



**Legislative Department
Seattle City Council
Memorandum**

Date: August 11, 2014

To: Mike O'Brien, Chair
Tim Burgess, Vice Chair
Nick Licata, Member
Planning, Land Use and Sustainability Committee (PLUS)

From: Eric McConaghy and Lish Whitson, Council Central Staff

Subject: Comprehensive Plan – Docket Recommendations

Introduction

With a few limited exceptions, the City Council may amend the Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) once a year. The City Council's review process will culminate next year with Council review of Seattle 2035, the major update of the Comprehensive Plan, and any amendments docketed as part of this annual amendment cycle. [Resolution 31402](#) sets out the criteria for including proposed amendments in an annual review cycle. [Resolution 31117](#) provides the framework for the annual process for reviewing the Comprehensive Plan.

Generally, the process occurs in two steps. First, in the summer the Council reviews amendment applications and establishes by resolution a docket of the amendments the Council will consider. This is often referred to as the "docket setting" resolution. Second, in the spring of the following year, after Department of Planning and Development (DPD) review and environmental analysis, Council considers the merits of proposed amendments and acts on a bill amending the Comprehensive Plan. In 2015, because of the breadth of the changes being considered as part of Seattle 2035, this timeline is likely to be extended to allow for greater analysis and more extensive public input.

Docket-Setting Schedule

Eleven amendments were sent to the Council between April 1 and May 15. Those amendments can be found in [Clerk File 313852](#). The Planning Commission and the Executive sent their comments and recommendations on the proposed amendments to the Council, on June 27 and July 1, respectively. These are attached to this memorandum. On July 15, PLUS held a public hearing on the proposed amendments, and received a briefing from the Planning Commission, DPD staff and Central Staff. The docket resolution ([Resolution 31536](#)), based on PLUS discussion on July 15, was introduced on Monday, August 11 and referred to PLUS. PLUS will discuss and likely vote on a docket resolution on August 13.

Docket resolution

The table on the following pages summarizes the proposed amendments and the recommendations of the Planning Commission, DPD, and Central Staff and indicates the proposals that are included in the docket resolution. In addition to the amendments proposed by members of the public, Resolution 31536

identifies neighborhood and environmental planning work underway at DPD that may lead to Comprehensive Plan amendments in 2015.

Next Steps

PLUS will discuss and likely vote on a docket resolution on August 13. After Full Council adoption of the resolution, the process for reviewing the amendments on the docket for 2015 is expected to be as follows:

- DPD reviews the proposed amendments, conducts public review as appropriate, and presents its analyses and the Mayor's recommendations to the City Council;
- The Council considers DPD's recommendations, conducts public hearing(s), discusses the merits of the proposed amendments, and votes on a recommendation to Full Council; and
- Full Council votes on a bill amending the Comprehensive Plan in 2015.

Summary of recommendations on proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments

App. #	Applicant	Description of Proposed Amendment	Executive	Planning Commission	Central Staff	Included in docket resolution
1	David Neiman, for the West Seattle Church of the Nazarene	Mr. Neiman proposes to change the FLUM to change the designation of an area west of 42nd Avenue Southwest and south of Southwest Juneau Street from single family to multi-family within the Morgan Junction Residential Urban Village	Include	Include	Include	YES
2	Cindi Barker	Ms. Barker proposes to amend the Urban Village Element to add policy language regarding the monitoring and reporting of growth and requiring action when an area exceeds its growth targets.	Include	Include	Direct DPD to consider as part of Seattle 2035	YES – directs DPD to consider as part of Seattle 2035
3	Roosevelt Neighbors' Alliance/ Priory of the Blessed Sacrament	The Roosevelt Neighbors' Alliance and the Priory of the Blessed Sacrament propose to change the FLUM and the University Community Urban Center Plan to modify the northwest boundary of the University Community Urban Center.	Do not include (Consider as part of U District Urban Design Framework)	Include (Consider alongside U District Urban Design Framework)	Direct DPD to consider as part of University District Urban Design Framework	YES

App. #	Applicant	Description of Proposed Amendment	Executive	Planning Commission	Central Staff	Included in docket resolution
4	Chris Leman	Mr. Leman proposes to amend the Transportation Element to add new policies limiting skybridges.	Do not include	Do not include	Do not include	NO
5	Sue Sherbrooke, for the YWCA Seattle King County Snohomish	Ms. Sherbrooke proposes to change the FLUM to add an area north of East Cherry Street and west of 29 th Avenue to the 23 rd Avenue and Union-Jackson Residential Urban Village and to change the designation of that property from single family to multi-family.	Include	Include	Include	YES
6	Joseph Brogan, for King County Department of Executive Services (DES)	Mr. Brogan proposes to amend a land use policy to allow greater flexibility in the height of public facilities.	Include	Include	Direct DPD to consider as part of Seattle 2035	YES

App. #	Applicant	Description of Proposed Amendment	Executive	Planning Commission	Central Staff	Included in docket resolution
7	Greg Hill	Mr. Hill proposes to amend the Land Use Element to limit live-work units along arterials.	Do not include	Do not include	Do not include	NO
8	Jessica Clausen, for Matthew Laase	Ms. Clausen proposes to amend the FLUM to remove an area north of Northwest 51 st Street, west of 11 th Avenue Northwest, south of Northwest 54 th Street, and east of 15 th Avenue Northwest from the Ballard-Interbay-Northend Manufacturing/Industrial Center and to change the designation of that area from industrial to commercial/mixed-use.	Do not include	Do not include	Do not include	NO
9	Jessica Clausen, for AnMarCo	Ms. Clausen proposes to remove an area waterward of Harbor Avenue Southwest and south of SW Bronson Way known as Pier One from the Duwamish Manufacturing/Industrial Center and to change the designation of that area from industrial to commercial/mixed-use.	Do not include	Do not include	Do not include	NO

App. #	Applicant	Description of Proposed Amendment	Executive	Planning Commission	Central Staff	Included in docket resolution
10	Chris Leman	Mr. Leman proposes to add a new "Open and Participatory Government" Element to the Comprehensive Plan.	Do not include	Do not include	Do not include	NO
11	Chris Leman	Mr. Leman proposes to amend the Housing Element to limit congregate housing.	Do not include	Do not include	Do not include	NO
Additional proposals						
	DPD	Amendments from sub-area planning in the University District, Georgetown, Lake City, Ballard or Uptown neighborhoods	Include	n/a	Include	YES
	DPD	Amendments related to green stormwater infrastructure	Include	n/a	Include	YES