

Public Services Safety



Olympia Fire Department ladder truck during a training exercise

What Olympia Values:

Olympians residents value the protection our police, fire, and emergency medical services provide, as well as the proactive steps public safety partners take to prepare for and manage impacts from natural disasters and other emergencies. They also support value codes enforcement services that enforce the City's efforts to help maintain the safety and appeal of our diverse neighborhoods and districts. quality, adequate and affordable housing for all residents, community gathering places, and recreational centers.

Our Vision for the Future:

Responsive services and affordable housing for all A secure and resilient community where public safety services are delivered with professionalism and compassion for all.

Read more in the [Community Values and Vision chapter](#).

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Introduction

A stable community requires only that minimum needs are met for food, shelter, and safety. But for a community to thrive, it must also focus its public services on healthy and educated children, social service needs, responsive public safety systems, and strong neighborhoods. If we are to achieve these goals in Olympia, the City will continue to develop its meaningful partnerships with non-profits, neighborhoods, and regional governments. Community safety requires forethought, earner trust and collaborative partnerships. The Olympia Police and Fire Departments have recently completed internal strategic plans designed to achieve those requisites and proactively ensure the City is not only in position to maintain public safety, but also enhance preparedness for evolving conditions and future emergencies. The Public Safety chapter of the Comprehensive Plan

outlines the high level goals and policies that will guide action for both entities as well as those associated with the City's array of code enforcement responsibilities.



Olympia youth eat together at a community food event.

Schools Shape Minds and Neighborhoods

Schools are centers of learning for our children, and their health and vitality can affect the health and vitality of the surrounding neighborhood. While the City doesn't manage schools, it can help ensure the safety of children and work on facility planning with the school districts. In fact, this Comprehensive Plan must identify potential sites for future schools, as they are "lands needed for public purposes."

Olympia is served by Olympia School District No. 111, and a small portion is served by North Thurston School District No. 3. We are also fortunate to have opportunities for continuing education at South Puget Sound Community College, St. Martin's University, and The Evergreen State College.

Goals and Policies

GS1 Schools are well located.

PS1.1 Include the needs of schools, such as pedestrian safety and a quiet environment, when making land-use decisions for nearby areas.

PS1.2 Build schools in central locations within areas they serve and on sites that will allow children to walk safely to school.

Commented [JP2]: Recommend this section and its goals and policies move to Land Use & Urban Design Chapter.

PS1.3 Locate schools on (or near) a neighborhood collector street to minimize the impact of school bus and other traffic on the surrounding neighborhoods.

PS1.4 Link new residential developments to school capacity.

PS1.5 Coordinate with school officials when planning and prioritizing sites for future schools and historic preservation efforts.

GS2 Neighborhoods are strong due to partnerships between residents and schools.

PS2.1 Encourage school districts to retain their existing sites, as the schools are critical to maintaining a strong and healthy neighborhood.

PS2.2 Promote sharing school facilities for neighborhood parks, recreation, and open space.

PS2.3 Support safe walking and bicycling routes for students.

Affordable Housing for All

Adequate and affordable housing is critical to a healthy community. It must be located near jobs and services or on bus routes. It also must be safe and well-maintained.

The City addresses housing needs for our most vulnerable community members through its Consolidated Plan, which is updated every three years. The Consolidated Plan identifies Olympia's priority housing, shelter, social service, economic development and public facility needs. The City works with other jurisdictions, private industry and nonprofit organizations to find solutions to low-income housing needs.

Goals and Policies

GS3

GS3 Affordable housing is available for all income levels throughout the community.

PS3.1 Promote a variety of residential densities and housing types so that housing can be available in a broad range of costs.

PS3.2 Encourage preservation of existing houses.

PS3.3 Take steps to ensure housing will be available to all income levels based

on projected community needs.

GS4 Deteriorating residential areas within the City are revitalized.

PS4.1 Support efforts to preserve the historic features or character of historic properties in City housing rehabilitation programs.

PS4.2 Provide assistance and incentives to help low-income residents rehabilitate properties they cannot afford to maintain.

GS5 Special needs populations, such as people with developmental disabilities, the homeless, the frail elderly, and others who have difficulty securing housing, have adequate, safe, and affordable housing.

PS5.1 Disperse housing for low-income, moderate-income, and special-needs residents throughout Olympia and its **Urban Growth Area**, and discourage concentration of such housing in any one geographic area.

