

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
PIERCE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 9:30 A.M.  
Public Meeting Room, 2401 So. 35th St., Tacoma

MEMBERS PRESENT

Julie Williams, acting Chair  
Kevin Rau  
Sharon Hanek  
Kathryn Jerkovich

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sharon Benson, excused  
Jeff Brown, excused  
Jon Higley, excused

Clerk: Danica Williams, PPW-PALS

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Copies of all staff reports and related documents under review were made available.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made (Jerkovich/Rau) to adopt the minutes of October 22, 2019, as presented.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Pierce County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS)**

Staff made a presentation on the PROS plan. The presentation consisted of an overview of the materials covered at the previous study session held on November 6, 2019 and the proposed amendments to the plan following the County Council adoption of the 2020-2021 budget. New materials were presented and staff highlighted changes being made to the initial staff report that was received. The main changes that were made were to align with 2020-2021 budget, project revision to meet fiscal policy, and budget projections with the increased park impact fee revenue.

**Contact:** Tiffany Odell, Senior Planner, 253-798-4254

**DISCUSSION**

- Question about Park Impact Fees and how the impacts fees are divided based on where they are collected.
  - Impact Fees go into one pot and are required to serve the urban areas. However, parks that are rural, but serve urban areas are also considered along with regional facilities.
  - Real estate excise tax is not limited to Urban area
- Question regarding how impact fees are applied in District 7 (Gig Harbor/Key Peninsula area) since parks are ran by park districts.
  - Park districts receive some of their funding from the county budget and also Pierce County does manage a couple of properties in those areas.
- Question about the Frontier Park horse arena and if the grant doesn't come through, what happens to the \$462,000?
  - In the next budget it would be determined what would happen, but mostly likely it would remain with Frontier Park as there are other necessary improvements needed.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

*Larry Leveen, Project and Communications Coordinator for Forever Green Trails*—Mr. Leveen delivered the message that this is a really good plan having gone through the plan in depth. He mentioned the comment letter submitted regarding the initial public draft. Forever Green Trails had specific feedback and the Parks staff heard that and took it into consideration. They were not seeing a balance on investments in the different regions played out in the capital plans. Parks has done a great job in tweaking things to make it a little more representative. A lot of the policies that they had issues with were comprehensive plan policies. Since those are not up for debate right now, they will save their policy advice for later. He described the tables on page 4-36 and 4-37 and how Pierce County compares to other jurisdictions regarding various park facilities. Mr. Leveen noted that the County is far behind. They are pleased however that that impact fees have been instituted and that the inflator has been proposed by the Executive which is a crucial piece to prevent from falling behind and to better serve the people of Pierce County. Mr. Leveen wanted to commend the Parks Department and say that it is a very good plan.

## **MOTION**

A motion was made (Rau/Jerkovich) to approve the 2020-2030 Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan as presented.

## **Amendment**

A motion was made (Hanek/Rau) to accept all of the amendments presented in revised materials for the 2020-2030 Parks and Recreation Open Space plan as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

## **Main Motion Vote**

Motion passed unanimously.

## **Development Regulations Amendments – Rural Pathways**

Staff presented on amendments to Title 18J of the Pierce County Code (PCC), "Development Regulations – Design Standards and Guidelines," and Title 17B PCC, "Construction and Infrastructure Regulations – Road and Bridge Design and Construction Standards." to implement Resolution No. 2019-113. The proposed amendments would allow greater flexibility in the requirement to construct rural pathways if generating minimal pedestrian activity and are not located in an area identified by the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan or community plan as a required or a desired location for pedestrian facilities.

**Contact:** Dan Whitcomb, Civil Engineer II, 253-798-7153

## **DISCUSSION**

None

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

None

## **MOTION**

A motion was made (Jerkovich/Jerkovich) to approve the proposed amendments to Title 18J of the Pierce County Code and Title 17B of the Pierce County Code as presented by staff. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Discussion on future meetings in 2020 for the Community Plan Updates.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 am.