

Homer Comprehensive Plan Update Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting #9
Thursday, November 29th 6:00-8:30 pm.
Cowles Council Chambers
Meeting Notes

Eight of the thirteen committee members were present at the meeting held at the Cowles City Council Chambers. The meeting was facilitated by Chris Beck and Tanya Iden of Agnew::Beck (via teleconference).

Attendance:

Committee Members

Allegra Bukojemsky
Marianne Schlegelmilch
Bill Smith
Christopher Story - ABSENT
Hannah Bradley
Anne Marie Holen
Tina Day - ABSENT

Ethan Martin - ABSENT
Michael McCarthy - ABSENT
Val McLay
Jim Henkelman
Bob Howard - ABSENT
Barb Seaman

Interested Community Members

Rick Foster

Staff

Beth McKibben, Homer Planning Dept.
Tanya Iden, Agnew::Beck Consulting

Chris Beck, Agnew::Beck

Meeting Overview

The meeting's purpose was to:

- review the edits made to the Comp Plan in light of public comments and the community workshop and associated meetings held in October,
- assess with the CAC whether additional edits were needed to finalize the Plan.

Summary of Main Edits:

The majority of the edits were made to the Land Use Chapter (4), the Transportation Chapter (5), the Public Facilities Chapter (6), and the Economic Vitality Chapter (8). The following outlines the main edits:

Introduction

- Forward has been added to the Plan describing its purpose and process

Land Use

- Goal 6 was reworked to more strongly state the need to work regionally to address land use issues.
- Reference was added to the issue of water exporting outside of City limits.
- Green infrastructure section was reformatted to add greater emphasis to the definition.
- Examples of different site development and subdivision development practices were included.
- R-2 transitional zoning description enhanced.

Transportation

- A stronger reference to maintaining the integrity of existing neighborhoods was added.
- The need to address growth around the airport and potential future airport growth was better emphasized.
- LID system as an option to pay for road improvements was added.

Public Facilities and Services

- A correction was made to the statement that spit erosion is not occurring. It does occur.
- In the Administration section it was mentioned that more staff and resources would need to be added to the Homer Budget as demand for services increases.
- Greater reference to the importance of the University was included.

Economic Vitality

- Several corrections to the segments about the University of Alaska were made and a greater emphasis added to the importance of education in the community.

Public Comments Received

The CAC was provided with a packet of comments received in advance of the meeting. Approximately 20 people sent in comments, edits, and suggestions for the Plan. Two sets of comments did not make it into the CAC packet in time for the meeting – the comments received from Rick Foster and Devony Lehner will be sent to the CAC after the meeting. In general, the CAC thought that the edits to the Comp Plan captured many of the suggestions made in the comments. Some additional suggestions were made that will be included in the next draft of the Comprehensive Plan for CAC review.

Wrap-Up

- Agnew::Beck will e-mail Rick Foster and Devony Lehner's comments to the CAC
- Agnew::Beck will be in Homer on Thursday, December 6th and will be at the City Hall Council chambers in the morning, working on the Plan.
- Agnew::Beck will provide a complete draft of the Comp Plan to the CAC for review the week of December 10th. The new changes will be left in "track changes."

Next Meeting:

Thursday, December 13, 6-8:30pm in City Council Chambers

Purpose will be to review the full draft Comp Plan. This meeting may not occur if the CAC is able to review and make comments on the Comp Plan via e-mail.