

b. May 09, 2024

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Kirkland Planning Commission
May 09, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:01 PM)

2. ROLL CALL (6:01 PM)

Members Present: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

Members Absent: Gina Madeya.

Staff Present: Adam Weinstein - Planning & Building Director, Allison Zike - Planning & Building Deputy Director, Janice Swenson - Senior Planner, Lindsay Levine - Senior Planner, Bryan Cole - Program Specialist, and Jeannie Dines - Recording Secretary.

(Commissioner Heiser arrived at 6:05 PM.)

3. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE (6:03 PM)

1. Neil Lebeck, Kirkland, spoke in favor of higher density on transit corridors such as 100 units/acre to provide more housing and make Kirkland more affordable. Increased density is needed for King County to restore transit routes.
2. Nancy Sackman, Cultural Preservation Officer, Duwamish Tribe, relayed the Tribe's interest in public engagement with the City, and encouraged the City to include native plants in parks and development. The Tribe is concerned about water quality and fish passage and would like the City to require dark sky compliant lighting.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS - N/A

5. STUDY SESSION - N/A

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS (6:07 PM)

a. 2044 Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing #1, File No. CAM22-00032

Chair Reusser opened the public hearing at 6:07 PM.

Planning and Building Deputy Director Allison Zike provided an introduction and an overview of the process for staff presentations, public testimony and Commission deliberation.

Senior Planner and Comprehensive Plan Update Project Manager Janice Swenson reviewed the agenda for the public hearing, timeline for the Comprehensive Plan update, public hearing schedule, and what drives the updates.

DRAFT

Introduction Chapter

Ms. Swenson provided an overview of the Introduction Chapter (Vision Statement, Guiding Principles, General Policies), highlighting the revised draft Vision Statement, and Guiding Principles.

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Senior Planner Lindsay Levine provided an overview of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element and reviewed a summary of the updates to the goals and policies of the element, a summary of proposed revisions since the previous Planning Commission briefing, and an additional proposed policy as a result of the joint City Council/Planning Commission retreat.

Economic Development Element

Ms. Swenson reviewed the Economic Development Element, highlighting revisions to the Economic Development strategy, and revised goals and policies.

Staff responded to Commission questions.

Public Testimony

1. Scott Aldridge suggested alternate language to shorten the Mission and Vision Statement.
2. Liz Hunt, Kirkland, commented on the difficulty accessing the packet online. She relayed several recommended changes.
3. Ken MacKenzie, Kirkland, said it was inappropriate to hold a public hearing on information not available to the public. He commented on the importance of input from neighborhood associations and provided U.S. Census data on Kirkland, Seattle and King County.
4. Sheila Clooney, Kirkland, agreed with the difficulty finding information online. She commented on efforts to keep Park Lane open, a 501(c) formed by business and property owners that has received Main Street status from the state, and the need for attention to some areas in Kingsgate.

Chair Reusser closed public testimony.

Discussion followed.

The Commission began its deliberations.

Introduction Chapter

Staff responded to questions and Commissioners provided input.

Commissioners agreed the draft Mission and Vision Statement needed additional revisions. Ms. Zike suggested forming a subcommittee to work with staff.

Discussion continued.

Motion to Continue the public hearing to the June 13, 2024, Commission meeting and keep the public hearing open for written comments.

Moved by Angela Rozmyn, seconded by Aaron Jacobson

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

DRAFT

Yes: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element

Staff responded to questions and Commissioners provided input.

Motion to recommend the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element as recommended by staff with the new policy.

Moved by Aaron Jacobson, seconded by Angela Rozmyn

Motion to Amend Policy PR-1.13 to read, "Evaluate the current requirements for common residential space for new multi-unit residential development and consider expanding those requirements to all new multi-unit development that is a significant distance from parks or open space in order to provide residents with access to recreational opportunities within denser development patterns."

Moved by Aaron Jacobson, seconded by Angela Rozmyn

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

Yes: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

Yes: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

Economic Development Element

Motion to recommend approval of the Economic Development Element as recommended by staff.

Moved by Aaron Jacobson, seconded by Scott Reusser - Chair

Vote: Motion carried 6-0

Yes: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

Commissioner Rozmyn and Chair Reusser volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to work with staff on revisions to the Mission and Vision Statement.

7. READING AND/OR APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS AND PLANNING COMMISSION DISCUSSION (7:27 PM)

a. Public Meeting Calendar Update

Ms. Zike reported at their May 7 meeting, Council unanimously approved the Miscellaneous Code Amendments as recommended by the Planning Commission. She reviewed upcoming agendas and reminded of the 6 PM start time for the May 23 meeting.

Commissioner Allen commented on public testimony regarding receipt of feedback primarily from a narrow demographic of the population and assured the Commission values everyone's input. Discussion followed.

DRAFT

b. **Planning Commission Officer Elections**

Chair Reusser nominated Rodney Rutherford as Chair, seconded by Commissioner Rozmyn.

Vote: Nomination carried 6-0.

Yes: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

Vice Chair Rutherford nominated Bria Heiser as Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Rozmyn.

Vote: Nomination carried 6-0.

Yes: Scott Reusser - Chair, Rodney Rutherford - Vice Chair, Katya Allen, Bria Heiser, Aaron Jacobson, and Angela Rozmyn.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE - None (7:34 PM)

10. ADJOURNMENT (7:34 PM)

Chair
Kirkland Planning Commission