

**CITY OF SEATAC
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Minutes of December 6, 2011
Regular Meeting**

Members Present: Daryl Tapio (Chair), Roxie Chapin (Vice-Chair), Tom Dantzer, Jeff Guite (arrived during item no. 3 at 6:05 p.m.), Barry Ladenburg

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Cindy Baker, AICP, Community and Economic Development Director, Barbara Nelson, AICP, Planning Manager; Kate Kaehny, Senior Planner

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Tapio called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Chapin, 2nd by Dantzer, the Commission voted **4-0 to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2011 meeting as distributed.**

3. New Business:

Senior Planner Kate Kaehny presented an update of the Safe & Complete Streets Plan and responded to questions from the Commission. As part of the update, the presentation included a review of proposed Comprehensive Plan policies for the Safe & Complete Streets Plan and next steps.

During discussion, the Commissioners made the following comments:

Chairman Tapio:

Land Use Policy 1.1G. p 1-6

- Requested that the word “possibly” be added as noted to the following sentence:

The process of converting SeaTac’s Urban Center area to a form that is more pedestrian and transit-friendly will require that the current average block size possibly be reduced through the addition of new streets as development occurs.

Community Image, Chapter. 6, Policy 6.1.B, p-6-5

- Mandatory tree retention requirements would potentially discourage development in the city and requested that “must” be replaced with “should” and add language to “encourage where feasible” rather than require tree retention.
- *The trees that contribute most to the City’s image and walkability are the mature ones that already exist. Measures ~~must~~ should be taken to ensure that large trees are retained where feasible.*
- Senior Planner Kate Kaehny noted that this section references street trees in the public right-of-way.

Community Image Policy 6.1F p 6-7

- Commented regarding the provision of “publicly accessible open space” in commercial districts and business park developments with respect to property owners ability to provide safety and security for their property.

Vice-Chair Chapin:

Transportation 3.1

- Requested revised language to clarify the Plan’s timeframe referencing a 0-10 year horizon.

Senior Planner Kate Kaehny will prepare clarification as directed.

Transportation 3.2.A

- Typographical error noted on page 3 of 14 – should be “where”

Community Image 6.2H, p 6-14

The Commission was in support of the notation that this policy is greatly similar with 6.2Y. The Commission supported combining and/or deleting one of the policies to avoid repetition.

Senior Planner Kaehny responded to questions from Commissioner Ladenburg regarding bicycle facilities and Commissioner Guite regarding tree maintenance policies.

Chairman Tapio allowed comments from the public:

- Pam Fernald, SeaTac City Councilmember, commented regarding consideration of equestrian needs in the Safe & Complete Streets Plan to ensure that horse owners are able to continue their activities; Mrs. Fernald provided a handout that was distributed to the Commissioners.

- Doris Cassan, expressed concern regarding providing special treatment for hobbyists such as bicycle riders, and commented regarding potential road hazards related to bicycle riding.

4. Detailed Commission Liaison's Report:

Commissioner Ladenburg reported: at the November 22, 2011 City Council meeting; the Council passed the Comprehensive Plan Amendments;

5. Community & Economic Development Director's Report:

- a. CED Director Cindy Baker requested that Chairman Tapio appoint a member of the Planning Commission to present the Commission's Annual Report to the City Council at the December 13, 2011 City Council meeting; Commissioner Ladenburg agreed to present the Report.
- b. The December 20, 2011 regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be cancelled since there are no items scheduled.

6. Planning Commission Comments (including suggestions for next meeting's agenda)

None

7. Adjournment:

By the consensus of the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.