

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Capital Facilities	10A-3, 10A-3.2, 297	Citizen Involvement	Capital Facilities Financing - Citizens shall have the opportunity to participate in and comment on proposed capital facilities financing.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	New	Economic Growth and Land Use		Establish a land use framework in Skagit County that supports diverse businesses, enhances natural resource industries.	This aligns with SCOGs Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	New	Economic Growth and Land Use		Work with the cities to align comprehensive plans and future economic development opportunities through zoning and development regulations.	The County should continue to work with cities to find a balance between the rural natural resource lands and urban lands. As these lands provide support to one another.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	New	Economic Growth and Land Use		Work with SCOG to align the County economic growth actions with regional actions and routinely participate to evaluate this relationship.	This aligns with SCOGs Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and supports public engagement data about creating a resiliency economy.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11B-3, New, 316	Economic Growth and Land Use	Encourage the re-use of existing industrial sites that have potential for reuse or redevelopment.	Encourage the re-use of existing industrial sites that have potential for reuse or redevelopment.	This was converted to the policy moved to the economic growth and land use policies.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	New	Economic Growth and Land Use	Encourage sufficient sites for human and social services, and improved access to those services, to meet the needs of Skagit County employees and employers.	Encourage Coordinate with cities to identify sufficient sites for human and social services, and improved access to those services, to meet the needs of Skagit County employees and employers.	This was converted to a policy and moved to the economic growth and land use section. The language was modified to better describe the action for the	Administrative Cleanup

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	New	Economic Growth and Land Use	Implement permitting procedures that are understandable, predictable and can be accomplished within time periods that meet or exceed statutory requirements. Procedures for permitting that require approvals of both the County and other jurisdictions should be consistent.	No recommended change.	This policy was moved from the intergovernmental coordination goal.	
Economic Development	New	Economic Growth and Land Use		Continue to identify barriers for small businesses in land use regulations and establish strategies to mitigate or remove barriers.	This policy would allow for Skagit County to explore ways to improve development regulations like permitting, costs, and standards that impact undue burden on small businesses limiting economic growth for the County.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A-1, New, 314	Industry Growth and Diversification	Encourage resource-based industries as a major part of Skagit County's economy.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	, ,	Industry Growth and Diversification		Encourage a mix of diverse non-resource-based industries that complement and enhance resource-based industries as a major part of Skagit County's economy.	This policy has been added to align with other agencies for non-resource based industries.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	, ,	Industry Growth and Diversification		Work with jurisdictions and agencies to identify appropriate areas for increased business diversity and explore options for implementation.	This policy aligns with SCOGs CEDS and could identify potential actions for Skagit County to implement during the planning period.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	, ,	Industry Growth and Diversification	Recognize the importance of the marine-based economy of Skagit County in the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.	No recommended change.	This goal was moved from the Marine Industry goal.	
Economic Development	, ,	Industry Growth and Diversification	Strive to stimulate the economy of the upper Skagit through protection of resource-based industry, community tourism, and community development strategies.			

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	, ,	Industry Growth and Diversification		Work with SCOG, jurisdictions, and organizations to identify new strategies to support other key industry sectors, like construction, advanced manufacturing, clean technology, energy, and health care.	This was created to support SCOGs CEDS and diversify key industry sectors.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11B, New, 316	Economic Viability Industry Growth and Diversification	Economic Viability: Promote the continued economic viability of Skagit County's natural resources and encourage related value-added production of agricultural, fishery, and forestry resources.	Economic Viability: Promote the continued economic viability of Skagit County's natural resources and encourage related value-added production of agricultural, fishery, and forestry resources.	This was converted to a policy and moved under this section.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11B-7, New, 317	Marine Industry Industry Growth and Diversification	Recognize the importance of the marine-based economy of Skagit County in the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.	No recommended change.	This was moved from another section.	
Economic Development	11B-1, New, 316	Diversity	Complement Skagit County's natural resource industries by encouraging a diversified base of non-resource businesses and industries.	Complement Skagit County's natural resource industries by encouraging a diversified base of non-resource businesses and industries.	As this goal also relates to industry it was combined with the industry policies.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11B-2, New, 316	Capacity	Plan for sufficient buildable industrial lands with access to infrastructure and services to meet the evolving needs of industry.	Plan for sufficient buildable industrial lands with access to infrastructure and services to meet the evolving needs of industry.	Should provide enough direction to cover this since here are no associated policies with this goal. Land Use Goal 2A-5: Encourage commercial and industrial development to locate in well-defined centers within the Urban Growth Areas. Prohibit new zoning that furthers the continuation of strip commercial development.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	, ,	Infrastructure		Provide and expand infrastructure that supports economic growth and natural resource industries.	Create a new, broader goal about infrastructure to support economic growth	Administrative Cleanup