PS5.2 Support the *Fair Share Housing* allocation process and work with other jurisdictions to monitor progress toward achieving agreed-upon goals.

PS5.3 Evaluate the possibility of providing density bonuses to builders who provide low-income housing in market-rate developments, and of tying the bonus to affordability.

PS5.4 Encourage new housing on transportation arterials and in areas near public transportation hubs.

PS5.5 Encourage self-help housing efforts in which people earn home equity in exchange for renovation or construction work, such as "sweat equity" volunteer programs.

PS5.6 Retain existing subsidized housing.

Social Services Fulfill a Vital Need

There are many reasons why community members may sometimes need extra help. The loss of a job or a serious illness can leave many of our residents without the means to meet their basic needs. Currently, the social safety net in our community is made up of a network of religious and charitable organizations that partner with local government to provide services to vulnerable community

members.

GS6 Our community is safe and welcoming and social services are accessible to all who need them.

PS6.1 Support non-profit and faith-based charitable organizations that provide funding and/or oversight for social service funding.

PS6.2 Work with other local governments to provide financial support and oversight of social service funding.

PS6.3 Support programs and projects that assist low-income people and those at risk of homelessness with public funding.

PS6.4 Identify barriers to social service, shelter and housing resources for low-income people and those at risk of becoming homeless.

GS7 There is enough emergency housing, transitional housing, permanent housing with supportive services, and independent affordable housing.

PS7.1 Encourage a strong network of emergency shelter resources for homeless and at-risk families with children, childless adults, unaccompanied youth, and victims of sexual and domestic violence.

PS7.2 Take a regional approach with other jurisdictions so that support for a broad range of social services and resources, including shelter and housing, can be maximized.

PS7.3 Encourage businesses, charitable non-profit organizations, and faith-based community organizations to provide shelter and housing services.

PS7.4 Support coordinated service delivery models to maximize the best use of public, charitable, and privately funded shelter and housing resources.

PS7.5 Support best practices that reflect current standards of care, and incorporate emerging models that optimize the use of public and charitable resources.

PS7.6 Encourage shelter and housing providers and programs to locate in the greater Olympia area, or near transportation arterial hubs, so residents can easily access them.

PS7.7 Work toward making the community more aware of homelessness in

Olympia and how it can be prevented as a way to encourage charitable support and involve community members.

PS7.8 Use data to continually assess the community's need for shelter and housing and who it is serving. Use this data to continually improve these services.

PS7.9 Revise policies that limit or prevent the community from providing shelter and housing resources.

PS7.10 Coordinate land use, housing, transportation, and capital facility planning to support all aspects of shelter and housing resources, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing with supportive services, and low-income housing.

PS7.11 Integrate group homes into all residential areas of the community. Set zoning standards to ensure group home sizes (number of residents and staff) are compatible with allowed densities and that transportation and other services are available.

PS7.12 Evaluate regulations so the City can be more flexible in locating shelters and increasing capacity.

GS8 The existing low-income housing stock is preserved.

PS8.1 Continue to fund the repair and rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family housing using federal, state, and local funding sources.

PS8.2 Support applications by the Housing Authority of Thurston County and other non-profit housing developers to construct or purchase existing units for low-rent public housing.

PS8.3 Support applications from eligible non-profits to federal and state funding sources to build new, or rehabilitate existing housing to meet low-income housing needs.

PS8.4 Encourage and provide technical assistance to private developers and non-profits applying for below-market-rate state or federal loans to construct or rehabilitate low-income, multifamily rental housing.

PS8.5 When Community Development Block Grant or Housing and Urban Development-funded buildings are at risk of being converted to market-rate status, inform the tenants of any purchase and relocation options available. When possible, help the Housing Authority of Thurston County and non-profit

organizations buy such housing.

PS8.6 Enforce policies* that provide financial and relocation help to people who are displaced from their homes as a result of construction and development projects using federal funds.

**(Per section 104(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, requiring the replacement of low and moderate income housing units that are demolished or converted to another use, in connection with a Community Development Block Grant project.)*

GS9 New low income housing is created to meet demand.

PS9.1 Continue to support projects funded by low income tax credits and revenue bonds.

PS9.2 Investigate and support appropriate multi-jurisdictional support for the Housing Authority of Thurston County bond sales.

