

MEETING MINUTES

TUMWATER GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
February 11, 2026



- CONVENE:** 8:00 a.m.
- PRESENT:** Chair Eileen Swarthout, Councilmembers Joan Cathey and Brandon Weedon
- Staff: City Administrator Paul Simmons, Assistant City Administrator Kelly Adams, Community Development Department Director Brad Medrud, Deputy Community Development Director Sharon Lumbantobing, Housing, Land Use Planner Erika Smith-Erickson and Administrative Assistant Jessica Lee
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** **Councilmember Cathey moved, seconded by Councilmember Weedon, to approve the minutes of January 14, 2026, as presented. A voice vote approved the motion.**
- SELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Councilmember Cathey nominated Eileen Swarthout to serve as Chair of the General Government Committee. Councilmember Weedon seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations.
- VOTE OF AFFIRMATION:** **Through a unanimous vote, Councilmember Swarthout was elected to serve as Chair of the Tumwater General Government Committee during 2026 and 2027.**
- COMMITTEE MEETING TIME CHANGE:** The Committee discussed changing the regular meeting time from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. Members and staff confirmed the later time would be workable and consistent with other committee schedules.
- MOTION:** **Councilmember Cathey moved, seconded by Councilmember Weedon, to change the General Government Committee meeting time from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the**

second Wednesday of each month. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

**2026 PRELIMINARY
DOCKET –
COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN TEXT
AMENDMENTS:**

Director Medrud presented the 2026 Preliminary Docket for Comprehensive Plan text amendments. Under the Growth Management Act, the City may amend its Comprehensive Plan once per year. The proposed 2026 amendments are City-sponsored and include updates to the Economic Development Element, the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Element, and the Joint Plan with Thurston County.

Staff explained that the Economic Development Element was last amended in 2019 and will be largely staff-driven, while the PROS Element, last updated in 2008 with a minor amendment in 2016, requires revision to maintain compliance and grant eligibility. The amendments are included in the adopted Long-Range Planning Work Program. Following Council approval of the preliminary docket, staff will proceed with updates and return later in the year for formal adoption.

MOTION:

Councilmember Cathey moved, seconded by Councilmember Weedon, to place the 2026 Preliminary Docket of Comprehensive Plan Text Amendments on the February 17, 2026, Consent Calendar for approval. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

**EMERGENCY,
TRANSITIONAL, AND
PERMANENT
SUPPORTIVE
HOUSING
FEASIBILITY STUDY –
COUNCIL DIRECTION
ON RFP SCOPE:**

Director Medrud outlined a consultant-led feasibility study focused on emergency, transitional, and permanent supportive housing. The Comprehensive Plan includes a 20-year goal of 184 emergency housing beds and 723 permanent supportive housing units.

The Committee discussed priorities to guide development of the Request for Proposals (RFP), including understanding Tumwater’s needs, reviewing county services, evaluating funding options and financial risk, and considering phased approaches. Members also expressed interest in exploring transitional housing and identifying decision points for future action.

The Committee supported moving forward with development of the RFP as discussed. No formal motion was required.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business, Chair Swarthout adjourned the meeting at 8:51 a.m.

Prepared by Jessica Lee Administrative Assistant