

## MINUTES

Joint Planning Commissions  
Springfield and Lane County  
Work Session  
Springfield Library Meeting Room  
225 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Springfield, OR 97477

September 21, 2004  
6 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Steve Moe, Chair; William Carpenter, Vice Chair; Lee Beyer, Gayle Decker, David Cole, Frank Cross, Springfield Planning Commission members; Juanita Kirkham, Chair; Steve Dignam, Vice Chair; James Carmichael, Marian Esty, Mark Herbert, Lane County Planning Commission members; Greg Mott, Bill Grile, Gary McKenney, City of Springfield staff; Joe Leahy, City of Springfield Attorney; Kent Howe, Stephanie Schulz, Lane County staff, Lane County staff; Rebecca Gershow, Greg Hyde, Bob Keefer, Willamalane Park & Recreation District staff.

**ABSENT:** Greg Shaver, Springfield Planning Commission member; Ed Becker, Jacque Betz, Lane County Planning Commission members.

Commissioner Moe called the work session of the Springfield Planning Commission to order.

Commissioner Kirkham called the work session of the Lane County Planning Commission to order.

### **1. Joint Work Session – Willamalane Comprehensive Plan**

Greg Mott, City of Springfield Planning Manager, explained the relationship between, Willamalane Comprehensive Plan and the Metro Plan and why both the City of Springfield and Lane County were participating. He distributed a letter from Roy Burling, Willamalane Budget Committee member, in support of the Willamalane Comprehensive Plan and noted that was the extent of the correspondence received relative to the plan.

Mr. Mott commented that Statewide Planning Goal #8 appeared to address State parks rather than provide direction to cities and counties. He said that chapter 3, section H of the Metro Plan identified park plan as a land use activity that must be coordinated with the Metro Plan. He said a review of the Willamalane Plan indicated that its policies, objectives, and implementation strategies were consistent with the Metro Plan and an amendment to the Metro Plan was not required in order to adopt the Willamalane Plan.

Continuing, Mr. Mott said an important aspect of the coordination was the intergovernmental agreement between Willamalane and the City of Springfield that specified how Willamalane and Springfield would coordinate park and recreation planning activities within the City's jurisdiction. He stated that Lane County was involved because Willamalane's district extended outside of the City limits and the plan affected land use that occurred outside of City limits, consistent with the Metro Plan, and there was joint jurisdictional responsibility for legislative matters between the City limits and the urban growth boundary (UGB). He said the commissions were not obligated to

leave the record open and could take action immediately if satisfied with the information provided during the work session and subsequent public hearing.

Commissioner Dignam noted that the agenda materials referred to Lane Code 10.600-15 as being the applicable County statute but no information was provided to allow the commissioners to determine compliance. Mr. Mott said that section of the Lane Code adopted the Springfield Development Code (SDC) and the SDC provisions related to adoption or amendment of refinement plans were used to process the Willamalane Plan.

Commissioner Dignam asked if there were specific criteria for adoption of the Willamalane Plan. Mr. Mott replied that the commissions only needed to determine that the plan was in compliance with the Springfield Development Code.

Willamalane Planner Rebecca Gershow used a slide presentation to review the content and key components of the Willamalane Plan. She said development of the plan had taken over two and a half years and invited questions and comments following her presentation.

Commissioner Decker arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Ms. Gershow summarized the planning framework, including citizen involvement activities, public outreach, and community needs assessment. She said park, facility, program, and management and operations analyses were conducted and together with needs assessment data were used to develop a majority of the strategies and actions contained in the plan.

Commissioner Beyer arrived at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Gershow stated that approximately 25,000 additional residents were project in the planning area in the next 20 years, with growth concentrated in Willamalane's east and north planning sub areas. She listed the most needed major projects according to community survey findings:

- Develop a sports park
- Upgrade and renovate existing parks
- Develop smaller, closer to home neighborhood parks
- Provide a senior center on east side of Springfield
- Develop a multi-use community center

Ms. Gershow used a map to illustrate the location of land and facilities owned by Willamalane and indicated that almost 500 acres of additional parkland would be needed to meet the needs of the projected population growth. She said that a capital improvement plan (CIP) and operations plan were, developed to help determine how to phase and fund the action list. She reviewed the planned improvements and added that Willamalane had worked closely with the Springfield on the City's bicycle master plan and coordinated the TransPlan bicycle element and all of the trails were included in TransPlan.

Commissioner Beyer asked about the respective roles of Springfield and Willamalane relating to bike paths. Ms. Gershow replied that trails developed by the City were maintained by the City, although there were joint projects such as Island Park where the City developed and Willamalane maintained paths. She said there was no written agreement covering those arrangement; they were based on mutual cooperation and support. Mr. Mott commented that the requirements for multi-modal opportunities in TransPlan under the State Transportation

Planning Rule (TPR) addressed themselves to people using bicycles and their feet as alternative transportation and the City examined the trail and path system for gaps that would prevent their use for mobility and commuting purposes, not recreation.

Commissioner Carpenter referred to the “Rails to Trails” program and asked if any abandoned railroad rights-of-way were available. Ms. Gershow said that the Moe Mountain Linear Park was a parcel of land recently donated to Willamalane and could present such an opportunity if the Union Pacific frontage along Marcola Road could be acquired. She said that portion of the Union Pacific right-of-way had not been technically abandoned yet and Willamalane was discussing acquisition with the railroad. She concluded her presentation with a review of the CIP and potential funding sources.

Commissioner Dignam asked if adoption of the Willamalane Plan would create any obligation for the County with respect to the CIP. Willamalane Planning and Development Director Greg Hyde said that adoption of the plan resulted in no obligation, financial or otherwise, to implement the plan; that was the responsibility of Willamalane. He said that Willamalane regarded the CIP portion of the plan as a planning and analysis tool.

Commissioner Beyer asked for clarification of the relationship between the capital projects list in the plan and the project list that became the base for projecting was the systems development charge (SDC) should be. Mr. Hyde said the SDC methodology would be updated soon and the CIP would be the data base and establish the need.

Commissioner Herbert observed that Willamalane was asking for approval of a conceptual framework that identified the planning process and established a 20-year vision based on planning and projections. Ms. Gershow agreed with that description and said that Willamalane intended to update the plan every five years. She briefly reviewed funding options for additional operational costs and the plan performance measure categories intended to evaluate implementation and guide future planning activities.

Commissioner Esty asked if identification of bikeways as alternative transportation would have an impact on funding priorities in the future. Mr. Mott replied that prioritization had occurred for the bike paths the City was obligated to provide and when funding was available for bike path construction it was targeted to the highest priority projects. He said the priorities were established by the City Council and confirmed in TransPlan. Ms. Gershow noted that Willamalane had collaborated at a recent City Council work session in the setting of priorities for bike paths and off-street bike trails funding.

Commissioner Carpenter commented, based on his experience with the Springfield Bicycle Commission, that bike paths in the road right-of-way could use gas fund tax money and until other bike trails were identified as part of the transportation system they would not be eligible and other funding sources would be required.

Commissioner Moe adjourned the Springfield Planning Commission work session at 6:55 p.m.

Commissioner Kirkham adjourned the Lane County Planning Commission work session at 6:55 p.m.

(Recorded by Lynn Taylor)

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