PS9.3 Promote partnerships between public and private non-profit organizations to increase housing and home ownership opportunities for people with special needs, and for low and moderate income households.

PS9.4 Continue to encourage development of single room occupancy units downtown, along urban corridors, and in other areas where high density housing is permitted. This could include encouraging alliances between public, private, and nonprofit organizations.

PS9.5 Evaluate the possibility of supporting a program that would allow low income tenants of manufactured home parks to jointly purchase and renovate permanent sites for their manufactured homes. Consider funding programs to subsidize the interest rates, loan origination fees, and/or other costs of acquiring the land.

PS9.6 Help low income and special needs residents find ways to purchase housing, such as shared or limited equity housing, lease purchase options, co-housing, land trusts, and cooperatives.

PS9.7 Work with jurisdictional partners through the county wide Home Consortium, to fund affordable housing projects that serve low and very low income residents.

PS9.8 Continue to administer the Housing Tax Credit program to develop both market rate and low income housing.

~~PS9.9 Support non-profit and faith-based organizations in their efforts to provide emergency homeless shelters.~~

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~~Code Enforcement Promotes Neighborhood Livability~~

~~Code Enforcement is a City program that allows community members and others to report violations of city code relating to health, safety, and welfare on private property. The program will investigate, for example, complaints about noise, trash, graffiti, signs, abandoned vehicles, overgrown noxious weeds, dangerous buildings, and encampments. As our communities grow, age, and become more dense, the program is becoming increasingly important to maintaining public safety and our high quality of life. The City expects that Code Enforcement will be collaborating even further in the future with Olympia's Police, Fire, Public Works, Building, and Legal Departments as well as with neighborhood associations, not for profit organizations, businesses, and regional government agencies, such as Thurston County Animal Control.~~

~~Goals and Policies~~

~~**GS10 The City rarely resorts to issuing citations as a way to bring code offenders into compliance.**~~

~~**PS10.1** Direct efforts toward compliance first and penalties only when necessary.~~

~~**PS10.2** Reduce the amount of time community members are allowed to achieve compliance.~~

~~**GS11 Neighborhoods are involved in effective and efficient code enforcement.**~~

~~**PS1.1** Educate neighborhoods about code enforcement and other City services, and how they can best interact with them.~~

~~**PS1.2** Communicate regularly with neighborhoods.~~

~~**GS12 Complaints and resolutions are tracked and reported consistently.**~~

~~**PS12.1** Provide community members who submit complaints with timely~~

~~information on current code enforcement activities.~~

~~**PS12.2** Monitor and regularly report on how the program's enforcement practices are working, so they can be improved or refined, if needed.~~

~~**PS12.3** Communicate with those who submit complaints and alleged violators in a predictable and timely manner.~~

Fire Services Prevent Harm to People and Property



Commented [JR4]: I did not see/receive a vision or mission statement from recent strat plan effort; this may be fine as-is, but I can update if new info available




~~An Olympia Fire Department vehicles.~~

~~The Olympia Fire Department (OFD) is an organization of recruits, trains and retains highly trained-capable and prepared professionals who and provides them with use the best technology-available equipment and technology to protect the community and themselves.~~

~~The City's Fire Department is also a part of the OFD is a core partner in the Thurston County Medic One System, and other local and regional programs that seek to whose paramedics and fire fighters can respond to injured people within six minutes of an alarm. Normally, Olympia's fire fighters respond just ahead of the paramedic unit then continue to assist. But they also can respond to basic life support calls on their own advance pre-emptive education, equity in service~~

[and reduce reliance on costly 911 emergency services. Additionally, the new CARES \(Community Assistance, Referral and Education Services program\) the Olympia Fire Department now provides services that will result in a healthier community and reduced reliance on the 911 Emergency system for non-acute concerns.](#)

The department's approach to fire prevention and protection is in the [Master Plan for Fire Protection Fire Department Strategic Plan](#)  which identifies the challenges facing the City and recommends specific solutions.

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[The Department's core values include: stewardship, integrity, compassion and professionalism. The OFD mission is to respond rapidly, with highly training professionals to mitigate emergencies for our community. We are dedicated to reducing risk through prevention, fire and medical education, and disaster preparedness.](#)



[A City of Olympia fire fighter salutes in his formal uniform.](#)



[Olympia Fire personnel rendering assistance](#)

Goals and Policies

GS13 The community has a high level of fire protection, emergency medical services ~~and disaster management services~~, equal to or exceeding the industry standard and community expectations.