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant Summarized	Reason for Change
Economic Development	11B-4, New, 316	Telecommunications-Infrastructure	Encourage low cost, easily accessible, state of the art telecommunications services throughout the county with linkages to nearby counties that are economically tied to Skagit County.	No recommended change.	This was converted from a goal to a policy.	
Economic Development	11F, New, 321	Transportation Improvements	Acknowledge economic development needs in formulating recommendations for improvements to transportation facilities and services.	No recommended change.	This was moved from another location.	
Economic Development	11F-1, New, 321	Infrastructure	Work with ports, economic development organizations, cities, transportation providers, and agencies to provide the infrastructure necessary to facilitate a sustainable county economy.	No recommended change.	This was moved from another location.	
Economic Development	11B-5, New, 316	Recruitment	Promote business recruitment and development of firms that will diversify the local economy and compete effectively in local, national and international markets.	Coordinate with organizations and agencies Promote for business recruitment and development of firms retention that will diversify the local economy and compete effectively in local, national and international markets.	Improve the feasibility of the goal by describing what "promote" means.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11B-8, New, New	Recruitment	Maintain cooperative working relationships with local, tribal, regional, statewide, federal and international organizations that pursue economic development activities consistent with the goals and objectives of this economic development element.	No recommended change.	This was converted from a goal to a policy.	
Economic Development	11B-8, New, 317	Resource-Based-Industry-Upper Skagit Valley	Strive to stimulate the economy of the upper Skagit Valley through protection of resource-based industry, compatible tourism, and community development strategies.	No recommended change.	This was changed to a goal that covers the subsequent upper skagit valley policies below.	
Economic Development	11B-8, 11B-8.1, 317	Upper Skagit Valley	Protect long-term commercially significant natural resource industries and operations shall be protected from encroachment by incompatible uses	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11B-8, 11B-8.2, 317	Upper Skagit Valley	In cooperation with the cities, ports, tribes, and users, conduct, and maintain an inventory of buildable lands suitable for urban and rural commercial and industrial development.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11B-8, 11B-8.3, 317	Upper Skagit Valley	Locate lands designated for industrial use where they have ready access to appropriate infrastructure, environmental constraints will be minimized, and permits can be expedited.			

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	11B-8, 11B-8.4, 317	Upper Skagit Valley	Ensure lands designated as industrial accommodate a mix of uses, and include public and private ownership consistent with market demands and trends.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11B-8, 11B-8.5, 317-318	Upper Skagit Valley	Maintain cooperative working relationships with local, tribal, regional, statewide, federal and international organizations that pursue economic development activities consistent with the goals and objectives of this economic development element.	No recommended change.		This was moved to Goal 11B-5.
Economic Development	11B-8, 11B-8.6, 318	Upper Skagit Valley	Participate in seeking grant funding for the following: (a) Clean-up of contaminated sites; (b) Re-use and redevelopment of infill sites; (c) Improvement of infrastructure to support economic development; and (d) Strategic investment in business recruitment and expansion.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11C, New, 318	Destination	Support Skagit County as a visitor destination by preserving and enhancing the unique qualities of both rural areas and urban communities.	Support Skagit County as a visitor destination by preserving and enhancing the unique qualities of both rural areas and urban communities.	This policy is very similar to the tourism attraction policies and has no associated policies so it should be removed.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11C-1, New, 318	Visitor Opportunities	Promote visitor opportunities that do not negatively impact the rural lifestyles of Skagit County residents, critical areas, or long-term commercial significance of natural resources.	Promote visitor opportunities that do not negatively impact the rural lifestyles of Skagit County residents, critical areas, or long-term commercial significance of natural resources.	This policy is very similar to the tourism attraction policies and has no associated policies so it should be removed.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11C-2, New, 318	Tourism Attraction	Promote the county's excellent regional location, lodging and retail opportunities and local public transportation options as attractions for tourism.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11C-2, 11C-2.1, 318-319	Tourism Attraction	Encourage the establishment and maintenance of a countywide convention and visitors' bureau. The bureau would support city efforts to develop and market visitor services and promote of the county's regional location, amenities, and services.	No recommended change.		

