

RESOLUTION _____

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2 A RESOLUTION identifying proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments to be considered for
3 possible adoption in 2008, and requesting that the Department of Planning and
4 Development and Seattle Planning Commission review and make recommendations
5 about the amendments to the Council.

6 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle adopted a Comprehensive Plan through Ordinance 117221 in
7 1994; and

8 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle last amended the Comprehensive Plan through
9 Ordinance 122600 on December 17, 2007; and

10 WHEREAS, the City Council adopted procedures for amending the Comprehensive Plan in
11 Resolution 31016, consistent with the requirements for amendment prescribed by the
12 Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A; and

13 WHEREAS, various parties proposed amendments for consideration during 2008; and

14 WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has provided its views as to which proposals to further
15 consider and review during 2008; and

16 WHEREAS, the Council's Planning Land Use and Neighborhoods Committee held a public
17 hearing on March 31, 2008, to take public testimony on the amendments proposed for
18 consideration; and

19 WHEREAS, the Council's Planning Land Use and Neighborhoods Committee met on April 9,
20 2008 to consider the proposed amendments; NOW THEREFORE,

21 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

22 **Section 1. Guidelines for Amendment Selection**

23 The City Council considers a variety of factors in determining whether a proposed
24 Comprehensive Plan amendment will be placed on the amendment docket for a given year.

25 Among those factors are the following:

26 A. The amendment is appropriate for the Comprehensive Plan:

27 1. The amendment is consistent with the role of the Comprehensive Plan under
28 the State Growth Management Act;

1 2. The amendment is consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies;

2 3. The intent of the amendment cannot be accomplished by a change in
3 regulations only;

4 4. The amendment is not better addressed as a budgetary or programmatic
5 decision; or

6 5. The amendment is not better addressed through another process, such as
7 neighborhood planning.
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9 B. The amendment is legal - the amendment meets existing state and local laws.

10 C. It is practical to consider the amendment:

11 1. The timing of the amendment is appropriate and Council will have sufficient
12 information necessary to make an informed decision.

13 2. Within the time available City staff will be able to develop the text for the
14 amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and, if necessary, the Municipal Code, and conduct
15 sufficient analysis and public review.
16

17 3. The proposed amendment is consistent with the overall vision of the
18 Comprehensive Plan and well-established Comprehensive Plan policy, or the Mayor or Council
19 is interested in significantly changing existing policy.
20

21 4. The amendment has not been recently rejected by the City Council.

22 D. There has been a neighborhood review process to develop any proposed change to a
23 neighborhood plan, or a neighborhood review process can be conducted prior to final Council
24 consideration of the amendment.
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1 **Section 2. Amendments to be Considered in 2008.** The following proposed
2 amendments should be further developed for review and consideration by the Executive and
3 Council as possible amendments to the Comprehensive Plan in 2008. The list below contains
4 short summaries of the proposed amendments. The full text of each proposed amendment is
5 contained in Clerk File 308999. Numbering of amendments is not consecutive, in order to match
6 numbers used during Council review of amendments for consideration.
7

8 A. Amendments to be considered without contingency:

- 9 1. Lids over I-5 to connect First Hill and Capitol Hill to Downtown. Consider
10 an amendment to consider I-5 lids in other areas as well;
- 11 2. Remove the Sand Point policies from the Comprehensive Plan;
- 12 4. FLUM Amendment - South Lake Union;
- 13 9. Consolidate Comprehensive Plan goals and policies related to trees and tree
14 canopy preservation in one location in the Plan, except where a separate location is important to
15 the meaning of the policy, such as when a policy is contained within a neighborhood plan.
16 Additional amendments should be considered to address any gaps in tree preservation policy
17 related to:
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- 20 a. Recognition that trees require land to grow;
- 21 b. Recognition of tree life-span, and the monetary and non-monetary
22 value of mature trees;
- 23 c. Clear measurement of existing and future canopy;
- 24 d. Clear definition of no net loss of canopy in terms of tree years; and
- 25 e. Maintenance of Trees;
- 26 12. Prohibit new surface parking in the Downtown Mixed Residential zone;
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- 28

1 13. An alternative to the proposed definition of accessible transit stops, adding a
2 goal or policy to the Transportation Element with the clear intent to seek safe street crossings at
3 transit stop locations, particularly on roadways with more than one vehicle lane in any direction;

4 16. Amend neighborhood planning goal NG-3 to make neighborhood planning a
5 greater possibility for areas of the City that are not expected to take significant amounts of
6 growth;
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8 19. Add a policy discouraging extra-heavy transit buses and solid waste trucks,
9 provided potential conflicts with City solid waste contracts are resolved in any finally
10 recommended policy;

11 20. Add a goal requiring a reduction in vehicle miles traveled;

12 21. Amendments proposed by the Seattle Planning Commission based on its
13 *Affordable Housing Action Agenda* amendments;
14

15 22. The following amendment to the Environment Element:

16
17 E Climate change

18 discussion

19 ...

20
21 In addition to doing its part to reduce the effects of climate change, the City must
22 also prepare for, and adapt to, the effects of climate change.

23 ...

24 goal

25 ...

1 EG8 To prepare for, and adapt to, the effect of climate change that does occur.

2 Policies((¥))

3 ...

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5 E16 For itself and the general public, the City shall seek to anticipate the effects
6 of climate change and be prepared for, and adapt to, those effects;

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8 23. Establish level-of-service standards for safety and access for non-motorized
9 modes of travel, or alternative means of ensuring that non-motorized travel facilities keep pace
10 as development occurs;

11 24. Goals and policies addressing surplus City property; and

12 25. Add goals or policies that strongly encourage or require the development of
13 housing in structures that are to contain a commercial or governmental use, unless all zoned
14 development capacity is taken by the primary use of the building, and develop implementing
15 regulations. Examples of developments that would be affected include community centers,
16 libraries, fire stations, grocery stores, and drug stores.

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20 B. Amendments to be considered contingent upon a recommendation from the
21 Department of Planning and Development (DPD), available by the August 1st deadline for the
22 Executive's Comprehensive Plan amendment recommendation, based on full or partial
23 completion of the pending analysis of edge conditions around Manufacturing / Industrial Centers
24 (MICs): Future Land Use Map (FLUM) amendments at:

25 3. South Downtown;

1 5. 15th Av. NW (Nelson Property);

2 6. Harbor Avenue Corridor;

3 7. Stadium East; and

4 18. BINMIC (Dravis/Interbay).

5 **Section 3 Open and Participatory Government Plan and Policy.** The Council
6 will develop a coordinated plan and policy on open and participatory government outside of the
7 Comprehensive Plan. The open and participatory government plan will consolidate current
8 policies into a cohesive document. Development of the plan and policy will include reviewing
9 existing policies and considering additional policies where gaps exist or there are opportunities
10 to extend and increase the City's commitments. The Council's review will include consideration
11 of possible Comprehensive Plan policies for the 2009 Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle.
12 The Council President will consult with Councilmembers to either identify an existing
13 Committee in which this work plan item could be located, or to determine whether a special
14 Committee should be developed.

15 **Section 4. Amendments to be Not Considered in 2008** The following amendments
16 should not be considered further as Comprehensive Plan amendments:
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18 8. Solar energy infrastructure goals and policies;

19 10. Prohibiting bicycle trails within 100' of an existing short line railroad in the Ballard
20 Interbay Northend Manufacturing – Industrial Center;

21 11. FLUM amendment - Nesbit Avenue North, south of North 90th Street;

22 14. New “Open and Participatory Government” Element;

