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CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

COMMUNITY PLANNING SUMMARY MINUTES

Employment Zones Streamlining Task Force Meeting #1 – April 18, 2011

Members Present: Scott Firstenburg, Todd Johnson, Jon Yamashita, Stacey Smith, Bill Huyette, Jerry Olson, and Kathy Sego.

Staff Present: Oliver Orjiako, Kelly Sills, Marty Snell, Gary Albrecht, Alan Boguslawski, and Bryan Snodgrass (City of Vancouver).

The meeting began at 3:00 pm. Oliver from Clark County Community Planning welcomed task force members and the audience to the first meeting of the Employment Zones Streamlining Task Force (EZSTF), and introduced county staff. Members of the task force introduced themselves and told the group a little about themselves.

Oliver indicated that at some point in the future Commissioner Stuart will attend the group meeting to give a brief explanation of what he wanted the group to focus on. Oliver reviewed the task force work element and summarized their charge as laid out by the Board:

Specific Charge:

1. Review models that have been used in comparable counties to simplify codes and zones to ensure more flexibility, the guiding purpose being to diversify and enhance business retention and expansion in Clark County.
2. Assess the suitable mix of employment zones that foster economic development growth and high-paying jobs in Clark County.
3. Evaluate the appropriateness of the purpose statements and uses in employment land (OC, BP, ML) CCC Section 40.230.030 (A) and 40.230.080(A), and in the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan.
4. Inventory existing employment zones, properties, and constraints which impede jobs-producing development. Gather information regarding size, access, and compatibility with other uses.
5. Re-assess development standards. Create and recommend standards that would not burden the County's ability to promote business vitality and economic well-being.
6. Develop recommendations by December 2011 that will serve as a revised employment zone(s) for Clark County. The goal of these recommendations will be to structure the zone(s) in a manner that enhances development while safeguarding manufacturing areas in our community.

The group deferred election of a chairperson and vice chairperson to the May 16th meeting. Kelly reviewed meeting protocol and logistics. The group is okay that consensus means 5 out of 7 members agree with a recommendation. Minority report/opinion will be included with recommendations. Meeting will be third Monday of every month, afternoon, starting at 3:00. The Public Service Center Building is fine as a meeting venue. Kelly will provide parking information to the task force.

Oliver explained the package of information included in the binders. The packet included the comprehensive plan land use element, the economic development policies chapter, the Title 40 sections on employment center districts (Section 40.230.030) and industrial districts (Section 40.230.080). Displayed at the meeting were the current land use maps, information on total breakdown of acreage of land use type added by urban growth area as part of the 2007 plan update.

The group asked for the following information:

- TIP Strategy Study – CREDC (since the TIP strategy has yet to be completed the timeline for providing same to task force is currently unknown)
- Include Office Campus (OC), Business Park (BP), Light Industrial (ML) and Heavy Industrial (MH) in a one-page draft code for ease of comparison between different zones
- Map showing only OC, BP, ML, MH, and a parking map for EZSTF.
- Current/projected number of jobs per acre by zoning category.

These are all topics for the next meeting. Also to be discussed is work program consistent with the charge of the task force.

Gary will work with IT to setup list serve/sharepoint for central file database.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

NOTE: The next meeting will be Monday, May 16, 2011 at the Public Service Center Building, 1300 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Training Room, beginning at 3:00 p.m.