

**SPOKANE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING  
JUNE 15, 2023**

<p align="center"><b>Planning Commission Members Present</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Spokane County Department of Building and Planning Staff Present</b></p>
<p>Stephen Pohl, Chair Pete Rayner, Vice Chair Clyde Haase Wayne Brokaw Melissa Wittstruck Logan Camporeale Alan Nolan (Arrived at 9:12 AM)</p>	<p>Robert Brock, AICP, Planner Saegen Neiman, Planner Elya Miroshin, Clerk Scott Chesney, AICP, Planning Director</p>

The June 15, 2023, meeting of the Spokane County Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Stephen Pohl at 9:04 A.M. A quorum was present. The meeting was accessible to the public in the Commissioner’s Hearing Room, Lower Level, Public Works Building, located at 1026 West Broadway Avenue, Spokane, WA, and via Zoom with web and telephone links provided on the Building and Planning website and in a public notice published in the Spokesman Review on May 31, 2023.

Due to technical difficulties, the audio was unavailable via Zoom.

**Public Comment opened for items that are not on the agenda:** No comments were made; public comment was closed.

**WORKSHOP**

**Washington State Department of Commerce Guidance:**

**The Planning Commission members watched a video recording of the presentation given to the Steering Committee of Elected Officials on April 19, 2023. The topic was new requirements for housing elements of comprehensive plans from (HB1220):** Laura Hodgson, from the Washington State Department of Commerce, was the presenter and addressed the following: allocations (briefly discussed population projections within the County followed by a quick review on how to use the housing needs allocation tool created to help jurisdictions plan for their future housing needs), land capacities (reviewed new Land Capacity additions to RCW 36.70A.070(2)© explaining the steps to show sufficient capacity), adequate provisions (reviewed the four new additional work-plan items to RCW 36.70A.070(2)(d) explaining how to achieve adequate provisions), and racially disparate impacts (provided a 5-step process to help make equal housing opportunities accessible to everyone accounting for disparate impacts that may be seen in our communities). Housing planning resources are available via webinars and guidance documents located on the Department of Commerce’s website including available staff for additional support/assistance.

**Housing Element:**

Scott Kuhta from the Washington State Department of Commerce was present at the Planning Commission Meeting to answer questions from Commission about the new housing requirements. Discussion and questions centered around housing costs in the county, accessibility to home ownership, building material cost, and regulatory factors.

Scott Chesney showed a GIS graphic showing permitting data throughout the County. The map showed clusters of permit activity, busy years and slow years, trends, including data from the County, and the various incorporated cities. Mr. Chesney noted the significant growth in the Urban Growth Area, generally dispersed patterns of growth within the cities, and a substantial volume of development in rural Spokane County.

**Planning Commission Meeting Time:**

The Planning Commission further discussed their scheduled meeting time. Commissioner Camporeale listed the Planning Commission times for other jurisdiction's planning commission meeting times. Stating that Spokane County Planning Commission is the only planning commission in the County to meet in the morning. Discussion regarding the Planning Commission meeting times ensued. Chairman Pohl asked staff to include an action item on the next agenda for the commissioners' consideration.

**Public Testimony**

Paul Kropp provided public testimony to the Spokane County Planning Commission. Mr. Kropp stated that the audio in the zoom meeting was not functioning, that he came down to the meeting to let make the Commission aware.

**Minutes**

Motion: May 11, 2023, Planning Commission minutes unanimously adopted.

**Staff Report**

Mr. Chesney gave an update on various activities of the department, next meeting days and topics, as well as agenda items for June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Planning Commission meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 AM.

Stephen Pohl, Chair



Date

6-29-2023