

Summary Notes: Sammamish Community Development on Long Range Planning Wednesday 8.10.2022

Today's presentation was "City of Sammamish Long Range Planning Work" and focused on three topics:

- 1) Housing Action Plan
- 2) Climate Change Work
- 3) Comprehensive Plan Update

David Pyle, Community Development director, has worked in Sammamish the last seven years. He said he has worked with approximately 7 City Managers and 7 City Attorneys during that time! Pyle said Sammamish has a fairly decent comp plan in place to keep us focused. The Next couple years really busy doing a new Comp Plan and long-range planning

Miryam Laynter presented on the of Housing Action Plan. The plan will look at both market rate and affordable housing and aims to encourage a wider variety of housing types and housing affordability within the City.

Extensive data is being gathered by the consultant for the housing needs assessment. The housing needs assessment will be shared at the joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting on September 20, 2022. The requires that the Housing Action Plan be finalized and adopted bymid 2023.

The City is looking for volunteers to housing round table in later August. If interested, contact Jackie Beliel at jbeliel@sammamish.us. David Pyle said our City code incentivizes Accessory Dwelling by providing flexibility in zoning dimensional standards for ADU's that are different than single family residences.

Evan Fisher discussed climate change and the new proposed Climate Change element. The development of a Climate Action Plan has been included for City Council consideration as part of the 2023-24 budget. If funded, it will be created in parallel with the Comp Plan update. He noted that the City received a grant from the Dept. of Commerce for early climate change planning which will fund the development of a Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Strategy. This strategy would be one component of the Climate Action Plan, should that be included in the approved budget. Preliminary work on a "green" building code was also included in the proposed 2023-24 budget. Data from King County shows that in our Puget Sound region, the building sector contributes to approximately 22% of the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Question in Chat about why other cities ahead of Sammamish on Climate Change, why so late? Pyle said there have been large priorities on evaluating adequacy of infrastructure related concurrency standards over the last several years. Pyle said lean staff, fewer staff per population, limits what can be done.

Miryam Laytner said Sammamish is in group K4C. K4C is a King County partnership with local cities of all sizes: “King County-Cities Climate Collaboration”

Questions about green building code to date in Sammamish. Pyle said some builders do as marketing brand and most cities incentivize vs. require green building. Pyle mentioned the City is considering hiring two staff positions for the Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP).

Next, the lead outreach consultant working with Framework, Ellen Southard, talked about the Comp Plan. Ellen mentioned this senior call was the first discussion with the public of the Comp Plan. She said the City plans to hold stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and a Planning Summit for staff and consultants. The City also plans additional engagement opportunities like pop-up activities at community events, hosting a project website, virtual town hall events, and online surveys along with Planning Commission and City Council meetings.

A question was asked about what aspects of a Comprehensive Plan are directed to us, how much are self-developed? David Pyle said both are involved. The Growth Management Act is RCW 36.70, multi-county Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) policies and King County Policies. Pyle also stressed that HB1220 will have a big effect on housing in the Comp Plan. Comp plans must be consistent with King County policies, Vision 2050 (PSRC) and State Law.

Cost of doing everything can stop doing everything. Pyle mentioned/asked what are the priorities of community/council. He stated the City cannot do what one person wants to do. Must have public benefit and compelling needs. The broadest benefit for the community of what to do is critical.

There was time at the end of the call for other questions from the group.

The City presenters asked three questions for our Seniors group

- 1) How can the Comprehensive Plan update support Seniors?
- 2) What do you love most about Sammamish?
- 3) What would you like to see changed in Sammamish