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February 24, 2025

Olympia City Council cc: Olympia Planning Commission

Honorable Mayor Payne and City of Olympia Councilmembers,

As part of the Olympia 2045 update of the Comprehensive Plan, the City Council has provided the Social Justice and Equity Commission with an opportunity to weigh in on the draft chapters to offer equity-related recommendations. This letter is intended to share with you the Commission's conversation regarding the Public Participation and Partners chapter, on which the Commission received a briefing at our September 23, 2024, meeting.

The Commission discussed the Public Participation and Partners chapter with Community Planning and Economic Development staff and had the opportunity to ask questions related to how equity is addressed in the chapter and how it was considered during its development. The Commission appreciates the chapter's focus on outreach in a just and equitable manner. The Commission had the following comments:

- Outreach to young persons, such as high school students, is important.
- Outreach methods should be tailored to reach specific groups of community members. For example, to contact aging and elderly community members using methods that they may be more accustomed to such as paper mailings in addition to other digital methods.
- Greater community representation in the chapter photos is important to convey the overall message of the chapter.

We believe the chapter is consistent with the goals of the Social Justice and Equity Commission. We thank the City Council for the opportunity to review and comment on this chapter.

Best Regards,

Robin Rosen-Evans, Vice-Chair Social Justice & Equity Commission

RR:dg