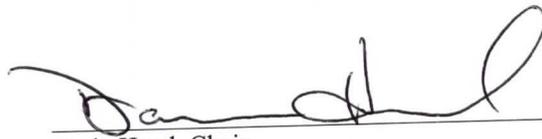


PLANNING COMMISSION

SUMMARY MINUTES

OCTOBER 19, 2020

APPROVED AS WRITTEN



Darin Hand, Chair

APPROVED WITH NOTED
CORRECTIONS

Chair

**ISLAND COUNTY
SUMMARY MINUTES
COMMISSIONER’S HEARING ROOM, COUPEVILLE, WA
OCTOBER 19, 2020**

	Members Present	Members Absent
District 1	Kristen Stavros	
	Margaret Andersen, Vice Chair	
	William Criswell	
District 2	Darin Hand, Chair	
		Joseph Busig
		Wendy Shingleton
District 3	Beth Munson	
		Tracy Hunsaker-Gilroy

Meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Darin Hand, Chair.

(Recording timestamp: 0:15/1:05:58)

ROLL CALL:

(Recording timestamp: 0:31/1:05:58)

Kristen Stavros, Margaret Anderson, William Criswell, Darin Hand, Beth Munson

Planning & Community Development Staff Present:

Meredith Penny, Long Range Planner; Grant Johnson, Associate Planner

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - None.

(Recording timestamp: 1:18/1:05:58)

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Meredith Penny stated that there was no Director’s report, but indicated that the Board of County Commissioners is working on a new Planning Commissioner for District #3 and that Commissioner’s Shingleton and Commissioner Stavros will be at the end of their term at the end of the year, and the county will be advertising for their positions as well.

(Recording timestamp: 1:26/1:05:58)

PUBLIC HEARING (Recording timestamp: 2:59/1:05:58)

Chairman Hand turned the meeting over to Meredith Penny, and she and Grant Johnson took turns giving the draft-presentation on the Clinton Gateway Analysis, Section 2A of the Island County Comprehensive Plan. Meredith Penny started by providing a background summary regarding decisions that led to the proposal. According to Penny, 2016 was the last time Island County did its last periodic update of the Comprehensive Plan. During that update, existing policies from were pulled from the Land Use Element (chapter of the plan) which were “economic focused”, and a place holder Economic Development Element was created.

In 2020 the Board of County Commissioners put the Economic Development Element update on the Docket, and as a portion of that project; the Board of County Commissioners wanted the Planning Commission to evaluate and analyze each of the county's gateways listed in the presentation (airports as well as the ferries and highway entrances to Island County). Due to staffing and resource needs posed by Public Health and economic recovery response of COVID-19, the county re-prioritized the project, and the Board of County Commissioners agreed efforts should refocus on the Clinton Gateway as the first gateway to be addressed by the plan and move it across the finish-line for this year. The Comprehensive Plan is for 20 years of growth, but it is updated on a 10-year cycle. The Gateway Analysis will be a sub-section of (Section 2A) of the Comprehensive Plan.

(Recording timestamp: 5:47/1:05:58)

Penny and Johnson continued giving the presentation with respects to RAIDs (Rural Area of More Intensive Development – focusing economic strategies on the “Mixed use” areas) and Consultant Produced Reports on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Challenges that may exist, and priorities put forward by the Clinton Community Council, and Open Houses hosted by them.

Throughout the presentation, questions and comments surfaced by the Planning Commissioners with regard to “Traffic Calming” and road-diets along Highway 525.

Vice Chair Andersen suggested that the word/phrase “road-diet” be changed; and to instead use the word “modification” or something similar, because the word “diet” suggests reduction. Commissioner Stavros agreed.

Discussion ensued with hopes to get public involvement at the next Planning Commission's Public Hearing scheduled next week Monday - October 26, 2020 at 2 p.m., and gain an understanding of what will be expected by the commission at this next meeting; to either decline or move the proposal forward, or even table the discussion to continue for a later date.

Penny also mentioned she will reach out to WSDOT regarding their formal comments on the plan. She also expressed that this 20-year plan may not be financially feasible at present, but that laying the groundwork, and providing flexible language can provide multiple solutions; which is currently what is needed to move forward.

Chair Hand waited for a motion to adjourn the meeting if there is nothing further.

(Recording timestamp: 1:05:31/1:05:58)

Commissioner Andersen, motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Stavros, seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Lourdes Shuart