

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE 2026 - 2046

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION,
INTRODUCTION,
HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ELEMENT,
AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ELEMENT

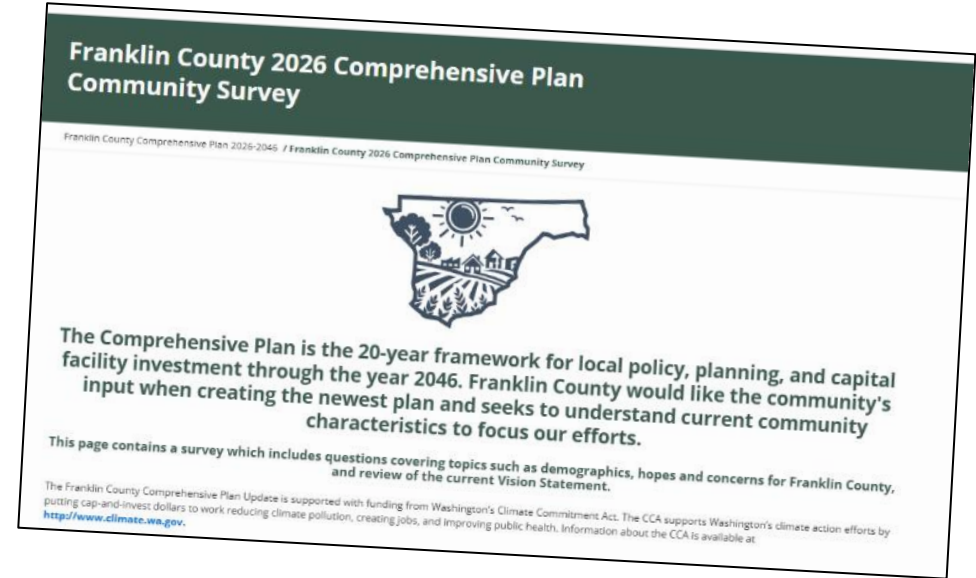
July 7, 2026

Planning Commission



PUBLIC OUTREACH

- Public participation is required for Comprehensive Plan updates under RCW 36.70A.140.
- The Comprehensive Plan update is supported by Climate Commitment Act funds



OPEN HOUSE EVENTS



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April 23, 2026: Pasco High School

5 attendees

April 28, 2026: Connell High School

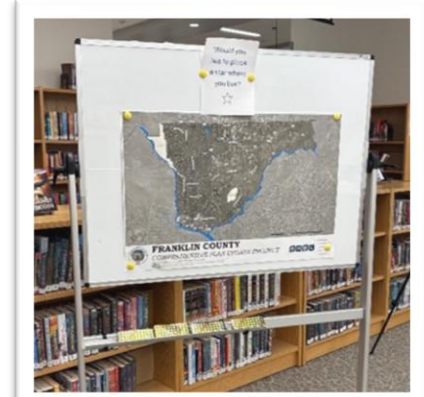
6 attendees

April 30, 2026: Markham Elementary

10 attendees

Posters informing attendees and promoting conversation included various topics:

- Data: Population Growth & Demographics
- Information (Comprehensive Plan basics)
- Visioning: 2018 land use map, exercise to think 20 years in the future



INPUT

Questioning the essence of the GMA

"I'm in favor of Transfer of Development Rights"

Provide public river access

Keep Kau Trail closed until the City improves it

We want more parks

Allow Event Centers in Rural areas where a functioning facility is in place

Cluster development along the Snake River, with limitations

Project Habitat

No Solar Farms where there is irrigation water

Allow smaller lots

More RV parks



What best describes Franklin County's character?

