



CITY PLAN COMMISSION  
808 W. SPOKANE FALLS BLVD.  
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON 99201-3329  
(509) 625-6060  
FAX (509) 625-6013

## MINUTES

**CITY PLAN COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011  
CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING CENTER, LOWER LEVEL,  
CITY HALL – SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**

**CPC MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karen Byrd, President; Bob Mansfield, Vice President; Mike Ekins; Gail Prosser; Asher Ernst; Dennis Dellwo; Rod Butler

**CPC MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Fisher; Stan Stirling; Kerry Brooks

**LIAISON PRESENT:** Amber Waldref, Council Member, and Kaye Straight, Community Assembly.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Planning Services – Scott Chesney, Secretary to the Plan Commission; Pat Hall, administrative support; Nikole Porter, City Planner; Ken Pelton, City Planner

Legal – James Richman, Assistant City Attorney

**GUESTS:** Candace Mumm, Five-Mile Neighborhood; Kathy Miotke, Chair of Five-Mile Neighborhood; Ginger Patano, Southgate Neighborhood; Paul Kropp, Neighborhood Alliance

The Commission meeting began at 12:34 p.m. General commission business was discussed.

Scott Chesney gave the Director's report. The discussion included:

- A team of students from the University of Idaho presented their findings and recommendations for the redevelopment and revitalization of North Monroe. Planning staff will provide the findings to the Plan Commission.
- The City of Spokane has commented on Airway Heights' mixed-use proposal along Highway 2. Spokane is recommending prohibition of residential in the 65 or higher noise zone. Airway Heights recently adopted the County's policy.
- Planning staff is working with Greenstone to finalize the Kendall Yards development agreement.
- The Mayor vetoed the Comp Plan Amendment on 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The amendment goes back to City Council December 19 for reconsideration.
- The Downtown Parking rate study is complete and will go before Council on December 19.
- The Jefferson School application was submitted. The application has been routed to departments and agencies. The public comment should begin on January 3, 2012.

- The neighborhood planning improvements that have been completed will go before City Council on December 19.
- President Byrd informed the rest of the Plan Commission that City staff will continue to provide draft Findings and Conclusions; however, the parts that reference Plan Commission decisions will be removed.
- City and County Planning will work on a comprehensive annexation strategy in the future.

President Byrd gave the President's report. The discussion included:

- Vice President Mansfield has been approved by City Council for reappointment to the Plan Commission. Asher Ernst's request has been forwarded to City Council on December 19 by the Mayor.
- The Infill Housing open houses had good turnout.
- The Boundary Review Board is being dissolved.

There was no Community Assembly report.

**Gail Prosser made the motion to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes as amended. M/S by Rod Butler. Passed unanimously.**

Council Member Waldref gave the Council report. The discussion included:

- Council deferred the Courtland Comp Plan Amendment for a week to have further discussions with the neighborhood on a developer agreement. The developer agreement has several stipulations such as safety, ingress/egress, etc.
- Council will reconsider the Comp Plan Amendment for 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue since the Mayor's veto.
- The 10-year Urban Growth Area Update will go before Council on December 19.

## **COMMISSION WORKSHOPS**

*10-year UGA Update Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations, by Scott Chesney and Jo Anne Wright*

President Byrd led the discussion on the Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations. The discussion included:

- Dennis Dellwo suggested striking the word "for" in the first sentence under Letter F on page 1.
- Mike Ekins asked if the memo from Julia McHugh would be forwarded to City Council as it was received after the comment period. Mr. Chesney stated staff would include it in the packet to City Council.

**Rod Butler made the motion to forward the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations for the 10-year Urban Growth Area Update striking the word "for" from letter "F" on page 1. M/S by Vice President Mansfield. The motion passed unanimously.**

1:25 p.m. break

1:35 p.m. reconvene

*Five-Mile Neighborhood Planning Resolution, by Nikole Porter and Candace Mumm*

Nikole Porter, Candace Mumm and Kathy Miotke presented for workshop, the Five-Mile Neighborhood Planning Resolution. The discussion included:

