



RESOLUTION NO. 14-388

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE 2016 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CYCLE.

WHEREAS, the City exercises comprehensive land use planning pursuant to Washington's Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A), and under that authority the City intends to amend the *La Center Urban Area Comprehensive Plan*; and

WHEREAS, RCW 36.70A.035 requires reasonable public participation efforts be conducted whenever comprehensive plans or development regulations are amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed Public Participation Plan is reasonably calculated to provide notice to property owners and other affected and interested individuals, tribes, government agencies, businesses, school districts, and organizations of the proposed amendments to comprehensive plans and development regulations, and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed Public Participation Plan is intended to broadly disseminate information about the procedures employed to amend the comprehensive plans and provides for early and continuous opportunities for the public to participate in the update process, consistent with RCW 36.70A.130(2)(a) and RCW 36.70A.140, and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the proposed Public Participation Plan is consistent with the intent and the procedures for amending the La Center Urban Area Comprehensive Plan, La Center Urban Area Capital Facilities Plan, and La Center development regulations as described in the La Center Municipal Code chapters 18.30 and 18.120,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LA CENTER CITY COUNCIL, that the public participation plan attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A, shall guide public participation efforts during completion of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle.

IT IS SO RESOLVED this 11th day of June, 2014, by a majority of the La Center City Council.

James T. Irish, Mayor

ATTEST:

Approved as to form:

Suzanne Levis, Clerk/Treasurer

Daniel Kearns, City Attorney



EXHIBIT A

La Center 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update: Scope, Schedule and Public Participation Plan

Purpose

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires cities and counties to conduct outreach to ensure “early and continuous public participation” in developing and amending comprehensive plans and development regulations (RCW 36.70A.140). The GMA also requires that local programs clearly identify schedules and procedures for public participation in the periodic update process (RCW 36.70.A.130(2)(a)). The purpose of this Public Participation Plan (PPP) is to ensure compliance with the statute by identifying the scope of proposed activity and potential timeframes for public participation and decision making.

Goals

1. Ensure broad participation by identifying key interest groups and soliciting input from the public.
2. Maintain effective communication and coordination.
3. Focus resources on issues most likely to be of interest to the public.
4. Distribute information and public notices early and efficiently.

Scope of Work

The Scope of Work is segregated into three phases:

Phase I: Review Comprehensive Plan and Development Code for compliance with state law; identify plan areas to be amended; scope the breadth of the update publicly.

Phase II: Address the issues identified in Phase I.

Phase III: Conduct public hearings and take legislative action.

Phase I

- Conduct a thorough review of GMA requirements and compilation of amendments since the 2007 update, using the GMA Periodic Update Checklist and other resources.

- Review the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations to determine whether revisions will be required to ensure consistency with GMA amendments.
- Reassess the vision expressed in the Comprehensive Plan; has it changed?
- Analyze the Urban Growth Area (UGAs) to ensure it is sized to accommodate 20 years of population and employment growth, based on the adopted Office of Financial Management (OFM) range.
- Identify corrective actions, if necessary, such as, altering the size of the UGA or changing the allowed uses and densities or planning assumptions.
- Inventory and assess Capital Facilities necessary to implement the 20-year plan.
- Provide a status report to the public, the Planning Commission and the City Council.

Phase II

- Adopt an ordinance or resolution stating that the City has reviewed its Comprehensive Plan, consistent with RCW 36.70A.130, and finds that no amendments are necessary or some amendments are required.
- Propose updates and amendments to the Comprehensive Plan through public work sessions and hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council.
- Conduct SEPA review in conjunction with Clark County.

Phase III

- Planning Commission will conduct public hearings on the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments and will forward a recommendation to the City Council.
- The City will provide notify the Department of Commerce with notice and text of the proposed amendments at least 60-days prior to final adoption.
- The City Council will conduct separate public hearings on the proposed amendments and will take legislative action.
- The Council will forward its amendments to Clark County.

Public Participation Program Structure

Techniques and Strategies

The public participation methods employed may include:

- Use innovative technologies whenever possible, such as, posting meeting notices online, interactive surveys, County GIS maps online, links to informative programming and County planning activities.
- Provide public notices and information releases through print, posting, mail and email. Publicize through community channels such as schools, social clubs, and local websites as well. Post all hearing notices and materials on the City's website. Use City reader board to announce meetings.

- Maintain an email distribution list and database to disseminate public information and notices of meetings.
- Identify and reach out to stakeholders, such as, the school district, neighborhood associations, business groups, and civic organizations.
- Conduct public workshops, public meetings, and open houses at times convenient to the public and at locations that are accessible. Workshops and/or listening posts may involve presentations by staff and consultants, question and answer sessions or interactive activities.
- Use informal gatherings and planned community events to solicit public feedback on City planning efforts, such as, Our Days, the Farmer's Market, summer events in the park, PTO meetings, Lions Club, sporting events, and similar opportunities.
- Depending upon the scope of the update, consider the creation of technical advisory groups composed of persons with specific technical expertise to assist the staff, consultants, and Planning Commission.
- Maintain active coordination with Clark County in terms of topics and timelines.

Preliminary Schedule

- Phase I: March 2014 – Fall 2014

Establish preliminary scope of work and public participation plan and adopt same; select population and employment targets in conjunction with Clark County; assess regional growth trends; inventory and assess capital facilities; inventory vacant and buildable lands in conjunction with Clark County GIS; assess existing Comprehensive Plan and Development Code for compliance with GMA; Council to adopt resolution stating GMA review has occurred.

- Phase II: January 2015 – December 2015

Accelerate public outreach on plan vision and policies; evaluate UGA and planning assumptions; initiate revisions to plan policies and make recommendations for changes to the development regulations, if necessary; develop revised plan that incorporates community vision, planning assumptions, and plan policies; communicate and coordinate with Clark County regarding SEPA and proposed plan amendments.

- Phase III: January 2016 – February 2016

Conduct public hearings before the Planning Commission; send notice to Commerce of proposed amendments 60 days prior to adoption; City Council to conduct public hearings and take legislative action; notify Commerce of final action.

Prepared by:
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