



MINUTES

(Approved on May 3, 2023)

MEETING: Regular Meeting (hybrid)

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Christopher Karnes (Chair), Andrew Strobel (Vice-Chair), Morgan Dörner, Robb Krehbiel, Brett Marlo, Matthew Martenson, Brett Santhuff, Anthony Steele, Alyssa Torrez

ABSENT: N/A

A. Call to Order

Chair Karnes called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. A quorum was declared.

Chair Karnes read the Land Acknowledgement.

B. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Santhuff moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Steele seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Approval of Minutes

- August 3, 2022

Vice-Chair Strobel moved to approve the August 3, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Public Comments

Brian Boudet, Planning Manager, reported that no comments were received.

E. Disclosure of Contacts

There were no disclosures of contacts.

F. Discussion Items

1. Planning Commission Work Program Update and By-Laws Review

Mr. Boudet provided a mid-cycle status update on the Planning Commission's Work Program, including the reporting schedule, sources, annual versus off-cycle amendments, and key projects in 2023 and 2024; and he outlined recent commission feedback on various issues.

The commission provided feedback and agreed on more condensed meeting minutes.

Mr. Boudet outlined potential modifications to the Planning Commission By-Laws, including electronic participation, public comment, and disclosures.

Vice-Chair Strobel moved to amend the "Electronic Participation in Meetings" section as presented by staff. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission discussed other potential amendments to the By-Laws, accepting oral comments during meetings, the value of written comments and oral comments, disclosures of contacts and recusals, and Commissioners' emails.

2. 2024 GMA Update

Stephen Atkinson, Principal Planner, presented an overview of the upcoming 2024 update to the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan, including regional planning framework, goals of the Growth Management Act (GMA) and what is new, Vision 2050, coordination, local efforts, overarching themes, and milestones.

The Commission provided feedback on partnership and coordination opportunities, potential issues and conflicts to address, and community engagement methods.

The Planning Commission recessed at 6:16 p.m. and reconvened at 6:22 p.m.

3. Urban Design Review Program

Carl Metz and Stephen Antupit, Senior Planners, presented an overview of proposed program elements for the Urban Design Review (UDR) project, including program framework assumptions, feedback from the Commission, project size thresholds in neighborhood centers and other mixed-use centers, additional threshold metrics, staff's recommendation for public review draft, the UDR Board's role, a preview of potential TMC Design Standard amendments, and next steps.

The Commission discussed potential non-building area threshold metrics, clear communication to the public, reevaluation of metrics in the future, transitional areas of zone changes, square footage threshold for the board-review tier, the height of adjacent properties, the board's capacity, seeing the areas of applicability for UDR and the Home In Tacoma Project, equitable representation on the board, and board composition options.

The Planning Commission recessed at 7:19 p.m. and reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

G. Upcoming Meetings (Tentative Agendas)

(1) Agenda for the February 1, 2023, meeting includes:

- 2023 Amendment – Electric Fences
- 2023 Amendment – Shipping Containers
- 2023 Amendment – Mor Furniture
- Neighborhood Planning Program – McKinley Neighborhood Plan
- Home In Tacoma Phase

(2) Agenda for the February 15, 2023, meeting includes:

- 2023 Amendment - Delivery-Only Businesses
- 2023 Amendment - Commercial Zoning Update
- 2023 Amendment – Minor Plan and Code Amendments
- Urban Design Review Program

H. Communication Items

The Commission acknowledged receipt of communication items on the agenda.

Commissioner Torrez announced that she will be resigning from the Housing Equity Taskforce and the Planning Commission.

4. Pacific Avenue Corridor Subarea Plan & EIS (“Picture Pac Ave”) – Workshop

Wesley Rhodes, Senior Planner, outlined the Picture Pac Ave area and facilitated the workshop to elicit feedback and direction on key project goals and priorities.

The commissioners participated in the workshop and identified existing assets and challenges for the following project goals: (1) encourage equitable transit-oriented development; (2) improve mobility, accessibility, and connectivity; (3) evaluate community needs such as parks, amenities, and infrastructure; and (4) promote climate sustainability and resilience.

I. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**These minutes are not a direct transcription of the meeting, but rather a brief capture. For full-length audio recording of the meeting, please visit:*

http://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/committees_boards_commissions/planning_commission/agendas_and_minutes/