PS13.1 Continue to manage fire protection functions, paramedic services, and City emergency services by planning, organizing, directing, and controlling the resources available.

PS1.2 Provide timely and effective response to emergency and non-emergency calls for service, and report performance levels to maintain community trust.

~~**PS13.2** Continue to provide a highly skilled and adequately staffed fire fighting force to respond to fire, medical, and hazardous material emergencies, and to protect life and property.~~

PS13.3 Continue to provide fire ~~prevention code enforcement in new construction~~ and fire safety inspections of existing businesses to reduce loss of life and services to minimize damage from fires.

[PS1.4 Ensure equipment and other assets are adequate in capacity to serve the safety needs of our evolving community.](#)

PS13.4-5 Continue to provide paramedic and basic life support care to the City of Olympia, as part of the Thurston County Medic One System.

PS13.5-6 Upgrade the fire flow capacity of Olympia's water system where needed to meet current safety standards [and accommodate any future annexations.](#)

PS1.7 [Conduct a community risk assessment and implement a risk reduction plan to ensure equitable service citywide.](#)

~~**PS13.6** Model best practices in the local fire service community in areas like fire fighter safety, command practices, training and equipment maintenance.~~

[GS2 The community proactively prepares for major disasters and is in position to quickly and successfully respond and recover to a wide range of emergency scenarios.](#)

PS132.7-1 Coordinate the City's preparation, mitigation, response and recovery to disasters through an all-hazard Emergency Management program that includes planning for major catastrophic events.

~~**PS132.8-2** Continue to serve as the coordinating~~[Maintain role as a participating](#) agency for post-disaster recovery through the coordination of disaster cost recovery, and the facilitation of our community's short- and long-term recovery goals and objectives.

PS132.9-3 Educate community members on how to sustain their households without outside assistance for a minimum of 72 hours during an emergency event, and that some events, such as a severe earthquake, may require them to sustain themselves for five to ten days or more.

~~**PS13.10** Address the severe and extended impacts of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake in the City's emergency response plans and preparations.~~

~~**PS132.11-4** Continue~~[Work with partners](#) to gather best available information on the impact a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake would have on the community, including the potential magnitude, impacts of vertical movements, and tsunamis, [and how OFD might best prepare and respond.](#)

[GS3 Maintain a well-trained, resilient, safe and sustainable organization.](#)

~~PS3.2.1~~ PS3.2.1 Continue to provide a highly skilled and adequately staffed fire fighting force to respond to fire, medical, and hazardous material emergencies all other hazards, and to protect life and property.

PS3.2 Continue to ensure services are aligned with industry and community standards.

PS3.3 Employ the most current for fire fighter safety, command practices, training and equipment maintenance.

PS3.4 Provide professional growth through development and opportunities for all employees.

PS3.5 Ensure strong retention by maintaining a positive organizational culture driven by shared values, employee recognition and transparency.

PS3.6 Reduce 911 emergency response volumes through proactive public education and community assistance referrals.

PS3.7 Continue to build on regional partnerships and seek alternative funding sources that helps reinforce and expand response capacities.

Police Services Promote Public Safety

Public safety is key to our high-quality of life. Our most beautiful neighborhoods, streets, and parks would not be desirable if there was always the threat of a crime. We cannot consider our streets to be walkable if people do not feel safe. There are many ways to deliver police services. Every police organization has an individual "personality." It is shaped by the community's values and expectations, the personal characteristics of its leaders, geography, demographics, and cultural heritage.

The City Council is ultimately responsible for providing the leadership needed to ensure a high quality of policing services. In Olympia, community members tend to be very involved in local government, and leadership comes from them as well integral to overall community livability. People expect and deserve to live safely in their homes, just as they should enjoying community outings and amenities, without fear or any form of discrimination.

In Olympia, the Olympia Police Department (OPD) is the primary entity responsible for the law enforcement side of public safety. But the broader public safety system increasingly involves coordination with civilian liaisons, courts,

Commented [JR6]: Need new OPD photos and final review/approval; informal comments and review complete.

