



Re: Update to Fairhaven Planning & Urban Village schedule

Chuck Robinson to: NOliver

Cc: KLinville, Grp_Council, JThomas, Bill Geyer

01/06/2012 08:21 PM

Hi Nicole,

Thanks for your call this morning. I hope it was clear that my interest is in having the best, and most comprehensive plan we can have to serve us over the next 30 years or so. While I certainly (painfully) understand constraints of time and budget, the major criterion for the plan should be it's quality and value for future planning.

Many of us had expected a public meeting after the draft was released and were, as I said this morning, caught unaware with the short timeline for written comments--especially for some of us during the holiday retail season, from which we're still digging out.

I appreciate all of the work the staff has done to gather input from the community, but as Bill Geyer pointed out in his letter to Jeff Thomas, there seem to be several missing pieces in the plan.

I hope there is a way to have some more general community conversation about the draft plan before the commissions begin making their recommendations to the Planning Commission.

Thanks once again,

Chuck

On Jan 5, 2012, at 3:47 PM, NOliver@cob.org wrote:

Dear Fairhaven Stakeholders:

This is an update on the ongoing Fairhaven Neighborhood and Urban Village planning effort. Following the release of the draft documents on December 21st, the City has received positive and constructive comments, and has heard some concern about the process, one of which being that the timing of the release and finalization of the drafts and various advisory board meeting schedules may not allow adequate time for busy commercial business owners to fully participate. Therefore, the City has adjusted the schedule to allow all stakeholders additional time to read the draft documents, respond with comments, and attend the public meetings should they choose to do so.

The advisory board meetings provide the opportunity for staff to gain additional input on specific aspects of the draft documents. Be aware that these are public *meetings* -- not public *hearings*. The revised schedule is as follows:

- Historic Preservation Commission: Introduction of Design Standards and regulations - Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 4:00 p.m., Council Chambers
- Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission: Overview of plan and regulations, Wednesday, January 18, 2012, 6:30 p.m., Mayor's Board Room

- Historic Preservation Commission: Feedback meeting on Design Standards and regulations, Tuesday, January 24, 2012, 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers
- Transportation Commission: Transportation and Parking Chapters and parking regulations, Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 6-8 p.m., Mayor's Board Room

During the month of January and first half of February, staff will continue to review public comments and advisory board input, and prepare the final draft documents for the public legislative review process. The new deadline for a complete final draft is **February 14, 2012**, 30 days in advance of Planning Commission public hearing which is now scheduled for **March 15, 2012**.

Please submit your comments by February 3rd (to give staff the opportunity to include them in the Planning Commission packet) to Nicole Oliver at noliver@cob.org (or mail to Nicole Oliver, Mayor's Office, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, WA 98225). All comments will be tracked and posted on the [project website](#).

Current draft documents include:

- Fairhaven Neighborhood and Urban Village Plan ([High Resolution PDF](#)) ([Low Resolution PDF](#))
- [Fairhaven Design Standards](#)
- [BMC 20.37 Fairhaven Urban Village - Development Regulations](#)
- [BMC 20.25 and 21.10 Design Review Applicability, Decision Criteria and Process](#)

The City looks forward to your continued participation and feedback in the Fairhaven Neighborhood and Urban Village planning effort. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Nicole Oliver, Project Manager
Mayor's Office

cc: Mayor Kelli Linville
City Council
Jeff Thomas, PCD Director

Nicole C. Oliver
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City of Bellingham

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