



Snohomish County

Planning Commission

Planning and Development Services

3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S #604, Everett, WA 98201

Clerk Email: Megan.Moore@snoco.org

REGULAR SESSION

MAY 24, 2022

MINUTES

For access to supporting documents reviewed by the Planning Commission, visit the Snohomish County Planning Commission webpage at <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/164>

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioner Robert Larsen, Planning Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Of the ten (10) currently appointed commissioners, nine (9) were in attendance (a quorum being six (6) members and a majority being six (6) members):

Commissioners Present

Merle Ash
Rosanna Brown
Tom Campbell
Mark James
Robert Larsen
Keri Moore
Tom Norcott
Neil Pedersen
Raymond Sheldon

Commissioners Absent

Leah Everett

Mike McCrary, Planning and Development Services Director served as the Planning Commission Secretary for this meeting.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Larsen updated the commission on hearing procedures. When a hearing is scheduled, after the staff report the commission will move straight into the public hearing and will go into deliberations after the public hearing is closed. No questions or discussion from the commission will take place after the staff report, only after the public hearing.

Chair Larsen provided an update that Jim West couldn't make tonight's meeting, and his part of The Health of the Puget Sound presentation will be done by Andrea Carey from the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.



D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of [April 26, 2022](#) were unanimously approved.

E. STATUS OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND PAST RECOMMENDATIONS

- [Upcoming Planning Commission Meeting Topics](#)
- [County Council Actions on Planning Commission Recommendations](#)

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. 2022 County-Initiated Comprehensive Plan Amendments: Hearing

Steve Skorney, PDS Senior Planner, Steve.Skorney@snoco.org

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the annual consideration of county-initiated amendments to the Growth Management Act (GMA) comprehensive plan according to the requirements of Chapter 30.73 SCC. The 2022 package of proposed amendments consist of:

GPP22-3 – Technical Corrections

The 2022 Technical Corrections include the following map, policy and code amendments : 1) Revise the maps of the General Policy Plan (GPP) to indicate a more accurate Stanwood Urban Growth Area (UGA) boundary; 2) Revise the maps of the GPP to recognize properties that are no longer under county jurisdiction due to municipal annexations; 3) Change references in the text of the GPP to reflect the new Parks and Recreation Division; and 4) Delete remaining references in county code to the discontinued Freeway Service zone.

Commissioner Larsen opened the **Public Hearing at 5:40 p.m.** for the 2022 County-Initiated Comprehensive Plan Amendments.

No written comments were received by the Planning Commission from the public before the public hearing. No one spoke at the public hearing.

The **Public Hearing was closed at 5:40 p.m.**

Following the summary and public hearing there were no additional questions or discussion from the commissioners.

A **Motion** was made by Commissioner Norcott and seconded by Commissioner Campbell recommending **APPROVAL** of the 2022 County-Initiated Comprehensive Plan Amendments.

VOTE (Motion):

9 in favor (*Ash, Brown, Campbell, James, Larsen, Moore, Norcott, Pederson, Sheldon*)

0 opposed

0 abstention

Motion PASSED



For further information, please review the following:

- [GPP22-3 Tech Corrections Staff Recommendation dated May 6, 2022](#)
- [GPP22-3 Tech Corrections Briefing Staff Report dated April 8, 2022](#)

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Health of the Puget Sound, Toxins in Fish and Results of Recent State Studies: Presentation

Andrea Carey, Biologist, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Andrea.Carey@dfw.wa.gov
Alex Gipe, Washington State Department of Ecology, Agip461@ECY.wa.gov

Andrea Carey, a biologist at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) gave a presentation on the effects of toxic contaminants on marine and anadromous species in the Puget Sound. She reported specifically on juvenile Chinook Salmon and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and Polybrominated Biphenyl Ethers (PBDEs). WDFW Toxics Biological Observation System began monitoring toxic contaminants juvenile Chinook in 2013. Concentrations of PCBs and PBDEs are measured in fish in the Nooksack, Skagit, Stillaguamish, Elwha, Dungeness, Duckabush, Skokomish, Snohomish, Sammamish, Duwamish, Puyallup, and Nisqually rivers. Recovery targets for PCBs in the Snohomish, Sammamish, Duwamish, Puyallup, and Nisqually rivers are not being met. Additionally, recovery targets for PBDEs are not being met in both the Snohomish and Puyallup rivers. Elevated PBDE levels were especially high in natural-origin Chinook salmon located downstream of the wastewater treatment plant and combined sewer overflows located at Langus Riverfront Park. Response strategies include ongoing assessments, agency coordination, alternate discharge times, increased holding time in ponds for juvenile salmon, and pretreatment options for industrial users.