[restorative justice programs and many other actors. Over time, the City has also increased citizen oversight of law enforcement including expanded direct involvement of diverse community members, a broader scope of Civilian Police Auditor reviews, improved data sharing and transparency, and better community education on policing and oversight mechanisms.](#)

[OPD must continue to adapt to changing socioeconomic conditions as well as evolving state and federal laws. Great strides have been made to reduce use of force interactions through the adoption of best practices, and new civilian-based teams now implement some of the City's most impactful crime prevention and criminal diversion initiatives. Looking forward, OPD will continue to develop collaborative law enforcement response and prevention strategies that help ensure a safe community while also prioritizing equitable treatment and the importance of earning and maintaining community trust and partnership.](#)

Goals and Policies

[GS14-GS4](#) Police services are delivered in a manner consistent with the values of the community members of Olympia.

[PS14PS4.1](#) Deliver police services in a professional, timely, objective, and [impartial-equitable](#) manner.

[PS14PS4.2](#) Understand and respect the diversity of our community. Strive to reflect that diversity in the composition of the Police Department.

[PS14PS4.3](#) Interact respectfully with everyone in the community to earn their respect, using force only when needed. All levels of the agency must display the [humilitycompassion](#), cordiality, and courtesy needed to help community members see themselves as allies of their police force.

[PS14PS4.4](#) Encourage a spirit of cooperation that balances the collective interests of all community members with the personal rights of individuals.

[PS14PS4.5](#) Maintain a departmental environment that is open, accessible, responsive, and seeks feedback in a way that is consistent with the [small-town values and priorities feeling](#) of the community.

[PS14PS4.6](#) Provide strong and effective responses to serious criminal behavior, and use discretion and alternative sanctions for minor offenses.

[GS15-GS5](#) ~~The~~ Community members of Olympia are empowered as partners in [identifying and](#) solving community

problems.

PS5.1 Develop and periodically update a comprehensive communications strategy to inform the community about crime trends, prevention and outcomes from high profile cases or events.

PS5.1-2 Share information and form interdisciplinary strategic partnerships with individuals and groups in the community to proactively address emergent policing issues.

PS5.2-3 Involve and empower diverse community members as we look for innovative ways to prevent and reduce repeat crimes, and use education to prevent crime.

PS5.3-4 Emphasize the need for our police force to have positive, day-to-day interaction with the public that encourages collaboration on problem-solving, rather than responding only to crises. Regular contact between the police and community members helps strengthen working relationships and makes policing more effective.

PS5.5 Proactively coordinate with the Police Auditor, Community Oversight Board, Social Justice and Equity Commission and other partners to continually evaluate policing methods and outcomes and identify new best practices.

PS75.61 Enlist the support of other public agencies and community service groups to help solve policing problems, and to evaluate the effectiveness of police services.

PS75.72 Ensure regular communication and cooperation between the Police Department and other City departments, at both the managerial and line levels.

PS75.83 Maximize the City's efforts to recruit community volunteers and use them effectively.

PS75.94 Communicate with Olympia's diverse population to seek input on how best to meet their needs.

PS185.10 Communicate with the public on a regular basis to gain public understanding and consensus on the community's policing needs.

PS185.211 Seek opportunities to inform the public of Police Department programs and activities.

~~PS185.312~~ Communicate with the community and the media about incidents on a timely basis.

~~PS185.413~~ Provide open and accessible ways for the public to receive information about incidents.

~~PS185.514~~ Provide both police personnel and the public with clearly articulated Police Department values that provide a clear sense of the City's focus and direction.

~~PS185.615~~ Ensure that the Police Department, and particularly the Chief, is active and visible in City government and in the community.

~~GS16-GS6 Police services are provided in a manner consistent with Olympia's values and that is cost-effective~~The Police Department is sufficiently staffed and equipped to provide a high level of service for the community.

~~PS16PS6.1~~ Provide a high quality of service in the traditional police agency functionsPeriodically review and update staffing volume to ensure adequate coverage while allowing time for proactive community interactions.

~~PS16PS6.2~~ Coordinate with TCOMM dispatch to dDevelop alternative ways to respond to calls for service when sworn officers are not required. This will free-up more time for our officers to develop strategies for preventing crime in our community.

~~PS16PS6.3~~ Whenever possible, make full use of non-sworn employees, volunteers, and referrals to other agencies so the City can respond to service requests cost-effectively.

