

7

CAPITAL  
FACILITIES



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# ELEMENT 7. CAPITAL FACILITIES AND SERVICES

## Introduction

Planning ahead for capital investments and needed services is an important aspect of good management, as these facilities usually have long lives and significant costs. By planning in advance, San Juan County can make the best use of limited funding, ensuring resources are allocated efficiently to maximize revenue opportunities. By determining future needs, the County can identify funding and projects needed to achieve the County's 2045 Vision.

The County must plan to provide capital facilities and services needed to support both existing development and new development envisioned in Element 2, Land Use, and the 2045 population projections. To determine the capital infrastructure needed to serve the future land use map, the County conducts an inventory of existing facilities and services, establishes minimum level of service (LOS) to accommodate projected growth, and identifies what is available and what is still needed. The Capital Facilities Element (CFE) and Appendix 7, the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP), identify the capital facilities and public services necessary to support development. The CFE also includes the goals and policies that help the County serve the community and make informed budgetary decisions.

The Capital Facilities Element (CFE) is a mandatory component of the Comprehensive Plan for San Juan County, which fully plans under the Washington Growth Management Act (GMA). The specific requirements for the CFE are outlined in RCW 36.70A.070. Two of the GMA's primary goals- Goal (1) and Goal (12) – directly relate to capital facilities and services:

1. Urban growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.
12. Public facilities and services. Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards.

The Growth Management Act (GMA) defines:

- **Public facilities** to include:  
Streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and recreational facilities, and schools.
- **Public services** to include:  
Fire protection and suppression, law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, environmental protection, and other governmental services.

RCW 36.70A.070 (3) requires a capital facilities plan element that consists of:

- a. An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities;
- b. A forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities;
- c. The proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities;
- d. At least a six-year plan that will finance such capital facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes; and
- e. A requirement to reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent. Park and recreation facilities shall be included in the capital facilities plan element.

Another important tenet of GMA related to planning and capital budget decision is RCW 36.70A.120:

*“Each county and city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall perform its activities and make capital budget decisions in conformity with its comprehensive plan.”*

This Capital Facilities Element (CFE) and Appendix 7, the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP), were prepared in accordance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 365-195-315. They address capital facilities and public services owned or operated by the County, independent taxing districts, or by public or private service organizations that receive consistent funding from the County. The WAC guidelines require solid waste facilities, water and sanitary sewer systems, facilities for storm and reclaimed water, schools, parks,

recreational, police, and fire protection to be addressed. Other facilities and services included in this element are a local choice.

The CFP in Appendix 7 identifies current deficiencies in existing facilities and services that will need to be expanded to serve new growth. It projects future needs, most often based on 2045 population projections (Land Capacity Analysis, Appendix 1).

The Capital Facilities Plan includes:

- An inventory and maps of existing capital facilities;
- An overview of existing and projected conditions;
- Level of service (LOS) measures and standards;
- Analysis of existing and projected 2036 capacity;
- Projected facility needs;
- Proposed locations and capacity of future facilities; and
- A six-year capital improvement plans that identifies projects and funding sources (CIP).

### **Relationship to Other Plan Elements and Functional Plans**

The CFE and CFP, Appendix 7, are based on the growth assumptions provided in the Land Capacity Analysis, Appendix 1. They guide implementation of Element 2, Land Use, and affect where growth can occur. The CFE must address all public facilities except transportation facilities, which are addressed in Element 6, Transportation. The Transportation Element includes goals, policies, and levels of service for transportation. The Transportation Element also includes a discussion of the 6-and 20-year transportation Improvement plans (TIPs) and planning processes. The Recreation, Open Space, and Stewardship Plan (ROSS Plan) (Appendix 11) is the primary parks plan.

The CFE pulls together recommendations for capital facilities from various County functional plans that contain detailed inventories and needs assessments along with plans for conducting operations, maintaining facilities, addressing deficiencies and planning for growth.

A complete list of functional plans is in Attachment 1 of Appendix 7. Examples of functional plans are the SJC Public Works Operations Plan, the SJC Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan, the SJC Facilities Master Plan, the SJC Comprehensive Water Plan, and community sewer and water system plans of service providers.

