

**APPLICATION
FOR COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENT
TO PIERCE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

A Community Plan Amendment is a proposed change or revision to the policies of an adopted community plan included in the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan. Changes to land use designation associated with the Community Plan Amendment would also need an Area-Wide Map Amendment.

Applications will not be accepted in the following community plan areas as they are currently under an update process:

- Frederickson Community Plan
- Mid-County Community Plan
- Parkland-Spanaway-Midland Communities Plan
- South Hill Community Plan

Please refer to the [Community Plans update webpage](#).

NOTE: An application must be completed for all proposed amendments, whether initiated by the County Council, County Executive, or a city or town with jurisdiction in Pierce County. No application is considered officially initiated until: 1) the Executive forwards the application to the County Council for inclusion in the Council resolution initiating amendments; 2) a city or town forwards the application to the County Council for inclusion in the Council resolution initiating amendments; or 3) the County Council includes the application in the resolution initiating amendments. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide the completed application and to check on the status of the request. If you want a city or town to initiate an amendment, you need to work directly with the city or town. See the handout [Guidelines for Submitting Applications for Amendments to the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan](#) for additional information.

The deadline to submit an application is 4:00 p.m., **July 31, 2020**. Complete all the blanks in this application form. A letter or report in lieu of this application will not be accepted. However, reports, photos or other materials may be submitted to support your application.

A \$3,000.00 fee for each Comprehensive Plan amendment is required. Whether a request to initiate an amendment is made to the County Executive or County Council, a non-refundable submittal fee of \$500.00 is required at time of application. If the Council approves to initiate the amendment, the remaining \$2,500.00 fee shall be required within ten (10) working days after the amendment is initiated by the County Council. If an applicant fails to pay the required fee, staff will be unable to proceed with the review of an application(s), and this will result in the expiration and cancellation of an application(s).

For additional information, contact Pierce County Planning and Public Works, Long Range Planning Division, by phone at (253) 798-3736 or by email at Jessica.Nappi@piercecountywa.gov.

Applicant: Pierce County Planning and Public Works
Address: 2401 S. 35th St.
City/State/Zip Code: Tacoma, WA 98409
Phone: (253) 798-2389
E-mail Address: jessica.nappi@piercecountywa.gov

Agent: Jessica Nappi, Senior Planner
Address: 2401 S. 35th St.
City/State/Zip Code: Tacoma, WA 98409
Phone: (253) 798-2389
E-mail Address: jessica.nappi@piercecountywa.gov

Community Plan proposed to be amended (check one):

- Upper Nisqually Valley
- Graham
- Alderton – McMillin
- Browns Point – Dash Point
- Key Peninsula
- Anderson and Ketron Islands
- Gig Harbor Peninsula Community Plan

DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:

1. General description of proposal:

Amendments to Pierce County Browns Point - Dash Point Community Plan to bring Pierce County’s sign policies into consistency with the 2015 US Supreme Court Reed v. Town of Gilbert ruling that prohibits regulations that categorize non-commercial signs based on the type of information they convey (e.g. temporary, political and ideological) and then apply different standards to each category.

(NOTE: Pierce County PPW submitted a Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment application in compliance with the time frame provided in PCC 19C.10.070 as a placeholder to allow PPW staff time to review policies in the Comprehensive Plan and community plans. After review, staff has determined that there are no policies that require text amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, and have identified policies in community plans that do require amendments for conformance. As a result, this Community Plan Text Amendment application will be in lieu of the original placeholder Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment application.)

2. Will the proposed amendment require a corresponding amendment to the Comprehensive Plan to ensure consistency?

No.

3. Write text as it currently appears in the community plan (include element and policy citation):

See attached.

4. Write proposed amendment (if new, indicate the proposed location by specifying the document, page number, and location on the page):

See attached.

5. Why is the community plan amendment needed and being proposed?

In 2015, the US Supreme Court ruled in the Reed vs. Town of Gilbert case that Gilbert's sign code had unconstitutionally restricted the right of free speech by allowing content-based sign regulations. The ruling deemed content-based regulations of speech are not allowed under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The ruling clarified that sign codes must be content neutral. This means that sign regulations cannot vary standards such as size, location, and duration based on the message of the sign (e.g. "political sign" or "for sale sign"). The more content neutral the sign code is, the less risk the jurisdiction has of being challenged. In light of this ruling, Pierce County is re-examining its sign policies and regulations for conformance.

Attach additional sheets if necessary.

ADDITIONAL PAGE
2021 Community Plan Amendment: Description of Amendment

3. Write text as it currently appears in the community plan (include element and policy citation):

Pierce County Comprehensive Plan / Browns Point - Dash Point Community Plan / Sign Design / C-46

BDP D-6.7 Allow a video or electronic sign only in conjunction with a master sign plan for the Town Center complex or in conjunction with limited civic uses such as a community message board, school, or fire department.

BDP D-7.4 Enable individuals, businesses, and community groups to promote temporary activities to the wider community through the adoption of rules governing the use, size, and allowed duration of temporary signs.

4. Write proposed amendment (if new, indicate the proposed location by specifying the document, page number, and location on the page):

Pierce County Comprehensive Plan / Browns Point - Dash Point Community Plan / Sign Design / C-46

BDP D-6.7 Allow a video or electronic sign only in conjunction with a master sign plan for the Town Center complex or in conjunction with ~~limited civic uses such as a community message board~~, school, or fire department ~~message boards~~.

BDP D-7.4 Enable individuals, businesses, and community groups to ~~share information and promote temporary activities through temporary signage~~ to the wider community through the adoption of rules governing the ~~use, location, design, size, and allowed duration of temporary signs~~.