- The neighborhood has a resolution that will go before City Council in January.
- The Five-Mile neighborhood has been committed since the beginning of the planning process to connectivity and safety.
- Their process began in 2009. Studio Cascade was the consultant.
- Ms. Mumm pointed out language on the second page of the neighborhood's resolution regarding Hearing Examiner. The Legal Department suggested that language should be stricken.
- Gail Prosser asked how the neighborhood interfaced with the Bicycle Advisory Board. Ms. Mumm said they asked to go before the Board. Ms. Porter stated that this should be addressed when Chapter 4 of the Comprehensive Plan is updated.
- President Byrd asked if any concerns arose at the open house. Ms. Mumm stressed that the citizens of Spokane want to walk.
- Kathy Miotke stated that sidewalks are part of concurrency.
- James Richman said the next step would probably be to submit an application for a Comp Plan Amendment to include the neighborhood's specific plan as part of the Comprehensive Plan. He does not believe that a resolution can be adopted without going through the public participation process required by GMA. He is concerned there would not be substantive authority for the conditions concerning the Hearing Examiner.
- Ms. Wright stated the completed neighborhood plans would be placed in Appendix 4 so other neighborhoods could see how different neighborhoods went through the planning process.

**Dennis Dellwo made the motion that the Plan Commission encourage City Council to adopt and support the resolution as proposed. M/S by Gail Prosser. Passed unanimously.**

*Southgate Neighborhood Planning Resolution, by Nikole Porter, Ginger Patano and Paul Kropp*

Nikole Porter, Ginger Patano and Paul Kropp presented for workshop, the Southgate Neighborhood Planning Resolution. The discussion included:

- Ms. Porter began the discussion with the historical work performed by the neighborhood.
- Paul Kropp said there was a mailing to all the addresses within the joint planning of the County. These people were invited to the meeting where the resolution was discussed and voted to forward to City Council.

- The topics that came up during the process were parks and open space, connectivity and urban design.
- The Parks Board supports the neighborhood's desire for parks and open space.

**Bob Mansfield made the motion that the Plan Commission vote to endorse and encourage the resolution and executive summary that will be given to the City Council. M/S by Dennis Dellwo. The motion passed unanimously.**

*Infill Housing Zoning Code Update Project, by Ken Pelton*

Ken Pelton presented for workshop, an update of the Infill Housing open houses. The discussion included:

- There was good attendance at the open houses.
- The task force requested that public comments be returned before the end of the year.
- The task force has received comments resulting from the open houses from Greenstone and Spokane Preservation Advocates.
- Mr. Pelton stated one of the important considerations is to insure that changes to the code result in infill housing that is compatible with existing surrounding neighborhoods.
- The next step is to consider feedback received at open houses. Then, staff will talk to developers to receive further feedback.
- Mr. Pelton will return to Plan Commission for another workshop at the January 11, 2012 meeting.

*Plan Commission Work Program, by Plan Commission members*

Scott Chesney led the workshop discussion on the 2012 Plan Commission Work Program. The discussion included:

- Several City departments are looking at their individual codes to make sure they are compatible with the Comprehensive Plan.
- The Plan Commission will meet with City Council for a joint meeting sometime in January.
- Some changes may come about with the change in administration and new City Council members.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Byrd welcomed the public and asked for public comment. The following spoke:

- Candace Mumm, Five-Mile Neighborhood. Ms. Mumm spoke about the Citizen's Street Advisory Committee with the Comprehensive Plan and the new transportation bond. The current 10-year street bond will end next year. The language of the last bond was not compatible with the Comprehensive Plan, which she believes is illegal. Ms. Mumm encouraged the Plan Commission to focus on the financial commitments from City utilities.
- Paul Kropp, Southgate Neighborhood Council. Mr. Kropp said the 10-Year UGA Update is the first time he can remember where the President and Vice President

of the Plan Commission addressed the City Council. Mr. Kropp asked Scott Chesney to get the Spokane Homebuilders engaged in discussions. The Infill Housing Task Force had a good discussion on rentals versus home ownership. The effort of the task force was proactive on equalizing the two.

**Asher Ernst made the motion to adjourn the workshop portion of the meeting. M/S by Vice President Mansfield. Passed unanimously.**

The workshop portion of the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

### **COMMISSION HEARING**

President Byrd called the public hearing of the Complete Streets Ordinance to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken.

**CPC MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karen Byrd, President; Bob Mansfield, Vice President; Mike Ekins; Gail Prosser; Asher Ernst; Dennis Dellwo; Rod Butler

**CPC MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Fisher; Stan Stirling; Kerry Brooks

**STAFF PRESENT:** Planning Services – Scott Chesney, Secretary to the Plan Commission; Pat Hall, administrative support; Dave Steele, City Planner

**GUESTS:** Helene Dewey, Spokane Regional Health District; Kitty Klitzke, Futurewise

There was a quorum of Plan Commission members.

