

Scope

The following components are included in this Transportation Element:

- Background
- Roadway inventory and traffic volumes
- Level of service analysis
- Traffic forecast
- Future projects and funding
- Non-motorized transportation
- Transit service
- Needs and issues
- Goals and policies.

BACKGROUND

Land Use Review

Goals and policies guiding development and growth within the City are contained within the Comprehensive Plan and regulated by the City's development regulations.

Population growth within the City has slowed from 17 percent in the decade 1980 to 1990, to 5 percent in the decade 1990 to 2000. By the year 2012, it is projected that the City's population will grow to 22,105. This projection was adopted as the City's target under the Snohomish County County-wide Planning Policies. Employment has grown too, from a total of 5,293 jobs¹ within the City in 1995 to 6,643 jobs² in 2000. Based on current patterns, recent data from the Puget Sound Regional Council indicates that employment in the City will total 8,074 by 2012. However, since Mountlake Terrace has a significantly limited supply of vacant land, growth here is expected to occur at a slower rate than for some nearby communities. Future projections for later years will be adjusted as new information becomes available.

Land use assumptions for this plan include information contained in other elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Key assumptions are these:

- Mountlake Terrace is a compact community within a larger urban area of the growing King-Snohomish county region.
- Other nearby communities will grow at a faster rate than Mountlake Terrace.
- The City's population and employment growth will continue to take place, consistent with the 2012 projections.

¹ Includes only jobs covered by unemployment insurance, based on data compiled by the Puget Sound Regional Council.

² *Ibid.*

- The town center area will fill in with more commercial and mixed-use development.
- Residential use, where it is currently zoned, will continue to be at urban densities and will remain the primary land use in those areas.
- Parks and open space, where currently zoned, will continue to be the primary land use in those areas.
- Pedestrian and transit opportunities will be encouraged throughout the City.