### **Consistency with the Friday Harbor Comprehensive Plan**

The San Juan County and Town of Friday Harbor Joint Planning Policies (Appendix 2) fulfill a GMA requirement that adjacent jurisdictions coordinate planning and develop comprehensive plans consistent with each other. These policies contain the framework for joint planning of the Friday Harbor Urban Growth Area (FHUGA). The FHUGA Management Agreement provides for implementation of these policies (Appendix 3).

Capital facilities provided by the Town of Friday Harbor and required for development are not included in the CFE per the FHUGA Management Agreement.

## **Types and Categories of Capital Facilities and Services**

### **Urban vs. Rural Capital Facilities and Services**

The GMA restricts urban growth to urban growth areas. It also makes distinctions between urban and rural capital facilities and services. RCW 36.70A.110(4) partially states:

“(4) ... In general, it is not appropriate that urban governmental services be extended to or expanded in rural areas except in those limited circumstances shown to be necessary to protect basic public health and safety and the environment and when such services are financially supportable at rural densities and do not permit urban development.”

Urban government facilities and services are, therefore, not totally prohibited in rural areas. They may only be placed there for compelling reasons. For example, in urban areas there are large scale sewage systems, while most rural area homes have septic systems with drain fields. In certain rural areas, such as rural activity centers and hamlets, the density of dwellings is high enough that a community sewage system is needed to protect public health and the environment.

Table 7-1 compares rural-level services and urban-level services across four categories of infrastructure and utilities: potable water supply, sanitary waste and sewage treatment, stormwater management, and fire suppression services. The table highlights the more localized and limited infrastructure in rural areas compared to the more advanced and centralized systems typically found in urban settings.

**Table 7- 1**  
**Rural and Urban Levels of Service**

Rural-Level Services	Urban-Level Services
<b>Potable Water Supply</b>	
Group B and Group A community water systems <sup>1</sup>	Water usage per capita at urban levels; urban-level piping, pressure; pressurized fire flow
<b>Sanitary Waste and Sewage Treatment, and Wastewater</b>	
Septic tanks; Community septic systems and drainfields	Sewage treatment systems; sanitary and wastewater sewer systems
<b>Stormwater</b>	
Localized measures; Drainage pipes, ditches, holding areas	Area- or system-wide stormwater drainage systems
<b>Fire Suppression Services</b>	
Pond-supplied, and other fire suppression except pressurized, piped flow <sup>12</sup>	Pressurized, piped fire-suppression flow and hydrants <sup>1</sup>
<sup>1</sup> Public water systems in the County are divided into Group A and B water systems. Group A water systems have 15 or more service connections or serve at least twenty-five people sixty or more days San Juan County Comprehensive Plan per year. Group B water systems serve no more than fifteen connections and less than twenty-five people per day. <sup>2</sup> However, if required by the fire marshal or by the fire hydrant code, SJCC 13.08, a residential rural level of service for water supply and fire protection may include a piped system capable of delivering a pressurized fire-flow, and fire hydrants.	

### Essential Public Facilities

Some capital facilities, such as Public Works facilities and sewage treatment plants, are necessary for the wellbeing of the community, but are difficult to site. This is especially true in San Juan County due to a predominantly residential land use pattern. Certain capital facilities are designated as Essential Public Facilities (EPFs) to ensure that they may be provided in the future. Policies for EPFs are included in Appendix 2, as part of the County and Town of Friday Harbor Joint Planning Policies. The County’s EPFs are identified in Element 2, Land Use and defined in San Juan County Code (SJCC) 18.20.050 “E” definitions.

### Level of Service Measures and Standards

One of the principal criteria for identifying needed capital improvements is the establishment of level of service (LOS) standards. These are minimum standards for how many public facilities or services are required to adequately serve the population. The LOS standards measure the capacity of capital facilities and services necessary to support new development and enhance the quality of life.

The County must set LOS standards for certain transportation facilities to meet the GMA’s concurrency requirement. For example, a new development may not be built unless there are adequate transportation facilities to serve it. While transportation is the only Plan

element requiring LOS standards and concurrency, the County adopts LOS standards for other capital facilities and services. These standards are based on the community's values and vision. For most facilities and services, the measurement of LOS is based on the unit capacity of the facility, such as square footage, gallons of water, or acres of parks.

