

1 City of Lake Forest Park – Planning Commission
2 Regular Meeting Minutes: August 11, 2026; 7:00-9:00pm
3 Hybrid Meeting Held in the Emergency Operations Center
4 at City Hall and Virtually via Zoom
5

6 **Planning Commissioners present:** Chair David Kleweno, Vice Chair Janne Kaje (via Zoom), Jean
7 Reid, Hina Shahid (via Zoom), John Drew, Meredith LaBonte, Cherie Finazzo (via Zoom)
8

9 **Planning Commissioners absent:** Marty Ross
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11 **Staff and others present:** Mark Hofman, Community Development Director; Josh Rosenau, City
12 Council Liaison (via Zoom)
13

14 **Members of the Public present:** Jolene Jang, Stacey Auger, Brian Saunders, Jeff Jensen, Dana
15 Campbell
16

17 **Call to order:** Chair Kleweno called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
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19 **Land Acknowledgement:** Cmr. Drew read the land acknowledgement.
20

21 **Approval of Agenda:** Chair Kleweno suggested switching the order of Old Business to discuss
22 critical areas first. Cmr. Drew moved to approve the agenda as amended. Cmr. Finazzo seconded,
23 and the motion to approve the agenda was carried unanimously.
24

25 **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

26 **Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 09, 2026, Regular Meeting**

27 Vice Chair Kaje made a motion to approve the June 09, 2026, Meeting Minutes. Cmr. Drew
28 seconded and the motion to approve the minutes was carried unanimously.
29

30 **Public Hearing:** No public hearing.
31

32 **Next meeting:** The next meeting occurs on Tuesday, September 08, 2026.
33

34 **Public Comment:**

35 Ms. Jang gave a comment on her experience of living next to a RUE site. Ms. Jang gave an overview
36 of RUEs in the last nine years. Ms. Jang also spoke of the burden on neighboring property owners
37 to defend the area and property damage due to excavations that occurred and sewer damage that
38 affected multiple neighbors.
39

40 Ms. Auger also spoke on her experience of living next to the Garey RUE site and the financial
41 impacts of the sewer damage that occurred.
42

43 Mr. Saunders gave an overview of the letter he wrote regarding the critical areas ordinance update.
44 Mr. Saunders stated that a large part of the city of Lake Forest Park has critical areas. Mr. Saunders
45 discussed his top three recommendations of his letter to strengthen the critical areas code including
46 having a more science-based method of restoring habitat on streams similar to the city of Shoreline,
47 putting the burden of proof about impacts on applicants similar to the city of Kenmore, and baring

1 development outright in state- or federally listed species habitat absent an agency-approved
2 management plan.

3
4 Mr. Jensen stated that he is a fish biologist at UW Bothell and the importance of the habitat for
5 species in the area and how important it is that the city focuses on protecting the environment in the
6 city.

7
8 Ms. Campbell stated that she is a biologist and is worried about the effects of climate change. She
9 also spoke about the importance of protecting environmental resources for resiliency.

10
11 **City Council Liaison Report:** Council member Rosenau gave a brief overview of the proposed
12 levy lid lift and the work the city council has done in the last couple of months. Council member
13 Rosenau also gave an update on the finishing of the WSDOT project and a possible planning
14 contract on possible additional work. He also stated that the roundabout project was gearing up to
15 start work on August 17, 2026.

16
17 **Old Business:**

18 **Critical Areas Ordinance Update- continued discussion toward listing suggested, potential**
19 **amendments to the City of Lake Forest Park LFPMC/Critical Areas Ordinance**

20 The planning commissioners reviewed the comments they received from the public and agreed on
21 the importance of understanding RUEs. Mr. Hofman gave an overview of the process of RUEs and
22 the strength of the RUE code. The commissioners also spoke about having the city attorney, Kim
23 Pratt, at the next planning commission meeting to go over the legal aspects of RUEs. Cmr. LaBonte
24 also stated that she would look for a presentation from some years prior about RUEs.

25
26 **Middle Housing Next Steps and Direction- continued discussion by Commissioners re:**
27 **LFPMC Title 18, Planning and Land Use Regulation, and to consider potential roadblocks,**
28 **need for clarity, or inconsistency in regulations for middle housing**

29 Cmr. Shahid gave an overview of the Leland recommendations and of the work she's done
30 researching the selling of ADUs in the city of Seattle and the real estate agents she has spoken with
31 about the issues of ADUs and middle housing development.

32
33 Vice Chair Kaje stated that he has heard statements about hurdles that have been brought to
34 planning commissioners about middle housing about permitting and code. Mr. Hofman stated that
35 all applicants must still meet building, fire, drainage codes etc. Vice Chair Kaje stated that the
36 planning commission should work on zeroing in on zoning issues that can be hurdles for applicants.

37
38 Cmr. Reid stated that she can reach out to a local builder, Brian Highberger, to discuss issues of
39 building middle housing in the city. Cmr. Shahid volunteered to meet with architects in town center
40 to discuss hurdles they may have in interpreting the code. Vice Chair Kaje stated that he is
41 concerned that the commission is not getting enough support from the city to do its job.

42
43 **New Business:**

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45 **Reports and Announcements:**

46 **Planning Commission member appointments update and introductions**

47 Mr. Hofman stated that Sam Castic has resigned from the commission as he has moved out of the
48 country. Mr. Hofman also stated that the city council will appoint Ms. Reid on Thursday to fill that

vacancy.

Agenda for Next Meeting: Discussion on meeting with the city attorney to discuss RUEs, critical areas ordinance update, and questions for developers.

Adjournment: Vice Chair Kaje made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cmr. Drew seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously. Chair Kleweno adjourned at 9:30 PM.

APPROVED:

David Kleweno, Planning Commission Chair