Following this presentation the commissioners asked questions regarding outreach to other local jurisdictions, the impact of daily discharge from the wastewater treatment plant, measures to mitigate pollution, time and length of exposure for the salmon in the estuary, trend rates and timeline for PBDEs, sample locations from other areas including the Tulalip Bay Hatchery, and sample size.

Following the discussion, Alex Gipe from the Department of Ecology (DOE) presented on the DOE's work with the WDFW to assess and prioritize potential sources of toxics that may be impacting the health of out migrating juvenile Chinook salmon. The studies focus on how Chinook intake the toxins and where the toxins are located. There are 29 sample sites that analyze 36 PBDE congeners in the Snohomish, Skykomish, and Snoqualmie Rivers. Data confirms that Wastewater Treatment Plant outfalls are a direct input of PBDEs into the Snohomish Watershed.

Following the presentation, commissioners asked questions regarding project funding, the effect of the PBDEs on whale populations, the long lifecycle and persistence of PBDEs, sediment clean up, and medications in the water streams that effect immune systems of fish.



For further information, please review the following:

- [Infection by *Nanophyetus salmincola*](#) and Toxic Exposure in Out-Migrating Steelhead from Puget Sound, Washington: Implications for Early Marine Survival
- [Chemical tracers guide identification](#) of the location and source of persistent organic pollutants in juvenile Chinook salmon
- [Toxic contaminants in juvenile Chinook salmon](#) migrating through Puget Sound
- [Department of Fish and Wildlife Presentation](#) dated 5/24/2022
- [Department of Ecology Presentation](#) dated 5/24/2022

2. Stormwater Management Strategies: Presentation

Derek Day, Washington Stormwater Center at Washington State University,
Derek.Day@wsu.edu

Derek Day, Team Lead for the Stormwater Strategic Initiative presented on implementation strategies to reduce toxics in the Puget Sound. Strategies include clean up, management, and prevention and start with understand the level of risk to different species.

Implementation strategies use multiple organizations working together including Snohomish County, and the Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization.

Following this presentation the commissioners asked questions regarding garbage cleanup strategies, the health of shellfish, future plans for stormwater drainage as Snohomish County grows, how PBDEs effect different species of salmon, funding pipelines, and how best to prioritize investments.

For further information, please review the following:

- Washington Stormwater Website, <https://wastormwatercenter.org>
- Puget Sound National Estuary Program, <https://pugetsoundestuary.wa.gov>
- [Stormwater Management Strategies Presentation](#) dated 5/24/2022

H. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.



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PLANNING COMMISSION'S RANGE OF POSSIBLE ACTIONS:

At the conclusion of its public hearing, the County Planning Commission will consider transmitting a formal recommendation to County Council concerning adoption of the proposal. The Commission may make a recommendation to adopt or to not adopt the proposal. The Commission's recommendation may also propose amendments to the proposal. The Planning Commission is an advisory body and the final decision rests with the County Council.

PARTY OF RECORD / PUBLIC TESTIMONY:

You may become a party of record for any specific topic that comes before the Planning Commission by submitting a written request or testimony to Megan Moore, Planning Commission Clerk, PDS, M/S 604, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201 or email at Megan.Moore@snoco.org.

WHERE TO GET COPIES OF DOCUMENTS AND WEBSITE ACCESS:

Please check www.snohomishcountywa.gov for additional information or the Snohomish County Department of Planning and Developmental Services, Reception Desk, 2nd Floor, County Administration Building East, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201 or email at Megan.Moore@snoco.org.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE:

Snohomish County facilities are accessible. The county strives to provide access and services to all members of the public. Sign language interpreters and communication materials in alternate form will be provided upon request of one calendar week. Contact Angela Anderson at 425-262-2206 Voice, or 425-388-3700 TDD.

Snohomish County Planning Commissioners:

<i>Merle Ash, District 1</i>	<i>Tom Campbell, District 4</i>
<i>Mark James, District 1</i>	<i>Neil Pedersen, District 4</i>
<i>Tom Norcott, District 2</i>	<i>Rosanna Brown, District 5</i>
<i>Raymond Sheldon, Jr., District 2</i>	<i>Leah Everett, District 5</i>
<i>Robert Larsen, District 3</i>	<i>Keri Moore, Executive Appointee</i>
<i>Vacant, District 3</i>	

Commission Staff (from Planning and Development Services (PDS) Department):

<i>Mike McCrary, Commission Secretary</i>	<i>Megan Moore, Commission Clerk</i>
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