



# CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL VIDEO MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

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## CALL TO ORDER

The Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Hubbell at 6:02pm from a remote location.

## PRESENT

Chair Daniel Hubbell

Vice Chair Jennifer Mechem

Commissioner Carolyn Boatsman

Commissioner Tiffin Goodman

Commissioner Michael Murphy

Commissioner Ted Weinberg

All Commissioners participated in the meeting remotely.

## ABSENT

All commissioners were present.

## STAFF PRESENT

Alison Van Gorp, Deputy CPD Director and Andrea Larson, Sr. Administrative Assistant participated in the meeting remotely.

## MINUTES

Moved by Weinberg; Seconded by Mechem to:

**Approve the March 17, 2021 minutes.**

Passed 6-0

## APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

## PUBLIC HEARING

**Agenda Item #1 Public Hearing for ZTR19-004 Wireless Code Update**

Chair Hubble opened the Public Hearing at 6:09pm

There were no public comments.

Chair Hubble continued the Public Hearing to the May 19, 2021 Planning Commission meeting.

## REGULAR BUSINESS

**Agenda Item #2: ZTR19-004 Wireless Code Update**

Alison Van Gorp, CPD Deputy Director, gave a brief presentation to the Commission on ZTR19-004 – Wireless Code Update.

The Commission reviewed the draft code and provided feedback and comments on proposed changes to the draft code. The Commission provided the following feedback:

- Consistent usage of the term “Director” rather than “code official”
- Consistent usage of the term “feasible” without modifiers such as “physically”, “technically” or “technologically”.
- Consistent usage of the terms “wireless communications facility”, “WCF” and “small wireless facility”
- Remove from 19.06.040(M) a 90-day cap on emergency temporary wireless communication facilities (instead providing director discretion on length of deployment during emergencies).
- Rewording provisions for equipment in the ROW in 19.06.075(A)(1) to allow the placement of generators in the ROW in the case of emergency or natural disaster.
- Rewording of noise provisions in 19.06.075(A)(2) to provide additional clarity.
- Rewording of replacement/new pole provisions in 19.06.075(A)(4) and 19.06.075(A)(5) to provide additional specificity about meeting ADA requirements.
- Rewording sign provisions in 19.06.075(A)(6) to provide additional clarity.
- Rewording provisions related to secondary use of a pole in 19.06.075(B)(7) and 19.06.075(C)(12) to clarify the process for re-applying to keep a pole in the current location after the nonwireless use of the pole is abandoned. Note that poles would only be allowed to remain if they meet all current code requirements, including the provisions related to ADA and clear and safe passage through the ROW. Thus, poles that are non-conforming (such as those that obstruct the ROW) would need to be removed and relocated.
- Consider removing or revising 19.21.C to avoid conflating small wireless installations with new street lighting in neighborhoods.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Deputy Director's Report**

Alison Van Gorp, CPD Deputy Director, gave a brief update on the Commission on the Town Center retail requirements and on the work being done on growth targets for the next Comprehensive Plan update.

### **Planned Absences**

There were no planned absences.

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** May 19, 2021

### **Announcements & Communications**

Commissioner Mechem announced her resignation from the Planning Commission and that this would be her last meeting as a commissioner. The Commission recognized Commissioner Mechem for her service on the Planning Commission.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm