

Kitsap County Planning Commission Minutes – February 19, 2019

**KITSAP COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Administration Building – Commissioner’s Chambers
February 19, 2019 @ 5:30 pm**

These minutes are intended to provide a summary of meeting decisions and, except for motions made, should not be relied upon for specific statements from individuals at the meeting. If the reader would like to hear specific discussion, they should visit Kitsap County’s Website at <http://www.kitsapgov.com/dcd/pc/default.htm> and listen to the audio file (to assist in locating information, time-stamps are provided below).

Members present: Kim Allen (Chair), Gina Buskirk, Shelley Kneip, Tom Nevins, Joe Phillips, Richard Shattuck, Jim Svensson

Members absent: Mike Eliason, Aaron Murphy

Staff present: Jim Bolger, Darren Gurnee, Dave Ward, Amanda Walston (Clerk)

05:47:00

A. Introductions

- Mr. Murphy’s absence is excused, Mr. Eliason is also absent.

B. Adoption of Agenda

- **Motion:** Joe Phillips motions to adopt the agenda as presented
- **Second:** Richard Shattuck seconds
- **Vote:** 8 in Favor; 0 Opposed – Motion carries

C. Approval of Minutes

- 12/18/18; 01/08/19; 01/22/19
- **Motion:** Joe Phillips motions to adopt the minutes from the 12/18/2018 meeting.
- **Second:** Gina Buskirk seconds
- **Vote:** 6 in Favor; 0 Opposed; 1 Abstained – Motion carries
- **Motion:** Richard Shattuck motions to adopt the minutes from the 01/08/2019 meeting.
- **Second:** Gina Buskirk seconds
- **Tom Nevins moves to amend the motion, to replace the words, ‘...the FCC Commissioner’ with the words ‘...the FCC Chairman’ as referenced on page 3, line 2.**
- **Vote:** 6 in Favor; 0 Opposed; 1 Abstained – Motion carries
- **Motion:** Gina Buskirk motions to adopt the minutes from the 01/22/2019 meeting.
- **Second:** Joe Phillips seconds
- **Vote:** 5 in Favor 0 Opposed; 2 Abstain – Motion carries

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1 5:50:00

2 **D. Public Hearing: Wireless Code Update – Darren Gurnee, DCD Planner**

- 3
- 4 • Chair Allen reviews the procedures for speakers testifying.
 - 5 • Mr. Gurnee provides a brief overview, timeline and summary of proposed Wireless
6 Code Updates, noting 3 sessions have been held and a workplan review, Staff Report,
7 SEPA (State Environmental Protection Act) analysis, and reference materials were
8 provided at the 1/22/19 meeting; an Open House was held prior to tonight's meeting.
 - 9 • Comments received will be provided to the Planning Commission, the record will be
10 kept open until Monday 02/25/2019. Deliberations be shifted to the March 19th
11 Planning Commission meeting to allow for compilation and staff responses.
 - 12 • Additional County Staff is present to answer any questions that may come up in their
13 fields. George Geyer from Information Services and Jeff Smith from DCD Land Use.
 - 14 • DCD currently has 4 active permits in process for wireless facilities.
 - 15 • **QUESTION/ANSWER:** Mr. Nevins asks, and Mr. Gurnee confirms, none of the current
16 permits are batched, all are individual.
 - 17 • Chair Allen agrees deliberations on March 19th would be helpful in providing for full
18 review and response time.

