

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council
Planning, Development & Environment Committee

6:30 PM
November 8, 2023

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Committee Members:

Victoria Hunt, Chair
Lindsey Walsh
Zach Hall

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hunt called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke at public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of October 3, 2023. – Chair Hunt indicated an error in the attendance list, and asked for clarification on which items were referred back to Planning Policy Commission. **The minutes were approved as amended by unanimous consent.**

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **ID 1494 Diversity of Housing Types - Policy & Regulation**

After the staff presentation nobody spoke at public comment. Committee comments included the following:

- Committee members indicated that they care about the depth of the “Missing Middle” conversation.
- More “Missing Middle” may be gained through development agreements.
- Committee members expressed concerns about Development Regulations portion and its relationship to HB1110.
- Committee agreed with ECONW report regarding Cottage and Courtyard apartments indicating no inherent drawback to those types of development, but wondered if builders will build them.
- Consider allowing as a type in lower density areas.
- Committee members stated they want an effective Housing Strategy work plan.
- The proposed plan makes sense given staff resources.
- Committee felt that Parking feasibility and Multi-Family Tax Exemptions need to be prioritized and studied further.
- Look at comparables regarding parking.
- Central Issaquah Plan (CIP) update timing should harmonize with the re-certification process.
- How will the CIP interface with the Housing Strategy Work Plan?
- Committee asked staff to look into touch points with the community.

b) **ID 1541 Comprehensive Plan Update - Draft Environment Stewardship and Climate Resilience Element**

After the staff presentation nobody spoke at public comment. Committee comments included the following:

- Committee thanked the Environmental Board for their work on this item.
- Committee members also thanked staff for their work.
- Committee members were generally in favor of the proposed changes.
- Consensus was to return Item G5 to the Environmental Board for further review and possible strengthening and clarification of the language.
- City should lead by example on categories of buildings and fleet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 PM.

Victoria Hunt, Chair

Chris Grabowski, Deputy City Clerk