



2014 PLANNING CONFERENCE MINUTES
Friday, January 24, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.
Lacamas Lake Lodge & Conference Center
227 NE Lake Road, Camas, WA

Note: This recording contains audio only.

I. OPENING STATEMENT (1:00 p.m.)

The City of Camas Planning Conference began at 1:00 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Scott Higgins, and Council members Greg Anderson, Don Chaney, Linda Dietzman, Tim Hazen, Steve Hogan, and Shannon Turk.

Staff members present were Jerry Acheson, Krista Bashaw, Kristin Berquist, Phil Bourquin, Pete Capell, Leisha Copsey, Sherry Coulter, Jeff Englund, Sarah Fox, Jennifer Gorsuch, Cathy Huber Nickerson, Eric Levison, Randy Miller, Shyla Nelson, Linda Swenton, Nick Swinhart, Joe Vrtiska, and David Zavortink.

Paul Dennis, President/CEO, of the Camas-Washougal Economic Development Association was present to give a presentation and Heather Acheson, Editor, of the Camas-Washougal Post Record was also in attendance.

Ryan Mottau and Jonathan Pheanis representing MIG, Attorney Randy Printz, and Washougal City Administrator David Scott were also in attendance to assist with presentations. Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Brent Erickson and commission members Randy Curtis and Cassie Marshall were also present.

Camas School District Superintendent Mike Nerland was present to facilitate the conference.

There were approximately 14 members of the public present during the conference.

Mayor Scott Higgins welcomed everyone to the conference and made opening remarks.

City Administrator Pete Capell acknowledged the contractor and staff for their hard work in getting the lodge ready for the planning conference.

Capell and Facilitator Mike Nerland gave opening statements.

II. INTRODUCTIONS AND TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE (1:15 p.m.)

A. Introductions and Team Building Exercise

Details: Introductions were made and Council and Capell participated in a team building exercise.

Department/Presenter: Mike Nerland, Superintendent of the Camas School District

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (1:30 p.m.)

A. 2014 Community Development Department Work Plan

Details: There was a discussion about significant projects and/or legislative proposals and priorities within the Community Development Department for 2014.

Department/Presenter: Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director

[2014 Active Project Map \(large file - it may take a few minutes to load\)](#) 

[2014 Community Development Work Plan](#) 

Attorney Randy Printz gave Council an overview about a potential master plan for the Grass Valley area, formerly known as the Cascade Business Park. Discussion ensued.

Throughout the conference Nerland asked Council to participate in an exercise to get to know each other better.

IV. BREAK (2:30 p.m.)

The conference went into a recess at 2:10 p.m. The conference reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

V. PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT (2:45 p.m.)

A. Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Comprehensive Plan Update

Details: The purpose of this presentation was to provide a review of the PROS Plan Update and to gather feedback from the Council regarding the plan's direction. The presentation began with an overview of the planning process, including key phases in the development of the plan. This was followed with a description of the public involvement activities and key findings that will inform updates to the plan, along with an overview of changes since the 2006 plan, and major elements of the park system concept update. The presentation concluded with a summary of implementation steps and also included time for questions and answers.

Department/Presenter: Jerry Acheson, Parks and Recreation Manager, and Ryan Mottau and Jonathan Pheanis representing MIG

[Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan Update Presentation](#)



Council listened to the presentation and provided feedback to staff regarding the plan's direction. The goal is to bring the PROS Comprehensive Plan Update to Council for adoption in April.

VI. POLICE DEPARTMENT (3:15 p.m.)

A. [Formation of a Camas Parking Commission](#)

Details: The City Council heard a presentation about forming a Parking Commission to hear issues and requests for changes to downtown parking rules and regulations. This Commission would be made up of citizens and stakeholders appointed by the Mayor. They would be authorized to hold regular meetings and make recommendations to the City Council about parking matters in the downtown core area.

Department/Presenter: Captain Shyla Nelson will present the material, assisted by Community Development Director Phil Bourquin and Washougal City Administrator David Scott

[Downtown Parking Commission Presentation](#)



City Council reviewed the presented material and confirmed that they would like staff to move forward with the possible formation of a Camas Parking Commission.

VII. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (3:45 p.m.)

A. [Economic Development Outlook](#)

Details: Paul Dennis of the Camas-Washougal Economic Development Association (CWEDA) presented a 2014 economic development outlook for Camas and the vicinity. He also highlighted the City of Camas video and CWEDA's website.

Department/Presenter: Paul Dennis, President/CEO, of the CWEDA

Mayor Higgins gave Council a brief update about the CWEDA meetings that he has been attending and the partnerships involved.

VIII. FINANCE DEPARTMENT (4:00 p.m.)

A. Biennial Budget Process

Details: This presentation was to discuss a biennial budget process, the pros and cons and what a revised budget process would look like. Cities have been permitted to use the biennial budget process since 1985. There are alternate ways to structure a biennial budget and there are reasons to have or not to have a biennial budget process. This discussion focused on what Camas could gain with a biennial budget process and how it can mitigate concerns with the process.

Department/Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

[Biennial Budget Presentation \(attachment added - January 23, 2014\)](#) 

This matter will come before Council in the future for further discussion and a potential decision in June.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CLOSING REVIEW (4:45 p.m.)

Ken Hadley, 4011 F Circle, Washougal, commented about trail connections and the potential formation of a Camas Parking Commission.

Brenda Schallberger, 17413 SE 22nd, Vancouver, commented about the Community Development Comprehensive Plan and the possibility of revisioning the downtown Camas area. She also spoke about the need to promote tourism.

Capell asked some of the department heads to describe their vision or to give an example of what they think "the Camas way" means. Capell gave his perspective of "the Camas way".

Mayor and Council made closing comments.

Mayor also thanked staff for all of their hard work in getting the lodge ready for the conference and Nerland for facilitating the meetings.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Quick Preview of Agenda and Supporting Documents - Posted January 22, 2014

[Planning Conference Agenda - Day One with Supporting Documents](#) 

NOTE: The City of Camas welcomes and encourages the participation of all of its citizens in the public meeting process. A special effort will be made to ensure that persons with special needs have opportunities to participate. For more information, please call 360.834.6864.

Mayor

City Clerk