

PROJECT MEMO



TO: Scott Larson and Kim Mahoney
FROM: Nicole Stickney
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DATE: June 25, 2024
PROJECT NO.: 2230242.30
PROJECT NAME: Orting Comprehensive Plan Update
SUBJECT: Comprehensive Plan Draft Elements (First half)– for Planning Commission Review - UPDATED

In June 2024 the Planning Commission began their review of draft Comprehensive Plan Elements we have prepared for the Comprehensive Plan update. At their regularly scheduled meeting on June 3, 2024, the commission reviewed the first four chapters: Introduction, Land Use, Housing, and Natural Environment. We supplied a project memo (dated May 16, 2024) summarizing the work products and highlighting key information, which was distributed with the drafts and included with the meeting packet.

The Comprehensive Plan is a detailed, lengthy document. The Planning Commission members may want to provide further feedback, ask questions, or further their discussion at their upcoming July 1, 2024 meeting. To facilitate this review, we have prepared revised drafts for distribution. We have highlighted changes that have been made, to prevent confusion or require extra work for any reviewers. The updated documents are labeled with the date of June 25, 2024 on the bottom of each page.

One topic we heard many questions and feedback on was “equity” as there are many new proposed goals and policies (as well as discussion) related to that broad topic. These changes are driven by state, regional and local (County) directives. The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) prepared a Briefing Paper on the topic as a part of their VISION 2050 Plan which is available online at <https://www.psrc.org/media/1768> and could be helpful as background information.

As a reminder, we have not prepared a proposed Land Use map for review just yet, but that will be forthcoming in a future meeting.

Next steps: We expect to provide a draft proposed Land Use map at the August 5, 2024 Planning Commission meeting, together with draft copies of the Capital Facilities, Utilities and Transportation Elements. The Economic Development element would additionally be ready for review at the September meeting (scheduled for September 5, 2024). We also anticipate presenting proposed development code edits (to implement the Comprehensive Plan update process and meet state requirements) in those two sessions. Issuance of SEPA environmental review and referral to the state Department of Commerce for mandatory agency review should occur the second week of September. A public hearing may be scheduled for October 7, 2024.

NS/ns

c: Wayne Carlson,
Anisa Thaci - AHBL