

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT WORKSESSION
LACEY CITY COUNCIL AND THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

APRIL 8, 2021
4:00 P.M. – 5:38 P.M.
REMOTE ONLY

COUNCIL PRESENT: MAYOR RYDER, DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT, COUNCILMEMBERS
GREENSTEIN, STEADMAN (AUDIO), COX, KUNKEL, MILLER

COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT: TYE MENSER (CHAIR), GARY EDWARDS (VICE-CHAIR) (AUDIO),
CAROLINA MEJIA (AUDIO)

STAFF PRESENT: S. SPENCE, S. KELLEY-FONG, D. SCHNEIDER, R. WALK,
R. ANDREWS, E. FONTAINE

ACTION: APPROVE WORKSESSION AGENDA

MOTION: MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED BY COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN
AND DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT

INTRODUCTIONS

PRESENTERS: ANDY RYDER, MAYOR, CITY OF LACEY
TYE MENSER, BOARD CHAIR, THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Introductions were made by Mayor Ryder and Commissioner Menser.

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE – COVID-19 AND VACCINATION STATUS

STAFF: SCHELLI SLAUGHTER, DIRECTOR, THURSTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Schelli Slaughter, Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Director,
provided an update on COVID-19 statistics and vaccination status.

An overview of Thurston County's numbers on the Washington COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard was discussed. Public health officials encourage continuation of wearing masks and following social distancing recommendations.

Effective April 15, 2021, all Washington residents will be eligible for receiving the vaccine and efforts are in place to increase staffing and vaccine supply. Staff advised that vaccine sites are made possible by volunteers and encouraged community members to volunteer with United Way of Thurston County. Residents without internet access, who wish to obtain vaccine appointments, can call Thurston County Public Health at 360-867-2610.

Staff also advised that leadership staffing positions will be opening soon and further communication would be forthcoming regarding recruitment.

ANNEXATION UPDATES

STAFF: RYAN ANDREWS, LACEY PLANNING MANAGER
JOSHUA CUMMINGS, DIRECTOR, THURSTON COUNTY COMMUNITY
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Ryan Andrews, City of Lacey Planning Manager, provided updates on the following pending City of Lacey annexations:

- Steilacoom and Marvin Annexation
 - 410 acres
 - 446 tax parcels
 - 562 dwelling units
 - 1,489 residents
- Capitol City/Chamber Estates Annexation
 - 288 acres
 - 491 tax parcels
 - 470 dwelling units
 - 965 residents
- Mosure 54th Avenue Annexation
 - 9.83 Acres
 - 1 Parcel
 - Undeveloped
 - Low density 0-4 Zoning

Lake Lois and Pacific Avenue was also reviewed as a potential future annexation.

Mayor Ryder expressed a need for a more current and updated process regarding the annexation agreement between the City and County.

HB 1590 - HOMEFUND

STAFF: RAMIRO CHAVEZ, THURSTON COUNTY MANAGER

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Ramiro Chavez, Thurston County Manager, reviewed HB 1590, which allows the local sales and use tax for affordable housing to be imposed by a councilmanic authority.

Commissioners and County staff inquired with Council to determine if the City would be agreeable to the taxation and opened discussion to identify any opportunities to use funds towards affordable housing.

City Council and Commissioners discussed uncertainty of whether another source of revenue is needed at this time and expressed hesitation without seeing a unified plan with revenue projections.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

PRESENTER: MAYOR RYDER, LACEY CITY COUNCIL

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Mayor Ryder and Lacey City Council reviewed the American Rescue Plan Act scheduled funds and inquired whether the County is willing to suspend any spending until a regional conversation takes place.

Thurston County advised that the Board has not made any decisions, but has definite priorities for the funds. Staff discussed that timelines could be adjusted, or amounts scaled, depending on what is being requested regionally.

Both the Lacey City Council and Thurston County Commissioners showed support in receiving an expedited recommendation from staff and the Regional Housing Council regarding an agreed upon approach.

INFORMATION SHARING & WRAP UP/NEXT STEPS

PRESENTER: MAYOR RYDER, LACEY CITY COUNCIL

ACTION: INFORMATION ONLY

Mayor Ryder reviewed items discussed during the meeting and next steps, which include the topic of updating the Annexation Agreement.

Council and Commissioners also expressed a desire to hold another meeting with local developers and realtors to discuss housing development regulations and barriers within the process.