

# THURSTON



# 2045

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

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# Today's Work Session

- ▶ Scope of Work
- ▶ Next Steps
  - ▶ Ask of Planning Commission: Which optional updates are highest priority to include with periodic Comprehensive Plan Update?

# Thurston 2045: the County's Periodic Update

- ▶ Required to periodically (ten-year cycle) update the comprehensive plan and development regulations
- ▶ Plans for the next 20 years to 2045
- ▶ Ensures consistency with the Washington State Growth Management Act
- ▶ Not a full repeal and replace, or a full re-visioning
- ▶ Next periodic update due June 30, 2025

# Background

## ► Thurston County Comprehensive Plan Chapters:

1. Introduction
2. Land Use
3. Natural Resource Lands
4. Housing
5. Transportation
6. Capital Facilities
7. Utilities
8. Economic Development
9. Environment, Recreation & Open Space
10. Archeological and Historic Resources
11. Health
12. Amendments
13. Glossary



## Scope of Work – Required and Optional Updates

# How was the Scope of Work drafted?



WA Dept. of Commerce Critical Areas and Planning Checklists



Priorities of the community as identified through public survey



Anticipated future changes to state law



Changing local trends within Thurston County

# Written Public Comment

- ▶ 84 public comments received to date
- ▶ Most comments are on specific changes to plan
- ▶ Major Themes:
  - ▶ Include Planning Commission in decision-making process for scope of work
  - ▶ Support a robust community engagement effort and outreach to underrepresented groups
  - ▶ Include language on climate mitigation and resiliency into plan
  - ▶ Improve goals around farmland preservation
  - ▶ Update plan to meet housing needs
  - ▶ Add in environmental justice priority
  - ▶ Address racial disparities
  - ▶ Include measurable metrics
  - ▶ Consider updates to County-Wide Planning Policies

# Thurston 2045 Survey Report

## ► Top priorities of the community identified in survey:



Protect sensitive areas like wildlife habitat, flood areas, landslide areas, and surface and ground water (57%).



Prepare for climate change and take actions towards reducing impacts (47%).



Protect agriculture (36%).



Increase availability of affordable housing (33%).



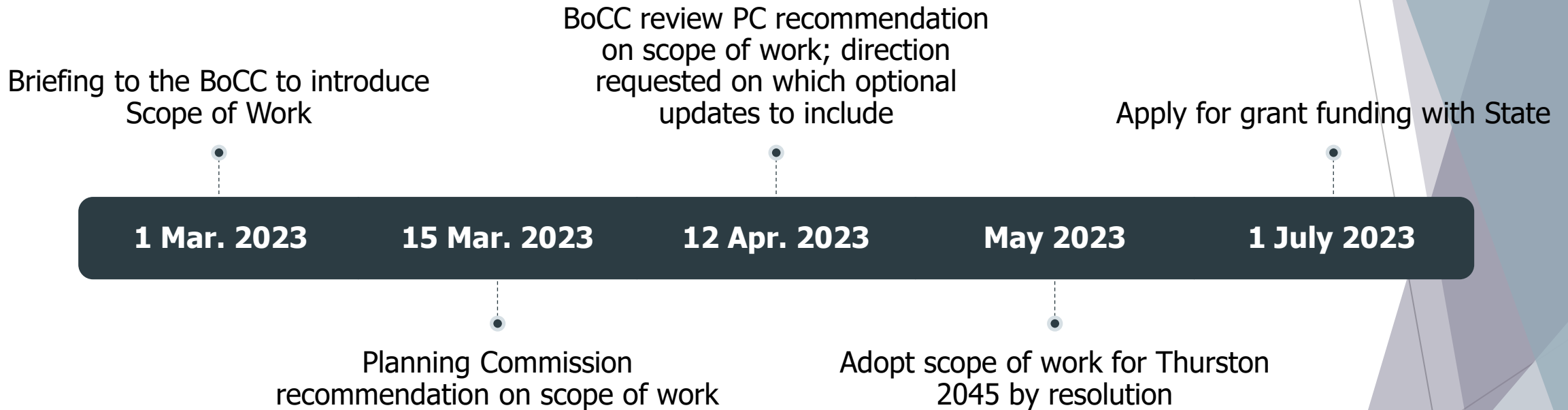
# Required Updates

- ▶ Updates needed to meet changes in state law
- ▶ Updates needed to bring Plan up to date with new planning documents
  - ▶ Land Use Element
  - ▶ Natural Resources Element
  - ▶ Housing Element
  - ▶ Capital Facilities Element
  - ▶ Utilities Element
  - ▶ Rural Element
  - ▶ Transportation Element
  - ▶ Parks and Recreation Element
  - ▶ Land Use and Zoning Corrections
  - ▶ Joint Plan Updates (Tenino and Rainier)
  - ▶ Development Regulations to meet changes in state law

# Optional Updates

- ▶ Updates that are not required to meet changes in state law, but may add value
- ▶ Based on community priorities, anticipated changes in state law, and local trends
  - ▶ Implementation Plan
  - ▶ Future Land Use Update
  - ▶ Incorporate Countywide Industrial Lands Study Findings
  - ▶ Climate Change Element
  - ▶ Economic Element
  - ▶ Health Element

# Short-Term Timeline



# Project Timeline



# Recommendation Requested

- ▶ On Scope of Work for Thurston 2045
  - ▶ Rank 1-6, or which optional updates are highest/lowest priority to complete with this periodic update?
- ▶ Implementation Plan
- ▶ Future Land Use Update
- ▶ Incorporate Countywide Industrial Lands Study Findings
- ▶ Climate Change Element
- ▶ Economic Element
- ▶ Health Element