



**Snohomish County Council**  
**Planning and Community Development Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Nate Nehring, Committee Chair  
Megan Dunn, Committee Vice-Chair  
Committee Members: Stephanie Wright, Sam Low, Jared Mead

Ryan Countryman, Senior Legislative Analyst  
Russell Wiita, Legislative Aide  
Debbie Eco, Clerk of the Council

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**Tuesday, July 20, 2021**

**10:30 AM**

**Jackson Board Room & Remote Meeting**

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**PRESENT:**

Committee Chair Nehring  
Committee Vice-Chair Dunn (entered remotely at 11:18 a.m.)  
Committee Member Wright  
Committee Member Mead (remote)  
Committee Member Low  
Ryan Countryman, Council Staff  
Frank Slusser, Planning & Development Services  
Debbie Eco, Clerk of the Council  
\*See names below of persons providing public comment

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Committee Chair Nehring called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

The clerk called the roll and stated that four members were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chair Nehring provided instructions for those wishing to provide public comment for both in-person and remote via Zoom. There were no persons present, at this time, wishing to provide public comment.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Action Items 1 & 2, Motions 21-237 & 21-239, were discussed together.

1. Motion 21-237, adopting and recognizing revised legal descriptions and maps for the proposed Lake Stevens Southeast Interlocal Annexation as contained in the Boundary Review Board File Nos. 03-2021 and 04-2021 [2021-0486](#)
2. Motion 21-239, concerning the County Council's position on a proposed Interlocal Agreement Method Annexation to the City of Lake Stevens; BRB File Nos. 03-2021 and 04-2021 - Lake Stevens Southeast Interlocal Annexation [2021-0495](#)

Ryan Countryman, Sr. Legislative Analyst, provided a staff report for both motions, which are related to the Lake Stevens SE interlocal annexation (Previously adopted Ordinance No. 21-005).

Mr. Countryman explained that Motion No. 21-237 adopts and revises legal descriptions with the surveyor maps that correct scrivener's errors. He explained that Motion No. 21-239 would support the annexation of the SE Lake Stevens Annexation by not invoking the Boundary Review Board jurisdiction.

Related to Motion No. 21-239, Mr. Countryman stated it is important to note that August 9th is the expiration date for the required 45-day Boundary Review Board review period that creates a deadline for the County to take action. He stated there are no fiscal implications directly related, but said ownership of some facilities and maintenance would transfer from the County to the city of Lake Stevens. He said this has been approved as to form by the Prosecutor's Office and is recommended by the Executive.

**ACTION:** Move both Motions 21-237 and 21-239 to Regular Agenda, General Legislative Session, July 28th for consideration.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Discussion [2021-0532](#)  
Ryan Countryman, Sr. Legislative Analyst

Ryan Countryman, Sr. Legislative Analyst, provided an introduction and background information. He explained this discussion is a result of the June 9, 2021, public hearing for an ordinance related to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) where there were three amendments to the ordinance that were adopted at that hearing. Today's discussion is regarding a fourth amendment that would have allowed detached accessory dwelling units on substandard lots in rural areas that was referred back to committee for further discussion and review.

Mr. Countryman provided detail about a proposed draft ordinance that would essentially do what Amendment 4 would have done. He asked for direction on how to move forward when Council decides on how they would like to proceed.

Committee Member Low expressed concerns related to unintended consequences related to the 100-foot requirement. He provided an example and suggested it might need to be re-visited through the Planning Commission process.

*[Committee Member Wright left the meeting at approximately 10:45 a.m.]*

Committee Chair Nehring commented on higher density and rural character. He said he didn't believe the intent is to convert or build an ADU to have someone unknown live there, but to have family members live there and he asked about calculating density. He also commented on Councilmember Low's point related to the 100-foot requirement and asked about outreach. Mr. Countryman responded.

Discussion ensued and Mr. Countryman spoke briefly about next steps.

Committee Chair Nehring allowed for public comment at this time. The following people provided comment related to ADUs:

Valerie Carson, resident of Snohomish County  
Gabriel Craig, resident of the city of Bellingham  
Joseph Rye, resident of the city of Stanwood

There were no further persons wishing to provide comment.

In response to public comment, Mr. Countryman spoke to administrative review.

With direction from Committee, Mr. Countryman will take an ordinance to the Planning Commission for more public input and process.

*[Committee Vice-Chair Dunn entered the meeting remotely at 11:18 a.m.]*

- 2.** Comprehensive Plan Discussion - Possible additions to 2021 Update - Frank Slusser, Planning & Development Services [2021-0525](#)

Frank Slusser, Planning & Development Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation and spoke in detail about the Comprehensive Plan Update and possible additions to the scope of the Policy Review for the 2024 Update. Mr. Slusser responded to committee member questions throughout his presentation.

Committee Chair Nehring noted that when Comprehensive Plan Update Vision 2050 was passed it didn't take COVID into consideration, he asked if that will now be addressed with transit corridors and the increase in telecommuting, both

in the private and public sector. He said with people moving to the less urban areas there may be a shift that should be taken into consideration and there should be a conversation, as a County, through the Comp Plan process. Committee Member Low followed with concerns relating to broadband equity and access, and noted it has been magnified over the last 18 months.

Committee Member Dunn commented on tree canopy and encouraged including it in the review.

Closing remarks were made and Mr. Slusser spoke about a suggested Council schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.