



## STAFF FINDINGS

**FILE NUMBER(S):** 247-23-000509-PA/510-TA

**SUBJECT PROPERTY/  
OWNER:** N/A

**APPLICANT:** Deschutes County Planning Division  
P.O Box 6005  
Bend, OR 97708

**REQUEST:** Replace the 2010-2030 Tumalo Community Plan with the 2020-2040 Tumalo Community Plan, including updated Goals and Policies

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**RECORD:** Record items can be viewed and downloaded from:  
[www.buildingpermits.oregon.gov](http://www.buildingpermits.oregon.gov)

Record items can be viewed and downloaded from:  
<https://www.deschutescounty.gov/cd/page/tumalo-community-plan-update-2020-2040-247-23-000509-pa-510-ta>

### I. APPLICABLE CRITERIA

Deschutes County Code (DCC)  
Title 22, Deschutes County Development Procedures Ordinance  
Chapter 22.012, Legislative Procedures

Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR)  
OAR 660-015, Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines  
OAR 660-022, Unincorporated Communities

Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan – Title 23  
Chapter 1, Comprehensive Planning

## **II. BASIC FINDINGS**

### **PROPOSAL**

This is a legislative plan and text amendment to the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan to remove the 2010-2030 Tumalo Community Plan (TCP) and replace it with the 2020-2040 TCP. Tumalo is a Rural Unincorporated Community under OAR 660-022-0010(7). The TCP is Section 4.7 within the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan. The TCP provides a Community Vision Statement, goals, and polices unique to Tumalo. The 2020-2040 TCP update includes several new goals and policies; updates information for population, traffic volumes, land use consumption; recaps general changes within the community; and identified issues of public concern.

### **BACKGROUND**

In 2010, County staff prepared a Community Plan for Tumalo. As that plan is now halfway through its lifespan and Tumalo has undergone several changes in population, different types of land uses, and increased tourism, the County began the process in 2022 to update the TCP. This update was done concurrently with an update of the bike, pedestrian, and transit components of the TCP.

### **REVIEW CRITERIA**

Deschutes County lacks specific criteria in DCC Titles 18, 22, or 23 for reviewing a legislative plan and text amendment. Nonetheless, since Deschutes County is initiating one, the County bears the responsibility for justifying that the amendments are consistent with Statewide Planning Goals and the County's Comprehensive Plan.

## **III. FINDINGS & CONCLUSIONS**

### **CHAPTER 22.12, LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES**

Section 22.12.010.

#### ***Hearing Required***

**FINDING:** This criterion will be met because a public hearing will be held before the Deschutes County Planning Commission on August 10, 2023, and a future public hearing will be held before the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 22.12.020, Notice

## **Notice**

### **A. Published Notice**

- 1. Notice of a legislative change shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least 10 days prior to each public hearing.**
- 2. The notice shall state the time and place of the hearing and contain a statement describing the general subject matter of the ordinance under consideration.**

**FINDING:** This criterion is met as notice was published in the Bend Bulletin newspaper on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for the Planning Commission public hearing and additional published notice will be sent for the Board of County Commissioners' public hearing.

### **B. Posted Notice. Notice shall be posted at the discretion of the Planning Director and where necessary to comply with ORS 203.045.**

**FINDING:** Posted notice was determined by the Planning Director not to be necessary.

### **C. Individual notice. Individual notice to property owners, as defined in DCC 22.08.010(A), shall be provided at the discretion of the Planning Director, except as required by ORS 215.503.**

**FINDING:** Given the proposed legislative amendments do not apply to any specific property, no individual notices were sent.

### **D. Media notice. Copies of the notice of hearing shall be transmitted to other newspapers published in Deschutes County.**

**FINDING:** Notice was provided to the County public information official for wider media distribution. This criterion is met.

## Section 22.12.030 Initiation of Legislative Changes.

**A legislative change may be initiated by application of individuals upon payment of required fees as well as by the Board of County Commissioners.**

**FINDING:** The application was initiated by the Deschutes County Planning Division at the direction of the Board of County Commissioners and has received a fee waiver. This criterion is met.

