

Olympia Planning Commission

June 16, 2025

Olympia City Council
601 4th Avenue East
PO Box 1967 Olympia
WA 98507-1967

SUBJECT: Olympia 2045 Comprehensive Plan Community Values and Vision Chapter

Dear Mayor Payne and Councilmembers:

The Planning Commission is pleased to recommend approval of the Community Values and Vision Chapter of the Olympia 2045 Comprehensive Plan. We understand this update work is being completed in a phased manner, with each chapter being considered individually. We also understand that final adoption will not occur until the entire draft is reviewed for internal consistency as well.

The Commission had a briefing on the chapter on June 2, 2025. The Social Justice and Equity Commission will also receive a briefing on July 28, 2025. A public hearing was conducted on June 16, 2025. Commission deliberations took place on June 16, 2025.

The Planning Commission recommends the following revisions:

Revise to strike “early and often”. Include language to make engagement equitable and accessible to all to emphasize “meaningful” engagement rather than engagement timing or frequency. This suggestion is in consideration of community engagement burnout and the potential of diminishing returns and increased costs of frequent engagement.

We also recommend that implementation and outreach continue to have, and enhance, a strong commitment to equity and hearing from all community members, especially those who may be marginalized or have less opportunity to participate.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the proposed chapter and provide a recommendation for moving this portion of the periodic update forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Greg Quetin
Chair