San Juan County provides capital facilities and public services to serve the County's needs. Needs include the cost of operating and maintaining existing facilities, addressing deficiencies, and planning for new growth. The Capital Facilities Plan, Appendix 7, and functional plans identify facilities that need significant repair, remodeling, renovation, or outright replacement. Other facilities may require expansion to increase the quantity of the service they provide, as the County's population grows. When considering development, it is important to know how public facilities and services will be provided, if they will support the population and intensities of development envisioned at adopted levels of service (LOS).

## **Categories of Capital Facilities and Services and Concurrency**

Under the GMA, some capital facilities and services such as transportation needed to serve proposed development must be made concurrently with development. That means that the facilities must be available and adequate to maintain the LOS set in this Plan when the impacts of development occur. Concurrency is achieved through implementation of the concurrency regulations in San Juan County Code during approval or denial of development permits.

Capital facilities and services addressed in this Element are divided into categories, A and B, based on concurrency requirements (see Table 2 below). Category A capital facilities and services must be matched with development. These include solid waste and recycling facilities, community water systems, and community sewage treatment facilities. Each Category A facility or service has an adopted LOS standard.

Concurrency and LOS standards are not required for Category B capital facilities and services. These are facilities and services owned or operated by independent taxing districts, and public or private service organizations. These facilities and services are important to the quality of life as indicated in the 2045 Vision.

**Table 7-2**  
**Categorization of Capital Facilities and Services in San Juan County**

Category	Description	Facilities and Services Included
A	Facilities/services owned or operated by the County or independent taxing districts and public or private service organizations that are necessary to support development. These are required to be available at adopted levels of service concurrent with new development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid Waste and Recycling</li> <li>• Community Water Systems</li> <li>• Community Sewage Treatment Systems</li> </ul>
B	Facilities/services owned or operated by the County or independent taxing districts, and public or private service organizations. These facilities and services support development. Some are subject to LOS benchmark standards. They are not required to be available concurrent with new development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Government Administration</li> <li>• County Public Works</li> <li>• County Sheriff</li> <li>• Stormwater Utility</li> <li>• County Parks and Recreation</li> <li>• Public Schools</li> <li>• Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services</li> <li>• Ports</li> <li>• Health and Social Services (Medical Clinics, Senior Services)</li> <li>• Educational and Recreational Services (Libraries, Museums, Performing Arts, Community College)</li> </ul>

**Level of Service Guidelines**

The County adheres to the following capital facilities and services level of service (LOS) guidelines:

**Category A**

- a. Apply the LOS standards for each type of capital facility or service to development permits issued by the County after the effective date of this Plan.
- b. Consider the LOS standards for each capital facility or service in the County's biennial budget and annual update of the six-year CIP.

- c. Do not apply the LOS standards for Category A public facilities and services provided by entities other than the County during budgeting because they apply to the annual budgets and capital improvement plans of the service providers.
- d. Require that the providers of Category A capital facilities not controlled and operated by the County to:
  - i. Develop and report to the County the methodologies used to determine the capacities of their capital facilities and services and to conduct concurrency tests.
  - ii. Conduct concurrency tests for their facilities and services for development projects that will make demands on their facilities and services.
  - iii. Report to the County at least biennially the existing and planned capacities of their facilities or services available to adequately maintain the LOS levels adopted in this Plan.
- e. Calculate the improvements needed to eliminate existing deficiencies at adopted LOS standards and to serve the projected needs of growth for each capital facility.
- f. Provide non-capital alternatives to achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standard when feasible.

The County should consider circumstances in which LOS standards are not an exclusive determinant of need for an improvement including:

- a. Repair, remodeling, renovation, and replacement of obsolete or worn-out facilities.
- b. Construction or acquisition of capital improvements that provide LOS in excess of the standards adopted in this Plan if the following conditions are met:
  - i. The improvement does not preclude other improvements that are needed to achieve or maintain the LOS standards adopted in this Plan unless the existing LOS standard is lowered accordingly; and
  - ii. The improvement does not contradict, limit, or substantially change the goals and policies of any element of this Plan; and
  - iii. One of the following conditions is met:
    - (a) The excess capacity is an integral part of an improvement needed to achieve or maintain standards for facility capacity (i.e., the minimum capacity of a capital project is larger than the capacity required to provide the LOS); or

- (b) The excess capacity provides economies of scale making it less expensive than acquiring a comparable amount of capacity at a later date; or
- (c) The asset acquired is land that is environmentally sensitive, or necessary for conservation, or recreation; or
- (d) The excess capacity is part of a capital project financed by general obligation bonds approved by referendum; or
- (e) The excess capacity results from an opportunity unique or unlikely to be repeated; or
- (f) The capacity will not be excessive to the point of diminishing rural character.

