



PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Notes January 21, 2026

<u>Commissioners present:</u>	Gary Walvatne, David D. Jones, Kathryn Schulte-Hillen, Kris Kachirisky, Tom Watton, Liz Dietz, and Jason Evans
<u>Staff present:</u>	Community Development Director Steve Koper, Planning Manager Darren Wyss, Management Analyst Lynn Schroder
<u>Council Liaison:</u>	Carol Bryck
<u>Public present:</u>	Bridget Howely and Stephanie Brown

The meeting video is available on the [City website](#).

1. Call To Order and Roll Call

Acting Chair Walvatne called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Management Analyst Schroder called the roll. Newly-appointed Dietz introduced herself.

2. Public Comment related to Land Use Items not on the Agenda

Bridget Howely expressed concerns about flooding and development impacts from recent construction projects near Parker Road.

Stephanie Brown expressed concerns about flooding and the proposed road width for an upcoming development proposal on Deerhill Lane/Parker Road.

3. Approval of Meeting Notes: 11.19.2025, 12.03.2025, and 12.17.2025

Commissioner Watton moved to approve the meeting notes for 11.19.2025, 12.03.2025, and 12.17.2025. Jones seconded. **Ayes: Walvatne, Jones, Schulte-Hillen, Kachirisky, Watton, and Evans. Nays: None. Abstentions: Dietz. The motion passed 6-0-1.**

4. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Commissioner Evans nominated Kathryn Schulte-Hillen to serve as Chair for one year. Commissioner Kachirisky seconded. **Ayes: Walvatne, Jones, Dietz, Kachirisky, Watton, Evans and Schulte-Hillen. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The motion passed 6-0-0.**

Commissioner Evans nominated David D Jones to serve as Vice-Chair for one year. Commissioner Kachirisky seconded. **Ayes: Walvatne, Dietz, Schulte-Hillen, Kachirisky, Watton, Evans, and Jones. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The motion passed 6-0-0.**

5. Metro 2040 Grant Letter of Support

Community Development Director Koper noted that the City Council recently adopted the Waterfront Vision, and staff is now moving into the implementation phase. A key next step is applying for Metro's 2040 Planning and Development Grant. He requested a letter of support from the Planning Commission to include in the application. While details are still being finalized, the grant will primarily fund zoning code updates and supporting studies to implement the adopted vision. Council Bryck discusses the changes from the Planning Commission recommendation for the Waterfront Plan and what the City Council adopted.

Commissioner Evans moved to have the Planning Commission sign a letter of support for the grant application. Watton seconded. **Ayes: Walvatne, Schulte-Hillen, Kachirisky, Watton, and Evans. Nays: Jones and Dietz. Abstentions: None. The motion passed 5-2-0.**

6. Planning Commission Announcements

Commissioner Walvatne talked about Metro transit funding and ridership.

7. Staff Announcements

None.

8. Adjourn

Chair Schulte-Hillen adjourned the meeting at 6:43pm.