limited to the annual Water Festival, speaking at public forums and classrooms, booths at fairs and theme shows, utility billing inserts, natural yard care programs and utilizing the City's website.

**Policy U-6.3:** Provide rebates for low water use toilets and washing machines as they apply to the Water Use Efficiency Goals.

**Policy U-6.4:** Promote the use of native and drought resistant plants in landscaping in public and private projects to reduce the need for irrigation.

**Policy U-6.5:** Include consumptive water use data on customer bills to encourage water conservation.

**Policy U-6.6:** Develop and implement a water rate structure that promotes the efficient use of water.

# **Surface Water Management**

# Goal U-7

Foster recognition of the significant role played by natural features and systems in the appropriate siting, design and provision of public utility services.

**Policy U-7.1:** Educate City staff, developers and other citizens on the interaction between natural features and systems, such as wetlands, streams and geologically hazardous areas, and the provision of public utility services.

#### Goal U-8

Coordinate with individuals and organizations to create a long-term, sustainable strategy for local and regional natural resource protection.

**Policy U-8.1:** Continue to participate in regional and Water Resource Inventory Area planning efforts to support the conservation of listed species.

**Policy U-8.2:** Continue to participate in local and county-wide flood control efforts to support the improvement, repair and maintenance of flood control facilities.

# Goal U-9

Support environmental quality in capital improvement programs, implementation programs and public facility designs to ensure that local land use management and public service provision is consistent with the City's overall natural resource goals.

**Policy U-9.1:** Continue a periodic storm drainage/environmental inspection program to ensure constant maintenance and upkeep of storm systems and ongoing protection of general environmental processes and compliance with local, state and federal regulation.

**Policy U-9.2:** Work cooperatively with tribal, federal, state and local jurisdictions, as well as major stakeholders, to conserve and work towards recovery of ESA-listed threatened and endangered species.

**Policy U-9.3:** Promote LEED-certified construction and use of recycled or recyclable materials in public utility provision, public facilities and capital improvements.

#### Goal U-10

Protect and enhance natural resources for multiple benefits, including recreation, fish and wildlife resources and habitat, flood protection, water supply and open space.

**Policy U-10.1:** Maintain the quantity and quality of wetlands and other natural resources.

**Policy U-10.2:** Maintain rivers and streams in their natural state. Rehabilitate degraded channels and banks via public programs and in conjunction with proposed new development.

**Policy U-10.3:** On a regular basis, evaluate the adequacy of the existing public facilities' operating plans, regulations and maintenance practices in relation to goals for water resource and fisheries and wildlife resource protection. When necessary, modify these plans, regulations and practices to achieve resource protection goals.

**Policy U-10.4:** Protect the habitat of native and migratory wildlife by encouraging open space conservation of beneficial habitat through public capital improvement projects.

# Goal U-11

Implement and maintain a stormwater management program that assures compliance with the requirements of the Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit which is part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Program administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

- **Policy U-11.1:** Use all known, available and reasonable methods of prevention, control and treatment to prevent and control pollution of waters of the State of Washington.
- **Policy U-11.2:** Implement an education program aimed at residents, businesses, industries, elected officials, policy makers, planning staff and other employees of the City. The goal of the education program is to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to adverse stormwater impacts.
- **Policy U-11.3:** Provide ongoing opportunities for public involvement through advisory councils, watershed committees, participation in developing rate-structures, stewardship programs, environmental activities or other similar activities.
- **Policy U-11.4:** Develop and implement an operations and maintenance program that includes a training component and has the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations.
- **Policy U-11.5:** Develop a comprehensive long-term stormwater monitoring program. The monitoring program will include two components: stormwater monitoring and targeted Stormwater Management Program effectiveness monitoring.

#### Goal U-12

Encourage environmental sensitivity and low-impact development principles in the design and construction of all projects where feasible.

- **Policy U-12.1:** Encourage participation in low-impact development and environmentally sensitive builder programs.
- **Policy U-12.2:** Adopt development standards that minimize environmental impacts of development through an appropriate balance of regulations and incentives. Incentives could be tied to compliance with criteria applied throughout the development process.
- **Policy U-12.3:** Set public facility projects of the City as an example by incorporating techniques of low-impact development design, construction, operation and maintenance.

# Goal U-13

Promote low-impact development and limited disturbance of natural hydrological systems, so that water quantity and quality are protected throughout the development process and occupation of the site.

