Zoning Code Observations and Key Areas for Updates

Presentation to Sandpoint City Council

December 18th, 2024

Bill Dean, City Planner

Four Initial Observations

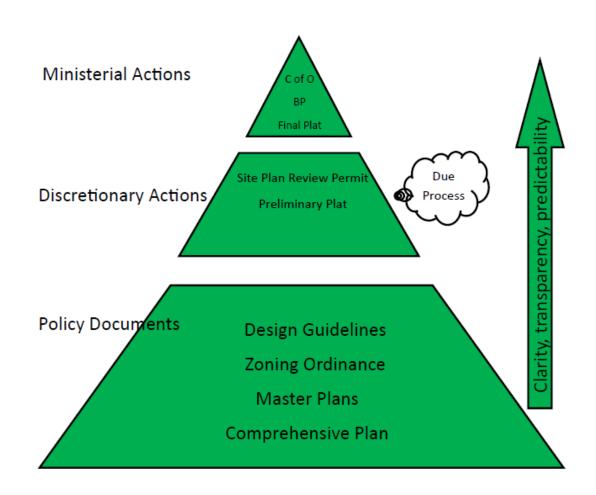
Strengthen Deliberate decision making in Development
Permitting

Simplify and Modernize the Code

Leverage the Solid Foundation of Objective Standards

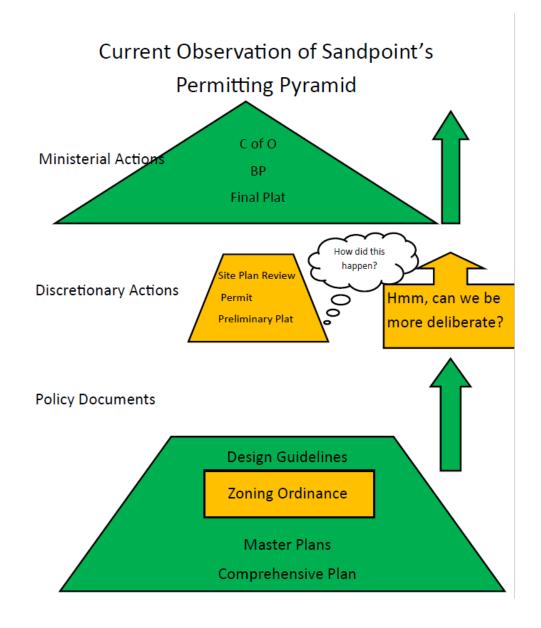
Affirm Opportunities for Small Lot Development

Basic Planning Permitting Pyramid



Normal hierarchy-Pyramid is aligned

Observation #1



Sandpoint's Fractured Pyramid

Observation #1

Typical Development Timeline

1 2 3 1 = Application Filed

2 = Compliance Review/Notice to nearby property owners

5

3 = Technical Studies to Support Decision, if necessary

4 = Discretionary Permit Approval

5 = Appeal Process

6 = Building Permit

7 = Certificate of Occupancy

Observed Timeline



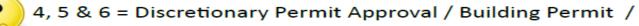


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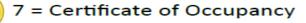
1 = Application Filed

2 = Compliance Review/Notice to nearby property owners

3 = Technical Studies to Support Decision, if necessary



Appeal Process





Strengthen deliberate decision-making in Development Permitting

1

Reinforce the Site Plan Review Process (Not adding process or steps) 2

Enhance Findings: Context sensitive development, utilities, transportation 3

Strengthen
Procedural Clarity:
Due process for
applicants and other
interested parties

Simplifying and Modernizing the Zoning Code

Use

• Use tables

Clarify

 Clarify regulations – example: reduce confusion on placement of ADUs, garages, how alleys should can be used for access

Collapse

 More intuitive structure: collapse development regs into fewer sections, administration of the zoning ordinance in one section

Leverage the Foundation of Objective Development Standards



RETAIN AND REFINE
CATEGORIES OF DEVELOPMENT
STANDARDS



CLARIFY THE STANDARDS TO YIELD CONSISTENT ANSWERS

Observation #4

Affirming Opportunities for Small Lot Development

 Existing substandard lots or PUDs are currently the only "tools" to achieve small lot (sub 5,000sf) development

Next Steps

- Develop the Planning Team (training)
- High Focus on Current Planning (applications filed)
- Begin Long Range Planning
 - SCC 9.1.4
 - Commercial A (Downtown)