

# MASON COUNTY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION

**April 18, 2016**

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**1. Call to Order**

Bill Dewey called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

**Present:** Bill Dewey, Kevin Shutt, Rob Drexler, Deb Soper, Vicki Wilson

**Excused:** Steve Van Denver

**3. Regular Business**

**a. Adoption of Agenda**

Agenda adopted as written

**b. Approval of Minutes**

January 25, 2016- Vicki suggested the following changes:

Page 3- The paragraph at the top of the page did not make sense as written. She asked that the recording be listened to for corrections.

The 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph stating Teri Clark spoke, should show that Teri King spoke.

Page 4- (e.) Vicki said to remove “within table” from the first sentence.

Under (f.) She said that a change to regulation 5 was made that needed to be added to the minutes.

Page 5- (g.) the changed language should read *The County may condition the permit so that the applicant...*

Page 6- Under “Consideration of amendments to the aquaculture section”, Vicki stated that another change was recommended, and a discussion was had regarding the ability to work at all times under (B.) (3) (i).

Vicki then made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Kevin Shutt. All in favor, motion carried.

**c. Public Comment**

None

#### 4. **2016 Comprehensive Plan Update- Presentation of the Transportation Element Draft prepared by SCJ Alliance**

*Presenters: Loretta Swanson, Public Works and SCJ Alliance*

Loretta Swanson thanked the PAC members for meeting to review the draft. She said to be in compliance, they need to meet their June commerce deadline. Loretta then introduced Thera Black from SCJ Alliance and Dave Smith, the transportation engineer for Mason County.

Thera Black began by discussing how the current draft came to be and summarized some key points and goals within the handout she prepared. After going through the handout, she noted that after a hearing with the PAC on either May 9<sup>th</sup> or May 16<sup>th</sup>, she and Loretta will go to the Board of County Commissioners on June 6<sup>th</sup> for a briefing then hold a public hearing on June 14 with a projected adoption date of June 21<sup>st</sup>. She said that before coming back to the PAC, they will be holding public meetings and visiting with TIP-CAP during the first two weeks of May for input.

Rob stated that he liked the draft thus far. He did say that some points were a little vague and needed to be more specific to Mason County. Thera responded, saying she would work on that.

Thera then went through the 6 policy areas that the draft is structured around:

1. Transportation Goals and Policies
2. Preservation Goals
3. Safety Goals
4. Mobility Goals
5. Environmental Goals
6. Stewardship Goals

Vicki brought up the fact that Barbara Adkins had presented a checklist of items necessary for the Comprehensive Plan update at a previous meeting. She said that checklist had specific items that needed to be included in this element. Thera said that when the complete document was presented for the hearing it would include a copy of that checklist for reference. Vicki then asked if Thera could interpret the sentence on page 2 under *Economic Vitality Goal* which reads:

*Recognize in street and site design guidelines the “first and last mile” needs of freight getting to and from manufacturing center, stores, businesses, and neighborhoods as well as freight generators like the ports and Sanderson airport*

Thera said that often when planning streets and travel, freight is forgotten. The trucks need to be able to get in and out of the areas they are delivering to. This comes down to design of the streets and buildings themselves.

Vicki moved on to the next item on the list which reads *Work with rail operators and property owners to keep at-grade rail crossings as safe as possible*. She suggested that perhaps this would be better as a safety goal instead of an economic vitality goal. Thera agreed. Vicki stated that it is somewhat difficult to find the true meaning of each section and asked if there was a way to write this in easier language. Kevin suggested grouping the sections differently so the lists were easier to understand.

Thera asked the PAC if there were other sections that should be changed or reorganized. Bill discussed the need to address Urban Growth Areas (UGA's) and how growth and development needs to be a priority for the County. He addressed the following language under *Mobility Goal*:

*Support alternatives to driving alone through the effective design and construction of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities for rural roadways.*

He said this should be a higher priority for UGA's. Thera said more specific language should be added so the UGA's are not forgotten. Bill said that more specific language should also be added to the last item under *Stewardship Goal*:

*Encourage infill and redevelopment within rural activity centers where there is a greater range of travel choices and where transportation infrastructure and services can be provided most cost effectively.*

A discussion was had between Loretta, Thera, and the PAC about how this section is driven by development, and how the north part of Mason County would open up opportunities by putting in the bypass.

Bill then addressed the verbiage under *Environment Goal* stating:

*Minimize transportation impacts on salmon, shellfish, and other impacted wildlife or habits through the replacement or retrofit of inadequate facilities and reducing or treating stormwater runoff.*

He suggested the words "replacement or retrofit" spoke to old construction, but asked about wording for any new construction. Loretta said the phrasing mainly deals with making sure all compliance criteria was up to date.

Bill pointed out that there is not much in regards to Highway 101. Thera agreed and asked for specific issues along 101 that would merit follow up. Bill suggested the Lynch Road interchange. Thera acknowledged this issue and asked if there were additional issues such as land use compatibility or transit. Rob said that 101 doesn't support business access, which has caused some locations to look outside the county. Kevin noted that up in Hoodspout, there isn't much to support pedestrian traffic. Vicki discussed bicycle safety and the fact that the Lynch Road/Arcadia Road loop has no room for bikes. Thera stated that there is value in funding for all of these suggestions and said bicycle groups are a big opportunity because when welcomed, they stay in the community and have lunch, shop locally, and bring in tourism. Kevin discussed possibly adding a charging infrastructure on 101.

Rob referred back to the Mason County Transportation Plan outline, specifically asking about the heading *System Performance*. Thera explained that this section is to document existing and future public services for arterials in the county. She said there is a requirement to document if the level of service is below a certain standard, and action needs to be shown to bring it back into compliance. The arterial requirements are set by the Department of Transportation.

Vicki suggested that items 4-7 under *Stewardship Goal* should be moved to Mobility. Thera noted that some subheadings will be added to the revised draft and that more changes can be made if necessary.

**5. Discuss dates for upcoming Shoreline Master Plan hearings and future Comprehensive Plan updates**

The PAC came up with a list of dates to meet for the Transportation Element hearing, the Shoreline Master Plan hearings and Comprehensive Plan meetings.

**May:**

- 16<sup>th</sup> – Transportation Element Hearing

**June:**

- 13<sup>th</sup>
- 20<sup>th</sup>
- 27<sup>th</sup>

**July:**

- 11<sup>th</sup>
- 25<sup>th</sup>

**6. New Business**

None

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm