

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council
Planning, Development & Environment Committee

6:30 PM
May 3, 2022

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Committee Members:

Victoria Hunt
Chris Reh
Lindsey Walsh

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Hunt called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **Public Comment**

- Susan Neville spoke about public comment opportunities in the new committee format.

b) **ID 1043 Title 18: Landscape and Open Space Review**

Minnie Dhaliwal, Director of Community Planning & Development

Following the staff presentation Connie Marsh spoke at Public Comment. Ms. Marsh made several comments regarding tree canopy and landscape coverage.

Committee comments on the staff presentation included the following recommendations:

Communal Spaces

- Committee would like to see City wide application of this code
- Improve signage and wayfinding requirements to inform the general public about community spaces/public plazas are available for general public access.
- Would like more information on Amenity Spaces, looking for more community spaces and also balconies
- Would like to see consistency/concurrency with other jurisdictions on terms used for different types of spaces

Trees

- Would like practical examples in neighborhoods to understand how canopy percentage for the subarea will apply on a parcel-by-parcel basis and how code could be applied.
- Address monitoring requirements.
- Provide disincentive for removal of trees
- Strengthen the fee-in-lieu language to minimize use of fee-in-lieu option and incentivize preservation of trees.
- Need to have conversation during budget about resources needed for arborist and urban forestry program for the City.

Landscaping

- Consolidate differences in landscape requirements

- Strengthen language around encouraging rainwater/graywater use and better ways to conserve water
- Incentivize rain gardens
- More information on drought tolerant plants
- Add requirements that materials used for artificial turf shall comply with best available science regarding detrimental effects on salmon habitat and to protect environmental quality.
- More visuals needed to understand the goal of landscaping screening requirements particularly for parking lots.

ID 1128 Code Enforcement Changes*Lauri Dunning, Code Enforcement Officer*

Committee comments on the staff presentation included the following:

- The content seems straightforward
- Code Enforcement staff need improved tools with which to do their job
- Committee felt that more information would be helpful when presenting to the full City Council
- How, why, and what needed to be more fully explained.
- Concurrency with other jurisdictions regarding penalties

Councilmember Hunt moved that the Title 18 Code Enforcement changes be moved on a separate track and placed on the May 18 Regular City Council consent calendar.
The motion passed 3 – 0 in favor.

Councilmember Hunt moved that the substantive Code Enforcement amendments be brought back to the full City Council at its regular meeting on June 21 on the consent agenda.
The motion passed 3 – 0 in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:59 PM.

 Victoria Hunt, Designated Chair

 Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk