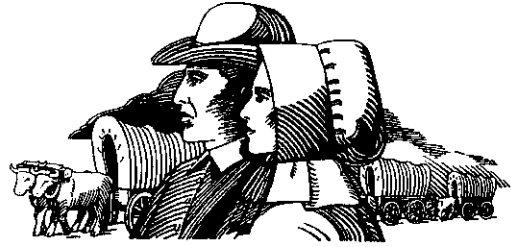


# CITY OF OREGON CITY

## PLANNING COMMISSION

320 WARNER MILNE ROAD  
TEL 657-0891

OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045  
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## AGENDA

City Commission Chambers - City Hall  
June 13, 2001 at 7:00 P.M.

### PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSESSION

- 7:00 p.m. 1. **CALL TO ORDER**
- 7:05 p.m. 2. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**
- 7:10 p.m. 3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 16, 2001 Worksession**
- 7:15 p.m. 4. **WORKSESSION:**
- A. Metro South Corridor Transportation Alternatives Study Update (*Ross Roberts*)**
- 8:00 P.M. **B. Urban Design Issue: South 99E Gateway to Oregon City (*Staff*)**
- 8:45 p.m. 5. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
- 9:00 p.m. 6. **ADJOURN**

NOTE: HEARING TIME AS NOTED ABOVE IS TENTATIVE. FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE DUE TO DISABILITY, PLEASE CALL CITY HALL, 657-0891, 48 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING DATE.

**DRAFT**

**CITY OF OREGON CITY  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
May 16, 2001**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Chairperson Carter  
Commissioner Bailey  
Commissioner Main  
Commissioner Orzen  
Commissioner Mengleberg

**STAFF PRESENT**

Maggie Collins, Planning Manager  
Barbara Shields, Senior Planner

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairperson Carter** called the meeting to order.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

None

**3. REVIEW OF WORK SESSION NOTES: April 11, 2001 Worksession**

**Commissioner Orzen** moved to approve the minutes as submitted. **Commissioner Main** seconded.

Ayes: Bailey, Orzen, Main, Mengleberg, Carter; Nays: None

**4. TREE CUTTING REGULATIONS**

**Commissioner Mengleberg** asked if this is a review of the tree ordinance. **Barbara Shields** answered that it is a consolidation of all regulations from all parts of the Code that pertain to the protection of trees. She said that it pertains primarily to site planning, and states that all trees having a circumference of four inches or more, as measured four feet from the ground, should be preserved. She explained that this regulation is used by the Staff in evaluating subdivision proposals. **Commissioner Main** asked what happens if an owner removes a tree without prior permission. **Ms. Shields** explained that the City does not have the authority to prevent an owner from removing trees from their properties. She said that the Planning Commission can advise a property owner about how to develop a site plan that preserves trees, but enforcement power needs to be incorporated into applicable Code sections.

**Chairperson Carter** said she believes the prevailing sense of the public is that “anything goes”, that quality or care is not required in Oregon City. She said that the Planning Commission is changing the rules and regulations to upgrade things, but the public will not recognize its efforts for awhile. **Commissioner Mengleberg** suggested that the City could negotiate with property owners to move particularly desirable trees to a park or school rather than simply cut them down. **Commissioner Bailey** suggested that, if the Planning Commission proceeds with refining or expanding the regulations pertaining to trees, that it should focus on special trees. He pointed out that trees, in general, are everywhere and therefore it is difficult to persuade the public of the need to preserve trees. **Ms. Shields** said that the Commission could develop a definition of what constitutes a significant tree to be preserved.

**Commissioner Bailey** asked to clarify that the materials presented to the Commission this evening is a recitation of existing provisions referencing trees in the Code. **Ms. Shields** confirmed that it is such a collection.

**Ms. Shields** noted Title XII that regulates what trees a developer can plant in rights-of-way. She also asked for clarification of the idea of a declared ‘significant’ tree.