- **Policy U-13.1:** Establish site design criteria so natural hydrological systems will function with minimum or no modification.
- **Policy U-13.2:** Promote the use of rain gardens, open ditches or swales and pervious driveways and parking areas in site design to maximize infiltration of stormwater and minimize runoff into environmentally critical areas.
- **Policy U-13.3:** Promote inclusion of passive rainwater collection systems in site and architectural design for non-potable water (gray-water) storage and use, thereby saving potable (drinking) water for ingestion.

# Goal U-14

Implement and maintain a stormwater management system that reduces flood risk.

- **Policy U-14.1:** Work with the King County Flood Control District to gain and maintain levee accreditation from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) where appropriate.
- **Policy U-14.2:** Ensure new development and redevelopment meets the flow control requirements of the Kent Surface Water Design Manual.

#### **Solid Waste**

# Goal U-15

Reduce the solid waste stream, encouraging and increasing reuse, recycling, yard and food waste diversion.

**Policy U-15.1:** Continue comprehensive public education and outreach programs that promote recycling, composting, purchase and use of environmentally preferable products and other waste diversion and prevention measures.

**Policy U-15.2:** Support and promote product stewardship to divert waste from the Cedar Hills Landfill.

#### Goal U-16

Maintain a comprehensive solid waste management program that includes environmental responsibility and sustainability, competitive rates and customer service excellence for Kent's residential, multifamily and commercial customers.

**Policy U-16.1:** Continue to competitively bid solid waste and recycling collection services and technical assistance contracts when current contracts expire.

**Policy U-16.2:** Consider innovative solid waste and recycling programs to reduce carbon, methane and other greenhouse gas emissions and limit accumulation of garbage in Kent's residential neighborhoods.

**Policy U-16.3:** Monitor solid waste providers for adequacy of service and compliance with the service contracts.

# Goal U-17

Encourage and actively participate in a uniform regional approach to solid waste management.

**Policy U-17.1:** Continue to participate in the Metropolitan Solid Waste Advisory Committee (MSWAC).

**Policy U-17.2:** Continue to support waste reduction and recycling programs in City facilities and in the City at large, to meet state and county waste reduction and recycling goals.

# **Electricity**

#### Goal U-18

Promote electrical service on demand within the Kent Planning Area consistent with a utility's public service obligations.

**Policy U-18.1:** Underground new electrical transmission and distribution lines, and where feasible existing transmission and distribution lines.

**Policy U-18.2:** Cooperate with private enterprise, the City and utility providers to provide electric utility facilities sufficient to support economic development and regional service needs.

#### **Natural Gas**

# Goal U-19

Promote expansion and delivery of natural gas service within the Kent Planning Area by allowing access to alternative sources of fuel.

**Policy U-19.1:** Coordinate land use and facility planning to allow eventual siting and construction of natural gas distribution lines within new or reconstructed rights-of-way.

**Policy U-19.2:** Utilize system design practices that minimize the number and duration of interruptions to customer service.

#### **Telecommunications**

# Goal U-20

Provide telecommunication infrastructure to serve growth and development in a manner consistent with Kent's vision, as outlined in the Vision and Framework Guidance and the City Council's Strategic Plan.

# Goal U-21

Complement private sector incumbent fiber build-out initiatives to support continued connectivity build-out in underserved locations throughout Kent.

# Goal U-22

Continue to participate in and provide support to public sector collaborations like the Connected Community Consortium in an effort to support the continued proliferation of last-mile fiber distribution.

# **Related Information:**

City of Kent 2009 Drainage Master Plan City of Kent 2011 Water System Plan City of Kent 2000 Comprehensive Sewer Plan City of Auburn 1983 Comprehensive Water Plan City of Auburn 2009 Comprehensive Sewer Plan City of Renton 2005 Water System Plan City of Renton 2004 Wastewater Management Plan City of Tukwila 2005 Comprehensive Sewer System Plan Highline Water District 2008 Comprehensive Water System Plan King County Water District No. 111 2007 Water Comprehensive Plan Lakehaven Utility District 2009 Comprehensive Wastewater System Plan Lakehaven Utility District 2008 Comprehensive Water System Plan Lakehaven Utility District 2009 Comprehensive Wastewater System Plan Midway Sewer District 2008 Comprehensive Sewer System Plan Soos Creek Water & Sewer District 2012 Water Comprehensive Plan Soos Creek Water & Sewer District 2012 Sewer Comprehensive Plan Making our Watershed Fit for a King, WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan 2005 Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish (WRIA 8) Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan 2005 King County 2001 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

# CHAPTER SIX UTILITIES ELEMENT