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P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507-1967

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MEMORANDUM

Date: February 18, 2015

To: City Council General Government subcommittee

Cc: Max Brown, Chair, Olympia Planning Commission

From: Todd Stamm, Principal Planner and OPC Staff Liaison

Subject: Proposed 2015 Planning Commission Work Program

As stated in the proposed work plan, Community Planning and Development staff believes there is sufficient staff time and resources to support the work program proposed by the Commission. However, we do want to take this opportunity to express one reservation.

The work program proposed by the Commission provides little if any space for adding items during the year. Historically emerging issues during the work-program year have led the Council to refer additional items to the Commission for immediate action. In addition, later this year the City staff will be conducting another evaluation of the City's compliance with the Growth Management Act. This evaluation, including a review of the City's critical areas regulations, may result in identifying actions that must be completed by July 1, 2016, a statutory deadline. Such actions may include proposed code changes that will require the Commission's attention.

Therefore, although we support Council approving the Commission's work program as proposed, we recommend that action be taken with a clear understanding that in a few months the staff may propose revising this work program to ensure an opportunity to timely complete what by then may be higher priority work items.