



**City of Seattle
Seattle Planning Commission**

Josh Brower, Chair
Barbara Wilson, Executive Director

**SEATTLE PLANNING COMMISSION
JUNE 10, 2010
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chair – Josh Brower, Vice Chair – Leslie Miller, Catherine Benotto, Chris Fiori, Mark Johnson, Martin Kaplan, Kay Knapton, Amalia Leighton, Kevin McDonald, Radhika Nair, Christopher Persons, Amanda Sparr

COMMISSION STAFF

Barbara Wilson-Director, Katie Sheehy-Planning Analyst, Robin Magonegil-Administrative Specialist, Diana Canzoneri-Demographer

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Colie Hough-Beck, David Cutler, Matt Roewe

GUESTS

Marshall Foster, DPD

Please Note: Seattle Planning Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript but instead represent key points and the basis of the discussion.

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Vice-Chair Leslie Miller called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

- Minutes approval

ACTION: Commissioner Kay Knapton moved to approve the April 22, 2010 minutes; Commissioner Amanda Sparr seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with Commissioners Kevin McDonald and Leslie Miller abstaining.

- **Chair's Report**

Chair Brower said that the Planning Commission, Department of Planning and Development, and the Department of Neighborhoods jointly won the a Governor's Smart Growth Award for the public engagement processes conducted last year as part of the neighborhood plan updates and Status Check.

Chair Brower noted the upcoming meetings: Executive Committee on Tuesday, June 15; LUT Committee on Thursday, June 17; HNUC Committee on Tuesday, July 13; and the next Full Commission on Thursday, June 24.

- **BRIEFING & DISCUSSION: City Planning Update**

- Marshall Foster, DPD

Chair Brower welcomed Mr. Foster, who provided a brief update about the Planning Division.

PUBLIC COMMENT - (*Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments*)

There was no public comment concerning the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments.

- **BRIEFING: Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendments**

Disclosures and Recusals:

- Chair Brower disclosed that he is a resident of Beacon Hill. He also disclosed that his law firm, Tupper Mack Brower, PLLC, represents developers of single and multi-family housing throughout Seattle and that he represents maritime and industrial business in the BINMIC.
- Vice Chair Miller disclosed that she is a voting member of the Southeast District Council, a steering committee member of the Othello Station Community Advisory Committee, represents ROSA on the South Precinct Advisory Committee and is a steering committee member of Othello Park Now.
- Commissioner Cutler recused himself from the discussion of proposed amendment 8. He also disclosed that his firm, GGLO works with clients who own and develop property in Seattle.
- Commissioner Fiori disclosed that his firm, Heartland, is working for SHA on the Yesler Terrace project and has a project near the proposed rezone in the Roosevelt urban village; he also lives in the neighborhood.
- Commissioner Hough-Beck disclosed that her firm, works with the Port of Seattle, on commercial & residential projects throughout Seattle.
- Commissioner Johnson disclosed that his firm, ESA Aldofson, works on projects that could be affected by proposed rezones.
- Commissioner Kaplan disclosed that his firm, Martin Henry Kaplan Architects, works on projects that could be affected by proposed rezones.
- Commissioner Leighton disclosed that her firm, SvR, is working for SHA on the Yesler Terrace project which could be affected by proposal 1.c. She also disclosed that she served as co-chair of NPAC from August 2009 through January 2010.
- Commissioner Persons disclosed that he is the executive director of Capitol Hill Housing (CHH), a Seattle Public Development Authority that builds, owns and manages affordable housing in Seattle and White Center. CHH has a potential interest in the development of the Yesler Terrace site and have routine business dealings with the Seattle Housing Authority. As a municipal corporation, CHH is subject to open public meetings and public records requirements.

ACTION: Commissioner Kay Knapton moved to approve the Recommendations on Proposed 2010 Comprehensive Plan; Vice Chair Leslie Miller seconded the motion. The recommendations were approved as amended.

Commissioner McDonald suggested adding the text of Comprehensive Plan policies T8 and T70 to the recommendation for proposed amendment 2, related to extra heavy buses, trucks used by City agencies and contractors, solid waste vehicles and fire trucks.

Commissioner Sparr asked about the proposed amendment related to ‘Open and Participatory Government.’ Ms. Wilson explained that the proposed amendment has been submitted previously and contains a level of detail that is not appropriate for the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Knapton expressed concern that proposed amendment 4, related to reductions in VMT, was too narrowly focused to be appropriate for the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Kaplan noted that establishing targets to reduce VMT in Seattle without regional support would be of questionable value. Commissioners McDonald and Johnson concurred; Commissioner Johnson added that statewide VMT reductions are what really matter. Chair Brower suggested that this proposed amendment be combined with DPD’s proposed amendment related to VMT. He also suggested striking the first two sentences from the draft letter; the Commission agreed.

Commissioners discussed proposed amendment 5 and agreed that the countywide process for establishing growth targets could be more transparent, but agreed that the proposed amendment is not appropriate for the Comprehensive Plan.

Vice Chair Miller suggested that the proposed amendment 6 should not be included on the docket rather than deferred. She noted that there may be some inconsistencies between the proposed amendment and the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioners agreed to recommend not to include the proposed amendment on the docket.

Commissioners expressed concern that proposed amendment 7 would set a bad precedent by subverting the neighborhood plan update process. Ms. Sheehy noted that the proposed amendment includes numerous changes to the North Beacon Hill neighborhood plan. Commissioners reiterated their concern that this amendment was an end run on the neighborhood plan update conducted by DPD, which included significant outreach to underrepresented communities. Commissioner Kaplan suggested striking ‘award winning’ from the letter; the other Commissioners agreed.

Commissioner McDonald noted that the proposed change to Land Use Policy 59 has much broader implications beyond the Roosevelt neighborhood. Commissioners Johnson suggested the policy be reviewed as part of the seven-year update. Ms. Wilson noted that the Commission’s Affordable Housing Action Agenda includes a recommendation to review the policy. Commissioners agreed that the proposed amendment should move forward. Commissioner McDonald expressed concern about seeing proposed amendments each year that propose to rezone small areas around the planned light rail station.

Vice Chair Miller requested more information about the outreach conducted for proposed amendment 10. Ms. Wilson said she would get more information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Josh Brower adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.