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I. Highlights - 1998 Annual Growth Report..... **1**

A brief summary text of observations about King County growth, and conclusions from the Benchmark indicators

- Economy continues in high gear in 1997 - 1998
- King County’s job growth outpaces population growth
- Rate of residential construction increases
- Residential growth focuses in cities and three unincorporated communities
- Intense demand raises the price of housing
- King County receives a declining share of Puget Sound housing
- Traffic congestion is worsening while transit ridership grows slowly
- Leading indicators reveal likely continuation of rapid growth
- Growth in some locations is outpacing Growth Targets
- Incorporation and annexation add new city areas
- King County population is becoming more diverse
- Decreasing runs of Chinook salmon call for attention to environmental quality
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