

**City of Lynnwood  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
June 11, 2009 Meeting**

<b>Commissioners Present:</b>	<b>Staff Present:</b>
Richard Wright, Chair	Shay Davidson, Administrative Asst.
Maria Ambalada	Kevin Garrett, Planning Manager
Van Aubuchon	David Mach, Project Manager, PW
Chad Braithwaite	
Jeff Davies	
Bob Larsen, Vice Chair	<b>Other:</b>
	Councilmember Ted Hikel
<b>Commissioners Absent:</b>	
Michael Wojack, Second Vice-chair	

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wright at 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

1. Meeting of Special Meeting of April 21, 2009

*Motion made by Commissioner Wright to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.*

2. Meeting of May 28, 2009

Chair Wright referred to page 4 of 5. In the paragraph which begins, "Councilmember Hikel discussed two items . . .", the last sentence should be amended to read: "They now require . . . into a building **at new developments.**"

*Motion made to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.*

**Council Liaison Report**

Councilmember Ted Hikel stated that they are in the midst of more visioning meetings with Commissioner Larsen chairing the Vision Committee for the city. The meetings have been very well attended. He stated that he will not be at the June 25 Planning Commission meeting because he will be in Spokane at the Association of Washington Cities annual meeting.

**Citizen Comments**

None.

## Public Hearings

None.

## Other Business

### 1. 2009 Transportation Improvement Program.

Public Works Project Manager David Mach reviewed the 2010-2015 TIP as listed in the Planning Commission's packet. He noted that all items are consistent with the Transportation Element in the Comprehensive Plan and all the projects in the list are also listed in the 20-year list of projects in the back of the Transportation Element.

Commissioner Larsen asked if the projects in the City Center Projects category are a result of zoning and other planning work that has gone on as a form of city investment in that area. Mr. Mach replied that they are. He noted that the biggest expense is the City Center Street Grid. This is consistent with the City Center Subarea Plan.

Commissioner Ambalada discussed the need for a pedestrian signal or crosswalk on 176<sup>th</sup> east of Highway 99. Mr. Mach explained that staff is monitoring this and looking at some options for this area. He will bring this up with staff. Planning Manager Garrett added that the Commission could recommend that the Council include a crossing of 176<sup>th</sup> Street in the TIP.

Commissioner Davies asked why 188<sup>th</sup> Street (west of Highway 99) is not being considered for widening. Mr. Mach explained that it has to do with funding and which projects are eligible for grants. He explained that they have a better prioritization process in place now to fill in the missing link sidewalks.

Commissioner Aubuchon asked what the mechanism is for citizens requesting crosswalks or bike paths. Mr. Mach suggested speaking to the Public Works staff as a starting point. He stated that there is not a formal process for addressing those concerns, but residents are always welcome to talk to staff about potential future projects. Commissioner Aubuchon explained that there is public frustration about how to get the transportation improvements that they want. Mr. Mach encouraged people to get their comments regarding sidewalks to staff for consideration for the non-motorized plan.

Planning Manager Garrett added that the public is always welcome to contact the Council's staff assistant, Beth Morris, who takes telephone calls on behalf of the Council. There is also a public comment option form on the city's website.

The TIP will go to public hearing in July and everybody is welcome to come in and talk about a project they think should be on the TIP. Another opportunity to speak about any matter related to transportation planning is that in September there will be a hearing on the non-motorized project list in the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Davies requested a link on the home page of the city's website to go to the comments section.

Councilmember Hikel discussed the option of televising broadcasts to improve communication with residents. He added that people also have the option of attending Council meetings and speaking during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. He commented that the school district has indicated that they may stop providing bus transportation for children if they live within a mile of the schools. This would produce a much greater demand for getting sidewalks into those areas surrounding the schools.

*Motion made by Commissioner Ambalada to propose evaluation of a mid-block pedestrian crossing on 176<sup>th</sup> near the QFC location and that special attention be paid to one-mile school zones on the TIP.*

Planning Manager Garrett suggested that the Commission has three options for requesting consideration of such a project: 1) comments to staff (similar to the comments by Commissioner Ambalada); 2) including a request to include such a project in their recommendation on the TIP; and 3) including a request to analyze such a project for consideration for next year's TIP in their recommendation. a better approach at this time might be to recommend approval of the TIP as presented with a recommendation that an analysis of the mid-block crossing on 176<sup>th</sup> be done in time to consider that project for next year's TIP.

