

MINUTES

Lacey Planning Commission Meeting
Tuesday, August 21, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Lacey City Hall Council Chambers, 420 College Street SE

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Paul Enns.

Planning Commission members present: Paul Enns, David Wasson, Peg Evans-Brown, Michael Goff, Mark Mininger, Catherine Murcia, Eddie Bishop, Sharon Kophs. Staff present: Ryan Andrews, Jessica Brandt, Rick Walk, Scott Egger, Roger Schoessel, and Erin Quinn Valcho.

Paul Enns noted a quorum present. He welcomed the newest Planning Commission Member, Eddie Bishop.

Dave Wasson made a motion, seconded by Sharon Kophs, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. All were in favor, the motion carried. Peg Evans-Brown made a motion, seconded by Mark Mininger, to approve the August 2, 2018, minutes. All were in favor, the motion carried.

1. **Public Comments:** None.

2. **Commission Member's Report:**

- Sharon Kophs reported on her attendance at the Opioid Summit hosted by Thurston County. The County is launching monthly meetings to address this topic. Attendees were primarily service providers.

3. **Director's Report:**

- Rick Walk announced a fundraising event for the new Lacey Makers Space will be held September 25 at the Hub in Lacey from 4-6pm. The purpose is to announce the Makers Space to the public and highlight the technology that will be available. An invitation to the event will be sent to the Planning Commission.

4. **Public Hearing:**

Pedestrian Bicycle Plan for Lacey and the Lacey Urban Growth Area:

- Paul Enns opened the public hearing.
- Ryan Andrews began by noting this is the first Pedestrian Bicycle Plan for the City of Lacey. The 2012 Transportation Plan identified the need for this and aligns with the Land Use element in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan. Ryan provided a PowerPoint presentation that discussed the plan's objectives, project timeline, existing conditions analysis, public outreach and input, and major themes from the input. He also noted that the plan is focused on the "concerned but interested in biking" segment of the community. The plan's three primary recommendations are: make it safe, make it connected, and build momentum.
- There was discussion about prioritization of projects among the Planning Commissioners and staff. Ryan noted that projects were dispersed geographically and located near destinations where people want to go.
- Karen Messmer, on behalf of Olympia Safe Streets Campaign, testified in support of the plan. She appreciates the comprehensive approach and thorough guidelines.
- Robert Mead, lives near Woodland Trail/Chehalis Trail connection, testified in support of the plan. The bikeability of our area was a primary reason for him to relocate to Lacey and he wants the City to continue making it even better.
- Charles Pope, Advisory Committee Member, testified in support. Commends inclusion of the youth perspective and e-bike inclusion.

- Eric Palmer, 2406 Angela St, testified in support of the plan. Also provided written comments to Ryan with specific locations for improvements.
- **Sharon Kophs made a motion, seconded by Cathy Murcia, to recommend approval of Plan to City Council. All were in favor, the motion carried.**

5. **Public Hearing:**

Depot District:

- Paul Enns opened the public hearing.
- Ryan provided a PowerPoint presentation. The Depot District is the third subarea plan for the City, after the Northeast Lacey and Woodland District plans. Ryan discussed the project area, process of plan development, consultants involved, showed a video clip of a news program about the planning effort, and described the three scenarios. The Plan has four key objectives: University District improvements, Lacey Blvd and Pacific Avenue traffic calming, east end transformation with the Reserve project and pedestrian activity, and the spatial implementation strategy. This area will likely expect more housing than retail in the coming years, but transformation will be organic and gradual.
- Ryan summarized the written comments received prior to the hearing.
- Traffic calming on the arterial was discussed and how that would impact capacity or throughput. Ryan noted that the intent was not to decrease capacity or throughput with any calming efforts.
- On page 3-24 the Gateway Features were discussed regarding timeline and branding. The branding would be done before the features to make the look consistent with the brand, whatever it may be.
- Discussion about timelines and the implementation strategies. Rick and Ryan noted that this is a broad plan with general parameters, and although development isn't predictable, having some targets helps with gauging progress. The City will seize opportunities as they can, despite timelines.
- Brian Fluetsch, representing Sunset Air on Franz St and Lacey Blvd. Supportive of plan in general because of aesthetic improvements and connection with St. Martins. Concerned about compatibility issues with his business. As the neighborhood gets less industrial feeling, he's worried about having or wanting to move his business.
- Paul Perz, 8609 34th Ct SE, testified in support of the plan. Thanked staff, Planning Commission for doing this plan, and thought the process was really important and brought the community together. Wants to see more activities in Lacey for entertainment. Thinks the museum is a good anchor for the area.
- Rick passed along oral comments in support from St. Martins University, from a conversation with Cecilia Loveless earlier in the day.
- Discussion about how businesses will be engaged in the implementation. It was noted that as real projects come to fruition, more analysis will be needed and process would engage the users, especially for any traffic calming measures.
- A member of the public asked about an I-5 interchange on Carpenter Road. Scott Egger said according to FHWA that would likely be at least 30 years away. As far as traffic calming on the one-way couplets, changing speed limits would require a council approval and public input.
- **Dave Wasson made a motion, seconded by Sharon Kophs, to recommend the plan to City Council. All were in favor, the motion carried.**

6. **Communications and Announcements:** None.

7. **Next meeting:** September 18, 2018.

8. **Adjournment:** 8:33 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jessica Brandt.