

Adam Zack

From: Kate Akyuz <projectkate@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 12:49 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp
Cc: Adam Zack; Jeff Thomas; Laurie Carlson; Sarah Bluvas
Subject: Re: Planning Commission Appointment - Position 7

Thank you so much for the introduction Alison. I've had the opportunity to review the meeting footage as suggested and I've reviewed the documents from the last Planning Commission meeting.

Adam - I hope it's not too late to comment as I am just getting up to speed and hope to be actively engaged in the comp plan process over the next few years. I have some minor proposed edits for the scope of work and public participation plan elements if it's not too late. Happy to discuss any of these items. For the folks I have not met on this thread, my background is in environmental science and I currently manage large capital projects and major maintenance activities for another government agency. Its clear staff have already put a substantial amount of thought and effort into crafting this planning process and it looks great. I hope to use my background in government, particularly with environmental and equity issues, to serve as a useful and collaborative partner in the work ahead. Thank you for the opportunity to add my two cents. *Proposed additional text is in purple bold italics.*

Scope of Work

p.5, Task 4, lines 21-23

The HNA is a document detailing the expected housing needs in the City throughout the planning period based on *trends in housing affordability, information on demographic equity in housing opportunity, and* the forecasted growth, existing housing stock, and land use assumptions in the Plan.

p. 10, Attachment A, Table 2, Transportation Element

T-6 Add policy under Transportation Element Goal 12 that establishes a *prioritized implementation plan and* timeline for *periodic* review~~[strike -ing]~~ of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plan.

NEW T-9 Add policy under Transportation Element Goal 12 to study opportunities to expand electric bicycle infrastructure near light rail and in Town Center.

Public Participation Plan

p. 2, stakeholder bulleted list, line 42

Above "the general public", insert "*homeowners*" and "*renters*". These groups will require different outreach strategies than the general public and are critical to distinguish.

p. 3, Tasks, line 19

NEW 1.4 Invite multi-family housing property managers to share meeting notices regarding the plan, particularly the housing and economic development elements of the plan.

p. 4, Goal 3, line 17

Between existing tasks 1.2 and 1.3 insert the following and renumber the remaining tasks:

NEW 3.2 The Housing Work Group will partner with multi-family property managers to host a Renters Forum to share findings of the HNA and directly listen to the needs and hear ideas from the rental community.

Thanks again for the introductions, I look forward to meeting and working with planning staff.

Kate

On Wed, Mar 2, 2022 at 2:02 PM Alison Van Gorp <alison.vangorp@mercergov.org> wrote:

Hello Kate and welcome to the Planning Commission!

I would like to first e-introduce you to our staff team that interacts with the Commission most frequently:

- Jeff Thomas, Interim CPD Director, has been leading the charge on a Town Center Commercial code amendment. The Planning Commissions work on this effort is complete, at least for now, but Jeff may attend our meetings from time to time on other topics.
- Alison Van Gorp, Deputy CPD Director, I am the lead for our long range planning and legislative work and the primary staff liaison to the commission. I will be taking the lead on an upcoming code amendment related to impact fees, among other things
- Adam Zach, Senior Planner, is the project manager for the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, among other things.
- Sarah Bluvas, Economic Development Coordinator, has been working with Jeff on the Town Center code amendment and will also be leading work on the Economic Development Element as a part of the Comp Plan update .
- Laurie Carlson, Senior Administrative Assistant, serves as the clerk for the commission. She will be involved in all of our meetings assisting the chair with meeting process/procedures, taking role call votes, taking minutes and coordinating scheduling and communications.

Andrea reminded me that we have some existing orientation materials for new commission members, but as I'm looking through them, things are somewhat out of date. I'm going to attempt to update and streamline things a bit and get something out to you in the next few days. In the meantime, you may want to review the packets and videos from our last couple meetings to get up to speed on recent commission work:

https://www.mercerisland.gov/meetings?field_microsite_tid=All&field_microsite_tid_1=28

You are joining the commission at a good time as we have recently completed work on a few issues, and are just about to start on a few new projects. For the most part you will not be joining in on any issues in the middle of the process. We did have an introductory presentation on the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update at the end of the last meeting – I would encourage you to watch the presentation as it's the one thing where the conversation is underway on an issue that you will need to pick up and continue. The presentation starts at about 2:40 on this video:

<https://www.mercerisland.gov/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-special-video-meeting-4>.

Finally, I'd be happy to schedule a brief orientation meeting if you'd find it helpful to get an overview of how the commission functions and our upcoming work.

Welcome aboard!

-Alison

From: Kate Akyuz <projectkate@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 10:08 AM
To: Andrea Larson <Andrea.Larson@mercergov.org>
Cc: Adam Zack <adam.zack@mercerisland.gov>; Alison Van Gorp <alison.vangorp@mercergov.org>; Jeff Thomas <jeff.thomas@mercerisland.gov>
Subject: Re: Planning Commission Appointment - Position 7

Thank you so much Andrea and thank you to the Council for voting me into this role for the next few months.

Alison, I would be grateful if you could point me to any materials that I need to get up to speed on quickly.

Thank you,

Kate

On Wed, Mar 2, 2022 at 8:48 AM Andrea Larson <Andrea.Larson@mercergov.org> wrote:



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March 2, 2022

VIA: EMAIL

Kate Akyuz

[4327 86th Ave SE](#)

[Mercer Island, WA 98040](#)

RE: PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Kate,

We are pleased to announce that on March 1, 2022, the Mercer Island City Council appointed you to the Planning Commission. You will be serving in the unexpired term, Position No. 7, until the expiration of this appointment on May 31, 2022.

If you need any information or assistance during your tenure with the Planning Commission, please do not hesitate to contact staff liaison, Alison Van Gorp, Deputy Community Planning & Development Director at 206-275-7733 or alison.vangorp@mercerisland.gov.

Thank you for your willingness to serve as an advisory board member.

Sincerely,

Salim Nice

Mayor

CC: Jeff Thomas, Alison Van Gorp, Adam Zack

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk

City of Mercer Island

206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

Due to the regional COVID-19 outbreak, many City of Mercer Island staff are now working remotely. Responses to emails and phone calls may take additional time as we have modified our operations. Thank you for your patience.

Notice: Emails and attachments may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (chapter 42.56 RCW)