



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
May 11, 2023**

Public Hearing and Work Session

1

1 **Call to Order**

2 The meeting was called to order by Whatcom County Planning Commission Chair,
3 Kelvin Barton at 6:38 p.m.

4 **Roll Call**

5 **Present:** Kelvin Barton, Daniel Dahlquist, Stephen Jackson, Kimberley Lund, Dominic
6 Mocerri, Scott Van Dalen

7 **Absent:** Atul Deshmane, Jim Hansen, Julie Jefferson

8 **Staff Present:** Planning and Development Services (PDS): Matt Aamot, Steve
9 Roberge, and Tammy Axlund; Parks: Bennett Knox; Administrative Services –
10 Facilities: Rob Ney

11 **Department Update**

12 Steve Roberge, Assistant Director of PDS, announced the topic for the May 25th
13 Planning Commission meeting will be home based businesses. In a status update
14 regarding hiring to fill the eight vacant positions in PDS, he noted that offers have
15 been accepted for seven of the openings, and we are doing final interviews next week
16 to fill the last open position.

17 **Open Session Public Comment**

18 There was no public comment.

19 **Commissioner Comments**

20 Commissioner Lund indicated that emails from the County started going to her spam
21 folder even though they are on her safe sender list. She was unable to respond to
22 email requests because she did not see them.

23 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

24 **Timestamp:** 4:45

25 **Commissioner Mocerri moved** to approve the meeting minutes from April 13, 2023.

26 **Commissioner Jackson seconded.**

27 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Barton, Jackson, Mocerri; Abstain-Dahlquist, Lund, Van**
28 **Dalen; (Ayes-3; Nays-0; Abstain-3). The motion carried.**

29 Commissioner Barton turned the meeting over to Commissioner Lund to chair the
30 remainder.

31 **Proposed Amendments to the Six-Year Capital Improvement Program for**
32 **Whatcom County Facilities 2023-2028 (PLN2023-00006)**

33 **Timestamp:** 8:49

34 Matt Aamot, PDS Senior Planner, introduced the topic and provided a brief overview.
35 He then invited Bennett Knox, Whatcom County Parks Director, to describe the
36 planned updates to the Parks, Trails, and Activity Centers Chapter. Rob Ney, Facilities



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1 Projects & Operations Manager, then gave a brief description of each project for the
2 General Government Buildings and Sites Chapter.

3 Mr. Aamot outlined the cost increases, requested Planning Commission
4 recommendation for approval, and invited questions.

5 **a) Public Hearing Regarding Six-Year Capital Improvement Program**

6 **Timestamp: 26:32**

7 No one provided public comment.

8 **b) Six-Year Capital Improvement Program Work Session**

9 **Timestamp: 27:44**

10 Commissioners did not have comments or questions.

11 **Timestamp: 28:59**

12 **Commissioner Jackson moved** to adopt the amendments to the Six-year Capital
13 *Improvement Plan as proposed, with the findings of fact.*

14 **Commissioner Van Dalen seconded.**

15 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Barton, Dahlquist, Jackson, Lund, Mocerri, Van Dalen;**
16 **(Ayes-6; Nays-0; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

17 **Proposed Zoning Code Amendments to the text of the Urban Residential**
18 **District (WCC 20.20), Urban Residential Medium Density District (WCC 20.22),**
19 **Urban Residential Mixed District (WCC 20.24), General Commercial District**
20 **(WCC 20.62), Resort Commercial District (WCC 20.64), Supplementary**
21 **Requirements (WCC 20.80), and Definitions (PLN2023-00002)**

22 **Timestamp: 30:32**

23 Matt Aamot, PDS Senior Planner, provided an explanation of the zoning amendments
24 and responded to Commissioners' questions.

25 **a) Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Zoning Code Amendments**

26 **Timestamp: 48:49**

27 Matt Berry provided public comment.

28 **b) Proposed Zoning Code Amendments Work Session**

29 **Timestamp: 51:41**

30 Mr. Aamot responded to Commissioners' questions and confirmed with Commissioners
31 that they wished to accept a suggestion to change the order of the density
32 requirements in WCC 20.22.252.

33 Commissioner Barton announced that he would abstain from the vote due to a possible
34 perceived conflict of interest.

35 **Timestamp: 56:28**

36 **Commissioner Mocerri moved** to adopt the Zoning Code Amendments as proposed
37 *with the adjustment to the order of the density requirements in WCC 20.22.252, and*
38 *accept the findings of fact.*



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1 **Commissioner Jackson seconded.**

2 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Dahlquist, Jackson, Lund, Mocerri, Van Dalen; Abstain-**
3 **Barton;(Ayes-5; Nays-0; Abstain-1). The motion carried.**

4 **Adjournment**

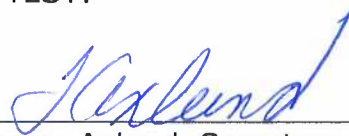
5 The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

6 Minutes prepared by Tammy Axlund.

7 WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ATTEST:

8 

9 Kelvin Barton, Chair



Tammy Axlund, Secretary