

## CHAPTER 8 COMMUNITY DESIGN

### 8.1 Introduction

This Community Design Element is intended to address the built and natural environment. This includes the image and character of Woodinville's neighborhoods; the quality of buildings, streets, and public spaces; and the community's historical attributes.

This element complements a number of other elements including transportation, land use and parks. In addition, this element relates to the policies of the Economic Development Element. The community's strength is in part derived from its visual characteristics. Accordingly, policies regarding community design should be examined in the context and implementation of other parts of the Comprehensive Plan.

A separate but related component to this element is the City's Design Guidelines. The Design Guidelines provide specific direction on all commercial, industrial, multi-family and tourist district development in Woodinville. The intent is to guide development in a manner that is not only functional, but also aesthetically pleasing, promotes social and economic vitality, and fosters an enhanced sense of safety, comfort, interest and identification between people and their environment. The Design Guidelines address specific community design issues such as site planning, pedestrian access, vehicular access and parking, building design, landscape and site design. To ensure a consistent pattern of development, the Design Guidelines and Community Design Element should be used jointly when planning and analyzing development covered by the Design Guidelines within the City.

### 8.2 Goals and Policies

**GOAL CD-1: To promote an image of a visually cohesive community to residents and visitors.**

#### Policies

- CD-1.1** Develop identifiable gateways at major portals to the City.
- CD-1.2** Encourage preservation of the enhancement of views, of natural features and landmarks as valuable community assets.
- CD-1.3** Promote an image of quality and distinction by blending the natural and built environments.
- CD-1.4** Promote development that reflects Woodinville's heritage and fosters a sense of community pride.
- CD-1.5** Enforce visual character through use of adopted Design Guidelines for commercial, industrial, and multi-family projects.

**GOAL CD-2: To maintain the Northwest woodland character and heritage of Woodinville.**

#### Policies

- CD-2.1** Identify, preserve and interpret Woodinville's historical identity.

- CD-2.2** Encourage native vegetation as a necessary component in the aesthetic and environmental quality of residential, industrial, and commercial areas.
- CD-2.3** Utilize trees and landscaping to mitigate environmental degradation and buffer surrounding land uses impacted by residential, industrial, and commercial activities.
- CD-2.4** Require street trees in all residential, commercial, and industrial development and redevelopment be subject to a street tree plan and program developed by the City of Woodinville.
- CD-2.5** Require developments to retain existing significant vegetation, where feasible, through regulations in the Woodinville Zoning Code.
- CD-2.6** Ensure City street standards conform to Woodinville Tree Board and National Arbor Society recommendations for an officially designated Tree City.
- CD-2.7** Identify and protect archaeological resources through the site development review process.
- CD-2.8** Increase public awareness and appreciation of Woodinville's history and culture through interpretive and educational programs in cooperation with the Woodinville Heritage Society.
- CD-2.9** Increase public awareness and appreciation of the benefits of historic preservation through outreach and educational programs. Use of interpretive signs, roadside markers, and other accessible public information on local history and historic resources should be encouraged.
- CD-2.10** Provide opportunities for public education on the value of trees, including their environmental, aesthetic and visual qualities and benefits.

**GOAL CD 3: To promote quality design that preserves and enhances the character of Woodinville.**

**Policies**

- CD-3.1** Integrate new development with the existing character of the surrounding area when the existing development already conforms to these goals and policies. The architectural style of new development should take into consideration the architecture of the surrounding neighborhood in style, scale, and choice of materials.
- CD-3.2** Develop a street tree plan for each residential, commercial, and industrial neighborhood in the City.

**GOAL CD 4: To create pedestrian friendly environments in Woodinville.**

**Policies**

- CD 4.1** Create human scale pedestrian amenities in Woodinville.
- CD 4.2** Require appropriate design standards, as well as other techniques and methods in the development of pedestrian-oriented areas, to enhance pedestrian safety.

- CD 4.3** Plan for safe and convenient pedestrian traffic in the design of streets and building facades.
- CD 4.4** Promote and plan for pedestrian/bicycle connections to and through residential neighborhoods.
- CD 4.5** Where appropriate, encourage landscaping rather than fences, walls, or other structures that impede pedestrian travel along the perimeter of residential, commercial, and industrial land uses. If fences or walls are planned, convenient breaks for pedestrians should be included.

**GOAL CD 5: To encourage the arts as a vital contributor to community design.**

**Policies**

- CD-5.1** Encourage a variety of artwork and arts activities in public places, such as parks, public buildings and plazas.
- CD-5.2** Support efforts to expand arts resources in the community, such as arts and crafts learning opportunities, art exhibits, shows, and competitions.
- CD-5.3** Encourage private developments to incorporate artwork into the design of their projects.

**8.3 Plan Implementation and Monitoring**

1. Revise site planning and design requirements in the regulatory codes to be consistent with the Community Design Element as well as the Design Guidelines.
2. Establish sidewalk, street tree, and street furnishing standards where consistent with City Design Guidelines.
3. Work with Metro and other appropriate agencies to provide transit shelters consistent within Woodinville's Design Guidelines.
4. Develop a prototype entry sign plan with guidelines to be placed at major gateways into the City.
5. Identify specific sites and pursue necessary agreements (i.e., land purchase, easement, etc.) for the development of entry signs.
6. Implement the tree preservation and planting standards.
7. Implement code amendments as necessary to promote the goals and policies contained in this Community Design Element.
8. Implement the Community Urban Forestry Plan for the City of Woodinville.
9. Work with the Woodinville Heritage Society to preserve historic and cultural resources.
10. Investigate a variety of ways to provide pedestrian amenities and linkages.
11. Participate in the King County Historic Preservation Program to protect the City's historic resources.
12. Identify and, if appropriate, preserve historic buildings and sites which exemplify the heritage of the community.
13. Conduct a downtown master plan study to define the City's vision for this area.