

**TOWN OF LA CONNER  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
July 16, 2019**

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The Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present were commissioners Bruce Bradburn, Marna Hanneman, Carol Hedlin, Liz Theaker, and Planning Director Marianne Manville-Ailles. Commissioner Talman was absent.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Bradburn moved to approve the June 18, 2019 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Hanneman. Motion carried 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- *Discussion and possible action Planning Commission By Laws.*

Commissioner Hanneman moved to approve the revised Planning Commission By Laws. Seconded by Commissioner Theaker. Motion carried 4-0.

- *Continue discussion Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.*

Marianne went through the transportation element and changed all the instances of 'LaConner' to 'La Conner.' She added in the specific 20-year reference in the introduction. She rewrote the introduction, taking some of the information Commissioner Talman had used regarding road access and putting it into the Data and Analysis section, since it fit better there. She added a paragraph to the purpose section that explains how the element satisfies Growth Management Act requirements. Marianne also added a second paragraph to Concurrency to further detail how that applies to level of service.

**Major Transportation Considerations**

Amend the second sentence of the first paragraph to read: Safety is the primary concern specifically the speed of vehicles travelling through the Town.

Marianne made a note to highlight mobility issues in this section.

**Coordination of Transportation Facilities**

There was discussion at the last meeting regarding reiterating the countywide planning policies regarding transportation in this element. Marianne reviewed the introduction to

the Comp Plan in Chapter 1 and noted that all of the relevant policies had already been detailed in the section for transportation. She recommended simply referring back to that Chapter for the sake of simplicity and consistency with the other chapters which were also handled this way.

### Financing

This section will be majorly reworked and expanded. The GMA requires that the Town identify projects and funding sources for them for the next 20 years. Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) has very specific guidelines for how they want this section to look. There will probably be a general statement here and the 20-year breakdown of predicted project expenditures and revenues will be added to the Data and Analysis section.

### Goals and Policies

The Commission will focus first on which goals and policies they want to keep and then reorganize what's left. Those goals and policies pertaining to safety will be grouped first, those pertaining to design will come second, and those concerning multi-modal transportation will be listed last.

#### Goal A

Move Policy 7A-1 and address with like traffic control policies. It does not fit under Goal A.

#### Goal B

Amend to read: Provide for safe and expeditious vehicular traffic through Town, including senior citizen and handicapped barrier-free access.

Delete Policy 7B-2. Dead end street posting should be a given and is not an issue that needs to be included in the Plan.

Delete Policy 7B-7. The handling of street ends is not relevant to the transportation element and will be discussed at length in the Parks Plan.

#### Goal C

Delete. Shoreline use has already been addressed in the Land Use element.

Policy 7C-1: Marianne recommended referencing the boardwalk under multi-modal non-motorized transportation, so this will be relocated.

Delete Policy 7C-2. View corridors will be addressed in the Land Use element.

Delete Policy 7C-3. Parking for boat trailers is not relevant to this discussion.

#### Goal D

Delete. Parking requirements are detailed in the Uniform Development Code and are not relevant here. The Goal D policies will be grouped under the design section of the transportation element with appropriate goals.

Goal E

Delete. It basically restates the purpose of the transportation element and is redundant. The Goal E policies will be used elsewhere.

Goal F

Delete. Transportation links to county roads are already in place.

Delete Policy 7F-1. With the current public transit system, it is obsolete.

Policy 7F-2 will be updated with the current name for RTPO.

Delete goals G-H and their associated policies. Boat access and moorage are not relevant issues.

Goal I

Delete Policy 7I-4. Adding bike lanes to Morris and Maple Streets would widen the streets encouraging traffic to go faster and conflicts with one of this element's primary goals of traffic calming.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- *None*

**CLOSING COMMENTS:**

On July 18th, the northwest section of the American Planning Association will be holding their quarterly Planners Forum in La Conner at the Civic Garden Club. Sessions will start at 9 a.m. with the last one starting at 12:30 p.m. Scott Thomas and Marianne will lead a walking tour of La Conner at 1:30 p.m. All commissioners are invited to attend.

Marianne asked the Commissioners to review the Anacortes Transportation Element Goals and Policies, strike out the ones that are irrelevant and get this information to her within the next ten days so she can organize it for the next meeting. She will send them the document they edited at the meeting to work from. The appendix will be updated with the consultant's information, so the Commission can ignore that for now and just focus on the goals and policies.

Mayor Hayes has discussed this update with Marianne, and she told him that the Commission will take the time they need to do it right. Speeding and safety are issues of high importance that this element addresses. The Mayor would like the Commission to review density, which they will do later this year. They also need to update the Critical Areas Ordinance because La Conner is out of compliance.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Garden Club. There will be probably be no meeting in September because several Commissioners will be out of town, but they should be able

to finish reviewing the element in October and still have it ready by the end of the year. Commissioner Bradburn will be gone through mid-September and Commissioner Theaker will be gone the month of September into mid-October, so that will determine

With no further business Commissioner Hanneman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Theaker. Motion carried unanimously.

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Chair

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Date