~~PS16PS6.4~~ Focus on the quality of service provided to community members with non-emergency calls, rather thanand not merely the speed of response.

~~PS16PS6.5~~ Use satellite stations and regular patrol beats to improve community member access to, and interaction with, the Police Department.

~~PS6.6~~ Develop a real-time crime analysis center with regional partners to better identify and address trends and develop cost-effective response strategies.

~~PS16PS6.6-7~~ Measure the Department's level of service not by inputs (such as officers per capita), but by outcomes such as problems eliminated and community member satisfaction with the quality of officer interaction.

~~PS16~~**PS6.7-8** Regularly track how police workloads are generated and find ways to reduce them, or allocate work more efficiently, both in and outside the Police Department. External entities which generate police workload should share responsibility for providing ways to manage it.

~~PS16~~**PS6.8-9** Use technology to improve the City's efficiency at completing necessary but time-consuming activities, such as report filing, data management, communication, and administrative tasks.

~~PS16~~**PS6.9-10** Use data management technology to improve access to information, both for police personnel and community members.

~~PS16~~**PS6.10-11** Provide specialized police units and services important to maintaining Olympia's quality of life.

~~GS17~~ **The community participates in identifying policing priorities and solving policing problems.**

~~PS17.1~~ Enlist the support of other public agencies and community service groups to help solve policing problems, and to evaluate the effectiveness of police services.

~~PS17.2~~ Ensure regular communication and cooperation between the Police Department and other City departments, at both the managerial and line levels.

~~PS17.3~~ Maximize the City's efforts to recruit community volunteers and use them effectively.

~~PS17.4~~ Communicate with Olympia's diverse population to seek input on how best to meet their needs.

~~GS18~~ **The effectiveness of Olympia's police services is maximized by communicating openly and by being accessible and responsive to feedback.**

~~PS18.1~~ Communicate with the public on a regular basis to gain public understanding and consensus on the community's policing needs.

~~PS18.2~~ Seek opportunities to inform the public of Police Department programs and activities.

~~PS18.3~~ Communicate with the community and the media about incidents on a timely basis.

~~**PS18.4** Provide open and accessible ways for the public to receive information about incidents.~~

~~**PS18.5** Provide both police personnel and the public with clearly articulated Police Department values that provide a clear sense of the City's focus and direction.~~

~~**PS18.6** Ensure that the Police Department, and particularly the Chief, is active and visible in City government and in the community.~~

GS197 The effectiveness of Olympia's police services is maximized by collaborating with other service providers.

PS197.1 Work with social service providers to explore potential mutual strategies to address social problems.

PS197.2 Build good working relationships with other agencies and social service providers, identifying divisions of responsibility and ways to cooperate effectively.

PS197.3 Avoid using jails and the criminal justice system to address non-criminal social problems, whenever possible. Work with the courts to find alternatives to imprisonment, such as dispute resolution, substance abuse treatment, and other strategies that address underlying problems.

PS197.4 Take steps to improve cooperation and communication among police, prosecutors, defenders, judges, and corrections agencies. Work with them on process improvements that will improve the effectiveness of our criminal justice system.

PS197.5 Combine resources with other law enforcement agencies when a joint approach to law enforcement and crime prevention makes sense, such as central dispatch, drug enforcement, and SWAT teams.

PS197.6 Look for creative ways to build relationships with private security firms, Animal Control, and other organizations, so they can help extend the capability of our Police Department.

PS197.7 Build relationships with other police agencies to gain from their experiences and expertise.

PS7.8 [Explore reinstating School Resource Officers at Olympia area schools.](#)

GS20-GS8 The OPD is a preferred employer due to the culture, opportunity for upward mobility and accountability. conduct of

~~police officers is held accountable to defined community expectations.~~

PS8.20.1 Ensure that Olympia’s accountability system includes accessibility, integrity, legitimacy, learning, and reasonable cost.

PS8.20.2 Ensure that Olympia’s accountability system meets the interests of the City Council, City Manager, Police Department management, affected labor unions and the community in collaboratively providing accountability and support systems (like training, counseling, and feedback) that meet the policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

PS8.3 Continue to build a well-trained, diverse team of officers and non-commissioned staff.

PS8.4 Provide training and opportunities that maintain employee safety and enthusiasm while also bolstering workforce retention.

PS8.5 Maintain strong internal communications and engagement to support a culture of trust, knowledge and accountability.