**Chairperson Carter** suggested they refer to the description of a ‘heritage’ tree on page 5: “...certain trees because of their age, type, notability, or historical association are special and important...”. She said that the Tree Committee has to prepare a list of criteria to be used in determining when a tree qualifies for designation. She said such trees could be marked with plaques. **Chairperson Carter** asked that the Staff inquire whether the Mayor has appointed members to the Tree Committee. The Commission agreed that they are anxiously waiting for the Tree Committee to begin its work.

**Maggie Collins** reported that the Abernethy Tree near the I-205 bridge is in a deteriorated state. She said that it is located on Oregon Department of Transportation property, and she received a telephone call from the ODOT manager about removing it. **Chairperson Carter** suggested the wood from the tree could be used to make souvenirs and plaques, the sale of which would help to fund the Tree Committee. **Commissioner Bailey** suggested there be a public ceremony to acknowledge the passing of the tree. **Ms. Collins** said that there would need be a process to accomplish this, and suggested the Historic Review Board take the lead on planning a ceremony and developing uses for the wood, if that is necessary.

## **5. REVIEW OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**Maggie Collins** asked for comments about the Planning Commission adopted Mission Statement and Goals and Policies. **Commissioner Bailey** said that there was no expression of the decision-making the Commission will be doing to promote quality development that enhances the quality of life and image of Oregon City. **Chairperson**

**Carter** agreed that the Statement says nothing about the business of planning. She offered "The mission of the Oregon City Planning Commission is to create a proactive and positive planning strategy to protect and enhance...". The Commissioners and Staff discussed various wording without agreeing to anything specific. **Ms. Collins** suggested they capture what they have and re-visit the Statement.

**Ms. Collins** asked if the Commissioners still believe that "Enhance public knowledge and improve public relations" is a goal. **Chairperson Carter** and **Commissioner Mengleberg** agreed. **Commissioner Bailey** questioned the phrase "public relations". **Chairperson Carter** said she finds her role as a Commissioner in encounters with members of the public to be extremely important in how those members of the public viewed the Planning Commission. **Commissioner Bailey** said he would prefer wording like "...encourage public understanding of and participation in the planning process." The Commissioners agreed to delete the reference to public relations, but remember their role as Commissioners.

**Chairperson Carter** asked the Staff to prepare an update of City Commission actions on items the Planning Commission has forwarded. **Ms. Collins** agreed that the Commissioners would find such an update more helpful than copies of the minutes of City Commission meetings.

**Ms. Collins** noted that the Commissioners' idea of preparing an inventory of the City's natural resource areas is something new. She said that they would have to develop a way to accomplish that inventory. **Commissioner Bailey** said he wanted to see the canyon areas of the City protected from development because of the environmental hazards of building on slopes and because of the unique nature of those canyons. **Chairperson Carter** agreed, and pointed out that the City already has a number of different kinds of overlay maps that would assist the resource inventory. **Commissioner Bailey** and **Chairperson Carter** emphasized the role of the Planning Commission in protecting the City and the public from misinformed decisions concerning development in potentially unstable areas such as canyons. **Ms. Collins** said another rationale for the resource inventory is to increase the Planning Commission's expertise concerning geology, hydrology, and biology as they review to the viability of development projects.

**Commissioner Main** stated that there should be a specific goal to review the Comprehensive Plan for impact on such sensitive areas as canyons.

**Ms. Collins** provided a summary: the Commissioners agree to keep, as a goal:

- "To promote and enhance and restore the City's natural resources."
- "Build on past successes."
- "Inventory the City's natural resources."
- "Evaluate and revise the Comprehensive Plan to insure natural resources are
- adequately protected."

**Commissioner Main** recommended replacing the existing fourth goal with a goal to encourage public and alternate forms of transportation. **Commissioner Orzen** suggested adding the concept of transportation connectivity to this goal. **Ms. Collins** offered the wording: "...transportation options and advocate connectivity...". The Commissioners agreed to that wording.

**Commissioner Bailey** stated that he toured the route and determined that there is a need for a marker at Mollala Avenue and Highway 213 to indicate the direction to Oregon City.

**Ms. Collins** raised the question of where is the center of Oregon City. She cited a letter to the Mayor as a stimulus to thinking about this question. She posed the questions, for the consideration of the Commissioners, why do we need a center? What is important about a center of a city?

