

Skagit County Board of Commissioners
Discussion/Possible Action: Annual Capital Facilities Plan Updates
December 5, 2018

Commissioners: **Ken Dahlstedt, Chair**
 Ron Wesen
 Lisa Janicki

Staff: **Stacie Pratschner, Senior Planner**

Chair Ken Dahlstedt: (gavel) We'll call the Board of County Commissioners back into order. It is Monday, December 3rd, 2018. It is 9:50. We are here today for Planning and Development Services, Discussion and Possible Action on the Adoption of the Annual Capital Facilities Plan.

Stacie Pratschner: Good morning, Commissioners. Also good morning to members of staff here and also to members of the community that are in attendance. My name is Stacie Pratschner, Senior Planner for Skagit County Planning and Development Services. As always, thank you for having me here today.

So this morning we are holding the deliberations with the potential adoption by the Board for the proposed annual updates to the Capital Facilities Plan and also, as adopted by reference, the Transportation Improvement Program. And these updates would concern the six-year horizon 2019 to 2024.

The purpose of capital facilities planning – also called the Capital Facilities Element within the Comprehensive Plan – is to ensure that a jurisdiction like the County provides adequate facilities in the form of streets, water systems, fire protection services, et cetera, to serve existing and new development and also to ensure that those facilities are in place at the time that development occurs.

Now the County's Capital Facilities Plan is a six-year plan – as mentioned, this concerns 2019 to 2024 – of those capital improvement projects, and you'll see that the CFP includes estimated costs and also proposed methods for financing. The Transportation Improvement Program, as we just heard, is incorporated by reference into the CFP, and that includes financing plans for roads and non-motorized transportation projects.

Our CFP is meant to demonstrate that the County has a realistic plan to provide needed facilities to serve development at the levels of service standards adopted, and also to ultimately implement the vision of our Comprehensive Plan. The adopted budget, happening after these deliberations, then prioritizes those plans by the allocation of funding.

So every year the Planning Department begins outreach to our partner County and special district agencies usually in the late spring to begin incorporating both their narrative and also their funding redlines into our plan. The draft this year was completed and released for public review in the fall and then the Planning Commission held a public hearing and deliberations on the proposed updates in late November. The Planning Commission produced a recorded motion recommending that the Board adopt those proposed updates to this year's CFP. These documents, along with

the draft ordinance for your consideration today, were included in the staff report that was provided in advance of today's deliberations.

For additional information on this year's updates, folks can visit our County website, which I've put up on this slide, or they can also email or contact me directly by phone. Thank you, Commissioners, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Chair Dahlstedt: Commissioner Wesen?

Commissioner Ron Wesen: Thank you very much for the presentation and, as you mentioned, the Planning Commission already went through this and looked. For the public, can you explain – I mean, is one house going to make you do some big improvements, or at what point is it you *have* to do some improvements, and do you do those improvements just in front of your house or do you have to do it all the way to the freeway?

Ms. Pratschner: Sure. Yes, that's an excellent question. So for the construction of a single-family residence, normally improvements are applied through – and if we're talking specifically about roads – through the Concurrency chapter of Title 14, our development code. And so concurrency simply means that a development bears the costs of its own development, i.e., the *impact* that that development's going to have on roads, schools, et cetera. So for a single-family residence, no, you wouldn't be doing improvements from your driveway all the way to the freeway. You'd be doing improvements, say, like at the front of your house. If you're in the city you'd be paying impact fees, for example.

Commissioner Wesen: But in the County we are collecting impact fees for school districts what we have done for our own infrastructure.

Ms. Pratschner: Yes, that's correct.

Commissioner Wesen: Thank you.

Ms. Pratschner: Thank you.

Chair Dahlstedt: Commissioner Janicki?

Commissioner Lisa Janicki: Stacie, yeah, thank you. I wanted to also point out and thank whoever's good decision it was to put a markup copy, a redlined copy, in our packet because with a document of this size it's just so much easier to really highlight what the changes are versus rereading it all from scratch.

Ms. Pratschner: Yes, agreed.

Commissioner Janicki: But, you know, the for example is the – well, the updates to the Energy Efficiency section kind of stood out for me. I'm like, oh, right. We were doing that; now we're doing this.

Ms. Pratschner: Right.

Commissioner Janicki: And then the Consolidated Communications Center, the planning for that, you know, expanded facility up at 911 is – it's there and it's a good reminder that it also goes into this packet. So thank you.

Ms. Pratschner: Thank you so much, Commissioner. I'd like to extend a thank you to Kathy Jewell, who's our incredible Admin Assistant in the Department and is largely responsible for making sure those redlines look the way they do. So, yeah, ___ that recognition.

Commissioner Janicki: Thank you, Kathy. It just helps. You know how much information comes in front of the Commissioners so, yeah.

Chair Dahlstedt: Yeah, I want to thank you for all. It takes a lot of work and there's a lot of involvement, but there's a huge amount of opportunities for the public to be heard. And with the Planning Commission of nine citizens representing – our countywide representatives, so lots of opportunities for people to be heard; plenty of public hearings, public meetings. So I think sometimes there seems to be some confusion that we're not very accessible and I think we're probably as accessible as anybody chooses to get engaged. So I really want to thank you for that.

Ms. Pratschner: Thank you, Commissioner.

Chair Dahlstedt: And it's a complicated job because you have to get all the Cities, the ports, the hospitals, and all these other entities that we really have no control over to try to make sure that they get their input to us in a timely basis, and then we try to bring it all together.

Ms. Pratschner: Yes, yes. It takes usually multiple emails and phone calls but we get there.

Chair Dahlstedt: Sure. Well, it's a team effort, so and hopefully we do a better job because of that. Commissioners?

Commissioner Janicki: Yeah, I will – I would like to move that we adopt the annual Capital Facilities Plan as presented.

Commissioner Wesen: I will second that.

Chair Dahlstedt: It's been moved and seconded to approve the annual Capital Facilities Plan as presented. All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

All Commissioners: Aye.

Chair Dahlstedt: Opposed, same sign.

(silence)

Chair Dahlstedt: The motion carries (gavel). Thank you.

Ms. Pratschner: Thank you, Commissioners.

Chair Dahlstedt: Anything else?

Ms. Pratschner: That'll do it for me today. Thank you.

Chair Dahlstedt: Okay, thank you, Stacie. So we are going to be adjourning.... We stand adjourned (gavel).