



Land Use & Environment Committee

Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Agenda Date: 8/19/2021
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Title

Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

The Planning Commission Move to accept the Planning Commission recommendation and forward to City Council.

City Manager Recommendation:

Move to accept the Planning Commission recommendation and forward to City Council.

Report

Issue:

Whether to accept the Planning Commission recommendation and forward the 2021 Comprehensive Plan Amendments to City Council for a decision.

Staff Contact:

Joyce Phillips, Principal Planner, Community Planning and Development, 360.570.3722

Presenter(s):

Joyce Phillips, Principal Planner, Community Planning and Development

Background and Analysis:

Under the Growth Management Act, Cities are allowed to amend Comprehensive Plans once a year. Olympia has a two-step process for annual amendments. Those proposals that are advanced past the preliminary screening step are invited to make a formal application and proceed through a public review process and public hearing.

The City made an application to amend text and the Transportation 2030 maps in the Comprehensive Plan. The application consists of three parts, as follows:

- Part A: Text amendments requested by the Public Works Department regarding transportation concurrency.
- Part B: Text and transportation map amendments requested by the Public Works Department

regarding street connections in the southeast portion of Olympia, in the area known as “LBA Woods”.

- Part C: Text amendments requested by Council to improve language around equity and inclusion, including a proposed definition of neighborhood character.

OMC 18.59.040 includes the final review and evaluation criteria, including the following:

1. Does the proposed amendment or revision maintain consistency with other plan elements or development regulations? If not, are amendments or revisions to other plan elements or regulations necessary to maintain consistency with the current final docket that will be considered by the Planning Commission and the City Council?
2. Is the proposed amendment or rezone consistent with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan?
3. Is the proposed amendment or revision consistent with the county-wide planning policies?
4. Does the proposed amendment or rezone comply with the requirements of the GMA?

The public hearing for the proposed amendments was conducted on August 2, 2021. At the time of writing this staff report, the Planning Commission had not yet completed its deliberations or issued its recommendation. Staff anticipates the Commission will issue its recommendation on August 16, 2021. Staff’s presentation to the Land Use and Environment Committee on August 19, 2021, will include the Commission’s recommendation or an update of issues under discussion.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

Members of the public provided comments on the proposed annual amendments. Most of the comments received were in support of the proposal to remove the Log Cabin Road extension between Boulevard Road and Wiggins Road and other future street connections from the Transportation 2030 Maps and to evaluate the transportation needs for this area in approximately ten years. Other comments received were in response to the proposed amendment to define neighborhood character.

Options:

1. Accept the Planning Commission recommendation and forward to City Council with a Land Use and Environment Committee recommendation of approval.
2. Accept the Planning Commission recommendation and forward to City Council with a Land Use and Environment Committee recommendation of approval, with modifications.
3. If a Planning Commission recommendation is not yet available and several topics of consideration are still pending, request staff return once a recommendation has been issued.

Financial Impact:

None.

Attachments:

Comprehensive Plan Webpage
Staff Recommendations

