

LINCOLN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION WORK SESSION
MINUTES
July 18, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Bunnett	Commissioner	Present	
Clay Glasgow	Commissioner	Present	
Mellissa Sumner	Commissioner	Excused	
Marci Baker	Commissioner	Present	
Robert Vincent	Chair	Present	
Kim Blackerby	Commissioner	Present	

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.1. Comp Plan Update - 1st Draft Community Resiliency

Assistant Planner Andrea Riner presented three handouts, including a matrix of comments received, clarifications regarding the contents of the packet, and a review guide describing substantive comments relating to the Community Resiliency chapter.

Commissioner Bunnett asked if future work sessions would be in the Council Chambers, and at the dais. Director Skinner stated that the IT Department had made that request to ensure the best quality audio for our meetings.

Commissioner Baker supported the need for a Sustainability/Climate Action plan as a significant component of the chapter on Community Resiliency. She added that since the Community Resiliency was a new component it made sense to focus on how it would provide clear objectives for the larger efforts to follow over the next four to five years. She recognized the need for research such as environmental assessments and other data before more detailed objectives could be drafted. She suggested that approach for all of the chapters and goals.

Director Skinner added that the statewide planning goal covered by this chapter is #7: Areas Subject to Natural Disasters and Hazards, and shared community feedback received to-date.

Commissioner Glasgow asked how much work had already been done on this topic in order to gauge whether he would be jumping in at the end or the beginning. Commissioners assured him that this was the initial discussion and he was welcome to fully participate.

Commissioner Bunnett asked the commissioners if they wanted to provide a longer, comprehensive list of policies/objectives, or if they might want to start winnowing down the long lists to a much stronger set of core objectives.

Responding to Commissioner Blackerby, Ms. Riner clarified that her review guide was NOT a set of recommended policies/objectives but was just a list of substantive comments relating to Community Resiliency. Commissioner Blackerby asked Commissioner Bunnett if he was saying that the review of the Community Resiliency chapter should be different from other chapters.

Commissioner Blackerby supported following the same detailed review as the commission had done with the previous chapters.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Glasgow, Director Skinner stated that the structure for the Community Resiliency chapter would be the same as the other chapters.

Commissioner Bunnett stated that the approach in previous chapters has been to create drafts that were inclusive of everyone's ideas without a full discussion about priorities. He pointed out that the current chapter draft was three pages, and suggested that the planning commission go through them to determine what is most important.

Commissioner Baker commented that the Sustainability Committee is working on the Sustainability/Climate Action Plan and she thought it would be important to consider how the comprehensive plan might inform their work. Responding to a question from Commissioner Glasgow, she provided some background regarding the Sustainability Committee. Ms. Riner noted that there were comments from the Sustainability Committee in the packet on page 26.

Commissioner Baker suggested including any current city council priorities/action items in the comprehensive plan. Responding to a question from Commissioner Baker, Director Skinner stated that one of the objectives in the draft was to “develop, adopt, and begin implementation of a climate action plan,” and also was included in the Coastal Resources chapter.

Director Skinner supported the commissioners looking more critically at the draft policies/objectives to focus on the high-level broader issues and eliminate more detailed programmatic items. Commissioner Blackerby concurred that the level of detail was excessive.

Commissioner Baker suggested that the comprehensive plan include the high-level objectives and specific program ideas be pulled from the document for next steps, similar to the approach taken in the Citizen Involvement chapter.

Director Skinner suggested that staff bring back a more concise list of objectives. Commissioner Bunnett suggested that the commissioners also do their own evaluation and provide them to staff.

Based on discussion a target date of July 31st was established for commissioners to submit their prioritized list, taken from the current draft, for inclusion in the packet for the August 15th Work Session. Director Skinner noted that the Community Resiliency chapter was not intended to be the climate action plan, but was primarily intended to address statewide planning goal #7.

Commissioner Glasgow supported the positive term "Climate Resiliency" vs the negative term of "Natural Hazards".

Director Skinner stated that she would send out the current draft of Community Resiliency to the commissioners.

Commissioner Baker suggested that community resiliency and emergency preparedness objectives include a discussion about the food supply and access to local food.

Commissioner Blackerby supported having a high-level general objective regarding food security, but not including any specific or detailed strategies.

2.2. Comp Plan Update - 2nd Draft Economic Development and Urbanization

Ms. Riner provided a handout that summarized the substantive comments received from commissioners and members of the public relating to the chapter on Economic Development and Urbanization.

Commissioner Bunnett suggested using the same process to narrow down the policies/objectives to a smaller set of focused priorities.

