

3.17 Libraries and Schools

3.17.1 Schools

Sumner School District

Sumner School District provides educational services to the cities of Sumner and Bonney Lake and portions of Edgewood, Pacific, and unincorporated Pierce County. The school district boundaries are shown in Figure 3.17-1.

Existing Facilities

The Sumner School District includes eight elementary schools, three middle schools, and two high schools. The following schools serve the current plan area:

- Sumner High School
- Sumner Middle School
- Lakeridge Middle School
- Crestwood Elementary School
- Daffodil Valley Elementary School
- Maple Lawn Elementary School
- McAlder Elementary School

School sites vary in size depending on available land. In general, elementary school sites are planned to be about 15 acres. Junior and senior high school sites are planned to be about 30 and 40 acres, respectively. There are currently a total of 55 portable classrooms in use in the Sumner School District. An inventory of existing school facilities in the current plan area is shown in Table 3.17-1.

Table 3.17-1. Inventory of Existing Sumner School Facilities—Sumner School District

Site	Site Size (Acres)	Facility Size (Square Feet)	Capacity (Students)	Planned Capacity ⁴	Number of Portables
Elementary ¹			3,755	500	
Crestwood	27.0	48,401	500		0
Daffodil Valley	12.7	48,035	500		0
Maple Lawn	8.5	43,371	430		2
McAlder	7.9	36,144	400		7
Junior High ²			1,975	650	
Lakeridge	40.0	75,737	575	100	9
Sumner	23.0	94,702	750		5
Senior High ³			2,400	200	
Sumner	26.8	183,350	1,200		1

Source: Sumner School District 2009.

¹ Data for all elementary schools in the Sumner School District including those outside the current plan area.

² Data for all middle schools in the Sumner School District including those outside the current plan area.

³ Data for all high schools in Sumner School District including those outside the current plan area.

⁴ Blanks indicate capacity improvements are not planned at this time.

School Enrollment

The Sumner School District serves more than 8,000 students (Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009) throughout the community. Class sizes in the district average approximately 25 students per classroom for regular education classes. Special education classes average 12 students per classroom while multi-handicapped classes average eight students per classroom. School enrollment for schools within the current plan area is shown in Table 3.17-2.

Table 3.17-2. Sumner School District—Sumner Schools (2009–2010 Enrollment)

School Building	Capacity	Enrollment	Percent Over Capacity
Sumner High	1,200	1,348	12
Sumner Middle	750	696	-7
Crestwood Elementary	500	367	-27
Daffodil Valley Elementary	500	471	-6
Maple Lawn Elementary	430	442	3
McAlder Elementary	400	450	12
Total	3,780	3,774	0

Source: Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009.

Enrollment Projections

Sumner School District enrollment projections are shown in Table 3.17-3. The school district anticipates an approximate 2% decrease in student population between existing conditions and the 2015–2016 school years.

Table 3.17-3. Sumner School District—Enrollment Projections

Enrollment Projections	2009–2010	2010–2011	2011–2012	2012–2013	2013–2014	2014–2015	2015–2016
Total Students ¹	8,071	8,036	8,048	7,975	7,929	7,909	7,879

Source: Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009.

¹ Note: Total for all schools and students in the Sumner School District.

In addition, Sumner School District maintains student generation numbers to determine the number of students that can reasonably be expected from new residential construction. These ratios are depicted in Table 3.17-4.

Table 3.17-4. Average Student Factor—Sumner School District

Grade	Single Family	Multifamily
K – 6	.263	0.048
7 – 9	.084	0
10 – 12	.072	0

Source: Sumner School District 2009

Class Size Standards

Sumner School District maintains class size standards, as part of an agreement with the teachers' union. There are class size goals and class size caps for the elementary school grades. Class size goals are shown in Table 3.17-5.

Table 3.17-5. Sumner School District Class Size Standards

Grade	Class Size Goal	Class Size Cap¹
K	20	24
1	22	26
2	22	26
3	24	28
4	24	28
5	26	30
6	30	34
7	30	34
8	30	34
9	30	32–34
10	30	32–34
11	30	32–34
12	30	32–34

Source: Sumner School District and Sumner Education Association 2008.