18 5:57:00

- 19
- 20 • Chair Allen opens the Public Hearing
 - 21 • **SPEAKER: Alan Bar, Verizon Wireless Representative, from Bellevue, WA.**
 - 22 • Mr. Bar notes he spent summers growing up in Purdy, Key Center and
23 Olalla areas. He thanks Staff, especially Mr. Gurnee, for hard work put
24 into this project; acknowledging the balance is not easy.
 - 25 • Mr. Bar notes many household and business turning to all wireless
26 communications. His own family is dependent on mobile technology as a
27 regular part of life, for work and school-based use as well as personal.
28 Wireless is now considered a basic service the public wants.
 - 29 • Some proposed code language is not technically workable, comments have
30 been provided to Staff. Application of some stealth and dimensional
31 standard requirements would not be feasible, such as utility poles, which
32 are critical areas for coverage.
 - 33 • Believes we are on the right path, asks Planning Commission to review
34 comments; noting top 3 things needed are reasonable timelines, flexible
35 standards, and workable code.
 - 36 • **QUESTION:** Mr. Shattuck notes batch requirements are of concern, relating to
37 capacity, even if consultants may be hired to assist; asks if there is industry data on
38 average number of applications in a 'standard' batch?
 - 39 • **ANSWER:** Mr. Bar notes concentration depends on density demand.
Verizon uses polygons, which may include an average of 5 – 15 sites,

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- 1 • Chair Allen notes some 5G equipment cannot even be painted without
2 causing interference.
- 3 • Mr. Bar confirms paint is prohibitive, but a film has been developed that
4 serves as a cover, while still allowing equipment functionality.
- 5 • **QUESTION:** Mr. Shattuck asks about the proposed design standard for tree trimming
6 to ‘industry standards’ and if Verizon follows any established standards.
- 7 • **ANSWER:** Mr. Bar notes this is likely for general Right-Of-Way (ROW)
8 maintenance; Verizon doesn’t have a specific setback for vegetation, the
9 overall objective is nothing directly in front of antenna.
- 10 • Chair Allen asks if Verizon would avoid that requirement by choosing
11 another pole as a site?
- 12 • Mr. Bar agrees and notes Verizon visits all sites for clear paths in project planning.
- 13 • Mr. Phillips asks if carriers would begin trimming trees as seasons change?
- 14 • Mr. Bar responds that since sites are often on utility poles, the pole
15 owners have their own similar requirements for line of sight clearance
16 and would typically provide that maintenance already.
- 17 • **QUESTION:** Mr. Nevins asks if micro sites are ever installed on private structure, like
18 houses or barns?
- 19 • **ANSWER:** Mr. Bar does not know of any; this is not something Verizon will
20 pursue, as it would require separate power source, inaccessible to others.
- 21 **6:13:00**
- 22 • **SPEAKER: Carol Tagayun, AT&T Wireless Representative,** lives in Edmonds, WA &
23 works in Woodinville, WA.
- 24 • Ms. Tagayun thanks the Planning Commission and Staff for, and notes the
25 importance of, allowing carriers to review and provide comment in this
26 process. Wireless is ingrained in our lives now, and growth rate is huge. 81%
27 of 911 emergency calls now come from wireless, as more households don’t
28 have wired lines.
- 29 • AT&T builds its network where it is needed and where the demand is.
30 Macro and micro sites work in tandem to provide coverage and density.
- 31 • A comment letter has been submitted, with hope for a very workable code,
32 to provide access to the wireless service the public depends on.
- 33 • Of the items mentioned in the letter is the required significant gap test. It is
34 hard to prove a gap exists when trying to build out for capacity.
- 35 • Construction timelines are also better provided after other project details
36 and timelines are in place to gauge appropriateness and accurate estimates.
- 37 • As an example, related to an earlier question about batches, AT&T has
38 submitted some batched requests in the Seattle area, and the largest of
39 those included 13 applications.

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- 1 • **QUESTION:** Mr. Shattuck notes construction timelines addressed some concerns
2 about reselling to prevent submission of high-volume applications for desirable sites,
3 permitting them, and then trying to sell them off later.
 - 4 • Ms. Tagayun agrees it is a legitimate concern, and believes there is room to
5 address that in the code, but the 1-year limit is too short for AT&T.
 - 6 • Chair Allen asks if an alternate time frame or allowance for arrangement
7 would be acceptable.
 - 8 • Ms. Tagayun agrees, and flexibility allows for more accurate projections.

