

KING COUNTY
GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL
September 25, 2019
Puget Sound Regional Council Board Room
1011 Western Ave, Suite 500
Seattle, WA

Approved unanimously on 11/20/17

MEETING SUMMARY

Members present:

Executive Dow Constantine, King County
Councilmember Claudia Balducci, King County
Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles
Councilmember Kathy Lambert, King County
Councilmember Upthegrove, King County

Representing Sound Cities Association (SCA):

Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Mercer Island
Councilmember Fran Hollums, Covington
Mayor Matt Larson, Snoqualmie
Councilmember Tom McLeod, Tukwila
Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah
Councilmember Kaur Satwinder, Kent
Councilmember Pam Stuart, Sammamish

Representing Special Purpose Districts

General Manager, Ron Speer, Soos Creek Water and Sewer District
Ryan Stokes, Assistant Superintendent, Snoqualmie Valley School District

King County Executive Dow Constantine convened the meeting at 4:05 pm. GMPC members introduced themselves.

Agenda Item III – Public Comment - *No public comment offered.*

Agenda Item IV – Greater Downtown Kirkland Urban Center – Motion 19-1

Kirkland Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold addressed the GMPC to ask for their support for the urban center designation for Greater Downtown Kirkland. Deputy Mayor Arnold was followed by Kirkland Director of Planning and Building Adam Weinstein who provided data on the proposal and addressed questions raised at the previous GMPC meeting.

The three key issues addressed were transportation, schools, and affordable housing. The city will improve bike, pedestrian, and transit connections to the center. The city and the Lake Washington School District worked with UW Urban Design students on an urban-format school that could locate in the center, as land becomes available. The Kirkland City Council adopted the Housing Strategy Plan in 2018, which contains specific strategies and actions to address the affordable housing crisis. The city is working on a plan that would promote housing, diversity, and affordability to include the Station Area Plan surrounding the planned BRT station within the proposed center.

Staff affirmed that a quorum was present.

Motion 19-1 was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item II – approval of the meeting summary from July 24, 2019. The summary was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item V – Briefing: GMPC Affordable Housing Committee

Executive Constantine recapped the discussion of the previous GMPC meeting regarding the establishment of the Affordable Housing Committee and stated that he is pleased that the GMPC is moving forward on implementation of the report of the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force. The Committee has held three meetings: June 21st, July 30th, and most recently on September 20th. Councilmember Balducci is Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee with Nicole Vallesterro Keenan-Lai who is the Executive Director of Puget Sage serving at the Vice-Chair.

Councilmember Balducci stated that the Committee focus will be to make equity in housing a core value – putting prominent time on the agenda with training and learning to focus on equity as the Committee pursues affordable housing in the county. The Committee is narrowing in on a work plan for year one. Councilmember Balducci added that there is a very specific goal of building or preserving 44,000 units affordable at 50% or below AMI within next 5 years. The 2019-2020 work plan will focus on the dual themes of building accountability and taking action. The Committee has taken up HB 1406 as their first act of regional collaboration and developed a recommendation statement. HB 1406 will provide funds from the sales tax credit to use for affordable housing in the county.

GMPC members expressed interest in the dashboard and how the jurisdictions will be represented. While it will be relatively easy to track housing authority developments and subsidized units, tracking market development will be more challenging. The GMPC felt that lowering barriers to home ownership was important as well as more housing near transit. Also that affordable housing needs to be built throughout the county.

Agenda Item VI – Briefing: Update on Annexation Report

Karen Meyering, King County, briefed the GMPC on the annexation report that lists the 80 remaining unincorporated urban islands in the county. Ms. Meyering has met with staff from many of the cities that have unincorporated islands. There are five proposed action items for moving forward:

1. Develop MOU's with cities to memorialize mutual interests and identify opportunities and challenges
2. Affiliate any remaining gaps with cities that border them
3. Follow MOU's with specific action plans and timelines as cities are ready to do so
4. Work with cities to seek a revised version of the annexation incentive tool with the state legislature
5. Provide annual updates on progress to the GMPC

The link to the data book is provided on the GMPC webpage.

Executive Constantine adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.