Impact Fees

The Sumner School District Board of Directors, in association with local jurisdictions, establishes impact fees for new residential construction. Impact fees are a means of collecting funds to meet the

“un-housed student need” and provide funds to accommodate growth and demand for school facilities. These impact fees ensure that new development pays for a fair share proportional amount of the costs incurred by the school district for expanding facilities and new construction. The impact fee charged is based on the costs for providing the additional space and the projected number of students in each new residential unit. The current impact fee is \$1,298 for a single-family residence. There is no fee associated with multifamily housing units (Sumner School District 2009).

Planned Improvements

The *Sumner School District Capital Facilities Plan* identifies site acquisition costs for Elementary School #10, Middle School #4, and High School #3, and construction costs for Middle School #4 and Bonney Lake High School square-foot increases (Sumner School District 2009). In addition to these measures, the school district uses portable classrooms to address capacity issues and future growth demands.

Dieringer School District

The Dieringer School District #343 is located in unincorporated Pierce County, bounded on the east and west by the White (Stuck) River, on the north by the City of Auburn, and on the south by the cities of Bonney Lake and Sumner. The district surrounds the northern two-thirds of Lake Tapps and covers approximately 5.5 square miles. The Dieringer School District provides grades kindergarten through 8 at three schools: Lake Tapps Elementary School, Dieringer Heights Elementary School and North Tapps Middle School. The School District serves the northern portion of the city limits and the northeastern urban growth area (UGA), including the East Hill reduction area.

Existing Facilities

Lake Tapps Elementary School is the school in closest proximity to the current plan area. Table 3.17-6 provides a breakdown of capacity at each of the district’s schools.

Table 3.17-6. Dieringer School District No. 343-Capacity

Name of School	Capacity (Number of Students)	Level of Service Standard (Square Feet per Student)	Location
Lake Tapps Elementary	396	120	1320 178th Ave E, Sumner
Dieringer Heights Elementary	547	120	21727 34th St E, Sumner
North Tapps Middle School	405	189	20029 12th St E, Sumner

Source: Dieringer School District 2009

In the school district, rooms designated and assigned for special use are not counted as capacity classrooms. At the elementary level, students are also provided music instruction, physical education, and art instruction, and computer labs are in separate, non-capacity classrooms. Special education and remedial programs are provided as pullout programs.

The Dieringer School District maintains a level of service standard for the amount of square feet per student in its schools. For the two elementary schools, the District’s standard is 120 square feet per student. At the North Tapps Middle School, the standard is 189 square feet per student.

School Enrollment

The current student enrollment is approximately 1,386 students in grades kindergarten through eight (Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009). Lake Tapps Elementary School houses grades one through three; Dieringer Heights Elementary School houses kindergarten and grades four and five; and North Tapps Middle School houses grades six through eight. The district also supports an additional 522 high school students who may choose to attend any public high school. The majority of these students attend Auburn Riverside or Sumner High School (Dieringer School District 2009).

Enrollment Projections

According to the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's Determination of Projected Enrollments (2009b), district-wide enrollment in the Dieringer School District will reach 1,936 by the 2015–2016 school year (Table 3.17-7).

Table 3.17-7. Enrollment Projections—Dieringer School District

	2009– 2010	2010– 2011	2011– 2012	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016
Total Students ¹	1,386	1,479	1,552	1,652	1,747	1,828	1,936

Source: Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009.

¹ Total students district-wide.

Table 3.17-8 depicts the estimate of the number of students generated per housing unit, as identified in the *Dieringer School District Capital Facilities Plan*.

Table 3.17-8. Average Student Factor—Dieringer School District

Grade	Single Family	Multifamily
K-8	0.48	0.1149

Source: Dieringer School District 2009.

Using the above student generation numbers, the Dieringer School District estimates that enrollment in its schools will increase by approximately 526 students in the 2010-2015 time period (Dieringer School District 2009).

Class Size Standards

The targeted number of students per classroom is shown in Table 3.17-8.

Table 3.17-9. Class Size Standards—Dieringer School District

Grade	Class Size Standard
K-3	22
4-5	25
6-8	27

Source: Dieringer School District 2009.

Planned Improvements

Dieringer School District has planned improvements for its three schools, which will result in an additional capacity of 562 students district-wide. The planned improvements include:

- Construction of a new elementary school (Elementary School No. 3) estimated to be complete by 2015, is expected to add capacity for 400 students.
- Additions to the North Tapps Middle School including science rooms, an auxiliary gym, and fitness classroom addition. These improvements, scheduled for completion by end of 2010, are anticipated to accommodate approximately 162 additional students.