## Section 22.12.040. Hearings Body

- ### **A. The following shall serve as hearings or review body for legislative changes in this order:**
- 1. The Planning Commission.**
  - 2. The Board of County Commissioners.**

**B. Any legislative change initiated by the Board of County Commissioners shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission prior to action being taken by the Board of Commissioners.**

**FINDING:** The Deschutes County Planning Commission held the initial public hearing on August 10, 2023. The Board will hold a public hearing on a future date to be determined. These criteria are or will be met.

Section 22.12.050 Final Decision

**All legislative changes shall be adopted by ordinance**

**FINDING:** The proposed legislative changes will be implemented by ordinance, number to be determined, upon approval and adoption by the Board of County Commissioners. This criterion will be met.

**OAR 660-015, Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines**

Goal 1: Citizen Involvement:

**FINDING:** Deschutes County mailed notice to every property in Tumalo prior to Open House #1 (May 11, 2022) and posted flyers at various gathering centers. The latter locations included the bulletin boards for Tumalo's only gas station/convenience store, veterinary clinic, irrigation district offices, pizza parlor, Tumalo Community School, and post office. Open House #1 was the TCP kick off meeting and an opportunity for attendees to voice their opinions about vision statement, goals, policies, and issues of importance. Other opportunities for public comment and dialogue occurred via Meet A Planner meetings (June 20-24, 2022) which were scheduled face-to-face, one-on-one 30-minute sessions on the TCP update; County-held virtual open houses; and surveys (June 29-July 22, 2022). Open Houses #2 (August 22, 2022) and #3 (May 17, 2023) presented draft and final versions of the TCP with revisions based on public feedback. A second round of Meet A Planner meetings was offered (May 2-9, 2023). The County also created a website and an explanatory Story Map to garner public input throughout the process (<https://www.deschutes.org/cd/page/tumalo-community-plan-update>). The 2020-2040 TCP is therefore consistent with Goal 1.

Goal 2: Land Use Planning:

**FINDING:** The TCP 2020-2040 does not change any Comprehensive Plan designations or zoning designations in DCC 18.67, Tumalo Rural Community Zoning. The update is the subject of land use file 247-23-000509-PA/510-TA and will be processed under the County's procedures for a legislative amendment. On July 6, 2023, the County provided the required 35-day prior notice to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) before the first evidentiary hearing. The 2020-2040 TCP is therefore consistent with Goal 2.

Goal 3: Agricultural Lands:

**FINDING:** Tumalo does not contain any lands with the Comprehensive Plan designation of Agriculture nor the zoning designation of Exclusive Farm Use (EFU). However, EFU properties abut

Tumalo and the following TCP 2020-2040 Land Use Policy #2 states that County plans and regulations must comply with state requirements for EFU lands. The TCP does not propose any changes to existing EFU zoning. The 2020-2040 TCP is therefore consistent with Goal 3.

Goal 4: Forest Lands:

**FINDING:** There are no lands designated Forest, either by Comprehensive Plan or DCC 18.67, within or abutting Tumalo. The TCP does not change any Forest zoning. Additionally, the majority of trees within the vicinity of Tumalo are juniper trees, which are not considered a commercially viable tree or a species that is commonly suitable for the production of merchantable trees. Therefore, either Goal 4 does not apply to the 2020-2040 or the application is consistent with Goal 4.

Goal 5: Open Spaces, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Natural Resources:

**FINDING:** The TCP 2020-2040 does not propose any changes to any Goal 5 resources. Two historic buildings in Tumalo are listed in the County's Goal 5 resources. The 2020-2040 TCP has a Natural Resources, Open Space, and Recreation Goal supporting the protection and conservation of natural resources, cultural resources, and open space. Various TCP polices address the elements and intent of Goal 5. Land Use Policy #3 encourages the preservation of historical structures in Tumalo such as the Tumalo Community Church (1905) and the Laidlaw Bank and Trust (1910). Natural Resources, Open Space, and Recreation Policies #4 and #6 address open space; Policies #3, #6-10 address the Deschutes River. The TCP proposes no changes to the County's Landscape Management (LM) overlay zone nor the Surface Mining Impact Area (SMIA) zones, which protect scenic view and aggregate mining, respectively. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 5.

