



MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 23, 2014
TO: Planning and Sustainability Commission
FROM: Eric Engstrom, Principal Planner
CC: Susan Anderson, Director; Joe Zehnder, Chief Planner
SUBJECT: Summary of Comprehensive Plan Public Testimony (Memo 3)

On October 28, 2014, the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) will hold the third hearing on the Proposed Draft of the 2035 Comprehensive Plan (CPU). This third memo summarizes public testimony received to date.

Schedule Updates

During the October 14 hearing, PSC Chair Baugh announced that the PSC anticipates keeping the record open to receive testimony through March 13, 2015.

The PSC will continue to receive oral and written testimony at public hearings on October 28 and November 4. Staff will provide the Commission with a summary of comments received to date on the Thursday before each hearing.

On November 18, the PSC will have its first work session to discuss comments received and reactions to the Proposed Draft. The PSC will also hear from the Community Involvement Committee (CIC) and from City bureaus, and will develop an agenda for subsequent CPU work sessions currently scheduled for January 13, February 10, March 15 and March 24, 2015. Prior to the November 18 work session, staff will recommend topics for subsequent work sessions. A “consent list” of staff-recommended changes that may not need in-depth discussion will be published in January.

On February 24, 2015, the PSC will hold a hearing on the Transportation System Plan (TSP), to review a sorted and updated TSP project list.

We also have tentatively scheduled a hearing on the revised Economic Opportunities Analysis (EOA) for April 14, 2015, and a hearing on the Growth Scenarios Addendum Report at the April 28, 2015 PSC meeting. Both the updated EOA and the Growth Scenario Addendum are components of Periodic Review Task 3. A staff Draft of the Recommended Draft is scheduled to be released no later than April 3, 2015.

Summary of Comments

Memo 3: July 22 through October 21, 2014

All written comments received between October 8 and October 21 are available at <http://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/webdrawer.dll/webdrawer/rec/7015894/>.

A compiled document of these written comments is available at ftp://ftp02.portlandoregon.gov/BPS/PSC/CPU/testimony_100814-102114_compiled.pdf.

Comments received in writing at the October 14 PSC hearing are available in a compiled document at ftp://ftp02.portlandoregon.gov/BPS/PSC/CPU/written_testimony_101414hearing.pdf.

Between July 22 and October 21, a total of 1,427 public comments were received. Of these, 995 were submitted via the Map App, 116 in writing and 214 via email. Comments ranged from specific zoning requests to general comments about the City's stated goals and CPU guiding principles. Some of the most frequently-commented on topics at this time include but are not limited to:

- Concerns around and/or support for potential zoning adjustments as a result of Center and Corridor designations and the related Mixed Use Zones Project.
- Recommendations and observations regarding the character of residential neighborhoods, including desire to address demolitions.
- Desire to carefully consider the development of green-fields, and to prioritize re-development of brownfields in meeting projected employment land needs. Additionally, many comments made it clear that clarification is needed concerning current proposals for WHI.
- Insurance that housing remains affordable for low-income residents in all Portland's neighborhoods, and taking targeted actions to prevent current residents from being priced out of their homes.
- Recognition of the need for more middle-income employment opportunities within the city.
- Support for equitable investments in transportation and infrastructure. Many commenters also highlighted the need for infrastructure to adequately support areas that are currently under-served and for areas where significant growth is anticipated.
- Requests for property-specific zoning map or CPU designation changes.
- Requests to extend PSC hearings, specifically with regard to allowing time for neighborhoods and others to review and evaluate the potential impacts of mixed-use zoning and campus/institutional zoning designations.
- Concerns about and/or support for areas designated for down-zoning due to natural hazards, other risks and/or service gaps.

It is important to note that while hard copy letters, emails and all testimony received at PSC (verbal written) may pertain to any or all of the Comp Plan, most testimony received online through the Map App is focused on specific map features: The Transportation System Plan (TSP) Project List; Proposed Infrastructure Projects; and Land Use changes regarding Centers and Corridors; Jobs and Employment; Risks and Service Gaps; and Neighborhoods, Parks and Open Spaces.

In addition, staff have observed that many comments received include questions. When staff comes across these questions, or requests for clarification or additional information, Help Line staff are responding promptly and are keeping a record of these items.

Comments by Category

Policy Comments by Topic	Comments
Economic Development/Industrial	169
Environment and Watershed Health	168
Zoning Map	145
Land Use Designations	140
TSP/Transportation	105
Urban Design Framework, Centers and Corridors	89
Community Involvement	73
Residential Character, Demos and Parking	71
Public Facilities	48
Housing	38

All Comments by Geography (the location of the comment, not necessarily the address of the person making it)	Comments
Southeast	588
North	482
Northeast	276
West	180
East	171
Central City	126

Map App Comments by Category	Comments
Land Use: Centers and Corridors	321
Transportation Systems Plan (TSP)	280
Land Use: Neighborhoods, Parks and Open Spaces	258
Land Use: Risks and Service Gaps	24
Land Use: Jobs and Employment	23
Proposed Infrastructure Projects	22