Impact Fees

The Dieringer School District receives funding through tax levies, assessed on annual property taxes. The District also has impact fees for new residential development. The current impact fee is \$3,005 for a single-family residence, which is the index for school impact fees established by Pierce County. There is a \$205 impact fee associated with multifamily housing (Pierce County Code, 4A.30.030).

3.17.2 Library

Pierce County Library System Overview

The Pierce County Library System (PCLS) provides library services in the current plan area. It serves a population of 554,035 persons in unincorporated Pierce County and the cities and towns of Bonney Lake, Buckley, Dupont, Eatonville, Edgewood, Gig Harbor, Lakewood, Milton, Orting, South Prairie, Steilacoom, Sumner, University Place, and Wilkeson. The total service area is approximately 1,773 square miles. The system includes 17 branch libraries. Existing branch library facility data is shown in Table 3.17-9.

Table 3.17-10. Pierce County Library System Facilities

Branch	Floor Space (Square Feet)
Bonney Lake	6,480
Buckley	4,100
DuPont	3,610
Eatonville	4,000
Gig Harbor/Peninsula	15,214
Graham	7,152
Key Center	4,066
Lakewood	32,592
Milton-Edgewood	3,300
Orting	2,700
Processing and Administrative Center	50,000
Parkland/Spanaway	15,576
South Hill	20,100
Steilacoom	4,039
Summit	7,424
Sumner	10,600
Tillicum	2,100
University Place	7,000

Source: Pierce County Library System 2010.

The PCLS includes a hierarchy of branch sizes and types including:

- **Community branch libraries.** The smallest and often most convenient service point. These branches concentrate on providing current popular materials collection to a community. The size of the collection and services provided varies based on the size of the community served.
- **Regional branch libraries.** Regional serving libraries in major urban population centers. These branches provide local and regional service and tend to have more substantial collection of library materials and reference services.
- **System service branches.** Includes two large branches providing the largest and most diverse collection of library materials, including a reference center designed to serve half of the County. System Libraries include the Lakewood and South Hill libraries.

Other system facilities include three bookmobiles (two family bookmobiles and one Explorer Kids' Bookmobile, which serves children in low-income neighborhoods). PCLS employs a total of 348 staff members.

PCLS has a collection size of more than 1.3 million items for loan including books, videotapes, DVDs, compact discs, cassettes, talking books, and periodicals. In 2008, the library system circulated 7,865,324 items and an average of 14 items per capita each year. Table 3.17-10 provides an overview of PCLS statistics.

Table 3.17-11. Pierce County Library System Statistics

Service Area Population	554,035
Service Area Size	1,773 square feet
Library Materials	1,302,764 items
Circulation	7,865,324
Library Visits	2,646,693
Open Hours/Week	918
Adult Care Facilities, Child Care Centers and Homebound People Served	266
Children Attending Events	91,967
Adults Attending Events	11,592
Bookmobile Stops	46
Volunteer Hours/Year	6,175
Staff	348
Source: Pierce County Library System 2010.	

Sumner Regional Branch Library

The Sumner Library is a regional branch library, located at 1116 Fryar Avenue. The library is open 7 days and 63 hours per week: Monday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5p.m.

The Sumner Library is a 10,600 square foot facility. The building was constructed in 1979 and expanded in 1995. The land on which the library is located is owned by the City of Sumner and leased to the Library. The City and the PCLS each own a one-half interest in the building.

The library has an approximate collection of 80,041 items. The facility has 36 seats, 22 computers, and 61 meeting room seats. There are 4 group study seats in 2 group study rooms. The Sumner Library has 59 shared parking spaces (Pierce County Library System 2010a).

Level of Service

The existing level of service (LOS) standard provided by the Sumner Library facility to the current plan area is 1.02 square feet per capita (based on 2008 base years population for current plan area).

PCLS's long-term capital facilities plan, *Pierce County Library 2030*, recommends an LOS standard of 0.61 to 0.71 square foot per capita. PCLS's existing LOS standard (0.45 square foot per capita) is lower than the recommended standard and the standard in *City of Sumner Comprehensive Plan* policies (0.60 square foot per capita). Under PCLS's existing LOS standard, the Sumner Regional Library facility (10,600 square feet) can serve up to 23,556 people. Under PCLS's proposed LOS standard, the library can serve between 14,930 and 17,377 people.

