



# **JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL**

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 4:00 PM

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## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Jennifer Massey  
Councilor Mark Gundersen  
Councilor Russell Hubbard  
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

Commissioner Scott Jacobson  
Vice Chair Brooke Sisco  
Commissioner Trina Kingsbury  
Commissioner Charles Castner  
Commissioner David B. Rosengard (Zoom)

### **MEMEBERS ABSENT**

Council President Jessica Chilton  
Chair Jennifer Shoemaker  
Commissioner Reid Herman

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jacob Graichen, City Planner  
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder  
Angelica Artero, Community Development Administrative Assistant

### **CALL SPECIAL SESSION TO ORDER – 4:00PM**

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

#### **A. Discussion of Allowance of ATVs on Public Streets**

City Planner Graichen introduced the topic to the Planning Commission, explaining that while the Commission doesn't typically deal with traffic matters, it serves as a good think tank for vetting ideas for the City Council, especially since the City doesn't really have specialty committees for different issues.

Mayor Massey explained that this topic has been brought up by her constituents in "overwhelming numbers" requesting the ability to use side by sides on the streets, similar to how slingshot three-wheel vehicles are currently allowed. Mayor Massey drafted an ordinance back in February with then acting Chief Hogue. Mayor Massey further explained that she had met with Sherrif Pixley to ensure alignment between City and County regulations, as there was interest at the County level as well. The proposed ordinance would only allow perpendicular crossing of Highway 30, not driving along the

highway itself. Additionally, an annual fee of a suggested amount around \$200 would be charged for a sticker allowing operations within city limits.

The Planning Commission shared input and expressed various concerns about police enforcement, speeding, and the use of ATVs on City streets. Mayor Massey emphasized the need to get input from the new police chief, who has not yet reviewed the draft ordinance yet. The group agreed the next step would be to seek the Chief's input then to hold a public forum for community feedback before bringing the matter to the City Council.

**B. Planning Commission Proactive Item – Architectural Standards**

City Planner Graichen noted there was no update on this item as Chair Shoemaker was leading in this effort and was not present at this meeting.

**C. Planning Commission Proactive Item – Vacant and Underutilized Storefronts**

Commissioner Jacobson provided an update, noting that Erin Salisbury of the St. Helens Main Street Alliance had not yet conducted their planned walking tour due to scheduling conflicts. He mentioned he had reviewed Astoria's code on the matter and let it serve as a good model. Commissioner Jacobson mentioned that Chair Shoemaker met with the former planner with the City of Astoria who had been involved in developing code on the matter and felt it could serve as a good model.

**3. OTHER BUSINESS**

City Planner Graichen brought up a concern about the ordinance requirement that three consecutive absences from meetings could result in removal from the commission. He questioned whether joint meetings should count toward this requirement, noting they were established after the ordinance was drafted and that being punitive for volunteer positions might be too aggressive.

Councilor Sundeen raised the question of whether four joint meetings per year was necessary, noting that today's meeting had little substantive business. He suggested reducing to two scheduled meetings annually with the option for special meetings as needed. The group agreed to include this topic in the Planning Commission's attendance discussion at their next regular meeting.

**4. ADJOURN**

*There being no further business before the Planning Commission and City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Angelica Artero*

*Community Development Administrative Assistant*