

Industrial

Two areas within the City are currently zoned for industrial use: along the south side of Roberts Drive at Morganville, which contains Anesthesia Equipment Supply, the City's only industrial use, and office space; and the area west of SR 169, north of Roberts Drive. For the past 100 years, the latter area has been used for mineral extraction, processing activities, and associated industrial uses (an auto wrecking yard, a meat market, fuel supply station, truck and equipment repair facilities and several storage warehouses). The area is currently available for redevelopment.

Bryant Airstrip

For over four decades, a privately-owned airstrip has been operated by the Bryant family on their property located on the north side of Roberts Drive, west of its intersection with SR-169. Historically, the airstrip has had only minimal use. However, both the potential and interest exists to expand the scope of the airstrip to include the installation of hangars, a fueling facility and a helipad. Currently, the airstrip is considered to be a legal nonconforming use, as it is situated such that it crosses through three distinct land use categories and zone districts (Industrial, Community Commercial and Medium Density Residential). The City should consider zoning and other land use regulation amendments as may be necessary to evaluate the potential expansion of its operations.

5.2.3. A New Direction

The community's vision is for the City to guide and manage growth carefully and creatively, in a manner which protects its sensitive areas and treasured places (e.g., historical structures and sites) and retains open spaces that form the natural beauty of the City. Given the abundance of these features throughout the City, future development is likely to occur in numerous "villages" separated by these features. New development can be accommodated within this framework and landscape.

Preparation of the Land Use Element considered and identified areas that are appropriate for development and those which should be protected as sensitive areas and open space. The result is a comprehensive pattern of greenbelts and buffers shaped through a variety of policies, regulations, and incentive programs, such as transfer of development rights (TDR)—i.e., providing development "credits" for constrained or open space areas that can be transferred and used on other, more appropriate lands. The program allows property owners to realize much of the value of lands that cannot be developed to their full potential because of physical constraints. While every square foot of land has value to the land owners, not every square foot has to be built upon to achieve that value.

residents. Providing places for active and passive interaction – such as parks, adult schools, community centers, and clubs—can also perpetuate the sense of community possessed by the City now. The recently acquired Lake Sawyer Park site provides a unique opportunity for this important social interaction to be centered on a high quality recreational amenity, connected to each of the City’s existing and future large-scale development areas by an integrated trail system. Continuing the community bulletin boards and /or newsletters will also help.

New areas for socializing may include a cafe or tavern, community gardens, community center, the Lake Sawyer Park site, the Ginder Creek open space area, or a lakeside park for swimming. To foster a sense of community and history for old and new residents alike, the City could revive the Black Diamond Band, open a speakeasy (specialty brew), revive the City’s community baseball and soccer teams, or create festivals to celebrate the City’s history or celebrate nature’s bounty.

5.4. Implementing the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use

5.4.1. Extent of Proposed Land Use

The following is a list and description of the City of Black Diamond Comprehensive Plan land use designations. Complete lists of allowed uses (permitted, conditional, and unclassified) are identified in the adopted development regulations.

The following section identifies the purpose, allowed uses and designation criteria, and helps explain the intent of each designation on the Future Land Use Map.

When densities are referred to in this chapter, they are expressed in the number of units per net acre of land. “Net acre” means the total area within a parcel boundary, except any portion of a parcel within a defined sensitive area and its required buffer pursuant to the Chapter 19.10 Black Diamond Municipal Code, excluding geologically hazardous areas.

Urban Reserve Designation

Purpose: The Urban Reserve designation recognizes existing low-density residential development surrounding the Lake 12 Potential Annexation Area and that it should not be allowed to develop at higher densities until such time that public water, sewer and other services are made available. Pursuant to other policies in this plan, annexation of this area will not be considered until a plan for extending required utilities is developed and financed.

Allowed Use and Description: The Urban Reserve designation allows for single-family residential uses, their accessory uses and public and semi-public uses that meet appropriate development standards. Development at urban densities could occur in the future when public water and sanitary sewer service is made available.

Designation Criteria: Properties designated Urban Reserve should be only be those areas currently lacking public water and sanitary sewer service within the City's Potential Annexation Area.