*Complete Street Ordinance, by Dave Steele.*

Dave Steele presented for public hearing, the Complete Streets Ordinance. The discussion included:

- Mr. Steele introduced Kitty Klitzke from Futurewise.
- Ms. Klitzke presented the Pedestrian Plan portion of Complete Streets.
  1. Ms. Klitzke presented a brief history of the work that has been done, including involvement from various agencies and open houses.
  2. The Transportation Equity Act, which was enacted in 1998, requires transportation and planning for all modes of transportation.
  3. The City of Spokane contains the poorest legislative district in the state.
  4. Bike lanes are only triggered when the street is in the Master Bike Plan.
  5. A street does not need to have every mode of transportation to be a complete street.
- Helene Dewey presented the Health and Safety portion of Complete Streets.
  1. Complete streets encourage health and safety.
  2. Complete streets provide access to business.
  3. Complete streets help to improve the environment.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

President Byrd welcomed citizens and invited them to testify. The following people testified:

- Paul Kropp, 3311 East Donora Court – in favor. Mr. Kropp spoke about the letter he submitted to the Plan Commission from the Neighborhood Alliance. Mr. Kropp pointed out some suggested changes to the ordinance, which appear on the second page.
- Bob Lutz, 514 West 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue - in favor. Dr. Lutz presented Resolution #10-01 from the Spokane Regional Health District, which encourages jurisdictions to adopt complete streets policies for the positive health impact they have on Spokane County residents. Many people choose to stay home if they have limited access to transportation.
- Roland Lamarche, 1505 West Courtland Avenue - in favor. Mr. Lamarche is the founder and owner of Golden West Mobility, which is located at 1815 East Francis Avenue. There are no sidewalks on either side of the block. His business is not safely reachable by his customers. There are also no sidewalks on the block where he resides.
- Christy Himmelright, 607 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue - in favor. Ms. Himmelright works with disabled and hospice patients as a registered nurse. She spoke about the limitations placed on these patients due to the lack of access to viable transportation.
- Julie Banks, 2206 South Hatch – in favor. Ms. Banks represents the YMCA in the Inland Northwest. The YMCA has become an advocate for policies that result in improved infrastructure that encourages and invites healthier lifestyles for everyone.
- Steve Llewellen, 1924 South Oneida Place – in favor. Mr. Llewellen is a former teacher and running coach. Young people in Spokane need to have a Complete Streets Ordinance. Students will bike or walk to school if given the opportunity.
- Joe Cannon, 3518 North Atlantic Street – in favor. Mr. Cannon is chair of the Spokane Alliance Health Team. The group researches health concerns in Spokane. Mr. Cannon has observed many locations that lack wheelchair ramps at intersections.
- Taylor Malone, 17 South Lacey Street - in favor. Ms. Malone and her husband bus to Eastern in Cheney. They have realized significant savings in gas and car insurance per year.
- Amanda Parrish, 3518 North Atlantic Street - in favor. Ms. Parrish works for the Lands Council. The Lands Council is dedicated to preserving and revitalizing the ecology of the Inland Northwest. Urban walking in the snow is very difficult. She believes that if people walked more, they would notice more of the retail, which would increase economic development.
- Cindy Green, 3903 South Bernard Street – in favor. Ms. Green works at the Spokane Health District and uses all modes of transportation to get to work. Complete streets is one component to solving obesity.