The County should conclude that there is available capacity in Category A facilities and services to support development if:

- a. The necessary facilities and services are in place when the development permit is issued, or
- b. Development permits are issued subject to a condition that prior to occupancy or use:
  - i. The development necessary facilities and services will be in place, or
  - ii. A binding executed contract or development agreement which provides for the actual construction of the required facilities is approved.

### ***Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities***

The County requires service providers to initiate the following response mechanisms when solid waste and recycling facilities fall below LOS B:

- a. Increase solid waste, recycling, and composting facility capacity by:
  - i. Increasing the number of days that facilities are open per week; or
  - ii. Remodeling/expanding existing facilities; or
  - iii. Renting, leasing, or purchasing additional land for constructing new, or expanding existing; or
  - iv. Conditioning permits for new development to provide for facilities which are lacking.
- b. Decrease demand for solid waste transfer, recycling and composting facilities and services by:
  - i. Evaluating the goals and policies of the Land Use Element and Shoreline Master Program that affect the rate and amount of growth allowed; or
  - ii. Re-evaluating the concurrency policies and revising them if appropriate; or

- iii. Implementing ordinances and targeted educational programs in order to reduce the waste stream; or
- iv. Increasing efforts to educate, provide technical assistance, and involve businesses and the public in local waste reduction, recycling, and composting programs.

### ***Community Sewage Treatment Facilities***

The County requires service providers to initiate the following response mechanisms when community sewage treatment facilities fall below LOS C:

- a. Facility and service providers may increase capacity by:
  - i. Remodeling and/or expanding existing community sewage treatment facilities; or
  - ii. Constructing new community sewage treatment facilities.
  
- b. The County may decrease demand by:
  - i. Evaluating the Land Use Element and Shoreline Master Program rates and amount of growth allowed;
  - ii. Re-evaluating and revising the concurrency policies if appropriate; or
  - iii. Implementing a moratorium on new development within community sewage treatment facility service boundaries until capacity can be expanded.

### ***Community Water Systems***

The County requires service providers to initiate the following response mechanisms when community water systems fall below LOS C:

- a. Increase community water system facility capacity by:
  - i. remodeling/expanding existing facilities; or
  - ii. Repairing leaks in existing facilities; or
  - iii. Developing new water sources; or
  - iv. Implementing conservation measures.
  
- b. The County may decrease demand by:
  - i. Evaluating the Land Use Element and Shoreline Master Program rates and amount of growth allowed; or
  - ii. Re-evaluating and revising concurrency policies if appropriate; or
  - iii. Implementing a moratorium on new development in affected service areas.

### **Category B**

- a. Maintain facility capacities at or above minimum standards.
- b. Ensure plans are in place to serve future development.
- c. Explore impact fees for development to ensure that Category B facilities are provided in a timely manner.

### **Existing and Future Development**

The costs of needed capital facility improvements should be borne by existing and future development. For the purposes of this Plan, “existing development” means development that has occurred or that is vested prior to regulations implementing this Plan. “Future development” means development that has not occurred and was not vested under development regulations adopted to implement this Plan.

## **Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs)**

Six-year capital improvement plans (CIPs) identify capital facilities and services required to support existing and new development. This is reviewed and adopted during the County’s budget process. The Capital Committee meets from April through December to help the auditor set the CIP. Individual CIPs for various departments are rolled into a single County CIP. The financing plans of independent service providers are not included in the CIP because the County has no responsibility for their budgets or financial plans.

The six-year CIPs are designed to be financially feasible. They identify revenue sources equaling or exceeding anticipated costs. Each type of capital facility and service on the list is examined during the budget process.