Master Planned Development (MPD) Overlay

Purpose: The MPD overlay is applied to areas to take advantage of opportunities to create a clustered mix of residential, commercial and civic uses along with open space and public facilities, on large sites in appropriate locations. These sites typically consist of large parcels in common ownership where a master plan will be developed to guide unified development over a period of many years. The MPD designation is applied to meet the special needs and opportunities presented by such sites while managing impacts on nearby uses.

Allowed Uses and Descriptions: The MPD overlay is applied to areas that are intended to allow a mix of those land uses and residential densities as depicted on the Future Land Use Map. Areas with an MPD overlay designation are intended to develop only subsequent to approval of an MPD permit pursuant to Black Diamond Municipal Code. An MPD may include residential and commercial uses clustered around private and community open space, supported by adequate services and facilities. As part of the process of approving an MPD, a specific development plan or site plan will be prepared and will specify the residential and non-residential uses, densities and intensities, phasing of development, and specific development standards that will apply to the site. Densities are intended to be urban in nature (minimum of 4 dwelling units per ~~gross-net~~ acre) and will be established as part of the MPD approval process; some MPD sites may also be designated as TDR receiving areas. An approved development plan should contain a provision for periodic updates. Significant opportunities for public involvement should be provided in the consideration of any MPD. An MPD is implemented through the provisions of BDMC 18.98 and provisions of any pre-annexation agreement that is in place for properties in this designation.

Areas developing as MPDs are expected to incorporate innovative site design and utilization of progressive techniques to provide for environmentally sustainable development. This may include the use of "low impact" engineering techniques, employment of "green building" technologies, extensive incorporation of trails and pathways, etc.

Designation Criteria: Properties to which the MPD overlay is applied should generally reflect all of the following criteria:

1. Existing or planned public facilities are adequate to support the planned development density.
2. The area is not predominated by environmentally sensitive areas, and/or the development plan contains standards that will allow development while providing appropriate protection to the environmentally sensitive areas. The level of protection must be equal or better than that provided by the City's environmentally sensitive area policies and regulations.
3. There is either a need for or benefits will clearly derive from providing flexibility in zoning that cannot be provided by other mechanisms.
4. The parcel is at least 80 acres in area and in single or unified ownership, or is subject to a pre-annexation agreement that requires an MPD for the parcel.
5. The development plan requires flexibility to meet the requirements of a MPD.
6. The MPD will provide public benefits, in the form of preservation or enhancement of physical characteristics, conservation of resources, provision of employment, improvement of the City's fiscal performance, provision of adequate facilities, and other public benefits identified by the City.
7. At least 50% of the MPD site is devoted to open space uses, which may include recreational amenities.
8. Adequate mitigation for adverse impacts on the community, neighborhood, and environment is provided.

Low Density Residential Designation

Purpose: The Low Density Residential designation provides primarily for single-family residential neighborhoods on lands suitable for residential development. This designation provides for stable and attractive residential neighborhoods. It should be applied to both existing developed neighborhoods and areas intended for future development. Some of these areas have a MPD overlay designation and are also designated as TDR receiving areas. Urban density development in these areas will only be possible upon the receipt of transferred development rights from other areas.

Allowed Uses and Description: The Low Density Residential designation permits single-family residential uses, their accessory uses and public and semi-public uses. Residential densities may range from a base density of 4 units per net acre to approximately 6 units per gross-net acre. Detached single-family residences should predominate, but these areas may also include duplexes, subject to dispersal

standards, a determination of consistency with design standards and following public review. ~~These areas should also be potentially eligible for additional density through the use of on-site transfer of density (to preserve open space) or through the acquisition of TDRs.~~

Designation Criteria: Properties designated Low Density Residential should generally reflect all of the following criteria:

1. Existing or planned public facilities are adequate to support residential development at this density.
2. The area is free of significant amounts of environmentally sensitive areas, excluding aquifer recharge areas.
3. If the area is undeveloped, it is proximate to a neighborhood of single-family dwellings or is well suited to that use and is not suited to more intense residential development. The area is identified for Low Density Residential development as part of an MPD.

Medium Density Residential Development

Purpose: The Medium Density Residential Development designation provides for stable and attractive residential neighborhoods of small lot, single-family homes, or attached single- and multifamily residences on lands suitable for these residential intensities. Medium Density Residential areas should be located near commercial services, employment, and arterial roads, and may also be located in mixed-use developments. ~~All MDR areas are also subject to a TDR Overlay.~~

Allowed uses and description: The base residential density in these areas should be eight units per ~~gross-net~~ acre. If subject to a TDR overlay, an increased density could be approved up to 12 units per ~~gross-net~~ acre with the acquisition of transferred development rights.

