



April 28, 2025

Olympia City Council
cc: Olympia Planning Commission

Honorable Mayor Payne and City of Olympia Councilmembers,

As part of the Olympia 2045 update of the Comprehensive Plan, the City Council has provided the Social Justice and Equity Commission with an opportunity to weigh in on the draft chapters to offer equity related recommendations. This letter is intended to share with you the Commission's conversation regarding the Introduction chapter, on which the Commission received a briefing at our March 24, 2025, meeting.

The Commission discussed the Introduction chapter with Community Planning and Economic Development staff and had the opportunity to ask questions related to how equity is addressed in the chapter and how it was considered during its development. The Commission appreciates the chapter's background information and framing for the rest of the plan, including that its goals and policies should be read with a broad lens of equity. The Commission had the following comments related to the Key Challenges section:

- Discussion of the challenges related to jobs and economic opportunities, especially for blue collar career paths, should be added.
- The Key Challenges are intertwined. Consider adding a statement to express that impacts may be experienced more by certain populations.
- The Commission noted that impacts from climate change may be felt more by some members of our community than others.

We believe the chapter is consistent with the goals of the Social Justice and Equity Commission. We thank the City Council for the opportunity to review and comment on this chapter.

Best Regards,

Robin Rosen-Evans, Vice-Chair
Social Justice & Equity Commission

RR:dg