



MEMORANDUM

TO: Deschutes County Board of County Commissioners ("Board")

FROM: Nicole Mardell, AICP, Senior Planner
Will Groves, Planning Manager

DATE: August 14, 2024

SUBJECT: Deliberation #5: Deschutes County 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update -
Review of Draft Document

On August 19, 2024, the Board will consider two items. First, a request to reopen the record for the Deschutes County 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update process, and dependent on the outcome of the first item, potentially deliberate on an updated August 14, 2024 draft of the 2040 Plan (Attachment A). This draft reflects revisions shared by the Board at previous deliberative meetings focused on Chapter 3 - Farm and Forest Resources, Chapter 5 - Natural Resources, Chapter 7 - Natural Hazards, and Chapter 11 - Unincorporated Communities and Destination Resorts, and minor scrivener's or technical edits identified by staff. The Board will have the opportunity to review the draft in its entirety and offer direction on any remaining revisions to staff.

I. PROPOSAL

This is a legislative text amendment to repeal and replace the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2011, with the 2040 Plan. No zoning or comprehensive plan map amendments are being considered, nor are any changes to the County's adopted Goal 5 inventories pertaining to significant natural resources, scenic views, open spaces, mineral and aggregate sites, and historic and cultural resources.

The full record is included on the project hearing page: <https://www.deschutes.org/cd/page/247-23-000644-pa-deschutes-county-2040-comprehensive-plan-update-hearing-page>.

II. REQUEST TO REOPEN THE RECORD

Staff received an email from Mary Fleischmann on August 13, 2024. The email was also sent to the Board, although staff in consultation with legal counsel, recommended the Board not read the email as the record for the 2040 plan closed on May 30, 2024. Within the email, the commentor suggested several edits to the draft document and requested the Board reopen the record to collect additional community input.

If the Board were to reopen the record deliberations would pause, and staff would return with an order establishing parameters for the new open record period. If the Board chose not to reopen the record, the deliberations process would continue as scheduled.

III. DELIBERATION PROCESS

The 2040 Plan provides background information, a summary of community considerations, and overarching goal and policy guidance pertaining to key issues facing the county. The Board held public hearings to gather testimony for the 2040 Plan on April 10, 2024, in Bend¹; April 23 in Sunriver²; and April 30 in Sisters³; and May 8 in Bend⁴. At the conclusion of the May 8 hearing, the Commission voted to close the oral record, leave the written record open until May 30, and commence deliberations at a subsequent meeting.

Staff held a work session with the Board on June 10⁵ to discuss the process for deliberating the 2040 Plan, ultimately determining to perform an extensive review of the following four chapters:

- July 22: Chapter 3, Farm and Forest Resources
- July 24: Chapter 5, Natural Resources
- July 29: Chapter 7, Natural Hazards
- August 5: Chapter 11, Unincorporated Communities and Destination Resorts.

On August 5, 2024, the Board scheduled an additional meeting to review an updated draft of the document in its entirety. The document has been updated to an August 14, 2024, version which includes the Board's recommended revisions from the previous four meetings, in addition to scrivener's and technical edits. The draft document is intended to serve as a redline version for ease in identifying changes. Formatting, graphic design, and replacement of images will occur prior to formal adoption of the document. Staff will be seeking direction from the Board on any remaining edits to the document and a vote to initiate the adoption

¹ <https://www.deschutes.org/bcc/page/board-county-commissioners-meeting-162>

² <https://www.deschutes.org/bcc/page/public-hearing-2020-2040-comprehensive-plan-update>

³ <https://www.deschutes.org/bcc/page/public-hearing-2020-2040-comprehensive-plan-update-0>

⁴ <https://www.deschutes.org/bcc/page/2020-2040-comprehensive-plan-update-public-hearing>

⁵ <https://www.deschutes.org/bcc/page/board-county-commissioners-meeting-175>

process. Staff will then work with the consultant to finalize the draft document, including graphic design and formatting work, for first reading.

Parking Lot

During the June work session, staff introduced the concept of a “parking lot” for items that may be outside the scope of the 2040 Plan. This includes items that are one-time actions more fitting for a subsequent action plan or items potentially precluded by state law. They are listed in Attachment B. Staff recommends the Board table them during deliberations, and instead include the list as an attachment to the adopted 2040 Plan. The Board can then discuss them in greater detail through the development of an action plan.

IV. NEXT STEPS

Staff seeks direction from the Board on the request to reopen the record. Dependent on the initial decision, staff also seeks direction on remaining edits to the August 14, 2024, draft version of the 2040 Plan. Following the discussion, staff will integrate edits into a final version for adoption. As this is the last scheduled deliberation meeting, the Board may raise additional topics for discussion at the meeting, or schedule additional meetings as necessary.

Attachments:

- A. August 14, 2024, Draft – Deschutes County 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- B. “Parking Lot” Issues