

## GOALS AND POLICIES

The purpose of establishing goals and policies is to provide an implementation framework to meet the City's vision and state requirements for the Climate Resiliency Element. Goals provide a general statement or broad concept of the desired outcome. Policies then include a set protocol or proposal designed to achieve the stated Goal.

To achieve this, Cle Elum decided to pursue a combination of Pathway 1 and Pathway 2 by identifying existing goals and policies to incorporate by reference or modify along with developing new goals and policies with the help of the Climate Policy Explorer. By combining the two pathways, Cle Elum is acknowledging the existing climate-related work that has already been adopted into its plans and policies.




### New Goals and Policies

The following goals and policies are adapted from the Washington State Department of Commerce's "Climate Policy Explorer."

**Goal CE-1** *Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire resilient landscapes, promote fire adapted communities, protect the economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery.*

Policy CE-1.1 Support the development of a city-focused community wildfire protection plan (CWPP)

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- Policy CE-1.2 Create evacuation plans and outreach materials to help residents plan and practice actions that make evacuation quicker and safer.
  - Policy CE-1.3 Provide private forestland owners and residents living in Wildland-Urban (WUI) areas information about fire prevention (e.g. Firewise) practices, and support application of such practices via building code provisions.
  - Policy CE-1.4 Map transportation infrastructure that is vulnerable to repeated floods, landslides, and other natural hazards, and designate alternative travel routes for critical transportation corridors when roads must be closed.
  - Policy CE-1.5 Analyze how the municipal water system maintains adequate pressure during a major wildfire event (e.g. multiple structures burning) and how it will look under current and projected drought conditions.

**Goal CE-2 *Adopt fire-resilience standards for new and redeveloped sites in high-risk wildfire areas.***


- Policy CE-2.1 Identify and implement strategies for reducing residential development pressure in the wildland-urban interface (WUI).
- Policy CE-2.2 Require new subdivisions to bury electricity transmission lines and associated infrastructure to reduce damage from storms and wildfire ignition risks.
- Policy CE-2.3 Support local businesses' efforts to bolster climate preparedness and continuity of operations.

**Goal CE-3 *Ensure that the local transportation system – including infrastructure, routes, and travel modes – is able to withstand and recover quickly from the impacts of extreme weather events and other hazards exacerbated by climate change.***

- Policy CE-3.1 Improve street connectivity and walkability; including sidewalks and street crossings, to serve as potential evacuation routes.

**Goal CE-4 *Develop and implement a comprehensive drought resilience strategy for different drought stages.***

- Policy CE-4.1 Manage water resources sustainability in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation, wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management.
- Policy CE-4.2 Construct and maintain new water-storage systems (e.g. large cisterns, water towers, and reservoirs) to provide back-up water supplies during droughts and support climate resilience.

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- Policy CE-4.3 Support the use of green infrastructure and low-impact development to address increased storm intensities and stormwater runoff.
  - Policy CE-4.4 Choose native drought- and pest – resistant trees, shrubs, and grasses in restoration efforts to support climate resilience.
  - Policy CE-4.5 Analyze how the municipal water system maintains adequate pressure during a major wildfire event (e.g., multiple structures burning) and how it will look under current and projected drought conditions.

**Goal CE-5** *Consider a program/identify funding sources to install cooling systems and heat pumps, and upgrade insulation and windows/doors; prioritizing households with residents most vulnerable to extreme temperature events.*

- Policy CE-5.1 Develop or modify design standards to integrate exterior building features that reduce the impacts of climate change and increase resilience.

**Goal CE-6** *Establish regulations that incorporate best practices for reducing the risk of wildfire, extreme heat, flooding, and other climate-exacerbated hazards.*

- Policy CE-6.1 Consider overlays, special zoning districts, design standards, or other strategies to increase resilience to climate hazards.

**Goal CE-7** *Ensure the protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains to achieve healthy watersheds that are resilient to climate change.*

- Policy CE-7.1 Promote the restoration of floodplains and connectivity to improve the resilience of streams and rivers and reduce flood risk.

**Goal CE-8** *Require the design and construction of commercial and residential buildings and their surrounding sites to reduce and treat stormwater runoff and pollution.*

- Policy CE-8.1 Reduce stormwater impacts from transportation and development through watershed planning, redevelopment and retrofit projects, and low-impact development.


## **Incorporation of Existing Goals and Policies**

The following existing goals and policies are found within various sections of the Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan and are incorporated herein by reference.

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- Policy LU 63: Lands designated for open space should be designed with Firewise practices in mind, and provides for multiple open space benefits whenever possible, including active or passive recreation opportunities, scenic amenities, fish and wildlife habitat, etc.
  - Policy LU 64: Provide incentives for owners of public and private property to preserve open space as a visual amenity and Firewise strategy through techniques such as defensible space, conservation easements, transfer of development rights and density bonuses to encourage clustering.
  - Policy CF 21: Development proposals within the city should incorporate construction designs including, but not limited to, gray/green infrastructure, alternative energy sources (solar, wind, etc.), and resilient building materials which minimize water and energy consumption.
  - Policy H 39: Consistently enforce building maintenance, health and safety codes for the city's housing stock to limit the potential damage resulting from wildfires or other extreme weather events.
  - Policy H 41: Encourage programs that offer assistance with renovations and home improvements including those that will help efficiency for wildfire smoke and extreme heat, and maintenance efforts such as creating defensible space so that residents can stay in their homes even when their housing needs change.

**Goal PR5:** Establish an open space pattern that will provide definition of and separation between developed lands to establish defensible space buffers and provide open space linkages among parks and recreation resources.

- Policy PR 41: Furnish trail systems with appropriate improvements including: directory and interpretive signage; rest stops; shade structures; drinking fountains; restrooms; emergency call boxes; and other services.



In addition to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Cle Elum also adopted the Kittitas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan on October 8, 2019 (Resolution 2019-014). Incorporated by reference are the following goals and objectives:

- Goal 1:** *Protect life, property and the environment.*
- Goal 2:** *Continuously build and support local capacity to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impact of hazards and disasters.*
- Goal 3:** *Establish a hazard and disaster resilient economy.*
- Goal 4:** *Promote public awareness, engage public participation and enhance partnerships through education and outreach.*
- Goal 5:** *Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective mitigation projects.*
  - Objective 1: Reduce natural hazard-related risks and vulnerability to populations, critical facilities and infrastructure within the planning area.
  - Objective 2: Minimize the impacts of natural hazards on current and future land uses by encouraging use of incentives for hazard mitigation (i.e. NFIP, CRS).
  - Objective 3: Prevent (or discourage) new development in hazardous areas or ensure that if building occurs in high-risk areas that it is done in such a way as to minimize risk.
  - Objective 4: Integrate hazard mitigation policies into land use plans within the planning area.
  - Objective 5: Update the plan annually to integrate local hazard mitigation plans and the results of disaster- and hazard-specific planning efforts.
  - Objective 6: Educate the public on the risk exposure to natural hazards and ways to increase the public's capacity to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate the impacts of these events.
  - Objective 7: Utilize the best available data, science and technologies to improve understanding of the location and potential impacts of natural hazards, the vulnerability of building types, and community development patterns and the measures needed to protect life safety.
  - Objective 8: Retrofit, purchase, or relocate structures in high hazard areas including those known to be repetitively damaged.
  - Objective 9: Establish a partnership among all levels of government and the business community to improve and implement methods to protect property.
  - Objective 10: Encourage hazard mitigation measures that result in the least adverse effect on the natural environment and that use natural processes.