

City of Lake Forest Park - Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Notes: October 7, 2015
17425 Ballinger Way NE—Council Chambers

Planning Commissioners present: Chair Ray Holmdahl; Vice-chair Jon Lebo; Richard Saunders; Connie Holloway; Semra Riddle; and Doug Gochanour

Staff and others present: Catherine Stanford, Deputy Mayor and Council Liaison to the Planning Commission; Steve Bennett, Planning Director; and Ande Flower, Assistant Planner; Karen King, Resident; Carl King, Resident; Mike Dee, Resident

Planning Commissioners absent: Joel Paisner; Jean Maixner; and Rocky Oliver

Call to order: 7:05 PM

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Cmr. Gochanour moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cmr. Holloway and approved unanimously.

Public Comment: Ms. King asked whether there are any proposed changes to those areas designated as conservation residential land use. Mr. Bennett said that no changes in land-use designations are proposed as part of the 2015 Comprehensive Plan Update, and he suggested participating at the upcoming Open House. There was an additional question regarding whether the Comprehensive Plan is considered a strategic plan. Mr. Bennett described the difference between two types of plans.

Old Business: Comprehensive Plan Update

Joint Meeting with City Council - Deputy Mayor Stanford described Council's process for reviewing the draft Comp Plan, and asked Commissioners to discuss response to questions that may arise at the joint meeting. The following topics were discussed:

Definition for residential "character"

There was discussion of city's residential character as it relates to the environment and trees. It was recognized that this term may have different meanings within different areas of the city. There was also discussion of the juxtaposition between economic development and housing alternatives.

Subdividing and clustering

Deputy Mayor Stanford encouraged Commissioners to explore how housing alternatives relate to subdividing land. It was noted that clustering development could encourage infill that preserves not only sensitive areas, but also forested areas.

Prioritization

Commissioners explained that while there was some amount of consideration of City priorities with numbering policies, the order of goals and policies was not always intentional.

Other Topics

In response to one of the Council's questions, Commissioners explained that there is no known "existing planned trail system," other than what is called for in the Legacy 100-year Vision.

Commissioners welcomed the idea of increasing the number of potential locations of a park & ride

1 by including “adjacent to or” in addition to “in Lake Forest Park.” Commissioners confirmed that
2 use of the term “drivers” in policy T-1.13 is not appropriate. It was suggested that the policy should
3 end with “including transportation needs of the elderly, shut-ins, and special needs.”
4

5 City Council review process - Deputy Mayor Stanford stated that the review of Comp Plan Update is now in
6 the Council’s hands but they may be requesting guidance from the Planning Commission during the review
7 process. Mr. Bennett then described the agenda for upcoming Open House and Public Hearing.
8

9 **New Business: Future Agenda Items**

10 “Big Tree Park” (AKA the property between Animal Acres and Brookside Elementary School)

11 Commissioner Riddle asked whether anyone has information about the current process for the park and the
12 media outreach that has taken place via the Lake Forest Park Stewardship Foundation. Commissioner
13 Gochanour shared some information.
14

15 **Adjournment:** 8:30
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Ray Holmdahl, Chair