



**PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2023
Hybrid In-Person/Virtual Meeting via ZOOM
6000 Main Street SW, Lakewood, WA**

Call to Order

Mr. Robert Estrada, Chair pro tem, called the hybrid ZOOM meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Roll Call

Planning Commission Members Present: Robert Estrada, Paul Wagemann, Phillip Combs, Brian Parsons and Linn Larsen

Planning Commission Members Excused: Don Daniels, Chair; and Ryan Pearson, Vice-Chair
Commission Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Tiffany Speir, Long Range & Strategic Planning Manager; Jeff Gumm, Housing & Community Services Program Manager; Weston Ott, Engineering Services Manager; and Karen Devereaux, Administrative Assistant

Council Liaison: Paul Bocchi (present via ZOOM)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on March 1, 2023 were approved as written by voice vote M/S/C Combs/Larsen. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Agenda Updates

Staff requested that Mr. Weston Ott, Engineering Manager, present the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan update first under new business.

Public Comments

Mr. Jon Grant, LIHI Chief Strategy Officer, stated the draft language of proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2023-05 allowing permanent supportive housing and transitional housing, emergency housing and emergency shelters within specific zones in the city currently has language that creates conflicting conditions on types of activities by residents that would make the facilities a high-barrier situation. Mr. Grant noted he would forward revised language to staff via email for commissioners to consider.

Mr. John Brown, LIHI Program Manager, spoke in support of revised language for the proposed '23CPA 2023-05 to support low-barrier operating facilities.

Ms. Faaluaina Pritchard, Executive Director, Asian Pacific Cultural Center, spoke (via Zoom) in favor of changing language to the proposed '23CPA 2023-05 to eliminate the ½ mile separate on requirements as well as removing "high barrier" requirements.

Public Hearings

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Non-Motorized Transportation Plan

Mr. Weston Ott, Engineering Services Manager, presented commissioners with the updated plan noting the City has successfully increased the amount of useable sidewalk by 40% since 2009. Mr. Ott shared the public outreach process and responses received during the update.

The pedestrian system improvements were discussed as well as funding needs for the projects. The bicycle system plan is focusing on the needed east-west connections. Mr. Ott explained the plan update was completed to incorporate all the capital projects built since 2009, and aligns with national standards. City Councilmembers will receive this update presentation at the March 27th study session.

Annual Housing Action Plan Report

Mr. Jeff Gumm, Housing & Community Services Program Manager, reviewed the FY2023 Annual Action Plan updating information on the program authority and partnerships, purpose, eligible activities, how residents can qualify and the processes required for the separate programs. While discussing the Lakewood 5-yr 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, Mr. Gumm reviewed the four specific goals and measurable outcomes to date. Graphics depicting the funding available and expenditures over the time of the programs were shared.

2023 Comprehensive Plan Proposed Amendments Review

In Resolution 2022-15, the Lakewood City Council set the docket list for the 2023 Comprehensive Plan amendment (23CPA) cycle. Ms. Tiffany Speir provided a review of the nine (9) potential amendments; summaries and CED recommendations on the proposed amendments were provided in meeting materials and presentation. The Planning Commission would hold a public hearing on April 5 and take action on a recommendation regarding the entire amendment docket on May 3.

Report from Council Liaison

Councilmember Mr. Paul Bocchi updated commissioners on the following topics:

- Mr. Trestin Lauricella was chosen to fill the vacant Lakewood City Council Position 6 and will be sworn in at the Monday, March 20, 2023 meeting. Mr. Lauricella has already requested permission to run for election in the Fall 2023.
- City Council would consider adopting an ordinance prohibiting open drug use which will allow police officers to arrest if they witness such activity and then provides opportunity for rehabilitation assistance on March 20. The same night, Council would also be considering action on a proposed ordinance which would prohibit camping in areas of ecological significance such as within 200' of a body of water to include creeks or lakes. (The City Attorney later confirmed this would apply to state owned property, but not federal or tribal property.)
- Councilmember Bocchi also thanked Mr. Ott and Mr. Gumm for their efforts on behalf of the City related to the NMTP and the housing programs.

Reports from Commission Members and Staff

Ms. Speir reviewed the upcoming meetings schedule with commissioners:

March 27: Joint City Council / Planning Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
April 5: Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments Public Hearing
April 19: Discuss and Take Action on Comprehensive Plan Amendment Recommendation

The Next Regular Meeting would be held as a hybrid in-person/ZOOM meeting on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:18 p.m.


Don Daniels, Chair
Planning Commission

04/05/2023


Karen Devereaux, Recording Secretary
Planning Commission

04/05/2023