Code Enforcement Preserves Community Livability

Code Enforcement is a City program that allows community members and others to report violations of city code relating to health, safety, and welfare on private property. The Code Enforcement program investigates and seeks to remedy a variety of safety and livability including complaints about noise, trash, graffiti, signs, abandoned vehicles, animal control, overgrown noxious weeds, dangerous buildings, unlawful encampments and other community safety and livability concerns. Code Enforcement collaborates with Olympia’s Police, Fire, Public Works, Building, and Legal Departments to resolve cases, and coordinates with other community entities on education and prevention activities.

Goals and Policies

GS9 The City seeks to proactively resolve code offences.

PS9.1 Seek compliance first and penalties only when necessary.

PS9.2 Reduce the amount of time allowed to achieve compliance by offering technical assistance and referrals to resources.

Commented [JR7]: There is currently a significant amount of interest in extending/completing sidewalk networks. But also replacing + clarifying City/property owner roles. It is not expressly addressed here. Maybe it shouldn't be...but question posed.

Commented [JR8R7]: Also, we may want to revisit this section after the revamp of Land Use chapter and decide where different policies best reside.

[PS9.3 Educate neighborhoods about code enforcement and other City services, and how they can best interact with them.](#)

[PS9.4 Communicate regularly with neighborhood organizations.](#)

[GS10 Complaints and resolutions are tracked and reported consistently.](#)

[PS10.1 Provide community members who submit complaints with timely information on current code enforcement activities.](#)

[PS10.2 Monitor and regularly report on how the program's enforcement practices are working, so they can be improved or refined, if needed.](#)

[PS10.3 Communicate with those who submit complaints and alleged violators in a predictable and timely manner.](#)

[GS21 City of Olympia is a model sustainable city.](#)

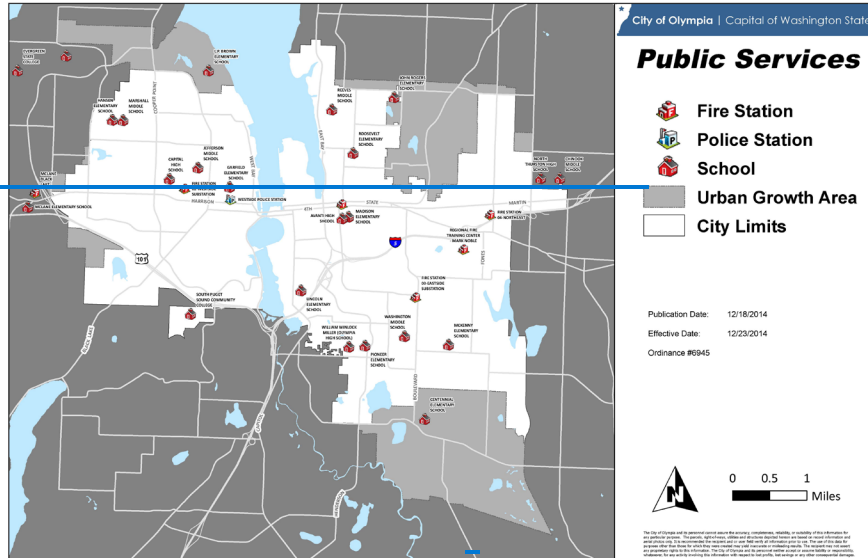
[PS21.1 Use energy efficient designs and environmentally responsible materials and techniques in City facilities and construction projects. Work to reduce energy usage in existing City facilities.](#)

[PS21.2 Use the City's purchasing power to support sustainable business and manufacturing practices, including support for businesses that provide living wage jobs.](#)

[PS21.3 Support local businesses by buying locally whenever possible.](#)

Commented [JP9]: Where should this section move? Land Use and Urban Design? Climate Change and Resiliency?

Commented [JR10R9]: Thoughts: Drop goal (likely now covered in Climate Chapter), and move policy #1 there, if not already in place. #s 2/3 feel more like admin rules of thumb for purchasing department.








