

Memorandum

To: Planning Commission

From: Pete Sullivan, Senior Planner, 556-2406

Date: June 27, 2014

Subject: **Study Session, Scope of Comprehensive Plan amendments to be considered in 2014-15**

PURPOSE

Enclosed materials are provided for Planning Commission review in advance of the July 9, 2014 initial study session regarding the scope of Comprehensive Plan amendments to be considered in 2014-15.

BACKGROUND

Each year the City sets the scope of the package of Comprehensive Plan amendments to be considered by the community, staff, Planning Commission and the City Council over the following year as provided for in the Growth Management Act (GMA). This resultant list of proposals is referred to as the annual Comprehensive Plan docket.

The City of Redmond's procedure for reviewing and adopting annual amendments to the Comprehensive Plan is to adopt a blanket ordinance that establishes the content and framework of the annual amendment package. This procedure accomplishes two principal objectives. First, it enables the City to comply with state requirements for concurrent review of the cumulative effects of all proposed amendments. Second, detailed review of each amendment can occur as each is brought forward separately to the Technical Committee, Planning Commission, and City Council.

A new procedure for the 2014 docketing process is for the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing on the docket, scheduled for July 16, and to provide a recommendation to City Council regarding the docket scope. This is an outcome of a Zoning Code amendment recently reviewed by Planning Commission and adopted by City Council on June 3, 2014. The amendment was intended to improve docketing procedures by clarifying the description of the process in the Zoning Code, adding a public hearing with the Planning Commission, and adding criteria for further consideration of proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments.

In soliciting community proposals for the docket, staff used a variety of communication methods to alert interested parties of the opportunity to submit proposals, as well as the May 29, 2014 application deadline. During the last week of April 2014, several announcements were made, including:

- eAlert message (free e-mails by topic; sign-up through City web site)
- Press Release dated April 29, 2014
- Announcement via City Twitter and Facebook accounts
- City web page
- Internal City e-mail (for City-initiated proposals)

The Planning Commission's public hearing on July 16, 2014 is an opportunity for applicants and other interested parties to provide oral and written testimony on the docket as whole.

MEETING PREPARATION

Please review the enclosed Technical Committee report including the list of proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments as well as the map of their locations. At the July 9 meeting, staff will describe the proposed package and ask Commissioners, respond to questions from Commissioners, and seek feedback regarding the proposed package.

Of the 24 total items the City received for consideration, 9 are City-initiated carry-overs from 2013-14; 2 are privately-initiated carry-overs from 2013-14; 9 are new City-initiated proposals, and 4 are new, privately-initiated proposals. As described in the Technical Committee report, two privately-initiated proposals are not recommended for further consideration based on Zoning Code criteria for docketing.

REVIEW SCHEDULE

The GMA requires evaluation of the cumulative effects of amendments proposed as part of the annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Package. Staff will present these 'inter-relationships' to the Planning Commission at a follow-up study session on July 16. That meeting will also include a public hearing, and following the hearing, staff will seek a recommendation from the Planning Commission regarding the 2014 docket. The City Council will then review the Planning Commission-recommended docket in August, and is scheduled to adopt a final docket ordinance in September. The ordinance formally confirms the docket, setting the framework and content of the amendment package while also allowing each amendment to be reviewed individually in a timely manner.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Pete Sullivan at (425) 556-2406, ppsullivan@redmond.gov with questions and for additional information.

ATTACHMENTS

- A) Technical Committee Report
- B) Map: *Proposed 2014-15 Comprehensive Plan amendments*
(excluding Citywide proposals)