



WASHINGTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION (PC) MINUTES OF WED., MARCH 17, 2021

ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS ARE RECORDED

PC member Eric Urstadt was recognized for his public service on the PC. He served on the PC from 2014 until early this year and chose to step down from his position due to time constraints.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - 6:38 p.m. Zoom virtual meeting
The meeting was called to order by Chair Petrillo.

2. **ROLL CALL**

PC Members Present: Blake Dye, Mark Havener, Deborah Lockwood, Anthony Mills, Jeff Petrillo, Sushmita Poddar, and Matt Wellner

Staff Present: Andy Back, Planning and Development Services (PDS); Theresa Cherniak, Erin Wardell, Todd Borkowitz, and Susan Aguilar, Long Range Planning (LRP); Jacquilyn Saito-Moore, County Counsel

3. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Andy Back, Manager of PDS:

Updates

- The LUT Lobby is open to the public Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for in-person services, though people are encouraged to do what they can online. The lobby is closed Fridays, but staff will be answering phones and emails.
- The Board will discuss PC candidates at its April 13 work session and is expected to make appointments for the two open positions soon after.

Today's PC Meeting

PC work sessions on:

- Complete Streets Design Update
- Discussion of LRP Work Program topics
- Summary of actions on 2020 ordinances

Election of a new PC Chair and Vice Chair

Upcoming PC Meetings

Apr. 7 (day) – recommend canceling

Apr. 21 (night)

- HB 2001 update
- LRP Work Program

The Agenda was amended without objection to move the Chair and Vice Chair election to Item 8.

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** - (none)

5. **WORK SESSION**

a. **Complete Streets Design Update**

Erin Wardell, Principal Planner with the LRP Transportation Planning group and Stacy Shetler, County Engineer with the Engineering, Traffic and Survey Division, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Complete Streets Design Update, which will result in updates to the County's Road Design and Construction Standards to meet the needs of all transportation system users. Staff communicated project objectives, timelines, proposed updates, and outreach.

PC Discussion and Comments

- Question regarding the County's view on protected bike lanes.
- Comment that the County is not prioritizing climate action and that bike facilities should be more effectively used as a tool for addressing it.
- Comment that the County should be more innovative in addressing transportation needs.
- Question on the safety ramifications of reducing travel lane widths from 12 feet to 11 feet.

b. **Discussion of the Draft 2021-22 LRP Work Program**

Theresa Cherniak, Principal Planner with the LRP Community Planning group, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021-22 LRP Work Program, including an overview of the LRP section and its focus on long term, "big picture" planning and policy issues. Staff communicated Work Program tasks including an overview of proposed ordinances, timeline, and next steps.

PC Discussion and Comments

- Question on how the County 2000 strategic plan, adopted in 1986, aligns with the Comprehensive Plan.
- A comment that funding for Current Planning and Building sections does not align with the amount of development activity that may happen under HB 2001 (Middle Housing).

c. **Summary of Actions on 2020 Ordinances**

Theresa Cherniak, Principal Planner with the LRP Community Planning group, gave a PowerPoint presentation reviewing highlights of the ordinances adopted in 2020, including PC recommendations and Board actions.

PC Discussion and comments

- Questions on the status of and process for the appeal of Ordinance No. 869-A, the Significant Natural Resource regulations.
- Acknowledgement of a letter received in support of more stringent tree protections.

6. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

• **Jan. 20, 2021**

Chair Petrillo moved to approve the Nov. 18, 2020 PC meeting minutes, upon a text change of "hearing" to "work session." **Vote: 6 – 0 (unanimous). Motion passed.**

Yes: Beaty, Dye, Lockwood, Petrillo, Poddar, and Wellner

- The PC voted to cancel the April 7, 2021 PC meeting without objection. **Vote: 7 – 0**

7. PC COMMUNICATION

PC Discussion

- Discussion on a past PC request for an indigenous land acknowledgement at PC meetings. It was noted that further discussion should await direction from the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), which is considering a countywide policy on the topic.

8. SELECTION PROCESS OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Anthony Mills moved to nominate Deborah Lockwood as Chair. The motion was seconded by Matt Wellner. Commissioner Lockwood accepted.

Mark Havener moved to nominate Matt Wellner as Chair. Matt Wellner declined.

Vote: 7 – 0 (unanimous). Motion passed. Deborah Lockwood is the new Chair.

Sushmita Poddar moved to nominate Blake Dye as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Chair Petrillo. Blake Dye accepted.

Matt Wellner moved to nominate Mark Havener as the Vice Chair. Mark Havener declined.

Vote: 7 – 0 (unanimous). Motion passed. Blake Dye is the new Vice Chair.

9. ADJOURN: 8:33 p.m.

Deborah Lockwood, Chair
Washington County Planning Commission

Andy Back, Secretary
Washington County Planning Commission

Minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2021
Submitted by LRP Staff