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development 2.2, 319	11C-2, 11C-2.2, 319	Tourism Attraction	Through adopted parks, transportation, and community plans, implement strategic efforts to develop and maintain scenic open space and cultural and heritage resources that are attractive to residents and visitors alike.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development 2.3, 319	11C-2, 11C-2.3, 319	Tourism Attraction	Site visitor facilities at locations that can be served with necessary public infrastructure and are compatible with surrounding uses.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development 2.4, 319	11C-2, 11C-2.4, 319	Tourism Attraction	Ensure that plans for rural area visitor facilities and services do not conflict with rural lifestyles, critical areas, and the long-term commercial significance of natural resources, and are coordinated with appropriate local, state, and federal agencies.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development , ,		Tourism Attraction		Encourage the expansion of trails systems for recreation and transportation and focus on connecting between cities and other landmarks.	Public comments mentioned how trail systems can provide an economic benefit to the County as well as	Address Public Comment expanding trails systems and
Economic Development 319	11D, New, 319	Service Support	Support a full range of human and social services necessary to encourage a strong local economy.	Support a full range of human and social services necessary to encourage a strong local economy.	This was consolidated into the quality of life policies.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development New, 319	11D-2, New, 319	Access to Services	Encourage sufficient sites for human and social services, and improved access to those services, to meet the needs of Skagit County employees and employers.	Encourage sufficient sites for human and social services, and improved access to those services, to meet the needs of Skagit County employees and employers.	This was consolidated into the quality of life policies.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development 320	11E, New, 320	Quality of Life	Encourage economic development that supports sustainable natural resource industry, protects valued open space and environmental quality and enhances Skagit County's overall quality of life.	Encourage economic development that supports all aspects of quality of life including, living wages, education, human services, housing, and transportation. sustainable natural resource industry, protects valued open space and environmental quality and enhances Skagit County's overall quality of life.	The original goal focused on resource industry which is already covered in the industry policies. This was revised to incorporate the other goals around support services, access to services, and human services opportunities	Administrative Cleanup

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	11D-1, New, 319	Human Service Opportunities Quality of Life	Encourage the linkage of job creation needs and opportunities with human and social services including health care, education, transportation, employment assistance, and welfare.	Encourage the linkage of job creation needs and opportunities with human and social services including health care, education, transportation, employment assistance, and welfare and establish strategies to preserve or enhance these opportunities.	This was converted from a goal to a policy. This policy helps the County in pursuing actions to support residents with other actions that may be a barrier to employment, like the provision of daycare.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11E, 11E-1.1, 320	Quality of Life	Encourage businesses to recycle, use, or manufacture products made from recycled materials and use innovative processes that conserve natural resources and protect or enhance environmental quality.	Encourage Identify strategies and incentives to encourage businesses to recycle, use, or manufacture products made from recycled materials and use innovative processes that conserve natural resources and protect or enhance environmental quality.	This was moved from another goal and made into a policy, the language was modified to be more actionable and measurable.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11E, 11E-1.2, 320	Quality of Life	As appropriate, use the community planning process to address conflicts between development and environmental objectives. These processes shall involve participants representing all interests and viewpoints.	No recommended change.		Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A-3, New, 315	Entrepreneurs Quality of Life	Encourage diverse job options and entrepreneurial opportunities for persons interested in full-time and part-time employment or desiring to own their own business.	No recommended change.	This goal was turned into a policy and consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A, New, 314	Employment Quality of Life	Encourage the creation and retention of diverse employment opportunities.	Encourage the creation and retention of diverse employment opportunities and encourage local business investments in employment opportunities.	This goal was turned into a policy and consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below. This policy was consolidate with Policy 11A-4	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11D-3, New, 320	Facilities Quality of Life	Support development and maintenance of human and social service facilities through funding decisions and land use codes.	No recommended change.	This was converted from a goal to a policy.	