- Don Carlton, 4221 South Ivory Street - in favor. Mr. Carlton is president of the Spokane Bicycle Club. The club strongly recommends approval of the Complete Streets Ordinance.
- Greg Wing, 6405 North Addison Street - in favor. Mr. Wing teaches the computer training program at the Inland Northwest Lighthouse for the Blind. Being able to get to work and back safely would increase the self-sufficiency of the blind and other disabled citizens.
- Gretchen McDevitt, 3605 South High Drive. Ms. McDevitt would like to know what kind of an evaluation plan exists for complete streets to see if they really work. President Byrd asked if there is a way to evaluate after a complete street is built. Mr. Steele stated that one way is through performance measures. He does not know if the performance measures got into the effective of the system, but goes into the effectiveness of implementing. He suggested adding performance measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the ordinance. Gail Prosser asked Mr. Steele if storm water gardens will be part of complete streets. Mr. Steele stated storm water is not specifically tied to complete streets.
- George McGrath, 3317 South Grand Boulevard – opposed. Complete streets is a “pie in the sky” idea. Who is going to pay for it? If people want sidewalks, they should form an LID. Less than 2% of the population of Spokane ride bicycles.
- Juliet Sinisterra, 2215 South Lincoln Street – in favor. Ms. Sinisterra is a small business owner. She was also a member of the Mayor’s sustainability task force.
- Lynn Burkett, 2126 East 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue – in favor. Ms. Burkett is Assistant Planner of Aging and Long-term Care of Eastern Washington. Complete streets promote an active community. Older adults are less likely to change addresses than any other age groups.
- Charlie Greenwood, 2404 West Bennett Avenue – in favor. Current urban street design does not serve the public well. A street should be as simple as possible. Features should be added as needed. Mr. Greenwood is a member of the Spokane Bicycle Club. His neighborhood street has turned into a public nuisance; full of hazards.
- Matt Blaine, 1014 East 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue – in favor. Mr. Blaine asked if there was any room on the Complete Ordinance for permeable surfaces. Mr. Chesney said that in the upcoming year, Planning Services will be facilitating a re-study of Chapter 4 of the Comprehensive Plan that includes all of the transportation issues.
- Lois King, 1119 West Joseph Avenue – in favor. Ms. King uses public transportation and walks extensively. The most dangerous form of transportation is walking, followed by bicycles. Creating a barrier is a safe thing. Ms. King is an advisory for CORD.
- Allysa Along, 3624 North Madison Street - in favor. Would enable everyone to be safe.
- Mike Lanch, Inform parents of the little-known public domain.

- Jamie Briscoe, 5721 North Bemis Street – in favor. Ms Briscoe completed a sign-in form but did not testify.

President Byrd stated the Plan Commission received letters in support of the Complete Streets Ordinance from Paul Kropp, Spokane Regional Health District and from Mountain View.

President Byrd closed public testimony.

**Rod Butler made the motion to close public testimony. M/S by Gail Prosser. The motion passed 7 yes; 0 no.**

**Mike Ekins made the motion to open deliberations. M/S by Gail Prosser. The motion passed 7 yes; 0 no.**

**Dennis Dellwo made the motion to move the Complete Streets Ordinance forward to City Council. M/S by Gail Prosser.**

**Discussion:**

- Gail Prosser spoke about her grandson being hit by a car. She then talked about her neighborhood and the expansion of the neighborhood center. She further talked about being careful in the spending of tax dollars. Creating transportation choices is wise on many levels. There is not enough room for buffer strips for snow storage.
- Dennis Dellwo spoke about being a supporter of the complete streets program. All streets will not automatically be complete streets. Future construction will be looked at in relation to complete streets.
- President Byrd stated the Plan Commission is charged with implementation of the Comp Plan and the Complete Streets Ordinance would help to implement the Comprehensive Plan.
- Vice President Mansfield said there are exceptions to when the Complete Streets will be mandated. He read parameters where the complete streets principles would not be applied.
- President Byrd asked Mr. Steele about Paul Kropp’s suggestions on 17H.010.010 Purpose and Applicability. Mr. Steele stated those recommendations would involve a couple of simple word changes.
- Mike Ekins said that with the adoption of the ordinance, it ties together the Pedestrian Plan and the Master Bike Plan as outlined in the Comp Plan.
- Rod Butler expressed his support for the Complete Streets Ordinance.

**President Byrd made the motion to approve the findings of fact as amended. M/S by Gail Prosser. The motion 7 yes; 0 no.**

**President Byrd made the motion under Conclusions, that “The Plan Commission finds that the “Complete Streets Ordinance is consistent with and**

implements the City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan.” M/S by Gail Prosser. The motion passed 7 yes; 0 no.

Vice President Mansfield made the motion to accept the suggested changes from Mayor Verner and Mike Piccolo with this change in the first sentence that currently reads, “Elements of Complete Streets Program are exempt in the following situations:” and that it be changed to read, “The following situations are exempt from elements of the Complete Streets Program.” M/S by Dennis Dellwo. The motion passed 6 yes; 0 no; 1 absence.

Vice President Mansfield made the motion that City Council adopts the Complete Streets Ordinance with the amended language. M/S by Gail Prosser.

Discussion:

- Bob – 17H.020.060 Performance Measures. Asher spoke about the practicality.

Rod Butler made the motion to adjourn the public hearing. M/S by Dennis Dellwo. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

  
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Scott Chesney, AICP, Secretary