



City of Seattle
Seattle Planning Commission

Grace Kim, Chair
Vanessa Murdock, Executive Director

SEATTLE PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, November 09, 2017

Approved Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present:	Michael Austin, Sandra Fried, David Goldberg, Grace Kim, Ellen Lohe, Kara Martin, Tim Parham, Marj Press, Julio Sanchez, David Shelton, Lauren Squires, Patti Wilma
Commissioners Absent:	Eileen Canola, Jamie Stroble
Commission Staff:	Vanessa Murdock, Executive Director; John Hoey, Senior Policy Analyst; Katy Haima, Planning Analyst
Guests:	Brennon Staley and Diana Canzoneri, Office of Planning and Community Development

Seattle Planning Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript, and represent key points and the basis of discussion.

Referenced Documents discussed at the meeting can be viewed here:

<http://www.seattle.gov/planningcommission/when-we-meet/minutes-and-agendas>

Chair's Report & Minutes Approval

Chair Kim called the meeting to order at 3:05pm. She provided an overview of the meeting agenda and upcoming Commission meetings.

ACTION: Commissioner David Goldberg moved to approve the October 26, 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Patti Wilma seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed.

Announcements

Executive Director Vanessa Murdock informed the Commissioners of several upcoming community events. She announced the release of the Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA) Final Environmental Impact Statement and encouraged the Commissioners to review the document before the December Housing and Neighborhoods Committee meeting. She also provided updates on the process to appoint new Commissioners and nominate new Commission leadership positions. Katy Haima, Seattle Planning Commission staff, provided an overview of the recently adopted revisions to the Design Review Program.

Briefing: Growth and Livability Report

Brennon Staley, Office of Planning and Community Development

If you would like to view the presentation, it is included in the supporting documents found in the minutes section of our website.

Brennon Staley from the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD) provided an overview of the Growth and Livability Report. This report highlights how City planning, policies, partnerships, and investments across multiple departments are working together to maintain a high quality of life as the city grows. Mr. Staley highlighted examples of the City's planning processes and investments under the following themes:

- Making a More Affordable City
- Moving People and Goods
- Providing Parks and Open Space
- Enhancing Utility Services
- Supporting Youth
- Ensuring Opportunity
- Shaping Design

The Growth and Livability Report's case studies illustrate key priorities and specific investments in seven neighborhoods across the city.

Commission Discussion

- Commissioners inquired about the catalyst for this report. Mr. Staley answered that there has been a strong demand from citizens to see evidence of investments in livability and amenities that come with development as the city continues to grow. This report synthesizes information from multiple City departments.
- Commissioners suggested linking this report to the Comprehensive Plan and its individual sections.
- Commissioners commented that livability is unequal across the city, especially as the homeless population has increased and businesses in certain neighborhoods have closed. Mr. Staley stated that this report is a high-level snapshot of investments across the city. Ongoing community planning processes are more appropriate to address those specific issues.
- Commissioners suggested presenting this report to the City's Capital Cabinet identifying positive trends and where the City can do better. Mr. Staley stated OPCD coordinated this report which reflected the work of many other City departments. The report is not intended to be a scorecard and there are no plans for additional updates.

Briefing: Comprehensive Plan Urban Village Indicators

Diana Canzoneri, Office of Planning and Community Development

If you would like to view the presentation, it is included in the supporting documents found in the minutes section of our website.

Diana Canzoneri presented an overview of OPCD's work on the Comprehensive Plan Monitoring Program, including a series of Urban Village Indicators. She described the scope of this work, the indicators identified for monitoring, and the approach staff are taking on the indicators. The indicators were selected to provide insights about progress on key issues and to be measurable at an urban village, as well as citywide, level. Some indicators will be updated every year, while others will be updated every three years, as some data is difficult to collect every year. OPCD is leveraging monitoring efforts by other City departments in this effort.

Ms. Canzoneri provided a preview of some of the Urban Village Indicators, including:

- Growth in number of housing units;
- Growth in number of jobs;
- Housing costs;
- Housing units devoted to low-income-households;
- Access to frequent transit;
- Presence of sidewalks; and
- Access to open space

She led the Commissioners in a discussion about rates of growth in Urban Villages with high displacement risk, and the potential to adapt some Comprehensive Plan Urban Village Indicators to Equitable Development Initiative (EDI) Indicators. She stated that OPCD's goal is to produce and publish the Urban Village Indicators report before the end of 2017. Ms. Canzoneri stated that the Planning Commission will have an opportunity to review the report.

Commission Discussion

- Commissioners noted that this is an opportunity to link data from the City's functional plans with urban growth data. For example, pedestrian conditions data can be linked with where growth is anticipated to plan for future capital investments.
- Commissioners also noted the potential for these indicators to work together with the results of the Growth and Livability Report.
- Commissioners recommended the EDI monitoring indicators look at where affordable housing units are located in relation to areas of opportunity and displacement risk, as well as proximity to schools and parks.
- Commissioners recommended giving separate names to Comprehensive Plan Urban Village Indicators and EDI Indicators to avoid confusion.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.