



THE BUREAU OF
**PLANNING &
SUSTAINABILITY**

A work group of the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) has met with City staff for five meetings in August through November 2022. In discussing the Planning Commission Code Project Proposed Draft at their November 1 meeting, work group members shared some thoughts and suggestions to help guide the conversation at the full PSC meeting on November 8, 2022.

Title 33 items for discussion

From Eli:

- Consider having Planning Commission (PC) receive briefings and provide feedback (but no public hearing) on significant transportation projects.
- Consider dropping "Special Subcommittees".
- Consider revising communication expectations with Design Commission and Historic Landmark Commission leadership.

From Jessie:

The three proposed changes that I think are the most important to highlight are:

1. The removal of the word "stewardship" (and what stewardship means).
2. Comment on appeals of quasi-judicial reviews.
3. Powers and duties of the Planning Commission.

Each one of these provisions was thoroughly discussed in our Planning Commission work group. Our conversations mostly consisted of debating whether to keep the Planning and Sustainability Commission's broad code language or to narrow it to allow for more clarity and specificity in what is within the new PC's purview.

Some specific things I'm hoping to discuss and decide on include:

- What should the Planning Commission's role be in relation to the Comprehensive Plan? Should the PC only be involved in proposals to adopt or amend the comprehensive plan? Or should the



City of Portland, Oregon | Bureau of Planning and Sustainability | www.portland.gov/bps
1810 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 710, Portland Oregon, 97201 | phone: 503-823-7700 | tty: 503-823-6868

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. To request translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, or other auxiliary aids or services, contact 503-823-7700, Relay: 711.

Traducción e Interpretación | Biên Dịch và Thông Dịch | अनुवादन तथा व्याख्या | 口笔译服务 | Устный и письменный перевод | Turjumaad iyo Fasiraad | Письмовий і усний переклад | Traducere și interpretariat | Chiaku me Awewen Kapas | 翻訳または通訳 | ການແປພາສາ ຫຼື ການອະທິບາຍ | الترجمة التحريرية أو الشفهية | Portland.gov/bps/accommodation

PC be involved in reviewing large-scale planning projects or land use decisions for compatibility with the Comprehensive Plan? Or some other form of stewardship?

- Examples
 - We've done this recently with the Cully TIF (required by state law).
 - What about projects such as the Burnside Bridge or large transportation projects?
 - BDS approval of fossil fuel facilities as compatible with the comprehensive plan (as required for state agency permits) and other discretionary reviews.
- The way the PSC's code is currently written seems to allude to the PSC having some of these powers as the "steward" of the Comp Plan or as able to comment on appeals of quasi-judicial land use decisions.

Clarifications to discuss for Bylaws and/or other guiding documents for the new Planning Commission

From Eli:

- Vacancies – It's strange that Commissioner-in-Charge makes decisions on terms, but Mayor appoints.
- C. 1. Allow chair to appoint non-officers to facilitate meetings?
- 2. Vice Chairs "take over this role at alternative meetings" seems overly prescriptive. Drop this?
- D. Subgroups – Provide greater clarity on how the PC appoints representatives to other bodies (e.g. DRAC, Port of Portland, ...). Vote by PC, not just by the Chair.
- Formal recommending body, preceded by briefing & public hearing.
- PSC must be briefed, and will serve as sounding board; typically no public testimony.
- PSC can be briefed, and will serve as a sounding board; typically no public testimony.

From previous work group discussions:

- Review, clarify "efficient, effective, fair" language in the Bylaws.
- Composition of Commission / representation: clarify the Youth Position (e.g. possible 2nd term?).
- Letter writing: clarify when (when, types of projects, etc and to whom).
- Time of meetings.
- Advocacy
 - Ecosystem – who raises their hand?
 - How does the Commission help the City become accountable to its own goals?
 - How to use unofficial channels more effectively.