**Chairperson Carter** answered that the center provides a sense of community where people meet and actions happen, social and more. **Commissioner Bailey** said a city center provides a commonly shared visual image of the community, such as the downtown skyline for Portland.

**Ms. Collins** described the neighborhood pattern in a Spanish city, and suggested the Commissioners consider the significance to social life of those patterns. The Commissioners agreed that it is difficult to identify a social center for Oregon City. When **Ms. Collins** asked about a psychological center of the City, the Commissioners again agreed that this was a difficult task.

End of tape (Note: due to technical difficulties, the remainder of the Worksession was not recorded.)

## 6. ADJOURN

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**Maggie Collins, Planning Manager**

**CITY OF OREGON CITY**  
**- MEMORANDUM -**

DATE: 6/6/01

TO: O.C. Planning Commissioners

FROM: Planning Staff

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION FOR THE WORKSESSION SEGMENT OF YOUR May 14, 2001  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING---

Attached are drafts of the Commission's Mission Statement and Goals and Objectives. I have put the adopted version of each first so that you can compare. For more notes about this discussion, please refer to the Worksession Minutes dated May 16, 2001.

Please bring this material to the June 25<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting.

Thank you,

Planning Staff

# DRAFT

## OREGON CITY PLANNING COMMISSION YEAR 2000

### *MISSION STATEMENT*

*The mission of the Oregon City Planning Commission is to create a proactive and positive relationship in conjunction with all citizens, government, and community organizations, in order to protect and enhance the livability of Oregon City.*

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### YEAR 2001 DRAFT STATEMENT

The mission of the Oregon City Planning Commission is to implement a proactive and positive planning strategy that preserves and enhances community identity and improves the quality of the City's built environment.

## OREGON CITY PLANNING COMMISSION YEAR 2000

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**GOAL I:        *ENHANCE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND IMPROVE PUBLIC RELATIONS.***

- ACTION/TASKS:**
1. Initiate a comprehensive City website.
  2. Develop a "best design" award program for historic preservation or renovation, new commercial and improved existing commercial, and Planned Unit Development design.
  3. Interface with Neighborhood Associations, as possible.

**GOAL II:        *PROMOTE COORDINATION BETWEEN COMMISSIONS.***

- ACTION/TASKS:**
1. Promote and support a shared vision.
  2. Attend as many joint worksessions as possible.

**GOAL III.        *PROMOTE, ENHANCE AND RESTORE THE CITY'S NATURAL RESOURCES.***

- ACTION/TASKS:**
1. Build on past success, such as: The adopted Title 3 requirements, Park and Recreation Master Plan, and stormwater management regulations.
  2. Promote successful adoptions of Phase II of the Downtown Community Plan and the Oregon City Transportation System Plan.

**GOAL IV:        *EVALUATE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR LIVABILITY.***

- ACTION/TASKS:**
1. Promote livable developments.
  2. Develop revised design review components.
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## YEAR 2001 DRAFT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**Goal 1: Enhance Public Knowledge to Promote and support quality Public Planning**

1. Work for adequate planning resources.
2. Promote and undertake a community event to raise awareness of planning issues and solutions.

**Goal 2: Promote Coordination**

1. Attend as many joint worksessions as possible.
2. Promote positive relations with all City boards and commissions, City staff, the City Commission and the Chamber of Commerce.



**Goal 3: Promote, Enhance and Restore the City's Natural Resources**

1. Build on past success, such as The adopted Title 3 requirements, Park and Recreation Master Plan, Stormwater management regulations, the Transportation System Plan, the Molalla Avenue Bikeway and Boulevard Improvements Plan, and revised Design standards.
2. Inventory the City's natural resources with emphasis on steep slopes and canyons.
3. Evaluate the City's tree canopy to determine its preservation role in the Comprehensive Plan update.

**Goal 4: Promote Transportation Options for Oregon City.**

1. Evaluate awareness of multimodal transportation options and advocate connectivity in all decisions.