Commissioner Baker stated that elements of her comments relating to ecotourism could be included in the Economic Development chapter while some may be more appropriate to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space chapter. Relating to economic development, she supported a strategy to realign the existing tourism economy more towards ecotourism, and for Lincoln City to become a destination for people who want to learn about the Biosphere Reserve and other regional natural resource amenities.

Director Skinner pointed out that the current draft includes a total of 23 policies/objectives.

The commissioners discussed next steps and whether or not to include new comments, or if the list should be pared down. They agreed to bring back a prioritized list and submit to staff by the July 31st deadline for discussion at the August 15th work session.

Director Skinner encouraged commissioners to use caution when using highly restrictive wording, such as the policy/objective that would “require” high speed internet, given that the city may not have the jurisdiction, authority, or ability to make such a commitment.

Commissioner Bunnett suggested that if any additional policies/objectives were to be added that there would be limitations.

Commissioner Baker clarified that her strategy had been to bring forward a number of policies/objectives for purposes of discussion, and not necessarily for full inclusion into the document. She supported having objectives at the highest level.

Commissioner Glasgow added that to a great degree the role of land use planning in economic development was to make sure that it did not present barriers to the kinds of things the community wanted to see. Commissioner Baker responded that she felt that the purpose of the comprehensive plan was to present the best vision possible and alternatively to clearly define what the city would not want to see developed in the future.

Commissioner Glasgow agreed, but urged the commission to keep this section as simple as possible.

Commissioner Blackerby asked Commissioner Glasgow to share more of his background. Mr. Glasgow is a retired land use planner with a strong interest in sustainability, moving to Lincoln City last year from Clackamas County. This is his first time being on a planning commission. The commissioners welcomed him to the Lincoln City Planning Commission.

Commissioner Baker asked for additional data about the retiree transfer payments in order to more effectively compare that segment of the economy with the tourism component. Commissioner Bunnett asked Director Robertson if demographic information would help to

determine the economic benefits of the retirement population. Commissioner Glasgow asked why this information might be relevant.

Commissioner Blackerby suggested that the packet for the next meeting be organized to help commissioners understand which comments were related to each chapter.

Chair Vincent suggested that the August 15th work session only include the chapters on Community Resiliency and Economic Development/Urbanization.

Director Skinner stated that fourth drafts of Natural Resources and Citizen Involvement would be published on the website, and then put together in a single document for planning commission review before any public hearings.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Glasgow, Director Skinner stated that this version of the comprehensive plan had initially been considered an update but because the document was so out of date it will resemble, instead, a completely new document.

Commissioner Baker agreed that a review of the full document could lead to some new thoughts about how to structure and present the chapters.

The planning commission engaged in a discussion about the original determination to update the plan, the requirements of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development and the implications of periodic review.

Chair Vincent suggested wrapping up the meeting.

Commissioner Baker asked about the timing of the upcoming city council work session, and suggested that the planning commission agree to move the fourth drafts of Citizen Involvement and Natural, Scenic, and Historic Resources forward.

Commissioner Bunnett asked about the upcoming city council work session regarding Citizen Involvement. Director Skinner stated that she would be presenting a report regarding the current status of the citizen involvement program. He suggested that the planning commission wait until after that meeting before proceeding with any more discussion on that chapter.

Director Skinner clarified that the city council motion stated: "To have staff put together some feedback in a report regarding a potential citizen involvement program for us." She added that the current written citizen involvement program is included in resolution number 94-33.

Commissioner Baker stated that if she had understood that there was an existing written program she wouldn't have stated otherwise when she recently testified at the City Council meeting.

Director Skinner provided an overview of her preliminary draft report for the city council work session regarding the citizen involvement program. In response to a question from Commissioner Glasgow, Director Skinner stated that city council had not established neighborhood organizations throughout the community, although some existing homeowners' associations are recognized and are notified of Type II, III, and IV land use applications.

Commissioner Baker thanked Director Skinner for the summary.

Chair Vincent asked if the planning commission had received consensus that the chapters on Citizen Involvement and Natural, Scenic, and Historic Resources could be considered final drafts.

III. ADJOURN

Director Skinner asked the commissioners about their availability for the August 1st meeting. Chair Vincent stated that he would not be able to attend. Chair Vincent stated that he would not be in attendance and neither would Commissioner Sumner. With the three absent commissioners, there is not a quorum for any meetings or work sessions on August 1st, so that meeting will be canceled.

An alternative date of Monday, July 31st with a 12:00 noon meeting time was decided upon for a work session to discuss the Parks chapter and Coastal Resources chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Marie Skinner
Planning Director

Robert Vincent
Chair