

	Planning Commission Meeting May 7, 2024 - 6:00 PM Special Meeting - City Hall Council Chambers MINUTES
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I. PUBLIC PARTICIATION

A. Public Participation Information

The City of Auburn Planning Commission Meeting was held in person and virtually.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Judi Roland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street.

A. ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Commissioners present: Chair Judi Roland, Vice Chair Phillip Stephens, Julie Berry, William Stewart, Aaron Vanderpol, and Lynn Walters. Commissioner Sprague was excused.

Staff members present: Acting Planning Services Manager Alexandria Teague, Acting City Attorney Doug Ruth, Senior Planner Josh Steiner, Planner II Alyssa Tatro, Senior Planner Dinah Reed, Parks Planning and Development Manager Thaniel Gouk, and Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Wood-Pollock.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Roland led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 16, 2024 Draft Minutes from the Special Planning Commission Meeting

Commissioner Stewart moved and Vice Chair Stephens seconded to approve the April 16, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Presentation Overview (Steiner)

Staff will provide a brief overview of upcoming Element Presentations and Public Hearing schedule.

Senior Planner Steiner shared a presentation with the Commission on an overview of the upcoming Public Hearing schedule.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Parks and Recreation Element (Gouk)

Public Hearing for the public testimony and Planning Commission deliberation on the Parks and Recreation Element.

Chair Roland opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Parks Planning and Development Manager Gouk shared a presentation with the Commission on the Parks and Recreation Element, including the purpose and scope, an update on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, core changes to the Parks Element, potential implications for the proposed changes, and the next steps in the process.

Written Comment:

Trish Borden and Lee Valenta, Auburn

Trish and Lee shared thoughts regarding open space and trails around the Bowman Creek Plateau area.

In-Person Comment:

Trish Borden, Auburn

Trish shared thoughts regarding open space and property development near the Bowman Creek Plateau area and wildlife populations in that area.

Craig Gartner, Auburn

Craig discussed thoughts regarding park development in the West Hill area and effects on real estate values.

Chair Roland closed the Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m.

Commission discussed securing funds to purchase property, Park Impact Fees, and trail locations.

Vice Chair Stephens moved and Commissioner Walters seconded to accept the Parks and Recreation Element.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

B. Climate Element (Tatro)

Public Hearing for the public testimony and Planning Commission deliberation on the Climate Element.

Chair Roland opened the Public Hearing at 6:31 p.m.

Planner Tatro shared a presentation with the Commission on the Climate Element, including the purpose and scope, core components, potential implications of the proposed changes, and the next steps in the process.

Written Comment:

Trisha Sears, Washington Geologic Survey

Trisha expressed support of the Climate Element and shared thoughts regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plans.

Linda Redman, Auburn

Linda shared support for implementation of policies and jobs intended to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and topography.

In-Person Comment:

Linda Redman, Auburn

Linda shared ideas on providing climate education to the public.

Craig Gartner, Auburn

Craig asked the Commission questions regarding emissions reduction and how changes are measured.

Chair Roland closed the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.

Commission discussed emissions goals, support and assistance for low-income and vulnerable populations within the City, and potential displacement of vulnerable communities.

Vice Chair Stephens moved and Commissioner Stewart seconded to accept the Climate Element.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

APPROVED this 4th day of June, 2024.


JUDI ROLAND, CHAIR


Rebecca Wood-Pollock,
Deputy City Clerk

The City of Auburn Planning Commission is a seven member advisory body that provides recommendations to the Auburn City Council on the preparation of and amendments to land use plans and related codes such as zoning. Planning Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

Actions taken by the Planning Commission, other than approvals or amendments to the Planning Commission Rules of Procedure, are not final decisions; they are in the form of recommendations to the city council which must ultimately make the final decision.