9 **6:19:00**

- 10 • **SPEAKER: Tamra Smilanich**
 - 11 • Ms. Smilanich is a local real estate agent, wishes to note that many from the
12 east side are drawn to this area because they are actively trying to get away
13 from the cell towers for health reasons.
 - 14 • Ms. Smilanich wishes to share information found on the World Health
15 Organization website: The International Agency for Research on Cancer, in
16 2011, concluded that EMF (Electromagnetic Fields) frequencies from a 30 –
17 300 gigahertz (GHZ) range, are possibly carcinogenic to humans. New
18 studies, including latest on mobile phone use, now confirm that EMF
19 radiation is carcinogenic to humans.

20 **6:21:00**

- 21 • **SPEAKER: David Cisney, South Kitsap resident**
 - 22 • Mr. Cisney is surprised there isn't more interest, or more people here. He
23 has concerns about the safety aspect of these things. He is not a tech
24 person, but he is worried about the EMF effects.
 - 25 • Mr. Cisney knows there are lots of studies and lots has been said, but it's
26 hard to know what is funded by this same industry, and believes maybe we
27 should hold off for a while on this until we know more about the health
28 effects of it all.

29 **6:23:00**

- 30 • Chair Allen calls for additional speakers; and hearing none, closes the Public Hearing.
- 31 • Mr. Gurnee briefly review the next steps for this process, noting the written record
32 will be held open until 2/25/19. Once closed he will forward the comment matrix,
33 including industry representative letters, and the Staff response to comments, to the
34 Planning Commission.

35 **E. Administrative Update**

- 36 • **Jim Bolger, DCD Interim Director**, provides a brief update, noting the Department and
37 County are still working through effects of the unexpected snow closures.
- 38 • One of the items in the County adopted 2019 budget was a feasibility study for
39 revising code to a form-based model – meaning numeric standards, not design-based.

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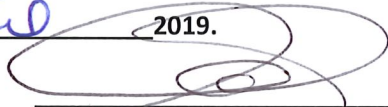
- 1 This form is typically used in urban areas, but our look was to see if it might be
2 beneficial for Title 17. The City of Port Orchard is currently going through the process,
3 so the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) agreed to wait for the City to
4 finish/report out.
- 5 • DCD asked the BoCC if that budgeted \$80,000 could be spent reviewing and cleaning
6 up the Use Table and footnotes, which the Code Prioritization group flagged as a high
7 priority. A work plan is being created but won't start until the funding is approved.
 - 8 • Kitsap County is hosting an affordable housing forum, and encourages the Planning
9 Commission, City Council and other groups to attend. Registration is required by
10 March 7th and is also open to the public.
 - 11 • BoCC was notified the Suquamish Tribe will be appealing the 2018 George's Corner
12 LAMIRD (Limited Area of More Intensive Rural Development) Comprehensive Plan
13 Amendment. We haven't been served with an official appeal, the deadline was today.
14 This won't return to the Planning Commission but wanted to make you aware.
 - 15 • **COMMENT:** Chair Allen notes she has received feedback from customers that it is
16 often difficult to contact DCD Staff directly.
 - 17 • Mr. Bolger responds that this was an intentional decision made several years ago,
18 after great consideration, with the goal to allow Staff to focus on their workloads, and
19 to schedule or designate time for returning calls.
 - 20 • DCD is one of several County department that contract with the Kitsap 1 call center to
21 field and respond to customer phone and email contacts. They routinely resolve a
22 large number of queries, and route customers to the appropriate staff when needed.
23 The Department is undergoing a number of process improvements right now, and this
24 process is regularly revisited and considered when looking at effect on permit review
25 expectations.
 - 26 • Mr. Bolger notes permit/project applicants do have direct communication lines with
27 Staff, and will talk with Chair Allen to see if he can help resolve,

28
29 **F. Good of the Order**


- 30 • N/A

31
32 **Time of Adjournment: 6:37 pm**

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34 Minutes approved this 16th day of April, 2019.



Kim Allen, Planning Commission Chair



Amanda Walston, Planning Commission Clerk

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