CLOSE TO NATURE



NOT RUSHED-NOT BUSY



CLOSE-KNIT



SELF RELIANT



RUSTIC OR TRADITIONAL



COUNTRYSIDE OR AGRICULTURAL



NOT INTENSELY DEVELOPED



OTHER

LOVE, FRIENDSHIP AND COMMUNITY



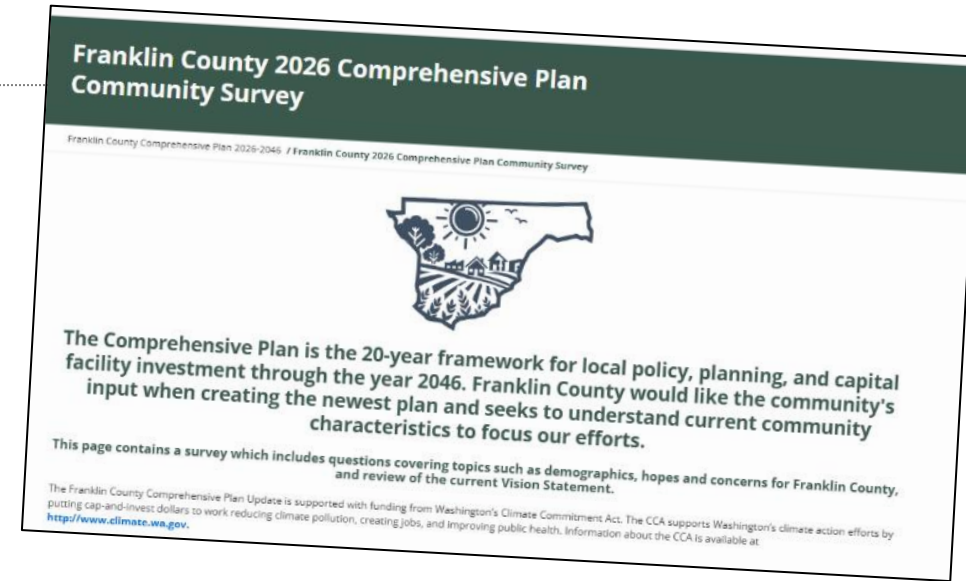
The Franklin County Comprehensive Plan Update is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at <http://www.climate.wa.gov>.

PUBLIC SURVEY & RESULTS



PUBLIC SURVEY

- County staff and AHBL prepared and deployed a survey conducted via the "Social Point" platform
 - Surveys could be taken on a desktop, from mobile devices, or on paper
- Open from March 31 to May 11, 2026
- AHBL prepared a slide deck for the June Planning Commission meeting however the meeting was cancelled. For survey results and details, go to <https://engage.ahbl.com/Franklin2046>



INTRODUCTION & GENERAL UPDATES



GENERAL CHANGES

- Improved grammar and word use to improve readability.
- Updated outdated information.
- Updated links to reference the most recent online resources.
- Replaced previous maps with updated maps.
- Proposed reorganization of Elements to provide the goals and policies in one volume and the analyses in a second volume.
- Proposed rewrite of all goals and policies.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- County-wide Planning Policies adopted in 2025 by Resolution 2025-233
- Legal Framework and the Plan's Purpose
- Plan Implementation strategies



VISION STATEMENT

Franklin County is a rural county based on agriculture with highly productive farmland, both irrigated and non-irrigated.

An effective government, which controls taxes and, at the same time, provides continual upgrades to the County's roads and infrastructure that is in place.

The County is characterized by its open spaces, quality development, and agriculturally related industries.

Franklin County enjoys a diversity of population and is a good place to live with quality education in its schools, low crime rate, clean, fresh air, and friendly neighbors.

- A question on the survey asked, *Does the statement reflect your values, identity, and aspirations for the future of Franklin County?*
- 72% of respondents agree; 20% said it needs improvements.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT



GENERAL CHANGES

- Proposed updates to lists of National Register of Historic Places and Washington Heritage Roster Sites
- Proposed new section about the Historic Preservation Grant Program that is funded by fees received from document recording per RCW 36.22.170.
- Proposed section about cultural resource review requirements for state and federally funded projects.



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ELEMENT



GENERAL CHANGES

- Moved soil information to the Resource Lands sub-element
- Proposed updated language to describe shrub-steppe habitat (stay tuned for more info from WDFW)
- Removed the lists of State Status for each species and instead included a reference and link to the WDFW state-wide Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) List.
- Moved all information about wildfire risk and the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) to the new Climate Element.



QUESTIONS?

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» Project Website:

– www.engage.ahbl.com/Franklin2046

