



Bellevue Planning Commission

July 12, 2023

PLANNING COMMISSION STUDY SESSION ITEM

SUBJECT

Planning Commission Educational Series, Vol. II, Pt. 1:
Planning Commission Roles & Responsibilities and Reviewing Comprehensive Plan Amendments

STAFF CONTACT(S)

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DIRECTION NEEDED FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION

ACTION

DIRECTION

INFORMATION ONLY

The Planning Commission is currently processing Wilburton Vision Implementation, which is a Process IV legislative proposal under the City's Land Use Code (LUC). Wilburton Vision Implementation includes creating and reviewing City Comprehensive Plan Amendments (CPAs) and Land Use Code Amendments (LUCAs), holding public hearings for the specific legislative proposals, and providing a recommendation to the City Council on both CPAs and LUCAs—subject to an accelerated planning and anticipated adoption schedule. In addition, the Planning Commission and individual Commissioners have requested in past meetings that the City provide training and education with respect to Planning Commission roles and responsibilities, procedures, and evaluation of CPAs and LUCAs under the specific decision criteria in chapter 20.30I LUC (for CPAs) and chapter 20.30J LUC (for LUCAs).

This agenda item builds upon a previous training provided to the Planning Commission back in 2018, and this study session is Part 1 of a two-part training and educational series prepared for the Commission by the City Attorney's Office, Community Development, and Development Services. The purpose of this training is to provide background information, guidance, and recommended best practices to assist the Planning Commission as it fulfills its role as a citizen advisory body providing planning and land use recommendations to the City Council. The first part of this training will cover the following topics:

1. What are the Planning Commission's Roles and Responsibilities?
2. What City Codes govern the Planning Commission's planning and land use work?
3. How does the Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW, govern and inform the Planning Commission's planning and land use work?
4. What is the difference between a CPA and a LUCA?
5. How and why does the Planning Commission review and evaluate proposed CPAs?

Part 2 of this training will focus on LUCAs and will discuss, at a high level, how best to incorporate the information provided by the trainings into the Planning Commission's review of the Wilburton Vision Implementation CPA and LUCA. Ultimately, the goal of these trainings is to provide the Commission with a solid understanding of how City Code, the Planning Commission's role in Bellevue, the Comprehensive Plan, and the Land Use Code all work together as the City plans for future growth and development.