Planned Improvements

Pierce County Library 2030 describes updates to LOS standards, industry best practices for library facilities and services, and proposes improvements to PCLS. It proposes adding one new library in Frederickson, and relocating or expanding the remaining libraries in the system. Additional improvements to the system include more seating, more meeting space, and increasing capacity for circulation among other things.

Pierce County Library 2030 proposes to relocate and expand the Sumner Library. The plan includes options for expanding the library on its current site or preferably relocating it more central to Downtown Sumner. The plan proposes to expand the Sumner Library to a facility in the range of 27,200 to 31,700 square feet to meet the needs of the Sumner community to the 2030 planning horizon (Pierce County Library System 2010b).

3.17.3 Impacts

Impacts Common to All Alternatives

Schools

Population growth in the current plan area would result in increased enrollment at Sumner and Dieringer school districts. Additional students would, in turn, place increased demand on school facilities and services. However, OSPI forecasts a slight decrease in student enrollment over the next 6 years, as Sumner School District student population falls from 8,071 students to 7,879 students. For the schools in the current plan area, student population would likely grow slightly as a result of the anticipated increase in households under the alternatives.

OSPI estimates that the student population in the Dieringer School District will increase by an estimated 550 students between the 2009–2010 and 2015–2016 school year. Although the majority of the Dieringer School District provides education within unincorporated Pierce County, it does provide instruction to students in the northern portions of the city limits and the northeastern portions of the UGA. It is likely that most of this student population growth would occur outside of the current plan area.

There is not a breakout of population forecasts by school district. Therefore, projections of future student population are for both the Sumner and Dieringer school districts within the current plan area. Most of the projected student population growth would occur in the Sumner School District under all alternatives.

For schools, if the student population within the current plan area is projected to 2022, based on the net increase in dwelling units studied in this document for the 2022 allocation (2,038 net new dwelling units in current plan area) and an average student factor of 0.1397¹, approximately 285 net new students, are anticipated within the current plan area between 2010 and 2022. When projected new students are extended to the 2030 allocation using the same average student factor, approximately 393 net new students are anticipated between current enrollment and 2030.

The difference is the distribution of these students between the two school districts and differences based upon the three alternatives as described below.

Library

Projected population growth would result in greater demands on the library system. The existing library facility can serve approximately 23,556 persons while still meeting the existing PCLS LOS standard (0.45 square foot per capita). Under PCLS's proposed LOS standard, the Sumner Library

¹ Sumner School District uses average student factors for single family and multifamily construction, broken down by grade levels K-6, 7-9, 10-12. The average student factor of 0.1397 applied for this calculation is an average of all of these ratios.

can serve between 14,930 and 17,377 people. The 2022 population allocation for the current plan area (14,350 persons) would increase the demand for services, but is not anticipated to result in a significant impact on library services. The Sumner Library meets existing and proposed LOS standards for 2022 allocation. By 2030, population growth in the current plan area would result in a potential net deficit of library facility space, if PCLS adopts an LOS standard in the range of 0.61 and 0.71 square foot per capita. Library space would either have a net reserve of 685 square feet (at 0.61 square foot per capita), or a net deficit of 940 square feet (at 0.71 square foot per capita). The Sumner Library would meet the existing LOS standard in 2030.

This analysis does not account for the regional population outside of the current plan area, which currently uses this regional library, nor does it account for any trends that may occur at other libraries in the PCLS.

For all alternatives, the Sumner Capital Facility Element policy describing the library LOS as 0.60 square foot per capita should be updated to reflect the PCLS's revised LOS standard, when *Pierce County Library 2030* is updated and adopted.

Impacts Specific to the UGA Expansion (Orton Junction) Alternative

Schools

The UGA Expansion Alternative provides the greatest potential population growth, thus providing the greatest potential increase in student generation among all alternatives. When applying the 0.1397 student generation factor to net increase in households under the UGA Expansion Alternative (2,753 dwellings) results in an additional 385 students in the Sumner and Dieringer school districts. Most of the additional students would be located within the Sumner School District under this alternative. In addition, this alternative would see a greater number of students (in Sumner School District) coming from the Orton Junction expansion area compared to other alternatives, as that area would develop with both commercial and residential under this alternative. There would also be more students (in Dieringer School District) in the East Hill reduction area compared to under the UGA Modification Alternative.