The costs of all facilities are added together to determine the overall financial feasibility. If the analysis determines that an improvement or the CIP is not financially feasible, the County may consider many options including non-capital solutions such as:

1. Reducing the LOS, which will reduce the cost (amend the CFE);
2. Increasing revenues; (e.g., higher rates, new sources of revenue, or a combination of both);
3. Reducing the cost of the needed facilities (e.g., alternative technology, ownership, or financing);
4. Reducing the demand by reducing consumption (e.g., water conservation, reducing, recycling, and reusing solid waste);
5. Reducing the demand by restricting development (e.g., amend Element 2, Land Use);

6. Reducing or eliminating the need (e.g., provide public education, volunteer training and recruitment, contract with private service providers, etc.);
7. Providing a non-capital substitute (e.g., availability of state, federal, or other parks facilities);
8. Implementing alternative methods to provide capacity (e.g., long-hauling solid waste instead of constructing new landfills, allowing telecommuting instead of expanding work space);
9. Implementing efficiency programs (e.g., flextime or night shifts as an alternative to adding new space for staff); and
10. Reexamining the need for the underlying governmental service.

This approach can bring development into balance with available and affordable capital facilities and services. The goals and policies in this CFE establish response mechanisms to be taken for specific Category A and B facilities if expected funding falls short.

## **Civic Campus Plan**

The Civic Campus concept envisions consolidating departments currently spread across multiple buildings in Friday Harbor into a single facility. This plan is intended to enhance efficiency and communication between departments, provide better public service, and reduce maintenance and operating costs from not having to heat and continually repair old structures.

# GOALS AND POLICIES

## General Goals and Policies

The following goals and policies address capital facilities and public services, levels of service, concurrency management, and financing.

### General Goals and Policies

#### Goal CF 1

Provide for the capital facility needs of land development authorized in Element 2, Land Use, and the existing and projected population discussed in the Land Capacity Analysis, Appendix 1.

#### Policy CF 1.1

Consider the geographical location and capacity of existing capital facilities and services in the designation of future land uses and land use district boundaries, and analyze potential effects on resource lands, special districts, and critical areas.

#### Policy CF 1.2

Restrict the provision of urban-level facilities and services in rural areas consistent with the Growth Management Act (GMA).

#### Policy CF 1.3

Establish and maintain level of service standards (LOS) for capital facilities and services, and implement concurrency management regulations.

#### Policy CF 1.4

Consider the needs of individual islands when planning for capital facilities and services, except for those facilities serving residents countywide.

#### Policy CF 1.5

Provide capital improvements to correct existing deficiencies, replace worn out or obsolete facilities, and accommodate future growth as indicated in six-year capital improvement plans (CIPs).

**Goal CF 2**

Make capital budget decisions consistent with this Plan.

**Policy CF 2.1**

Demonstrate the need for capital facilities and the revenues to pay for them.

**Policy CF 2.2**

Estimate the eventual operation and maintenance costs of new Category A and B capital facilities provided by the County that will impact the County's biennial budget.

**Policy CF 2.3**

Base the provision of capital improvements and facilities on both demand for facilities and the financial capacity of the County and other purveyors to pay for those improvements and facilities.

**Policy CF 2.4**

Explore potential revenue sources (i.e., grants, impact fees, real estate excise taxes) and non-capital alternatives to improve facility capacity and service.

**Goal CF 3**

Coordinate and provide consistency among CIPs, including those addressed in other elements of this Plan; County subarea plans; other studies; and the plans for capital facilities of state and regional significance, the Town, and independent service districts.

**Policy CF 3.1**

Encourage community sewer and water purveyors, school and fire districts and other independent service providers providing public facilities or services to identify their facility and service needs and the means to fund them within the context of this Element.'

**Policy CF 3.2**

Explore the costs and benefits of public/private partnerships.

**Policy CF 3.3**

Require providers to maximize the use of existing facilities and promote orderly growth.

## Level of Service Goals and Policies

### Goal CF 4

Ensure that capital facilities and services necessary to support development are adequate to serve the development at the time it is available for occupancy and use.

#### Policy CF 4.1

Follow the capital facilities and services level of service (LOS) guidelines outlined in this element.

*Category A Level of Service guidelines can be found in this element on page 6 and 7.*

## Concurrency Management

### Goal CF 5

Provide adequate capital facilities to meet the needs of future population growth and associated development and redevelopment by maintaining, repairing, or replacing obsolete or worn-out facilities, and eliminating existing deficiencies.

#### Policy CF 5.1

Provide needed improvements by maintaining financially feasible six-year CIPs.

#### Policy CF 5.2

Provide the capital improvements listed in the six-year CIPs. Update the schedule of capital improvements annually in conjunction with the budget process.

#### Policy CF 5.3

Include all of the capital improvement projects listed in the CIP for expenditure during the appropriate fiscal year in the biennial budget appropriations except any improvements for which a binding agreement has been executed with another party to provide the project in the same fiscal year.

