



## **Memorandum**

**DATE:** June 11, 2009

**TO:** Shoreline Planning Commission

**FROM:** Joseph W. Tovar, FAICP, Director P&DS  
Steven M. Cohn, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** Preliminary Thinking about the Work Plan to Update the entire Comprehensive Plan by the Dec., 2011 deadline

The Growth Management Act (at RCW 30.70A.130) requires all cities in Clallam, Clark, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom counties to update their comprehensive plans by December of 2011. That is also the deadline for cities in those counties to adopt updates to their Shoreline Master Programs pursuant to RCW 90.58, the Shoreline Management Act.

One of the City's primary duties in the 2011 update is to assure that our comprehensive plan can accommodate any population and employment targets that are assigned to the City by King County. We also have to be sure that any amendments to the City's land use element are consistent with and supported by the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan, such as Capital Facilities, Transportation and Parks and Open Space. And, of course, we need to be sure that the Plan's elements are consistent with and help carry out the recently adopted Citywide Vision and Framework Goals.

We have been told by the state planning agency that cities and counties are likely to have more latitude with the 2011 update than was the case with the 2004 update. The City's 2004 plan update was an exhaustive cover-to-cover review which involved a prodigious amount of public input, a lot of consultant work and environmental documentation. Unlike 2004, State grant funding will not be available to support the cost of our 2011 update. Consequently, we will need to be strategic about how we go about our update, placing the City's time and resources where they will do the most good. Though we may obtain funding to hire a consultant for some of the work, it is most likely that we (staff and the Planning Commission) will be doing most of the work ourselves.

One final strategic thought I want to introduce into the discussion of our 2011 Comprehensive Plan Update is that a Plan is only as effective as its implementing regulations. Therefore, we should remember that another work

program priority for the same time frame must be the appropriate updating and revising of the City's development regulations. We have talked before about such approaches as "design review," "planned areas" and "form based codes." The staff strongly suggests that our Plan update be supported by and coordinated with a concurrent modification of the City's development regulations.

### Next meeting

The staff proposes to take time at the June 18 Planning Commission meeting to review with you areas that will deserve further consideration. To that end, staff will work with you to recall issues that have come up over the past 5 years (or ones that weren't addressed well in the last Plan Update) in order to make a list of items to review to see if the Plan deserves modification.

In addition, staff has prepared a draft 2009-2011 Comprehensive Plan Work Program (Attachment A) to help us take stock of what the constituent elements of the Comprehensive Plan are. By listing the various plan elements, we are not judging that they will definitely require modification; rather we are suggesting that we should at least become familiar with what they now say and determine whether any changes might merit consideration.

Note that the items shown on the upper half of Attachment "A" are simply a reiteration of several of the legislative items already on your Planning Work Program for 2009-2010.

Also, the sequence of tasks listed under "Plan Updates" is open for discussion, however, the City Council has recently given some sense of relative priority in their recently revised Council Goals for 2009-2010. The latter is Attachment "B" to this memo. I would particularly like to call your attention to draft Goals 1 and 2, which specifically list as priorities a number of items that would be in the Planning Work Program.

If you have questions or thoughts about the process, please contact Steve Cohn at 206-801-2511 or email him at [scohn@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:scohn@shorelinewa.gov) prior to the meeting.

Attachment "A" – Draft 2010-2011 Comprehensive Plan Work Program

Attachment "B" – Draft City Council Goals for 2009-2010



# **DRAFT**

## **Proposed City Council 2009-2010 Goals and Workplan**

**Goal 1: Implement the adopted Community Vision by updating the Comprehensive Plan and key development regulations in partnership with residents, neighborhoods and businesses.**

- Complete Southeast Area Neighborhoods Plan
- Complete Town Center Plan
- Update the tree regulations
- Adopt new residential density and incentive regulations for RB zones
- Complete draft Urban Design, Capital Facilities, and Park elements of the Comprehensive Plan

**Goal 2: Provide safe, efficient, and effective infrastructure to support our land use, transportation, and surface water plans**

- Update the Transportation Master Plan
- Develop citywide trail and bicycle connection plan
- Maximize effectiveness of local transit service
- Negotiate acquisition of SPU
- Provide leadership and advocacy at the regional level for sustainable land use, transportation and basin plans

**Goal 3: Implement the Economic Development Strategic Plan**

- Work in partnership to develop a “Transit-oriented Development” plan for the Aurora Park and Ride Lot at N. 192<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Continue to support small business development and expansion and new investment in Shoreline
- Encourage the development of clean technology and green jobs
- Facilitate partnerships with the Economic Development Advisory Committee, Forward Shoreline, the Shoreline Chamber, Shoreline Community College, and others
- Develop and implement a strategy to utilize the arts, culture, and historic resources as an economic catalyst

**Goal 4: Create an “environmentally sustainable community”**

- Complete the Green Street Demonstration Project
- Update the Surface Water Master Plan and priority basin plans
- Establish a Residential Green Building Program
- Implement a comprehensive environmental purchasing policy

## **Item 7.b - Attachment B**

### **Goal 5: Complete the projects approved with the 2006 Parks Bond**

- Complete Hamlin Park and Cromwell Park Improvements
- Design and install trail corridor improvements
- Develop the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Master Plan

### **Goal 6: Construct the Civic Center/City Hall Project**

- Dedicate and celebrate the opening of City Hall
- Acquire LEED Certification

### **Goal 7: Construct the Aurora Improvements from 165<sup>th</sup> to 205<sup>th</sup> Streets**

- Award bid and complete construction of Aurora from North 165<sup>th</sup> to 185<sup>th</sup> Streets
- Complete design, acquisition, and bid for Aurora from North 185<sup>th</sup> to 192<sup>nd</sup> Streets
- Continue to seek funding for the last section of Aurora

### **Goal 8: Develop a Fircrest Master Plan in partnership with the State**

- Promote community participation throughout the State's planning process
- Encourage appropriate economic development investment and environmental sustainability opportunities

### **Goal 9: Develop a "healthy city" strategy to ensure the community's access to needed human services**

- Update the Human Services Plan and Desired Outcomes
- Update the Youth Policy Plan
- Promote preventive diversion and rehabilitation programs for adults and at-risk youth

### **Goal 10: Provide enhanced opportunities for effective citizen communication and engagement**

- Promote volunteer efforts in the City and of partner agencies such as the Senior Center, the Shoreline School District, and local human service agencies
- Work in partnership with nonprofits to create an online community bulletin board
- Host Town Hall Meetings and Community Forums on key topics of interest