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	11B-6, New, 317	Retention Quality of Life	Promote the retention and expansion of existing local businesses as a first priority while also promoting the start-up of new businesses particularly those providing living wage jobs.	Promote the retention and expansion of existing local businesses as a first priority while also promoting the start-up of new businesses particularly those providing living wage jobs. Work with SCOG and other organizations to identify living wage job markets and business and develop strategies for recruitment and retention.	This was moved from the retention goal. Language was modified to be more actionable and measurable.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A-2, New, 315	Living Wage Jobs Quality of Life	Encourage the creation and retention of living wage jobs to meet the needs and demands of Skagit County households.		This goal was turned into a policy and consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A-4, New, 315	Skill Building Quality of Life	Encourage educational opportunities for residents of all ages to develop and upgrade skills required for employment, advancement and entrepreneurship.		This goal was turned into a policy and consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A-4, 11A-4.2, 315	Skill Building Quality of Life	Encourage local business investments that provide economic development opportunities consistent with countywide economic development policies.	Encourage local business investments that provide economic development opportunities consistent with countywide economic development policies. Work cooperatively with local jurisdictions, the Skagit Council of Governments, the Economic Development Association of Skagit County, the ports of Skagit and Anacortes, and federal and state agencies to promote economic development and employment opportunities consistent with countywide economic development policies.	This policy was consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below. Technical change, EDASC stands for Economic Development Alliance not Economic Development Association.	Administrative Cleanup, Address Public Comment
Economic Development	11A-4, 11A-4.3, 315	Skill Building Quality of Life	Accommodate home-based businesses that are compatible with the character of adjoining properties and neighborhoods.	Accommodate home-based businesses that are compatible with the character of adjoining properties and neighborhoods.	This policy was consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11A-4, 11A-4.4, 315	Skill Building Quality of Life	Cooperate with education providers and employers to ensure the availability of facilities and programs necessary to meet the needs of K-12, college, vocational and continuing education.	Cooperate with education providers and employers to ensure the availability of facilities and programs necessary to meet the needs of K-12, college, vocational and continuing education.	This policy was consolidated with the Quality of Life policies below.	Administrative Cleanup

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	11F-3, New, 321	Ports	Support the economic and job-creating activities of the port districts to ensure their long-term viability.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11F-3, 11F-3.1, 321	Ports	Encourage the Washington State Ferry System to maintain ferry services from Anacortes to the San Juan Islands and Vancouver Island, B.C., in order to provide for commerce and tourist trade in and through Skagit County.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11F-3, 11F-3.2, 321	Ports	Support the Port of Skagit in its economic development activities across the County, particularly at the Skagit Regional Airport and North Cascades Gateway Center (the former Northern State Hospital campus) areas, and the Port of Anacortes in its efforts to more fully utilize its deep draft marine terminal for trade, commerce and related economic development.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11F-3, 11F-3.3, 322	Ports	Strive to keep Highway 20 open to eastern Washington throughout the year, if economically feasible, in order to stimulate the economy of the economically distressed upper Skagit Valley.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11G, New, 322	Public-Private Partnership	Foster a public-private cooperative partnership involving government and tribal organizations through the Skagit Council of Governments, and private stakeholders through the Economic Development Association of Skagit County, to support diverse business operations and investments throughout Skagit County.	Foster a public-private cooperative partnership involving government and tribal organizations through the Skagit Council of Governments, and private stakeholders through the Economic Development Association of Skagit County, to support diverse business operations and investments throughout Skagit County.	There are no policies associated with this goal which make it difficult to implement during the planning period. There are other policies in other elements that foster public-private partnerships which can be used.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11G-1, New, 322	Public Investment	Encourage public investments aimed at maintaining a high quality of life and attracting business investment.	Encourage public investments aimed at maintaining a high quality of life and attracting business investment.	This is covered in the capital facilities and land use policies. If there are no policies associated with these consider removing.	Administrative Cleanup

