

**SULTAN CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

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ITEM NO: Consent C 9  
DATE: August 13, 2009  
SUBJECT: Council Meeting Minutes

CONTACT PERSON: Laura Koenig, Clerk/Deputy Finance Director

**SUMMARY:**

Attached are the minutes of the June 30, 2009 Special Council meeting as on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve as submitted

**MOTION:** Move to accept the consent agenda as presented.

**CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – June 30, 2009**

The special meeting of the Sultan City Council was called to order in the Sultan Community Center by Mayor Eslick. Councilmembers present: Davenport-Smith, Wiediger, Slawson, Flower, Beeler, and Blair. Absent: Champeaux  
Planning board: Frank Linth, Steve Harris, Robin Shaw, Keith Arndt; Absent Jerry Knox

**Staff Report:**

Deborah Knight, City Administrator, provided an overview of the vision statement for the City

- 1) Setting – maintain the small town feeling; emphasis recreational activities; improve the visual image.
- 2) Economy – diversity services so the shopping needs of Sultan residents can be met within the city; encourage small business; seek employment opportunities by accommodating industry and manufacturing
- 3) Housing – Maintain the single family character while recognizing the need to provide housing for all income
- 4) Natural environment: the natural environment will be enhanced using the Wagleys Creek corridor and associated wetlands to create habitat and open spaces that will provide green relief from the intensively developed areas. Regional stormwater detention ponds will be integrated into this system using biofiltration to clean the water before it reaches the natural areas.
- 5) Industrial Park Master Plan – mixed office and medium density residential uses taking advantage of views and access from Sultan Basin Road.
- 6) Transportation: SR 2 will be a busy urban arterial providing both state highway functions as well as local access; an internal net work of public streets will connect uses on the north side of the highway and provide for traffic circulation connections to the Sultan Basin Road and Rice Road.

The Council and Planning Board Discussed the following:

- Industrial Master Plan failure. Developed 15 years ago and the goals have not been met due to environmental issues. The city needs to contact the property owners to determine if they are interested in keeping the plan. Also need to consider zoning issues. The impact of the LID on development and the revisions to the critical areas regulations. The need to complete the EIS for the area.
- Revisions to the UGA which will occur in 2012. The City needs to have policies in place and lay the groundwork to change the UGA boundaries.

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- Maintaining the remainder of the vision statements. Remaining flexible to be able to encourage different types of development. Change to reference from SR 2 to US 2 to recognize the federal highway to qualify for funding.
- Determine the level of update the city will do to the comp plan. Update of development regulations. The 2004 update had more mandatory elements to address. The city can do a minimal amount of work now and more intensive work in 2012.

### Comprehensive Plan

#### County-wide planning policies

The adoption of *Vision 2040* created new priorities for county and city updates:

- County-wide planning policies (CPP) need to be consistent with *Vision 2040* multi-county planning policies by December 31, 2010.
- Local plans need to align with Vision 2040 and the county-wide planning policies at the time of the 7-year updates by December 1, 2011.

The work to update the CPP is already underway. Snohomish County through Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) and the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) is working with its cities to evaluate and make recommendations to update the county-wide planning policies.

Snohomish County and its member cities have decided to take the following approach to update the county-wide planning policies:

- Continue the process to update the CPPs for consistency with Vision 2040 multi-county planning policies by December 31, 2010.
- Keep the two upcoming GMA-mandated formal plan updates separate – 2011 for the 7-year update and 2015 for the 10-year urban growth area expansion to be consistent with revised growth targets based on the 2010 census.
- Provide an opportunity for local jurisdictions to update their plans to reflect the Vision 2040 Regional Growth Strategy by 2011 based on early, preliminary indication of potential growth to 2035 (20-year update).

#### Seven year update – mandatory requirements

Sultan adopted its last update in 2004. In 2008 the city adopted revisions to its comprehensive plan to be consistent with the Growth Management Act. Revisions and updates are different and should not be confused.

Updates are mandatory. Updates subject all local GMA policies and regulations to legal challenge of any part of the GMA policies and regulations previously adopted. A plan revision is an amendment. Revisions narrow the legal challenge to only the revised portion of the plan not the entire plan.

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Even though the city adopted revisions to its plan in 2008 it is required to update the plan by 2011. As a part of the seven-year update, the city is required to:

- Align its goals and policies with the goals and policies adopted by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) and Snohomish County
- Have an accurate inventory of capital facilities, utilities and housing
- Review and update its development regulations to be consistent with its comprehensive plan

Discussion was held on the following:

- Determine which discretionary items will be addressed. The Council was concerned about the cost of the update which could be from \$45,000 to \$250,000. The cost will be spread out over two years.
- Methods to encourage business development and employment opportunities. Changing the concept of retail and rooftops and the concentric circles. The need for retail to attract residential development.
- The impact to the city with proposed toll roads; transportation plans and funding opportunities. How to achieve the goal of being self sustaining and self sufficient.
- Consider the hurdles to development that can be removed. The city has the same mandates as larger cities and may have to create partnerships to obtain some of the funds available. Remove barriers to developers.
- Staff will determine cost estimates for the different elements of the update.

**Public Participation:**

The City can limit public participation to the Council and Planning Board only and let people listen. Staff recommends involving members of the public to review different chapters of the plan with the Council and Planning Board. The groups would deal with different elements of the plan and then come together to implement the plan.

Discussion was held on the following:

- How to get public participation in the process. It was recommended each Council member and Planning Board member ask five people to attend the next meeting. Formation of committees to review the elements of the plan.
- The difference between legal notices and actual notices and the need to follow the process correctly to eliminate challenges to the plan.
- Using maps and charts from the last update for historic information. Reduce the amount of consultant time to reduce costs. Using staff to work with the committees.
- The council has worked hard to gain the respect of the community and have been transparent and open with the citizens. Involving the community with small work groups is a way to get citizens involved.

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- Education of the committees; survey questions and determining the elements of the plan to work on.
- Involve students in the process.

Staff will draft the minor revisions to the vision statement, set up meetings with the property owners in the LID area, and prepare cost estimates for the plan elements. The Council will invite members of the community to participate in the small groups.

On a motion by Councilmember Blair, seconded by Councilmember Davenport-Smith, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM. All ayes.

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Carolyn Eslick, Mayor

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Laura Koenig, City Clerk.