

**MINUTES OF THE  
GROWTH MANAGEMENT  
STEERING COMMITTEE OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**WEDNESDAY, February 20, 2019**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Al French, County Commissioner, Spokane County - Chair  
Candace Mumm, Council Member, City of Spokane - Vice Chair  
Jill Weiszmann, Council Member, City of Cheney  
Steve Peterson, Mayor, City of Liberty Lake  
Shirley Maike, Mayor, City of Medical Lake  
Kate Burke, Council Member, City of Spokane  
Breean Beggs, Council Member, City of Spokane  
Rod Higgins, Council member, City of Spokane Valley  
Josh Kerns, County Commissioner, Spokane County

**NON -VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dave Anderson, AICP, Interim Managing Director, WA Department of Commerce  
Mike Ulrich, Sr. Transportation Planner, Spokane Regional Transit Authority  
Mike Tresidder, Associate Transit Planner, Spokane Transit Authority  
Lisa Key, Director of Planning, City of Liberty Lake  
Brett Lucas, Sr. Planner, City of Cheney  
Bill Grimes, City of Airway Heights  
Albert Tripp, City Manager, City of Airway Heights  
Kevin Anderson, Public Works Director, City of Airway Heights  
Heather Trautman, Kevin Freibott, and Tirrell Black, Planning Department, City of Spokane  
Lori Barlow, Sr. Planner, City of Spokane Valley  
Chaz Bates, Economic Development Specialist, City of Spokane Valley  
Barry Greene, Traffic Engineer, Spokane County  
Paul Kropp, Neighborhood Alliance of Spokane County

**STAFF:**

John Pederson, Planning Director, Spokane County  
Steve Davenport, Principal Planner, Spokane County  
Saegen Neiman, Associate Planner, Spokane County  
Jane Farstrider, Steering Committee and Planning Commission Clerk, Spokane County

**1. Call to Order**

Chair French called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

**2. Action on the Minutes of October 18, 2017**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of October 18, 2017, with one correction for the spelling of CM Breean Beggs' name. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Selection of Chair, Vice Chair:** Breann Beggs moved to nominate CM Mumm as Chair for 2019, the motion was seconded and carried unanimously. CM Al French moved to nominate CM Higgins as Vice Chair, the motion was seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. **Public Workshop:**

**Item 1.** Discussion of population growth impacts on the West Plains including potential modifications to Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) adjacent to the City of Cheney and City of Airway Heights. Mr. French gave some brief background regarding the West Plains region as population growth in Airway Heights and Cheney nears the population threshold of 51%, which would necessitate an expansion of the cities' respective UGAs. Mr. Lucas indicated that the City of Cheney is currently at 19.4% of the population threshold, and further analysis will be needed before submitting a formal request for expansion. Mr. Tripp stated that Airway Heights' current population growth numbers do not reflect the 5,000 new jobs coming to the area within the next 18-24 months with the new Amazon Fulfillment Center opening and expansion at Fairchild Air Force Base. In response to questions from Chair Mumm, Mr. Pederson briefly outlined what the process for public hearings and approval would look like upon receiving the request for an amendment to the UGA. There was some discussion of addressing the changing needs of the West Plains area by reconfiguration and zoning changes prior to reaching the 51% population threshold.

**Item 2.** Discussion of a shared financing agreement for a proposed study on market factors related to land quantity analysis and urban growth area updates. Mr. Davenport gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding a proposed market factor study and land quality analysis process, which would potentially be funded by Spokane County, the City of Spokane, and the City of Spokane Valley, and would cost the three entities \$25,000 each. The current market factor is based on estimates in 1995, which was relatively subjective and not based on empirical data. A formal study could benefit the region and may result in different market factors for different jurisdictions. Heather Trautman reported that City of Spokane has not formally expressed interest in participating at this time. Vice-Chair Higgins also stated his Council has not voted on participation as well. CM Burke moved to defer the discussion on this matter to the next meeting, allowing each jurisdiction to gather any data that would be pertinent to the issue in the interim. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Chair Mumm proposed the formation of a sub-committee representing the three main jurisdictions and a representative of the smaller towns to outline a strategic plan for the Steering Committee and indicated that she hopes to hear back from volunteers prior to next Wednesday. Vice-Chair Higgins and Chair Mumm volunteered for their cities.

5. **Other Business:**

Chair Mumm read the following, captured for the record. "The Steering Committee is intended to serve as a regional forum for urban growth issues and growth management planning. Some of the specific responsibilities of the Steering Committee are to:

- Oversee joint planning within UGAs;
- Recommend standards for defining UGAs;
- Recommend minimum levels of service for UGAs;
- Recommend distribution of future growth;
- Negotiate UGA designations; and
- Make recommendations regarding UGAs to the Board of County Commissioners.

She also noted a need to meet more frequently and proposed two more meeting dates with consensus of the committee of March 20<sup>th</sup> and April 17<sup>th</sup>. Meeting location to be determined.

6. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

7. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting date was tentatively set for March 20, 2019.

8. **Adjournment:** There being no further business the Steering Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Approved: Candace Mumm  
Candace Mumm, Chair

Date: 4/17/19

Jane Farstrider, Steering Committee Clerk