Goal 6: Air, Water and Land Resources Quality:

**FINDING:** The TCP has several goals and policies that address this goal. Specifically, Natural Resources, Open Space, and Recreation Policies #5, #13, and #14; Residential Policy #3; Economic Development Policies #1, #3, and #5-#7; the Public Facility Goal and Public Facility Policies #1-#10. In total, the policies will protect the quality of the air, water, and resources within Tumalo. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 6.

Goal 7: Areas Subject to Natural Disasters and Hazards:

**FINDING:** The Comprehensive Plan in Section 3.5 lists the following natural hazards endemic to Deschutes County: wildfire, snowstorms, flooding, and volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. Tumalo has a fire station and the Natural Resources, Open Space, and Recreation Policy #15 encourages Tumalo to become a fire-adapted community through the Firewise Program. The Road Department plows County-maintained roads in Tumalo while ODOT plows U.S. 20. The TCP does not change any existing building codes regarding snow loads or structural resistance to earthquakes. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 7.

Goal 8: Recreational Needs:

**FINDING:** The major recreational draws to Tumalo are the Deschutes River and the State-designated Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway, which uses Bailey Road, Cook Avenue, and Cline Falls Road. The Natural Resources, Open Space, and Recreation Goal and its Policies #1-4; and #7-#12 address these needs specifically. The Transportation Goal references supporting recreational uses of the road and sidewalk system. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 8.

Goal 9: Economic Development:

**FINDING:** The TCP will not change any of the uses allowed outright or conditionally in the residential, commercial, industrial, or research and development zones in DCC 18.67 (Tumalo Rural Community). The following goal and policies support economic development in Tumalo: Land Use Policy #4; Economic Development Goal and Economic Development Policies #1-#7. Economic Development Policies #3 and #4 particularly support development in the commercial core and supporting economic development initiatives and tourism as the latter brings revenues into the community. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 9.

Goal 10: Housing:

**FINDING:** This goal is not applicable because unlike municipalities, unincorporated areas are not obligated to fulfill certain housing requirements. Tumalo is classified as a Rural Unincorporated Community under OAR 660-022-0010(7). The TCP does contain a Residential Goal and Residential Policies #1 and #3 to encourage a mix of housing types. Therefore, if it were applicable, the 2020-2040 TCP would be consistent with Goal 10.

Goal 11: Public Facilities and Services:

**FINDING:** The majority of Tumalo is on septic; there is a private wastewater system, Tumalo Property Owners Association (TPOA), which serves a small area on the south side of U.S. 20. Water, either for drinking or irrigation, is provided by private companies or private wells. The TCP contains a Public Facilities Goal as well as Public Facilities Policies #1-#10. The community was quite concerned about private sewers in Tumalo. Public Facilities Policies #3, #4, and #7 address public sewer systems while Policies #8, #9, and #10 address private sewer systems. Policies #1, #2, and #6 pertain to wastewater facilities regardless of public or private. Taken together, the Public Facilities goal and policies will protect Tumalo's current and future water and wastewater issues. The updated TCP does not propose any changes to the County's regulations regarding public facilities and services. Therefore the 2020-2040 TCP complies with Goal 11.

