Present were Commissioners Anthony DeBone, Patti Adair and Phil Chang. Also present were Nick Lelack, County Administrator; Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator; Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator; Kim Riley, Assistant County Counsel; and Brenda Fritsvold, BOCC Executive Assistant.

This meeting was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website www.deschutes.org/meetings.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair DeBone called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT: None

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Work Session: Destination Resort Text Amendments

Tarik Rawlings, Associate Planner, explained the request for a legislative text amendment to Deschutes County's Destination Resort Combining Zone to add language from Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 197.455(1)(a) for the purpose of limiting residential uses of future destination resorts to those necessary for the staff and management. Rawlings said this change is being sought by Central Oregon LandWatch (COLW) arguably in accordance with Oregon State law which imposes this restriction on any new destination resort within 24 air miles of an urban growth boundary population of at least 100,000.
Rawlings said the Planning Commission has recommended approval of this change. He emphasized it would apply to newly proposed destination resorts only and not to those with approved master plans. The public hearing is scheduled for July 12th.

Commissioner Adair requested to have a copy of the suggested text modifications.

Chair DeBone noted the consensus of the Board to grant the applicant 30 minutes of time to speak at the public hearing. Agencies will be granted 10 minutes, members of the public allowed three minutes, and the applicant will have 10 minutes for rebuttal.

2. DLCD Planning Assistance Grant Application Request

Will Groves, Planning Manager, explained that the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) was appropriated $3.5 million by the Legislature to assist local governments in housing-related urbanization planning work. The Community Development Department seeks Board approval to apply for grant funding to 1) undertake Code updates to ensure clear and objective standards and 2) draft Code amendments to address future urbanization.

Responding to Commissioner Adair, Groves confirmed that no specific amounts will be applied for.

County Administrator Nick Lelack noted that while the Board has not prioritized work on clear and objective standards, it can take time to receive awarded funds.

In response to Commissioner DeBone, Groves said an example of a Code amendment to address future urbanization might be a requirement that certain properties be developed with cluster housing in the interest of preserving opportunities to add more housing if annexed later. Other language might bolster efforts to align development with established or planned infrastructure corridors.

Commissioner DeBone asked if these provisions would be limited to property outside of Bend. Groves said staff could assess any of the Urban Growth Boundaries with the aim of ensuring that all applicable properties will accommodate future development as appropriate and desired.

CHANG: Move to authorize staff to apply for planning assistance grants from the Department of Land Conservation and Development for housing-related urban planning assistance

ADAIR: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes

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3. Discussion of moving the Coordinated Houseless Response Office to COIC

As Chair of the Coordinated Houseless Response Office (CHRO) Board, Commissioner Adair presented the proposal to transfer functional oversight of CHRO to Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC). Saying this idea is being assessed by all of CHRO's member jurisdictions, she explained the opportunity and potential benefits and said the Central Oregon Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group has several million dollars left to allocate to projects and programs which address the needs of unsheltered persons.

Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator, said designating this work to COIC will foster efficiencies in the regional houseless response systems due to COIC's ability to strategically align with the federally mandated and funded Continuum of Care, existing work with the Homeless Leadership Coalition, and COIC's Housing for All consortium work.

As a member of COIC's board and executive committee, Commissioner DeBone agreed these efforts should be coordinated.

Commissioner Chang noted COIC's experience in helping facilitate regional planning processes and supported the proposal as a valuable opportunity to integrate the efforts of various agencies.

Commissioner Adair commented on the possible utilization of the Gales property for a managed camp.

Commissioner DeBone sought clarity on each involved entity's role going forward and asked who will respond to complaints or requests for information.

Commissioner Adair spoke to the need for sanctioned, monitored campgrounds outside of cities and expressed hope that Governor Kotek reconsiders the opportunities which the County has proposed. She said if oversight of CHRO is transferred to COIC, Deschutes County would continue to be the grant recipient and maintain responsibility of managing the $1 million which was distributed by the State in accordance with House Bill 4123.

CHANG: Yes
DEBONE: Chair votes yes, Motion Carried

CHANG: Move to shift functional oversight of the Coordinated Houseless Response Office from Deschutes County to the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
ADAIR: Second
Planning Manager Will Groves reported that the applicant involved in an appeal heard by the Board on June 28th (Appeal No. 247-23-00398-A) has requested that the post-hearing period be extended beyond this Wednesday. Specifically, the applicant has asked that the record be left open until July 19th to accept rebuttal evidence and testimony and that the record further be left open until July 26th to accept the applicant's final legal argument.

ADAIR: Move approval of Order No. 2023-031 extending the post-hearing open record period for Appeal No. 247-23-000398-A as requested

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes
CHANG: Yes
DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

Responding to Commissioner Chang, Groves said this matter will come back to the Board in August for deliberations.

Commissioner Chang reported that property owners in Nevada County, California are experiencing significant issues related to obtaining and/or maintaining fire insurance as coverage is being revoked or premiums drastically increased. He presented a draft resolution from the Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties (NACo) which advocates for the availability and affordability of wildfire insurance and encourages the federal government to engage on this issue and provide relief to homeowners, perhaps by establishing a national fire insurance program akin to the national flood insurance program.

Commissioner DeBone suggested that Deschutes County formally endorse this resolution.

ADAIR: Move that Deschutes County endorse the NACo resolution which advocates for the availability and affordability of homeowners and commercial wildfire insurance

CHANG: Second

VOTE: ADAIR: Yes
CHANG: Yes
DEBONE: Chair votes yes. Motion Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURN:

Being no further items to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

DATED this ___ Day of ___________ 2023 for the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners.

ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR

ATTEST:

PATTI ADAIR, VICE CHAIR

RECORDING SECRETARY

PHIL CHANG, COMMISSIONER