[Public Services map](#)

For More Information

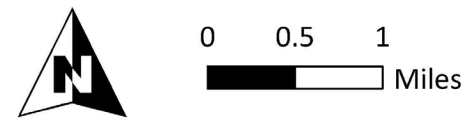
- [Thurston Regional Transportation Plan](#)
- [Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Plan](#)
- [Growth Management Act](#)
- [Master Plan for Fire Protection](#)
- [Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan for Thurston Region](#)
- [Olympia School District Master Plan](#)

City of Olympia | Capital of Washington State

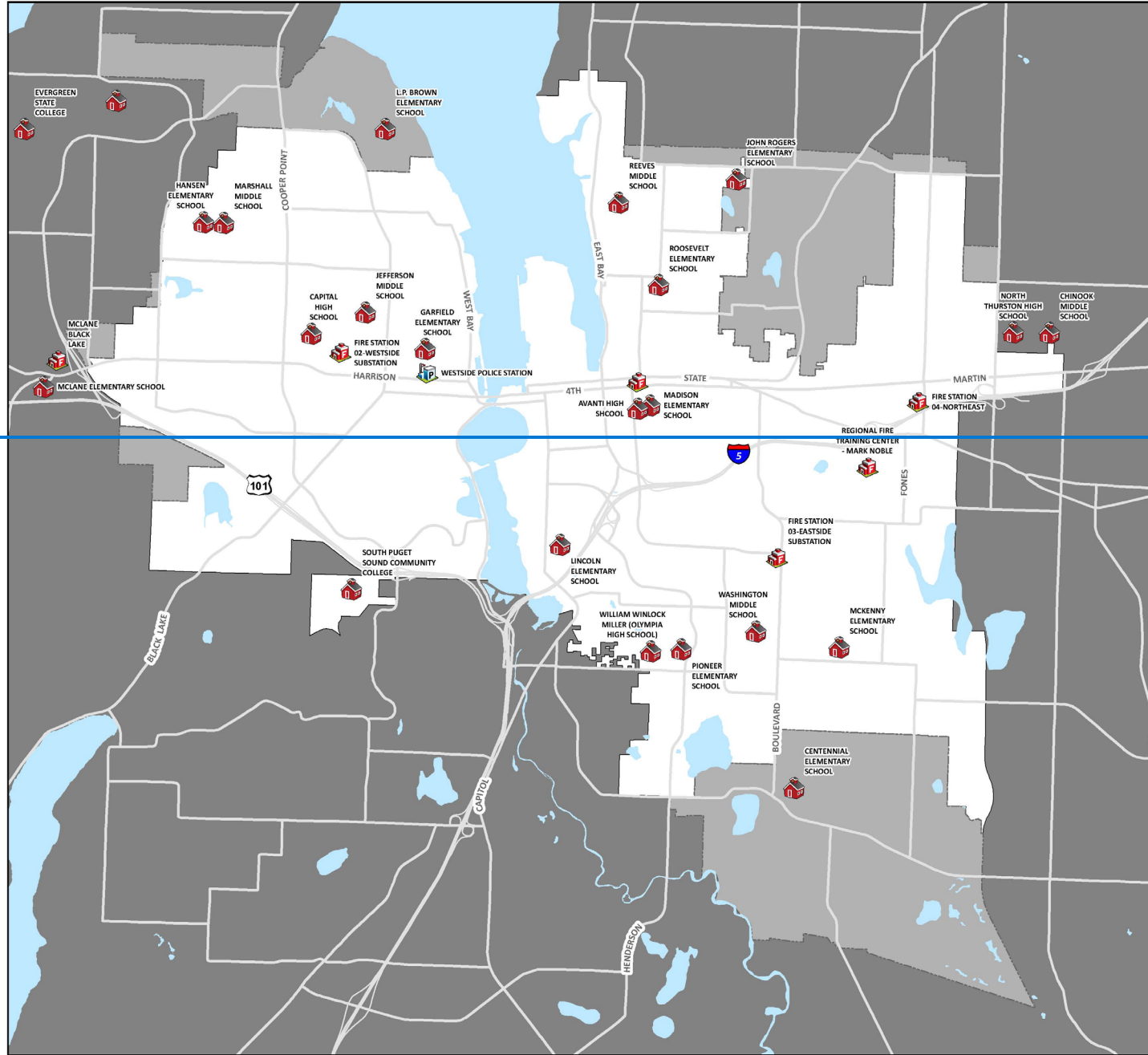
Public Services

-  Fire Station
-  Police Station
-  School
-  Urban Growth Area
-  City Limits

Publication Date: 12/18/2014
Effective Date: 12/23/2014
Ordinance #6945



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