#### Policy CF 5.4

Conclude that the concurrency requirement for Category A facilities is met if they have sufficient capacity to meet the adopted LOS standard.

#### Policy CF 5.5

Require that the construction or expansion of a structure or use, or a change in use of land or structures development meet applicable concurrency tests.

**Policy CF 5.6**

Ensure there is sufficient capacity in Category A facilities and services to support proposed development, following the criteria outlined in this element, prior to issuing development permits.

*Category A capacity criteria can be found in this element on page 7 and 8.*

**Policy CF 5.7**

Do not issue development permits unless sufficient capacity is provided.

## **Capital Facility Financing Goals and Policies**

**Goal CF 6**

Provide needed capital facilities that are within the County's ability to fund, or within the County's authority to require other providers to fund.

**Policy CF 6.1**

Use conservative revenue estimates when evaluating needed improvements.

**Policy CF 6.2**

Derive the costs of needed improvements from both existing and future development.

**Policy CF 6.3**

Fund improvements for existing development that reduce or eliminate existing deficiencies, and address some or all of the replacement of obsolete or worn-out capital facilities.

**Policy CF 6.4**

Fund a fair share of the costs of improvements needed for future development by addressing the impact of the new development and a portion of the outright replacement cost needed for obsolete or worn-out facilities to accommodate the future development. Do not include any of the costs to eliminate existing deficiencies.

**Policy CF 6.5**

Consider "future" development "existing" development upon completion of construction, and allow providers to contribute the costs of the replacement of obsolete or worn-out facilities.

**Policy CF 6.6**

Pay for the costs of capital improvements for existing and future development to maintain LOS standards using user fees, taxes, grants, entitlements, or budgets of public or private parties.

**Policy CF 6.7**

Ensure that the County and service providers are able to pay for their annual operating and maintenance costs.

**Policy CF 6.8**

Revise the Plan to adjust for the lack of revenues if revenues that support the provision of adequate facilities and services are unavailable by any combination of the following:

- a. Reducing the LOS for one or more capital facilities;
- b. Increasing the use of other sources of revenue; or
- c. Decreasing the demand for and subsequent use of the capital facilities.

## Goals and Policies for Category A Capital Facilities

The following goals and policies address level of service standards (LOS) and concurrency for specific Category A facilities. The LOS standards should be used for planning the future facility and service needs of the County.

### Solid Waste and Recycling Services

**Goal CF 7**

Manage solid waste cost effectively while minimizing environmental impacts and creating sustainable practices.

**Policy CF 7.1**

Measure solid waste and recycling facility capacity on a countywide basis and for each facility.

**Policy CF 7.2**

Take into account both public and private facilities when evaluating LOS, and for San Juan Island facilities, consider the needs of Friday Harbor in measurements.

**Policy CF 7.3**

Establish LOS F as adequate for available transfer facility capacity on San Juan, Orcas, and Lopez Islands.

**Policy CF 7.4**

Require service providers to initiate the response mechanisms outlined in this element when solid waste and recycling facilities fall below LOS B.

*Solid waste and recycling facility response mechanisms are outlined on page 8.*

**Policy CF 7.5**

Have providers annually evaluate demand and capacity of transfer stations and other components of solid waste management both on a county-wide basis and individually for each facility.

**Policy CF 7.6**

Encourage service providers to manage the solid waste stream cost-effectively, consistent with progressive waste reduction and recycling programs designed for sustainability.

**Policy CF 7.7**

Encourage service providers to comply with or exceed the minimum functional standards for solid waste management and disposal in the San Juan County Solid Waste and Moderate-Risk Waste Management Plan and to meet or exceed operating permit requirements.

**Policy CF 7.8**

Encourage service providers to offer commercial composting and other biomass value-added processing methods which can recycle nutrients for use in local agricultural production.

## Community Water Systems

**Goal CF 8**

Ensure that designated Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) and Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development (LAMIRDs) are served by community water supply systems and that those providers have plans in place for future development.

**Policy CF 8.1**

Establish LOS F as adequate for the community water systems.



**Policy CF 8.2**

Require service providers to initiate the response mechanisms outlined in this element when community water systems fall below LOS C.

*Community water system response mechanisms are outlined on page 8 and 9.*

**Policy CF 8.3**

Require new development within UGAs, LAMIRDs, or MPRs to be served by approved community water systems.

