



**City of Seattle
Seattle Planning Commission**

Amalia Leighton, Chair
Vanessa Murdock, Executive Director

**SEATTLE PLANNING COMMISSION
JANUARY 8, 2015
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michael Austin, Catherine Benotto, Luis Borrero, David Cutler, Brad Khouri, Grace Kim, Jeanne Krikawa, Amalia Leighton, Kara Martin, Tim Parham, Marj Press, David Shelton, Lauren Squires

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Matt Roewe, Patti Wilma

COMMISSION STAFF

Jessica Brand - Policy Analyst, Diana Canzoneri - Demographer, Robin Magonegil - Administrative Assistant, Vanessa Murdock - Executive Director

GUESTS

Ryan Curren, OH; Michael James, SDOT; Nora Liu, Nathan Torgelson, DPD;

IN ATTENDANCE

Cindi Barker, Kevin O'Neill, Alex Zimmerman

Please Note: Seattle Planning Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript but instead represent key points and the basis of the discussion.

CALL TO ORDER

- **Chair's Report & Minutes Approval**
 - Chair Amalia Leighton

Chair Leighton called the meeting to attention at 3:04 pm

Action: Commissioner Jeanne Krikawa moved to approve the December 11, 2014 minutes. Commissioner David Shelton seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Briefing: Accessible Mount Baker
- Michael James, SDOT

- Public Participation to date has identified pedestrian safety as paramount and the need to improve pedestrian safety within this area.
- Plan outcome should understand and learn from the previous multi-modal plans for this area.
- Large public meeting to be held in March, 2015 to focus on ideas for improving the area.

If you would like to view the power point presentation on Accessible Mount Baker, it is included in the supporting documents found in the minute's section of our website.

Commissioner Comments and Questions

Commissioners requested more information on collaboration with other projects happening within the area – Rainier Safety Study and Sound Transit siting of I-90.

Commissioners shared their support of SDOT's approach to this project. They noted that they were excited to see that SDOT was taking seriously the needs of pedestrians in this area, and that there was a strong connection to the Bicycle Master Plan and the Transit Master Plan.

Commissioners stated that they were hopeful that some this great work would be incorporated into other projects being led by various City departments; particularly the modal hierarchy approach as a tool to address context specific needs but prioritize safety and cooperation.

Quarterly Update: DPD Planning Division

- Nathan Torgelson, DPD

- DPD continues to staff and actively participate in the Housing Affordability and Livability Advisory Committee work.
- DPD is working through the Mayor's Office to ensure collaboration with various City departments on outreach and engagement for the major update to the Comprehensive Plan.
- Area Planning continues in University District, Central Area, Uptown and Lake City. The University District FEIS was recently published.
- DPD will be evaluating the Design Review process.
- Legislation on the Pedestrian Zones has been delivered to the City Council.

Commissioner Comments and Questions

Commissioners shared their support of the Design Review process evaluation but requested clarification on the focus of the review – which projects are eligible and/or process evaluation. Mr. Torgelson responded that both were being looked evaluated.

Commissioners also asked for clarification on the relationship between Move Seattle and the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Torgelson responded that the two are coordinated but that Move Seattle will also be more specific than the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioners requested more information on the TOD Manager and his current work plan. Mr. Torgelson responded that Steven Shain, TOD Manager is working on projects along the Seattle light rail route and specifically with SDOT in Mt. Baker, Sound Transit at the I-90 station and with Metro in Northgate.

Update: Social Equity in the Comprehensive Plan

- Ryan Curren, OH & Nora Liu, DPD

- The Equitable Development Initiative continues to do work on the values expressed in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Statements specific to the elements of the Comprehensive Plan were shared with the Commission.
- A resolution about equity defining “Equitable Development” will be proposed at City Council in the near future.

If you would like to view the power point presentations on Social Equity in the Comprehensive Plan it is included in the supporting documents found in the minute’s section of our website.

Commissioner Comments and Question

Commissioners expressed their support for the work of the Equitable Development Initiative and thanked staff for returning regularly to the Commission meetings for input and updates.

Commissioners wondered if it was intentional to call them “Racial Equity Statements”. Staff responded that it was intentional based on the Race and Social Justice toolkit developed and implemented by the City, but that the equity statements also include different types of equity that are element-specific.

Commissioners expressed interest in how these statements would be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan, whether this work was incorporated into the current draft and how it might impact the next draft. They also expressed interest in how the Comprehensive Plan and the vision for social equity would be tracked. Staff responded that the drafters of the Comprehensive Plan were included in the drafting of these statements but they were not completed before the current draft was due. They noted that they continue to work with drafters to understand how best to include these statements and is also working with an Interdepartmental team to set a group of indicators that will hold the City accountable to these visions.

Briefing: Draft SPC 2015 Outreach Plan

Staff outlined a draft public outreach plan for the Commission.

If you would like to view the power point presentations on the Draft SPC 2015 Outreach Plan it is included in the supporting documents found in the minute’s section of our website.

Commissioner Comments and Question

Commissioners were interested in being a part of some community outreach but wanted to better define the goals and objectives for this work as well as how it works within the overall work plan.

Commissioners were concerned with the time and commitment required to perform outreach on top of the many duties already performed by the Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Zimmerman informed the Commission that he has been in front of the City Council over 500 times as well as other community meetings over 200 times. He is interested in opening up the Bertha Landes room on

Sunday to the public for Question and Answer sessions with current elected officials and those running for office. He seeks the support of the Seattle Planning Commission in asking for this program.

Cindi Barker spoke to the presentation on outreach and engagement. She supported the Commission pursuing an outreach plan and spoke to her involvement in the HALA public outreach meetings. She expressed the importance of reaching more people and gathering outside perspectives in the work that the Commission does. She encouraged the Commission to go out and talk with new communities and to allow that to help inform the work they do.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Leighton adjourned the meeting at 5:08pm