Designation Criteria: Properties designated Medium Density Residential should generally reflect all of the following criteria:

1. Existing or planned public facilities are adequate to support residential development at this density.
2. If the area is undeveloped and not near the identified employment and commercial service areas, the area should be free of significant amounts of environmentally sensitive areas.
3. The area is separated by topography or another appropriate boundary from incompatible uses. Buffering or a density transition may be used to separate this designation from lower density residential designations.

The requirements of Black Diamond's Transportation Management program may apply to transportation facilities designated by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) as "highways of statewide significance." The portions of certain highways of statewide significance that do not have limited access and function like city arterials may be included in the Black Diamond concurrency test.

7.2.3. Level of Service Standards

Based on the City Council's recommendations, this plan identifies a LOS standard of LOS D for intersections along State Route (SR) 169 and LOS C for all other arterials and collectors throughout the City. Setting different LOS standards for specific areas is a common practice that accounts for the function and use of the roadways into the acceptable operating conditions.

The City also recognizes how intersection control (i.e., traffic signals, roundabouts, and stop signs) defines LOS. For two-way and one-way stop-controlled intersections, the LOS is defined by the amount of time vehicles are waiting at the stop sign. Although a substantial volume of traffic can proceed through the intersection without any delays, a small volume at the stop sign can incur delays that would exceed LOS C or LOS D. To avoid mitigation that would only serve a small volume of traffic, the City allows two-way and one-way stop-controlled intersections to operate worse than the LOS standards. However, the City requires that these instances be thoroughly analyzed from the operational and safety perspectives and the City will individually evaluate these situations to determine when mitigation is appropriate.

These LOS standards are higher than other cities in the area. For example, the City of Covington adopted a LOS E standard and Maple Valley generally uses LOS D, except along Maple Valley Highway (SR 169), Kent-Kangley Road, and Witte Road where the LOS standard is lowered to LOS E. The higher LOS standards indicate the City's desire to avoid congestion and the willingness to identify and fund future transportation improvements. If expected funding for improvements to meet future transportation needs is found to be inadequate, then the City may pursue one of the following options:

- Lower the LOS standards to LOS D, E, or F for the system for portions of the system that cannot be improved without significant expenditure.
- Revise the City's current land use plan to reduce density or intensity of development that will "fit" with the planned transportation system; or
- Phase or restrict development to allow more time for the necessary LOS-driven transportation improvements to be completed by the development community and/or responsible agency or jurisdiction(s).

7.2.4. Level of Service Methodology

The City has established specific methods to calculate the LOS for evaluating the performance of the roadway intersections and transit service and facilities. This section describes those methods.

Intersection Level of Service

For signalized and unsignalized intersections, the LOS is calculated using the procedures described in the latest edition of the *Highway Capacity Manual* (2000 edition). At signalized and all-way stop-controlled intersections, the LOS is based on the weighted average delays for all movements, whereas the LOS for two-way stop-controlled intersections is defined by the weighted average delay for the worst movement.

State Highway Level of Service

1998 amendments to the GMA require local jurisdictions to address state-owned transportation facilities, as well as local transportation system needs in their comprehensive plans. House Bill (HB) 1487 requires that the transportation element of local comprehensive plans include the LOS standards for Highways of Statewide Significance (HSS). HB 1487 clarified that the concurrency requirement of the GMA does not apply to HSS or other transportation facilities and services of statewide significance. HB 1487 also requires local jurisdictions to estimate traffic impacts to state-owned facilities resulting from land use assumptions in the Comprehensive Plan.

However, since SR-169, a “highway of statewide significance,” does not have limited access and thus, functions like a city arterial, it may be included in the Black Diamond concurrency test. Such a “highway of statewide significance that does not have limited access and, thus, functions like a city arterial” means those “highways of statewide significance” that:

1. Allow driveways and side streets to connect directly to the highway;
2. Provide primary connections between major centers of activity; and
3. Function as high traffic corridors for inter-area travel between business districts and communities.

The City shall adopt a LOS standard for State highways to the maximum extent of its authority. The LOS shall be based on local mobility requirements, and shall be consistent with other traffic standards within the City.