Goal 12: Transportation:

**FINDING:** The County's Transportation System Plan (TSP) is also being updated to 2040 to continue to provide a safe, convenient, and efficient economical transportation system. The TCP proposed Transportation Goal is to provide and encourage a safe, convenient, and economical transportation system. The Transportation Goal calls for such a transportation system for all modes and to support economic development, recreation, and community health. Of the specific transportation issues raised by the community, Road Network Policy #3 addresses speeding while Policy #4 calls for ODOT to use designs consistent with Tumalo's enduring vision of maintaining its small-town feel. Road and Sidewalk Policy #3 calls for sidewalks in the commercial core, but not in the residential neighborhoods to preserve their rural character. Road and Sidewalk Policies #6 and #7 will lead to a better experience for cyclists and pedestrians. The 2020-2040 TCP does not propose changes in the functional classification of any existing or planned transportation facility nor does it propose changes to any performance standards or access standards. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 12.

Goal 13: Energy Conservation:

**FINDING:** As a Rural Unincorporated Community with a 30-foot height limit, Tumalo has minimal opportunities for infill or increased density, which can be used as a strategy for energy conservation. However, the various Transportation policies encourage energy-saving alternate modes, especially bicycling and walking. The small lots can make solar energy utilization impractical due to shadows from nearby structures. Economic Development Policy #2 addresses the issue. The 2020-2040 TCP does not propose to change the County's Plan or implementing regulations regarding energy conservation. Therefore, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with Goal 13.

Goal 14: Urbanization:

**FINDING:** Tumalo is a Rural Unincorporated Community under OAR 660-022-0010(7) and has no Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). As Tumalo by definition is rural, Goal 14 does not apply.

Goals 15 through 19

**FINDING:** These goals are not applicable to the proposed plan and text amendments because the County does not contain these types of lands.

**OAR 660-022, Unincorporated Communities**

**FINDING:** OAR 660-022-0030(1) requires counties to provide zoning designations for all properties within an unincorporated community. Deschutes County has done so via DCC 18.67. The 2020-2040 TCP is not adding any new zones nor changing any uses allowed either outright or conditionally. The 2020-2040 TCP is therefore consistent with OAR 660-022.

**Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan**

**FINDING:** The relevant portions of the Comprehensive Plan are Chapter 1 (Comprehensive Planning), which sets the goals and policies of how the County will involve the community and conduct land use planning. These are specified in Section 1.2 (Community Involvement) and Section 1.3 (Land Use Planning). Chapter 4 (Urban Growth Management) and Sections 4.3 (Unincorporated Communities) and 4.7 (Tumalo Community Plan) are also applicable.

Section 1.2 sets a goal for an open and active community involvement program that engages the public during development of land use policies and codes. Policy 1.2.2 designates the Planning Commission as the Committee for Community Involvement. Policies 1.2.3 and 1.2.4 detail procedures for public outreach and avenues of outreach. As described above, the County complied with DCC 22.12 for a legislative amendment, including notice to the public, DLCD, and relevant agencies. Both the Planning Commission and Board will conduct separate public hearings and objectively evaluate the facts. Additionally, staff conducted extensive public outreach via flyers, email, open houses, website, and work sessions with the PC and the Board, which were open to the public and broadcast online.

Section 1.3 sets a goal of an open and public land use process to reach fact-based decisions. Policies 1.3.1 calls for protection of private-property rights and Policies through 1.3.2 through 1.3.9 concern public involvement, record keeping, use of websites, and review periods for the Comprehensive Plan. The 2020-2040 TCP does not identify any properties to be transferred from private to public

ownership; policies state clearly what is voluntary if private property is involved; policies regarding private sewers also would protect rights of private property owners that could be served by a private sewer. For the development of the TCP, the County has done extensive public outreach using traditional methods (flyers, face-to-face meetings) and newer methods (website, online public meetings, electronic records, video meetings, etc.)

Section 4.3 defines, lists, and categorizes Unincorporated Communities. Tumalo is a Rural Community and was approved in 1997. Section 4.3 does not have any goals or policies.

Section 4.7 is the Tumalo Community Plan itself and is incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan as Appendix B.

Based on the above, the 2020-2040 TCP is consistent with the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

The proposed 2020-2040 TCP complies with all relevant Deschutes County and OAR requirements.