

## Q28 Response

### The Clark County Comprehensive Plan

Comprehensive plans are long-range policy guides for how a jurisdiction plans to manage growth and development with respect to the natural environment and available resources. Washington state law requires jurisdictions operating under the Growth Management Act to develop and implement comprehensive plans and development regulations consistent with their respective comprehensive plans.

Clark County's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan (Plan) is meant to accommodate and guide population and employment growth for the next 20 years. The most recent 20-year planning horizon is 2015-2035. The next plan will be submitted to the state Department of Commerce in 2025.

The Comprehensive Plan guides zoning that essentially breaks land development into rural and urban areas. Urban development is only allowed in areas designated as inside the Urban Growth Area and several small, historic rural centers. This has the effect of limiting significant, development related stormwater impacts to the urban area, where stormwater facilities and LID practices are deployed for every project. In rural areas, stormwater BMPs are largely LID infiltration and dispersion practices.

The GMA also requires that critical areas be designated and protected. Critical areas include riparian habitat, wetlands, geologic hazard areas, flood plains and critical habitat. Development is controlled and limited in and near these areas, limiting stormwater impacts.

### Clark County Stormwater Management Plan, updated each March.

The Clark County Stormwater Management Plan meets a requirement of the phase I permit. It also provides a comprehensive description of how Clark County intends to meet all of the permit requirements.

### Whipple Creek Watershed-Scale Stormwater Plan Report (2017)

Clark County completed this study of current and future Whipple Creek water quality and hydrology to create a broad plan to provide BMPs to restore hydrology to that capable of supporting salmon and water quality to support all beneficial uses. The study found that it is impossible to restore forested hydrology for areas where LID and stormwater retention for flow control are infeasible. The study also found the same applies to reducing bacteria to acceptable levels.

### Six-Year Stormwater Capital Plan (Updated each year)

Public Works updates the Six-Year Stormwater Capital Plan each year and has it formally approved by the Clark County Board of Councilors. The projects in the plan are selected to address known stormwater problems such untreated highway or arterial runoff and to work toward habitat restoration goals.

### Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan

The Legacy Lands program is guided by the Conservation Areas Acquisition Plan and several other key documents that were developed with local partners and stakeholders. The program targets key conservation properties and areas for conservation and protection. These properties are owned by Clark County and preserved as natural areas and other open spaces.

### Washington Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan

The Plan is the product of a collaborative process facilitated by the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) and involving federal and state agencies, tribes, local governments, and the public. It recognizes that recovery of fish and wildlife is a shared responsibility and can only be achieved through the cooperative and combined efforts of federal, tribal, state, and local interests.

Clark County uses the salmon recovery plan's subbasin plans as a tool to help prioritize areas for stormwater capital projects and stormwater planning.

### Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Transportation Improvement Program – Clark County (2019)

A review of this regional transportation plan revealed that it only addresses the transportation system's environmental impacts on air quality under federal Clean Air Act requirements. A main purpose of the plan is to help implement the comprehensive growth plan.