

PLANNING COMMISSION OPEN HOUSE MINUTES

School District Administration Building
12309 22nd Street NE, Lake Stevens
Wednesday, May 7, 2014

- CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm by Chair Petershagen
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Gary Petershagen, Vice-Chair Janice Huxford, Linda Hoult, Pam Barnet, Tom Matlack and Jennifer Davis
- MEMBERS ABSENT: Sammie Thurber
- STAFF PRESENT: Planning Director Rebecca Ableman, Senior Planner Russ Wright and Planning/Public Works Coordinator Georgine Rosson
- OTHERS PRESENT: Planning Director Ableman welcomed Mayor Vern Little and the following Council and Park Board members:
- Council President Kim Daughtry, Council members John Spencer and Kathy Holder (Council member Todd Welch arrived after introductions)
Park Board members Jim Kelley, Chris Jones and Marlene Sweet
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WHERE WILL YOU BE IN 2035?

Introductions:

Chair Petershagen began by introducing the Planning Commissioners, each commissioner gave a brief introduction.

Staff Presentation:

Brief Background on Comprehensive Planning - Senior Planner Russell Wright
Planner Wright described the Comprehensive Plan as the guiding document for the city mandated by the Growth Management Act (GMA). The GMA sets protocols for how the city plans for development and public services. The Comprehensive Plan includes an interconnected group of ideas called elements; these include housing, parks and recreation, service and utilities, streets and roads, environment, economic development, capital facilities and finance. From this plan, development regulations are formed. Senior Planner Wright encouraged participation, creativity and openness in the open house as ideas are presented.

Describing a Vision – Senior Planner Russell Wright

Senior Planner Wright presented the current vision statement and proposed some guidelines for creating a new vision statement. The questions to ask are “where do you

want to be, what is the purpose and what are your values.” Planner Wright also presented a slide that described what a vision should contain, such as the statement should have outcomes, be memorable, realistic and include a timetable for achievement and balance competing interests. The two sub-areas have their own vision statements that focus on employment and retail.

Senior Planner Wright also read the vision statement developed by City Council for the audience to consider.

Community Survey:

As part of the open house, the audience took part in an interactive survey, using “electronic polling pads,” to receive citizen input for the plan update. Senior Planner Wright presented several questions for audience response. Questions focused on community preferences for population growth, housing, job growth, public services and transportation over the next 20 years. Twenty-two people participated in the survey. A summary of “real-time” survey responses were projected after each question.

Breakout Session:

Following the survey, the audience broke out into small groups and discussed Economic Development, Environment, Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Services and Utilities, Land Use and Housing with Planning Commissioners and staff. There were areas at each table to write down ideas on each topic. Each table had a commissioner assigned to facilitate discussion and creativity. There were also general comments forms available for the public.

Adjourn:

No formal adjournment, open house ended at approximately 8:20 pm.



Gary Petershagen, Chair



Georgine Rosson, Planning/Public
Works Coordinator