1	City of Lake Forest Park – Planning Commission
2	Regular Meeting Minutes: August 13, 2024; 7:00-9:00pm
3	Hybrid Meeting Held in the Forest Room at City Hall and Virtually via Zoom
4	
5	Planning Commissioners present: Chair Ashton Alvarez- McCartney, Vice Chair Janne Kaje,
6	Cherie Finazzo, Meredith LaBonte, David Kleweno, Lois Lee (via Zoom), and Melissa Cranmer (via
7	Zoom)
8	
9	Staff and others present: Mark Hofman, Community Development Director; John Lebo, Council
10	Liason; Cristina Haworth, SCJ Alliance (via Zoom)
11	NO 1 C.1 TO 11'
12	Members of the Public present: Nigel Keifer and Joelene Jay
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14	Planning Commissioners absent: Sam Castic and Madlyn Larson
15	C. H. and J. Cl. i. Al. and M. C. and H. Lilland, i. and J. 700 PM.
16	Call to order: Chair Alvarez-McCartney called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
17	Land Aslandaria decomposity Comm. With the data to the land of the second
18 19	Land Acknowledgement: Cmr. Kaje read the land acknowledgement.
20	Approved of Accorder Come Visionanda a marting to account the control of Complete Co
21	Approval of Agenda: Cmr. Kaje made a motion to approve the agenda, Cmr. Finazzo seconded,
22	and the motion to approve the agenda was carried unanimously.
23	Approval of Minutes: Chair Alvarez-McCartney made a motion to approve the July 09, 2024,
24	Meeting Minutes, Cmr. Kaje seconded and the motion to approve the minutes was carried
25	unanimously.
26	unanimously.
27	Public Hearing: Nigel Keifer gave a comment in opposition to the Comprehensive Plan and
28	climate change element. Mr.Keifer stated that he does not believe in climate change and does not
29	believe it should be part of the Comprehensive Plan.
30	believe it should be part of the Complehensive I lan.
31	Joelene Jay gave a comment on the issue of a reasonable use of exceptions. Ms. Jay calls for a
32	moratorium on RUEs with the intent to work on changing the process of RUEs to better suit the
33	residents during the moratorium.
34	account was an amount of the same and the sa
35	Cmr. Kaje made a motion to close the public hearing, Cmr. Finazzo seconded the motion.
36	, ————————————————————————————————————
37	Next meeting: The next meeting occurs on September 10, 2024.
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39	Public Comment: No public comments.
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41	City Council Liaison Report: Council liaison, Lebo, announced that Council is preparing for the
42	biannual budget. The goal of Council to pass the budget by November.
43	
44	Old Business:
45	
46	Recap of Open House for update of Comprehensive Plan held on July 16, 2024
47	Ms. Haworth shared a presentation on a recap of the Open House. The Open House consisted of
48	an estimated 45 to 50 attendees. For the transportation station, there was a strong desire for

investment in pedestrian safety improvements, more biking facilities, broader transit network, and speed control. At the housing station, there was an interest in expanding housing options and concerns about the tree canopy and traffic. At the economic development station, there was great interest in developing the Ballinger way corridor for commercial use.

# Discussion on comments and revisions to prepare a recommended draft Comprehensive Plan Update

Ms. Haworth provided an update on the status of the Comprehensive Plan. Final comments were received from the Tree Board, Park Board, and Police Department. SCJ is awaiting on some comments from the Planning commission and looking to incorporate comments from the Open House.

The Commission discussed the issue of equity and the different positions of commissioners. The commission agreed to collectively work on drafting a comment letter instead of a special meeting to work on a collective stance on the issue by the next meeting.

### **New Business:**

# Items of Planning Commission interest or concern - preparation for September meeting

Chair Alvarez-McCartney opened the meeting to discussion on key issues the Commission would like to work on after the Comprehensive Plan. Cmr. Kleweno discussed the issue of development and supporting small businesses. Cmrs. LeBonte and Finazzo seconded the importance of helping small businesses. Cmr. Lee discussed the issue of expanding commercial zones in the southern gateway. Cmr. Kaje brought up the issue of expanding mixed-use zones in the City.

#### **Reports and Announcements:**

Mr. Hofman announced that a consultant was chosen for the Climate Element grant RFQ. A contract is currently being negotiated.

#### Citizen Comment:

Nigel Keifer made a comment that he wants the focus of the Commission to shift to helping seniors in the city and not expanding housing to not increase traffic.

Agenda for Next Meeting: Additional discussion on comprehensive plan amendments.

## Adjournment:

Cmr. Kaje made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cmr. Finazzo seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

APPROVED:

Ashfon Alvarez-McCartney, Planning Commission Chair