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	11G-2, New, 322	Anticipate Change	Recognize the need for flexibility in promoting economic development to be responsive to unforeseen or changing economic conditions and community expectations.	Recognize the need for flexibility in promoting economic development to be responsive to unforeseen or changing economic conditions and community expectations.	If there are no policies associated with this goal consider removing. This is also covered in the capital facilities and land use policies to anticipate growth.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11G-3, New, 322	Intergovernmental Coordination	Implement permitting procedures that are understandable, predictable and can be accomplished within time periods that meet or exceed statutory requirements. Procedures for permitting that require approvals of both the County and other jurisdictions should be consistent.	Implement permitting procedures that are understandable, predictable and can be accomplished within time periods that meet or exceed statutory requirements. Procedures for permitting that require approvals of both the County and other jurisdictions should be consistent.	This was moved under the industry growth and diversity section to identify potential barriers to business growth which would include permitting, or approvals in Skagit County Code.	Administrative Cleanup
Economic Development	11G-4, New, 323	Fiscal Impact	Encourage economic development that creates a net positive fiscal impact for Skagit County.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11G-4, 11G-4.1, 323	Fiscal Impact	Link County capital facility planning and programming to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to sustain a high quality of life and attract business investment.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11G-4, 11G-4.2, 323	Fiscal Impact	Monitor and evaluate constraints to economic development caused by regulations and permitting procedures and implement revisions, if necessary, as part of annual or periodic comprehensive plan and development regulation updates. Coordinate with other (federal and state) permitting agencies to simplify procedures.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11G-4, 11G-4.3, 323	Fiscal Impact	Maintain a growth management indicators monitoring program to measure progress in economic development initiatives in coordination with the Skagit Council of Governments and the Economic Development Association of Skagit County. The indicators program report should be updated at least every 3 ½ years to coincide with the GMA update schedule.	No recommended change.		

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.

To learn how to provide public comment visit: <https://skagitcounty.net/2025cpa>
 Or email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name "Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan Draft Policies" in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email.

Element	OLD Goal, Policy, Page Reference (THIS HAS CHANGED IN THE NEW DOCUMENT)	Theme	Comprehensive Plan - Policy (Full Text Copied from 2016 Plan)	Proposed Policy Change or Proposed New Policy	Reasoning from Consultant	Reason for Change Summarized
Economic Development	11G-4, 11G-4.4, 323	Fiscal Impact	Consider as part of the County's budgeting process outside funding sources such as grants, as well as careful fiscal needs analyses in order to ensure that tax revenue generation is competitive with other jurisdictions.	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11G-4, 11G-4.5, 323	Fiscal Impact	Support the work program of the Skagit Council of Governments to update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy as least every three years to identify needs and solutions for transportation, human services, environmental protection, community development and other elements that support improvements to the local economy	No recommended change.		
Economic Development	11G-4, 11G-4.6, 323	Fiscal Impact	Implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to build local capacity for sustained economic development.	No recommended change.		
Climate and New		Climate resilience; Drought; Land use		Promote a resilient and sustainable agricultural sector by preserving farmland, supporting climate resilience efforts, and ensuring the well-being of farmworkers and farming communities.	Many policies regarding agriculture are located in Chapter 4 - Natural Resource Lands.	Growth Management Act Consistency
Climate and New		Climate resilience; Drought; Land use		Support and secure funding to protect agricultural land from conversion to other uses, and assist Skagit County farmers in transferring and accessing land.	Implementation of this policy could include ensuring robust state and local funding for voluntary agricultural conservation easements, as well as developing streamlined, creative, and low-cost loan financing in support of agricultural land protection and land access for new and beginning farmers	Growth Management Act Consistency

Date Exported: February 14, 2025
Disclaimer: This document is meant to help readers understand how policies have been recommended to change and provides a general understanding how the policy has changed, and serves no other purpose. Some policies may appear different in the Comprehensive Document on the Website due to error in exporting to the document from this matrix or otherwise. If you see a difference in policies from this matrix compared to the Comprehensive plan use the above email to let staff know. The Comprehensive Plan document is the final and official version of policies that will be adopted.