

## MINUTES

Lacey Planning Commission Meeting  
Tuesday, June 2, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.  
Lacey City Hall Council Chambers, 420 College Street SE

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mike Beehler.

Planning Commission members present: Mike Beehler, Jason Gordon, Sharon Kophs, Carolyn Cox, and Paul Enns. Staff present: Ryan Andrews, Christy Osborn, Rick Walk, and Leah Bender.

Mike Beehler noted a quorum present.

**Carolyn Cox made a motion, seconded by Sharon Kophs, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. All were in favor, the motion carried. Sharon Kophs made a motion, seconded by Paul Enns, to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2015, meeting. All were in favor, the motion carried.**

1. **Public Comments:** None.
2. **Commission Member's Report:** Paul Enns said that he and Rick Walk appeared on Panorama TV and gave a presentation regarding the Woodland District Strategic Plan. The program will also be submitted to TCTV.
3. **Director's Report:**
  - Rick Walk noted there are two open positions on the Planning Commission, one for a City resident and one for a UGA resident. Some of the previously submitted applications will be considered and there should be some recommendations by the end of the month.
  - At the last Council meeting, Council moved to adopt the Hill-Betti Annexation, the bid for construction of the roundabout at Willamette and 31<sup>st</sup> was awarded, and Council approved a request to change the name of the Lacey Senior Center to Virgil S. Clarkson Senior Center.
4. **New Business:**
  - **Nisqually Middle School Presentation on Urban Heat Islands:**
    - Nisqually Middle School STEM teacher Erica Baker, along with students Jasmine and Lisa Marie, gave a presentation regarding urban heat islands.
    - The presentation demonstrated how the STEM class conducted experiments and measured the temperature of different types of surfaces. The class also researched solutions and using the Minecraft game, utilized those solutions to design cooler cities.

### **Discussion on Intercity Transit:**

- Rick introduced City Councilmember Jeff Gadman, the City's representative on the Intercity Transit Authority; and Steve Swan and Ann Manzanares from Intercity Transit.
- Jeff Gadman informed Planning Commission that the Intercity Transit Authority is a 20-member advisory committee that operates similarly to the Council.
- Jeff noted that one of the goals of the Authority is to extend service to northeast Lacey. He explained that there are a lot of dynamics involved and lack of funding is a major obstacle.
- Ann Manzanares explained that adding a route affects many things, such as 15-minute stops along high-density corridors like Martin Way. She also reiterated that lack of funding is an issue. A major challenge IT is facing is trying to balance services. Focus is now on express service which would serve commuters.
- There was a discussion about funding sources and Dial-A-Lift services. Steve Swan explained that 70% of funding comes from sales tax. He also explained that federal regulations require that IT offer the Dial-A-Lift program within a ¼ -mile radius of fixed routes and must operate the same days and hours as the regular services. He pointed out that lack of funding is a challenge for this program.
- Ann stressed the importance of development considerations so that transportation issues are factored in at the beginning of a project as it is easier to build in at the beginning rather than adding later after development is complete, and making sure neighborhoods are designed to accommodate future routes.
- Ann noted that IT is focusing on looking at ways to better accommodate pedestrians and cyclists, and offering alternatives to senior citizens to encourage them to drive less.
- There was a discussion about the metrics used by IT to develop future routes. The goal standard is to offer 15-minute service to each route, which is not realistic for all areas. Balancing funds, staffing, maintenance, and number of coaches are some of the issues involved in adding services.

- Ann said that in the Fall IT will offer a market survey to evaluate needs and wants of the community and riders. IT has also applied for a grant to initiate a community conversation which will include all planning commissions.
- Rick explained the current process for early notice and communication of transit requirements applicable to a development application. Intercity Transit is notified of a project at the presubmission conference level, the earliest point of project review. Notice and application packets are also provided during the formal application review period. After a decision is issued, coordination with IT is also conducted during the Public Works Civil Drawing review period. Coordination with IT also occurs during our Comprehensive Plan and Development Code updates so that transit staff is informed of our street standards, land use projections, and land use distribution.

5. **Old Business:**

**2016 Land Use Element Update Chapter 3 Topic Sections:**

- Ryan Andrews noted that the Commercial, Industrial section will not be discussed at the next meeting but will be postponed until July.
- A draft of the Land Use Element will be presented along with the Envision Lacey event at the HOA Academy on June 13.
- Ryan went over the Transportation and Land Use Section and explained that it is a basic overview because the Transportation Element goes into more detail.
- It was agreed that extending IT services to northeast Lacey should be a top priority.
- Christy Osborn went over the section on Essential Public Facilities, Public and Institutional Uses, and Health and Human Services. Christy explained that these sections were added to meet state requirements, and to ensure that funds and facilities are available to provide these services.

6. **Communications and Announcements:** Mike Beehler said he will not be able to attend the next meeting on June 16. Rick said he will let Carolyn St. Claire know that she will Chair the meeting.

7. **Next meeting:** June 16, 2015.

8. **Adjournment:** 9:00 p.m.