

Approved Minutes

Bend Planning Commission

Monday, January 27, 2025, 5:30 P.M. Regular Meeting



The hybrid meeting started at 5:34 P.M., in-person and online.

The public was invited to watch online at: www.bendoregon.gov/planningcommission

1. ROLL CALL:

- Margo Clinton – Chair
- Scott Winters
- Bob Gressens
- Suzanne Johannsen
- John LaMotte
- Erin Ludden
- Nathan Nelson

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Scott Winters, Bob Gressens, Suzanne Johannsen and John Lamotte were present. Commissioners Margo Clinton, Erin Ludden and Nathan Nelson were not present.

Staff Present: Senior Planner Damian Syrnyk, Business Advocate Cyrus Mooney, Planning Manager Renee Brooke, CEDD Director Collin Stephens, City Attorney Ian Leitheiser,

Commented [RB1]: This is the staff actively participating and any available to answer questions

Commented [RB2R1]: @Cristopher Oliveira please add me, Colin and Ian here as well

2. VISITORS:

Vice Chair Scott Winters opened the floor for comments on non-agenda items. Attendees were encouraged to fill out a speaker slip and approach the podium, or raise their hand online, to provide comments.

No public comment was given.

3. WORK SESSION:

3.1. Informational Presentation: Target Economic Sectors

Staff: Damian Syrnyk, Senior Planner, dsyrnyk@bendoregon.gov

Staff: Cyrus Mooney, Business Advocate, cmooney@bendoregon.gov

Senior Planner Syrnyk gave his [presentation](#) alongside Business Advocate Cyrus Mooney, who serves as a liaison between the business community and the city. The Target Economic Sectors analysis will inform a future update to the Bend Comprehensive Plan, with an emphasis on economic development. The primary goal of the study is to identify and support targeted economic sectors to ensure their healthy growth in the city. Damian Syrnyk led most of the presentation, while Cyrus Mooney was available to address specific items and questions.

Commented [RB3]: Hyperlink to Powerpoint presentation

Commissioners raised an assortment of questions regarding risk analysis for specific target sectors, the effects of climate change on economic development, diversity of industry, use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF), employee growth projections, Enterprise Zone requirements, vacant and underutilized land, the status of proposed expansion into the Southeast area to increase industrial land, and how equity is considered in economic development planning.

Senior Planner Syrnyk and Business Advocate Mooney fielded questions as they were asked, and assured the Commissioners they would look further into questions they did not have answers to at that time. They also advised the Commissioners to reach out to them personally if they had additional questions.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

None.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

5.1. Reports From Planning Commissioners

Commissioner Winters reported on the Council goal-setting summit and noted an overarching theme was the importance of increased engagement between commissions, committees, and the City Council. He mentioned that the discussion focused on fostering better connections and collaboration. Commissioner Winters highlighted that the Planning Commission often feels isolated from policymaking as a reactive body and expressed optimism about the potential for improved interaction and support from the city council moving forward.

5.2. Report From Planning Manager

Renee Brooke, Planning Manager announced that there will be a meeting on February 10th, with the primary agenda item being a Waterway Overlay Zone application.

5.3. Report From Community and Economic Development Director

Colin Stephens, CEDD Director, mentioned that the department is currently working on the biannual budget. He noted that no substantial changes are anticipated for the Community and Economic Development Department, and no additional full-time equivalents (FTEs) are being added.

5.4. Report From City Attorney

No Report.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Cris Oliveria