

PSRC PLAN REVIEW REPORT & CERTIFICATION RECOMMENDATION



CITY OF GRANITE FALLS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

December 19, 2017

BACKGROUND

PSRC conditionally certified the City of Granite Falls' 2015 periodic update of the city's comprehensive plan on April 28, 2016. In November 2017, the city adopted amendments to the plan that address the conditions and resubmitted the plan for further review and full certification.

CERTIFICATION RECOMMENDATION

Based on the review of the 2017 City of Granite Falls comprehensive plan amendments, the following action is recommended to the PSRC Growth Management Policy Board, Transportation Policy Board, and Executive Board:

The Puget Sound Regional Council certifies that the transportation-related provisions in the City of Granite Falls 2017 comprehensive plan amendments conform to the Growth Management Act and are consistent with multicounty planning policies and the regional transportation plan.

2017 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS

The Growth Management Act requires local comprehensive plans to be updated to accommodate the growth that is anticipated for the succeeding 20-year planning period (see RCW 36.70A.070, .115, and .130). The act also requires that plan elements use consistent land use assumptions in order that a local jurisdiction is coordinating planning for land uses, housing, and capital facilities (RCW 36.70A.070(6)).

The March 2016 certification report for the City of Granite Falls comprehensive plan update identified a shortfall of housing capacity of 88 units (218 people), as provided for in the land use element, compared with adopted targets which establish local responsibility under GMA to accommodate growth and provide the basis for land use assumptions in the transportation element.

Working with Snohomish County and other cities through the Snohomish County Tomorrow process, the population and housing targets for Granite Falls were adjusted through a targets reconciliation process in 2016. In November 2017, the city amended the land use element of the comprehensive plan to document the newly adjusted targets, along with a comparison with land use capacity for housing within the city. The amended plan demonstrates consistency with the GMA in accommodating targeted growth and consistency among plan elements in assumed future growth levels.

Conclusion

PSRC staff worked closely with the city as they drafted the plan amendments that address the conditions for certification. If the Executive Board acts as recommended, the plan will no longer have conditions on its certification. PSRC looks forward to working with the city on future planning efforts and will continue to provide guidance and technical assistance on any further amendments to the plan, subarea plans, or functional plans developed in response to additional issues identified through the PSRC certification review.

Additional background and resources can be found in the [City of Granite Falls 2015 PSRC Plan Review and Certification Report](#) and on the PSRC website at <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/plan-review>. Questions should be directed to Michael Hubner at 206-971-3289 or mhubner@psrc.org.