**Policy CF 8.4**

Require water system plans in accordance with WAC 246-290-100 for community water systems that serve UGAs, LAMIRDs, or MPRs.

*Water systems plans include an inventory and analysis of existing facilities, a schedule of needed improvements, and a financial and operations plan addressing the system's ability to serve existing and potential land use development and population growth.*

**Policy CF 8.5**

Encourage providers to account for their available capacity by reporting the following to the County:

- a. Existing available capacity of the concurrency facility, plus the planned capacity, reduced by the capacity that is already used or that is reserved or committed for use in the future, and
- b. The available capacity, minus the capacity that potentially would be used by approved new development projects, in order to reflect the potential additional demand that will be made by the developments when they apply for memberships and/or meet the conditions of service prior to occupancy or use.

**Policy CF 8.6**

Require service providers to develop and submit plans to the County addressing how additional distribution capacity will be provided, when water distribution facilities reach 85 percent system capacity. If there are no plans to expand or provide additional service, then additional development will not be permitted for that service area when the system reaches capacity.

**Policy CF 8.7**

Obtain maps and facility inventories, with text designating the approximate location of existing facilities and the general location of proposed new facilities, from utility service providers and integrate them into the County's Geographic Information System (GIS).

### **Policy CF 8.8**

Provide utility service providers with the six-year capital improvement financing plan to aid in their ability to coordinate necessary system improvements.

## **Community Sewage Treatment Facilities**

### **Goal CF 9**

Ensure that designated Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) and Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development (LAMIRDs) are served by community sewage treatment facilities and that providers have plans in place for serving future development.

### **Policy CF 9.1**

Establish LOS F as adequate for community sewage treatment facilities.

### **Policy CF 9.2**

Require land development within UGAs and LAMIRDs expected to have an impact equal to, or greater than a single-family residence, to be served by community sewage treatment facilities.

### **Policy CF 9.3**

Policy Require service providers to develop CIPs that:

- a. Delineate service area boundaries;
- b. Inventory existing and approved development within service area boundaries;
- c. Inventory potential development within service area boundaries under the Plan;
- d. Establish the available community sewage treatment facility service capacity;
- e. Adopt LOS standards and response mechanisms;
- f. Contain a schedule of capital improvements necessary to maintain the facility at the adopted LOS, including project, timing, cost, and funding source.

### **Policy CF 9.4**

Require facility and service providers to report their facility capacities to the County. Providers who require a membership or other commitment as a condition of service shall account for their available capacity.



### **Policy CF 9.5**

Work cooperatively with independent sewer districts to:

- a. Develop fair and consistent policies and incentives to phase out private sewer/septic systems in areas served by community sewage treatment facilities.
- b. Create and implement a plan to identify septic systems vulnerable to sea level rise and increased flooding and mitigate potential harm to freshwater and marine receiving waters.

### **Policy CF 9.6**

Require service providers to develop and submit plans to the County addressing how additional distribution capacity will be provided, when community sewage treatment facilities reach 85 percent system capacity. If there are no plans to expand or provide additional service, then additional development will not be permitted for that service area when the system reaches capacity.

### **Policy CF 9.7**

Require service providers to initiate the response mechanisms outlined in this element when community sewage treatment facilities fall below LOS C.

*Community sewage treatment facility response mechanisms are outlined on page.*

# Category B Capital Facilities and Services

## County Government Services

### *General Administration*

#### **Goal CF 10**

Provide adequate building space to facilitate the provision of efficient and effective government administration and services.

#### **Policy CF 10.1**

Evaluate administrative buildings on a county-wide basis.

#### **Policy CF 10.2**

Encourage the provision of adequate building space to provide efficient and effective government administration and services.

### *Infrastructure and Fleet Equipment*

#### **Goal CF 11**

Operate and maintain infrastructure and fleet equipment that have reduced environmental impact and that are resilient to climate change.

#### **Policy CF 11.1**

Transition to electric vehicles for new County fleet purchases and electric motors when feasible.

#### **Policy CF 11.2**

When purchasing new equipment, consider the best balance between carbon footprint and effectiveness.

#### **Policy CF 11.3**

Provide vehicular recharge stations at key destinations throughout the County.