Library

When comparing the anticipated number of people within the current plan area to the existing Sumner Library using the PCLS's existing LOS standard of 0.45 square foot per capita, there is a net reserve of 3,193 square feet. However, depending on the LOS standard that results from *Pierce County Library 2030*, the library could experience a net reserve of 560 square feet (at 0.61 square foot per capita) or a net deficit of 1,086 square feet (at 0.71 square foot per capita) in 2030. If the Sumner Library is relocated or expanded by 2030, as anticipated in *Pierce County Library 2030*, there would be no impacts on library space.

Impacts Specific to the UGA Modification Alternative

Schools

The UGA Modification Alternative provides the smallest number of new housing units of all alternatives (2,079 net new housing units), thus providing the lowest potential increase in student generation among all alternatives. Applying the 0.1397 student generation factor to net increase in households under this alternative results in an additional 290 additional students in the Sumner and

Dieringer school districts. Most of the additional students would be located within the Sumner School District under this alternative. In addition, this Alternative would see a smaller number of students (in Sumner School District) coming from the Orton Junction Expansion Area compared to the UGA Expansion Alternative, as single family residential development in that area would develop primarily at rural intensities and overall a lower projected number of households under this Alternative. There would also be fewer students (in Dieringer School District) in the East Hill Reduction Area compared to all other alternatives since residential development in this area would also occur at rural intensities.

Library

The existing Sumner Regional Library meets both existing and proposed LOS standards under the UGA Modification Alternative. Net facility reserves range from 3,982 square feet when considering the Library's existing LOS standard of 0.45 square foot per capita to 159 square feet when considering the upper end of the proposed Library LOS standard of 0.71 square foot per capita. Net reserves would be greater if the planned relocation and expansion of the Sumner Regional Library occurs.

Impacts Specific to the No Action Alternative

Schools

The No Action Alternative provides potential population growth within the range of the other two alternatives. Applying the 0.1397 student generation factor to net increase in households under the No Action Alternative (2,314) results in an additional 323 students in the Sumner and Dieringer school districts. Most of the additional students would be located within the Sumner School District under this Alternative. In addition, this Alternative would see smaller number of students (in Sumner School District) coming from the Orton Junction expansion area compared to other alternatives, as that area would develop at rural intensities outside of the UGA under this alternative. There would also be more students (in Dieringer School District) in the East Hill reduction area compared to the UGA Modification Alternative, and a similar number of students coming from this area as found under the UGA Expansion Alternative.

Library

When comparing the anticipated current plan area population under the No Action Alternative to the existing Sumner Regional Library using the Pierce County Library District's existing LOS standard of 0.45 square foot per capita, there is a net reserve of 3,627 square feet. However, depending upon the LOS standard that results from Pierce County Library 2030 capital planning process, the library could experience a net reserve of 1,148 square feet (0.61 square foot per capita) or a net deficit of 401 square feet (0.71 square foot per capita) in 2030. If the relocation and expansion of the Sumner Regional Library anticipated in Pierce County Library 2030 occurs by 2030, there would be no impacts to library space compared to current plan area population.

3.17.4 Mitigation Measures

Incorporated Plan Features

The *City of Sumner Comprehensive Plan* goals and policies address schools and library services.

Schools

The Capital Facilities Element contains policies and objectives which are designed to support the Sumner and Dieringer School District in providing the best education for students of the districts and includes objectives for coordination with the school districts on issues of common interest such as school facility locations, impacts of new development on schools, population and growth projections, impacts of school activities on the community, parks and recreation programs, and school involvement in the community.

Library

The Capital Facilities Element includes policies and objectives related to library services, which support coordination with the Pierce County Library District to provide access to library services consistent with the Library District's LOS standards.

