

Planned Growth Committee

January 17, 2024

Present: Cherie Devore, Clay White (Kimley-Horn), Emil Pierson, Eric Eisenberg, Erin O’Kelley (Kimley-Horn), Hillary Hoke, Lauren, Robert Webster, Megan Sathre, Ryan Barrett, Tammy Baraconi, Marcia Manly, Mindy Brooks, Lee Napier, Todd Johnson, and Bob Spahr

Recorder: Katie Johnson

The meeting began at 1:04 pm.

- Mindy introduced the new consultant for the Periodic Update, Clay White with Kimley-Horn.

Public Comment

- No public comment

UGA Boundary Amendments

Mindy Brooks, Senior Long-Range Planner for Community Development, asked if there were any UGA updates from the cities that needed processed. Emil Pierson said Centralia will be making drops/swaps to their current UGA, but they won’t have any expansion requests in the coming months. They asked for coordination with the County now.

Todd Johnson said Chehalis will be updating their Comprehensive Plan Map to reflect the UGA expansion that was already adopted by the county but not by the city.

Todd Johnson said Toledo will have a population growth. They are working on UGA expanding towards the Urban Reserves near SR 505. All changes are consistent with the county.

Mindy shared that there will be a UGA topic on every PGC Agenda from here on out. She encouraged all jurisdictions to reach out to her and to set up one-on-one meetings, in addition to the PGC meetings.

County/City Collaboration on Periodic Update

Clay White shared that he is currently working on the Capital Facilities Plan update. Clay offered to share templates for the other jurisdictions. He asked if that would be helpful or if there are other things he can do to assist them in their CFP update.

Tammy Baraconi representing Pe Ell/Morton said the templates would be helpful, as they are not up to speed on Capital Facilities Plans. Tammy also noted that there is a need to coordinate with WSDOT. Marcia Manly representing Mossyrock also agreed that templates would be helpful.

Todd Johnson representing the City of Chehalis says it may be a good idea to invite WSDOT to attend this meeting. A sit-down with the representative would open the dialogue now and have a main point of contact early on.

Robert Webster said Winlock is working on an agreement with WSDOT on SR505.

Mindy said she would reach out to WSDOT and see if they could attend a future PGC meeting. Todd Johnson asked if producing an inventory plan for smaller jurisdiction is still an option and Mindy says yes. This would be an expansion of the Kimley-Horn contract to provide city specific data. Mindy is concerned if it is a big ask to Kimley-Horn to do this if there is additional funding coming in. Kimley-Horn says it depends on the level of work and growth. This will need to be determined within the next couple of weeks before 01.22. Mindy asked that cities who want to explore this option email her directly and she will set up a separate meeting.

Pe Ell/Morton would like to know how the funding will be related to the update for the cities adopting the county plan regarding critical areas. Clay White says a portion of the funding that the cities have that would go towards the update would then go to the county since they would be doing the work, shifting the resources. This would be a big portion to be shifting away from the small cities. UPDATE: There is a description and a table in the grant.

City of Chehalis, Pe Ell, and Morton are still waiting for the Periodic Update Grant. Clay reminded the jurisdictions that half of the Periodic Update Grant must be spent by June 30, 2024.

Climate Grant

It is not open for application right now, but Mindy anticipates it will be open again because the funding is available until 2029. According to Commerce, a lot of money has been left on the table that jurisdictions have not gone after. Reminder to jurisdictions that Climate Resiliency is a new mandatory element. Tammy noted that smaller jurisdictions do not have the staffing to manage two grants. Clay said that even though it is a different grant, it is a part of the Comp Plan. There is a value in adding these together because you don't have to do certain things twice.

Legislative Bills to Watch

Eric Eisenberg wanted to remind everyone that the bills that didn't pass or are dead last year, can be reintroduced this year. The State building code work group is in the house and an executive session is happening tomorrow.

The permit streamline bill passed. Only for building land counties. Changes to housing, climate bill.

County/City Collaboration on Periodic Update

Eric Eisenberg, Housing & Infrastructure Specialist for Lewis County, gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan mandatory updates as presented in the memo.

Next Meeting/Topics

Invite Catherine McCoy, Commerce, to a future meeting and add to February meeting agenda to discuss climate grant. Invite Commerce and WSDOT. Come back to UGA updates. Clay would like to discuss the schedule of this plan.

The next Planned Growth Committee meeting will be February 21, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.