

MINUTES

Lacey Planning Commission Meeting
Tuesday, June 1, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.
Conducted remotely via videoconference

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Dave Wasson.

Planning Commission members present: Dave Wasson, Gail Madden, Peg Evans-Brown, Daphne Retzlaff, Kyrian MacMichael, Eddie Bishop, and Robin Vasquez. Staff present: Rick Walk, Ryan Andrews, and Jessica Brandt.

Dave noted a quorum present.

Peg Evans-Brown made a motion, seconded by Kyrian MacMichael, to approve the amended agenda, excluding the New Business item, for tonight's meeting. All were in favor, the motion carried. Robin Vasquez made a motion, seconded by Eddie Bishop, to approve the May 18 meeting minutes. All were in favor, the motion carried.

1. Public Comments:

- Dan Tufford expressed concerns regarding the proposed homeowners association exemption for open space tree removal in the Urban Forest Management Plan.
- Nancy Winters urged the City to provide greater tree protection.
- Dianna Moore asked Planning Commission to disallow the HOA exemption and keep UFM plan as is.
- Lynn Fitz Hugh spoke in favor of leaving the plan as is or amending it to provide more protection for trees, older trees in particular.
- Roy Treadway agreed with other public comments and urged Planning Commission to provide more protection for older trees.
- Wayne Olsen agreed with previous speakers.
- Carolyn Treadway urged the City to take immediate action to protect older trees.

2. Commission Members Reports: Robin reported that she participated in a conversation with Parks regarding outreach on a Parks plan and said that she has volunteered to assist.

3. Director's Report: None.

4. Old Business:

Urban Forest Management Plan and Associated Regulations: Jessica Brandt, Associate Planner.

- Jessica gave a presentation that included background information on growth management and planning, goals and policies, City of Lacey growth and developable land, tree review process, public comments, proposed amendments, task force work and process, and tree canopy inventory.
- **Robin Vasquez made a motion, seconded by Peg Evans-Brown, to recommend to Council that the City hire an arborist and establish an urban forest advisory committee to support a more comprehensive urban forestry program. All were in favor, the motion carried.**
- **Robin Vasquez made a motion, seconded by Eddie Bishop, to recommend establishing a target of maintaining 28% tree canopy across the city based on a regularly-updated urban tree canopy inventory. All were in favor, the motion carried.**
- **Gail Madden made a motion, seconded by Eddie Bishop, to direct staff to remove the exception for homeowners associations to be able to remove healthy trees contained in the draft regulations. All were in favor, the motion carried.**
- Ryan suggested that staff add Planning Commission recommendations into the plan and make suggested changes, and present an amended draft at the next meeting.
- Daphne asked for more clarification on the tree removal stipulations. Robin asked that the plan be reviewed again in 2022.

5. Communications and Announcements: None.

6. Next meeting: June 15, 2021.

7. Adjournment: 7:15 p.m.