Applicable Regulations and Commitments

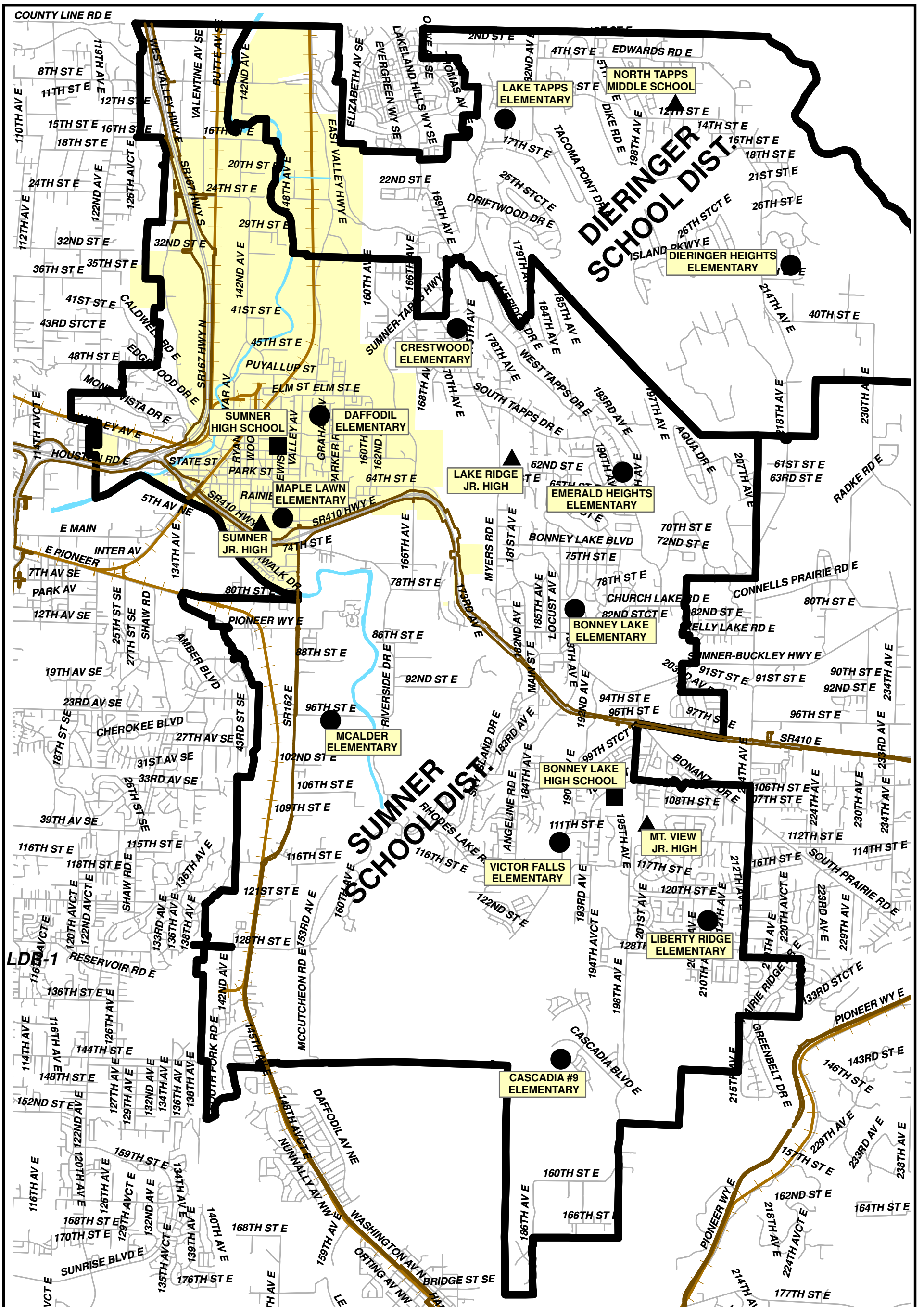
- Both the Sumner School District and Dieringer School District have established impact fees for new residential construction. The current impact fee for the Sumner School District is \$1,300 for a single-family residence. The current impact fee for the Dieringer School District is \$3,005 per single-family residence and \$205 per multifamily residence.

Other Potential Mitigation Measures

- Consistent with City policies, the City should coordinate with the Sumner and Dieringer School Districts and PCLS to ensure timely exchange of growth information; allowing services to expand as demand for library services increases.
- The Capital Facilities Element Policy 1.4 statement should be revised to reflect a different LOS standard based upon upcoming changes to the PCLS LOS standard resulting from Pierce County Library 2030 planning effort.

3.17.5 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

Under each Alternative, future population growth and development will continue to increase the need and demand for public services such as libraries and schools. Coordination with service providers and regular review of capital plans by the City, school districts, and the Pierce County Library District will help avoid impacts.



**Comprehensive Plan Update and Amendments
Environmental Impact Statement**

DISCLAIMER:
This Map is Intended for
Planning Purposes Only.

Source: City of Sumner
Community Development
Department

- LEGEND:**
- Sumner City Limits
 - Sumner UGA Boundary (Sewer and Storm Service Areas)
 - School District Boundary
 - Elementary School
 - Jr. High/Middle School
 - High School



Figure 3.17-1 School Districts