

2019-2020 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Recommendations

- Briefing on OPCD recommendations at April 9 meeting
- Draft letter presented by staff on April 23
- Letter was revised based on Commissioner comments
- Action on draft letter at today's meeting
- SPC recommendations to City Council Land Use and Neighborhoods Committee

Final Draft SPC Letter

No changes were made to these recommendations:

Docketed Amendment Proposals Recommended for Adoption

- FLUM Amendment: 4831 35th Ave SW
- Text Amendment: Delridge Neighborhood Plan goals and policies

• Docketed Amendment Proposals Not Recommended for Adoption

- FLUM Amendment: 11316 and 11318 5th Ave NE

Docketed Amendments Not Analyzed by OPCD

Of the eight proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments that were docketed by the City Council in Resolution 31896 for further analysis, OPCD declined to analyze or make recommendations on five of those amendments as part of the 2019-2020 annual amendment cycle. The Planning Commission offers its comments and recommendations on these amendments below. We have concerns about waiting until the next Major Update of the Comprehensive Plan in 2024 for consideration of these proposed amendments and encourage the City Council to move forward on them sooner where appropriate.

Alternative Name for Single Family Zones

The name 'single family' zoning has been a misnomer since 1994 when the city passed Accessory Dwelling Unit legislation allowing two households to live on a single family zoned parcel and is not representative of the households that currently live in those zones. This name is also linked to Seattle's former use of race-based zoning as an exclusionary practice. The Commission applauds and supports the City Council in the proposed amendment that would recommend cChanging the name of the zoning earlier than the Major Update. This change could also serve to inform the policy process considering alternatives to single family zoning.

130th Street Station Urban Village

While we are supportive of this amendment, we would like to see similar considerations at the Graham Street Station Area. The communities of color who reside in this Southeast Seattle neighborhood have been awaiting a station and accompanying development for more than a decade. They have done extensive community work and have prepared a Community Vision plan. See here for more information: <https://www.pugetsoundsage.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/PSS-GrahamStreetVision.pdf>

130th Street Station Urban Village

We understand that the future 130th Street Station is on a light rail line that has not been built yet, but this reason only further amplifies the continued disinvestment in the community of color around a future Graham Street Station. The Commission supports station area planning around this station building upon the established community vision and recommends Graham Street also be studied as an Urban Village.

South Park Urban Village Designation

The City Council proposed an amendment to assess how the South Park neighborhood meets the criteria for Urban Village designation. OPCD has stated that an effort to determine whether the South Park neighborhood should be designated as an Urban Village is more appropriately addressed as part of the Major Update to the Comprehensive Plan. OPCD expects to review the Urban Centers and Villages Growth Strategy during that effort. The Planning Commission is supportive of a comprehensive review of the City's Urban Centers and Urban Villages. If an effort to review the South Park Urban Village moves forward, the Commission strongly recommends that community members and the relevant stakeholders are engaged throughout that process. We look forward to providing our input and feedback at the appropriate time.

Questions/Comments/Action