*Commissioner Ambalada withdrew her motion.*

Commissioner Larsen suggested prioritizing known high-pedestrian traffic crossing areas. Project Manager Mach concurred.

*Chair Wright moved to recommend to Council the approval of the TIP with the additional recommendation that staff do a study of the mid-block crossing on 176<sup>th</sup> Street and also evaluate other move to full evaluation of similar high density residential areas near combinations with retail development spaces that might be causing experiencing the same situation in other parts of the city. Commissioner Ambalada seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

## Work Session

### 1. 2009 Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Group 2 (2009-CPL-0002)

- Capital Facilities Element – EPF Permit. Change name of permit for essential public facilities (EPF) from “special use permit” to essential facilities permit”. No policy implications.

Planning Manager Garrett reviewed this item. There were no comments or questions from the Commission.

- Implementation Element. Annual update. Also introduce major review of Comprehensive plan required by State law in 2010-11

Planning Manager Garrett reviewed the proposed amendments to the Implementation Element.

Commissioner Larsen commented that he liked the layout of the table in the Implementation Element in Attachment C on pages 7-8.

- Introduction – Visioning Project. Incorporate Visioning Statement into Introduction to the Plan.

Planning Manager Garrett reviewed the visioning statement which is included in Attachment D, page 6. He asked for input on whether to keep the “Creating Vision for Lynnwood in 2020” section on page 5. Commissioner Ambalada suggested keeping it and letting Council decide.

Commissioner Ambalada suggested also including verbiage relating to protecting vulnerable members of the population, especially senior citizens. She referred to “Managing Growth” on pages 8 and 9 and stressed the importance of managing growth well for the sake of the people:

- Children - need good education
- Seniors and those that are disadvantaged - create programs when necessary
- Economic development to supplement income of those that are in hardship

Planning Manager Garrett offered to work out some verbiage related to this prior to the public hearing. Commissioner Ambalada stated that while the City may not be responsible for all the ideas she mentioned above, they could take the lead on some of them.

Commissioner Larsen attempted to clarify the objective of the Commission at this point with regard to the Visioning Statement. Planning Manager Garrett felt said that Commissioner Ambalada's suggestions could be incorporated for consideration if that was the will of the Commission. He added that as long as he has been at the city they have not had a human services or social services department or function. He noted that historically, the City of Lynnwood has not chosen to have an emphasis on social service programs.

Commissioner Ambalada remarked that one of the concerns of those in the annexation areas is that the city does not provide services that are provided in the county. She felt that offering more social services might be a plus for working toward annexation.

Councilmember Hikel commented on the community vision. He explained that the Council and the Mayor have taken the position that what the Visioning Committee has come up with is not something that Council wants to change. He cautioned against any major changes because they are looking at this as a grass-roots level document. He did suggest looking at the document with all the bullet points because many of the things that they may be concerned about are probably already addressed in the bullets.

Commissioner Aubuchon added that they should consider adopting the visioning statement as it came out of the Vision Committee in order to maintain a common citywide document.

Chair Wright commended the visioning statement as presented and the work that was done by staff, consultants, and especially the public working cooperatively to create it. He noted that the language flows well within the Comprehensive Plan. He was in favor of incorporating as much of the visioning statement as possible while maintaining the intent of the Comprehensive Plan.

### **Director's Report**

1. Update on Annexation Project – BRB Action & Maple Precinct Annexation

Planning Manager Garrett reported that the BRB approved a written decision which will be sent out to the commissioners. He summarized events related to the annexation.

2. Other Matters

Planning Manager Garrett asked the commissioners to help Maria Ambalada remember to turn on her microphone!

Commissioner Aubuchon asked for more information about staff's request to get more involved with the Growth Management Act. Planning Manager Garrett indicated they were looking for experience with a type of process for integrating citizen input into the rewrite of a major planning document.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

 For RW  
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Richard Wright, Chair