bear sighting —

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Utilities Goals

**Goal UT.1** Ensure development and the maintenance of all utilities at levels of service adequate to accommodate existing and projected growth.

**Goal UT.2** Support coordination with service providers to minimize cost and service disruption.

**Goal UT.3** Encourage placement, siting and design of utilities to support community character and promote uninterrupted service.

**Goal UT.4** Facilitate citywide utility services that are consistent, reliable, equitable, competitive, and financially sustainable.

**Goal UT.5** Encourage the use of innovative measures and new technologies to reduce overall demand and enhance service to city residents.

**Goal UT.6** Encourage conservation of water and protect water quality.
Introduction

The Utilities Element addresses telecommunications, electricity, water and sewer service, and stormwater systems. In general, the goals and policies promote the provision of reliable and equitable services for all constituents and ensure that service is provided in a cost efficient manner.

Consistent with the Plan’s framework goals and emphasis on sustainability and healthy communities, utilities policies promote resource efficiency and help to reduce the demand on utility infrastructure.

The Utilities Element Background Information contains the background data and analysis, including information on the proposed location of utilities, and capacity of existing and proposed utilities.
Goals and Policies

**Goal UT.1**  Ensure development and the maintenance of all utilities at levels of service adequate to accommodate existing and projected growth.

**Policy UT.1.1**  Support the timely expansion, maintenance, operation, and replacement of utility infrastructure in order to meet anticipated demand for growth identified in the Land Use Element.

**Policy UT.1.2**  Utilize franchise agreements with private utility providers and interlocal agreements with public utility providers as a means to protect and advance adopted City goals and policies.

**Policy UT.1.3**  Ensure that water and sewer plans are coordinated with and support the City’s Comprehensive Plan.

**Policy UT.1.4**  Develop and execute a sewer/water plan to serve legacy development.

**Policy UT.1.5**  Provide for stormwater systems that minimize or eliminate adverse impacts to natural watercourses, address rate of discharge and water quality, and strive to approximate predevelopment levels of infiltration.

**Goal UT.2**  Support coordination with service providers to minimize cost and service disruption.

**Policy UT.2.1**  Coordinate the timing of construction activities with public and private utilities to minimize disruption to the public and reduce costs of utility delivery.

**Policy UT.2.2**  Promote co-location of new public and private utility distribution facilities above-ground and in underground shared trenches.
Goal UT.3 Encourage placement, siting and design of utilities to support community character and promote uninterrupted service.

Policy UT.3.1 Promote the undergrounding of utilities where physically and financially feasible and in coordination with local utilities.

Policy UT.3.2 Encourage aesthetically compatible design of above-ground utility facilities.

Policy UT.3.3 Minimize the visual impacts of telecommunications facilities and towers in the community.

Policy UT.3.4 Promote recreational use of utility corridors, such as trails, sports courts, or similar facilities, where safe and appropriate.

Goal UT.4 Facilitate citywide utility services that are consistent, reliable, equitable, competitive, and financially sustainable.

Policy UT.4.1 Coordinate with utility providers to ensure that services are provided at competitive rates citywide.

Policy UT.4.2 Seek to maximize effectiveness and efficiency of utility services provided to Sammamish residents.

For more information on non-City owned utilities, see Volume II.UT, page UT.4–UT.10.
Policy UT.4.3 Support the provision of high-quality telecommunication services in both current and emergent technologies throughout the community.

Policy UT.4.4 Coordinate with non-City-owned utilities to ensure that energy and telecommunications resources are available to support the proposed land use plan.

Policy UT.4.5 Increase bandwidth of telecommunication services to enhance service to Sammamish residents.

Policy UT.4.6 Preserve landline telephone service as a long-term viable communications option for city residents and businesses or promote mitigation measures when transition away from landline telephone service occurs.

Goal UT.5 Encourage the use of innovative measures and new technologies to reduce overall demand and enhance service to city residents.

Policy UT.5.1 Encourage opportunities for individual businesses or homeowners to become more energy independent by reducing energy use and/or generating a portion of their energy needs on site.

Policy UT.5.2 Encourage the use of alternative energy sources for homes and businesses, provided that there is no adverse neighborhood impact.

Policy UT.5.3 Support renewable energy production by encouraging businesses and homeowners to consider purchase of green power through programs such as Puget Sound Energy’s Green Power Program.
Goal UT.6  Encourage conservation of water and protect water quality.

Policy UT.6.1  In partnership with water districts, promote conservation through a variety of technologies and methods that allow residents to monitor and adjust usage, including tools such as rain sensors for automatic sprinkler and irrigation systems, low flow toilets, and re-use of greywater.

Policy UT.6.2  Coordinate with water and sewer districts to educate homeowners on water conservation.

Policy UT.6.3  Ensure that new development is connected to sanitary sewer and support a long-term strategy to convert existing development from septic systems to sanitary sewer.

Policy UT.6.4  Support development of a strategy for phased conversion to sewers where appropriate that coordinates public and private interests and creates a model for shared public/private funding.

Policy UT.6.5  Work with water and sewer districts to provide technology and education to assist customers in detecting leaks.

Policy UT.6.6  In partnership with solid waste service providers, educate watershed residents and businesses regarding the collection and proper disposal of household hazardous waste and identify substitutes for cleaning and other products that generate hazardous waste.

Policy UT.6.7  In partnership with King County and solid waste service providers, provide multiple opportunities per year for the recycling of all hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, including all paints, stains and varnishes plus any other materials not eligible for curbside pickup.

For more information, see the Water Section in Volume II.UT, page UT.6.

For more information, see the Sewer Section in Volume II.UT, page UT.8.

Measures in the Environment and Conservation Element also provide guidance for environmental quality and conservation. Please refer to this element for additional information.