#### **Policy CF 11.4**

Institute a policy of managed retreat for public infrastructure away from climate impacted locations as they fail or require upgrade, to improve the long-term resiliency of investments.



## ***Country Sheriff***

### **Goal 12**

Provide adequate building space to facilitate efficient and timely provision of public safety, law enforcement, and emergency services.

#### **Policy CF 12.1**

Evaluate County Sheriff facilities separately on San Juan, Orcas, and Lopez islands.

#### **Policy CF 12.2**

Encourage the provision of adequate building space to provide efficient and timely public safety, law enforcement, and emergency services.

## ***Public Works***

### **Goal CF 13**

Provide adequate building and yard space to facilitate Public Works administration, maintenance functions, and efficient provision of Public Works services.

#### **Policy CF 13.1**

Evaluate County Public Works facilities separately on San Juan, Orcas, Lopez, Shaw, Waldron, and Decatur islands.

## ***County Parks and Recreation***

### **Goal CF 14**

Provide residents with a range of recreational opportunities consistent with island character.

#### **Policy CF 14.1**

Review and revise the Recreation, Open Space, and Stewardship Plan every six years evaluating recreational facilities in terms of the County's ability to respond to the recreational needs of each island.

#### **Policy CF 14.2**

Acquire and develop property needed to meet current and anticipated recreational needs.

#### **Policy CF 14.3**

Consider the plans and programs of local, state, and federal jurisdictions and agencies when formulating recreational plans and programs and cooperate with them to improve recreational opportunities.

## Public Schools

### Goal CF 15

Ensure that school-age residents have adequate public-school facilities and healthy learning environments.

### Policy CF 15.1

Be responsive to the facility needs of school districts.

### Policy CF 15.2

If impact fees are to be collected, require school districts to develop a cost analysis for providing public education in their district and develop a program with the County to establish the fee.

### Policy CF 15.3

If impact fees are to be collected, require residential land development to contribute to the provision of public-school facilities.

# Goals and Policies for Other Capital Facilities and Services

Many facilities and services important to County residents and the quality of life are owned or operated by independent taxing districts, and public or private service organizations. Under the GMA, they are not subject to LOS or concurrency standards. However, the County establishes the following goals and policies for these facilities for future planning purposes.

## Medical Clinics

### Goal CF 16

Foster accessible and affordable health care to County residents.

### Policy CF 16.1

Be responsive to the facility needs of medical clinics.

## Senior Centers

### Goal CF 17

Support the provision of senior services to County senior citizens.

### Policy CF 17.1

Be responsive to the facility needs of senior service centers.

## Public Libraries

### Goal CF 18

Foster the availability of public library services to County residents.

### Policy CF 18.1

Be responsive to the facility needs of independent library districts.

## Museums

### Goal CF 19

Support the display of exhibits at non-profit public museums that highlight the County's rural and maritime heritage, natural environment, and marine life.

### Policy CF 19.1

Contribute a portion of funds generated from hotel/motel lodging taxes to historical museums and ensure that high levels of service to the community are maintained.

### Policy CF 19.2

Support museums that highlight the cultural life and heritage, natural environment, and marine life of the County.

## Performing Arts Center

### Goal CF 20

Support the provision of performing arts to County residents.

### Policy CF 20.1

Contribute a portion of funds generated from hotel/motel lodging taxes to performing arts theater facilities, continue partial ownership in them, and ensure that high levels of service to the community are maintained.

## Community College and Continuing Education

### Goal CF 21

Foster continuing education opportunities for County residents.

### Policy CF 21.1

Encourage educational institutions to develop and expand educational opportunities to County residents of all ages.

## State, Federal, and Other Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

### Goal CF 22

Support the development of state, federal and other park and recreational opportunities that maintain rural character and supplement San Juan County parks.

**Policy CF 22.1**

Encourage and work with other agencies to coordinate recreational planning efforts.

## **Fire and Emergency Medical Services**

**Goal CF 23**

Protect the safety of citizens and visitors by promoting the maximum efficiency and timely provision of fire and emergency medical services.

**Policy CF 23.1**

Be responsive to the needs of fire and emergency medical service providers.

**Policy CF 23.2**

Support Fire and Emergency Medical Service districts by advising new home builders that increases in response time during an emergency may result from:

- a. Siting homes on steep hills;
- b. Creating private roads without sufficient turning radii for firefighting equipment;  
and
- c. Not clearing brush or maintaining private roads.