

City of Medical Lake
124 S. Lefevre Street – City Council Chambers
Planning Commission Meeting
March 28, 2024, Minutes

NOTE: This is not a verbatim transcript. Minutes contain only a summary of the discussion. A recording of the meeting is on file and available from City Hall.

1) CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

- a) Commissioner Hudson called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.
 - i) Commissioner Mark was out sick. Notified Ms. Rodriguez via phone call. Motion to approve absence made by commissioner Munson, seconded by commissioner Hudson, carried 3-0.
 - ii) Commissioner Mayulianos submitted absence requests for both this meeting and the April meeting. Motion to approve made by commissioner Hudson, seconded by commissioner Jorgenson, carried 3-0.
 - iii) Commissioners Jorgenson, Hudson, and Munson were present in person.

2) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- a) No additions. Motion to approve agenda as written made by commissioner Munson, seconded by commissioner Hudson, carried 3-0.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) February 22, 2024, Minutes
 - i) Motion to approve made by commissioner Jorgenson, seconded by commissioner Hudson, carried 3-0.

4) INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

- a) none

5) STAFF REPORTS

- a) Elisa Rodriguez, City Planner – today is the due date for the Hazard Mitigation Plan RFP. Three proposals have been received. No current applications. Commissioner Jorgenson asked about FEMA and how long they're here. Sonny Weathers responded that the deadline for applications is April 20th and FEMA should be here at least until then, possibly a little longer.

6) SCHEDULED ITEMS

- a) City Strategic Plan presentation by Sonny Weathers, City Administrator
 - i) Mr. Weathers explained what the strategic plan is and gave a presentation. Ms. Rodriguez asked Mr. Weathers to explain the relationship between a strategic plan and a comprehensive plan. Strategic is broader (ideas, not a lot of details), and comprehensive gets into the specifics and details of the strategic plan. Staff can use the comprehensive plan to direct policies and procedures. Discussion was held regarding the boundaries of the city and how the growth of the city is approached. Commissioner Munson complimented the city on the grants that have been awarded this past year.
- b) Comprehensive Plan Overview – Land Use
 - i) Elisa Rodriguez, City Planner – referred to the “homework” assignment that was given to commissioners from the letter in the agenda packet. Requested input from commissioners on current and proposed land use element. No decisions tonight, just discussion.

- ii) Gave a presentation on the land use element (see attached). Went through the ten summary goals and asked for input from commissioners. Commissioners discussed goals and provided input.
- c) Public Participation Plan vote
 - i) Motion to accept made by commissioner Hudson, seconded by commissioner Munson, carried 3-0.
- d) City Branding Discussion – Press Release
 - i) Commissioner Munson discussed the updated press release (see attached). Commissioner Jorgenson asked to make sure that it is clear that the commission is asking for community participation.
 - 1. Motion to submit to the city administrator and city planner to approve and distribute made by commissioner Hudson, seconded by commissioner Munson, carried 3-0.

7) **PUBLIC HEARING** – None scheduled.

8) **COMMISSION MEMBERS' COMMENTS OR CONCERNS**

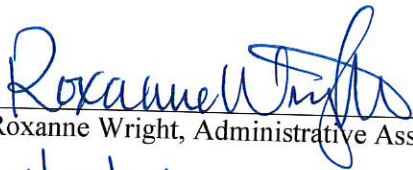
- a) Commissioner Hudson – Would like to address additional vehicle exits for Fox Hollow/Fox Ridge during the transportation discussion at next month's meeting.

9) **INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS**

- a) Citizen in the audience commented on the proposed Silver Lake city sewer and water project that was discussed at the community meeting on March 27th.

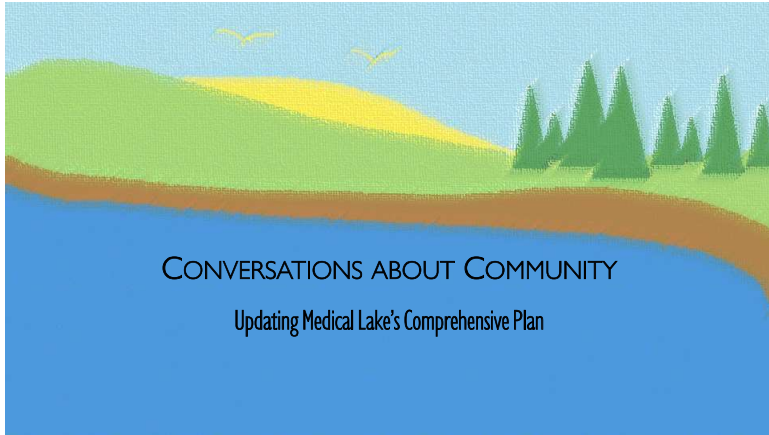
10) **CONCLUSION**

- a) Motion to conclude at 6:58 pm made by commissioner Munson, seconded by commissioner Jorgenson, carried 3-0.



Roxanne Wright, Administrative Assistant

4/18/24
Date



LAND USE ELEMENT

Purpose:

General Location and Distribution of Land Uses

Design and Quality of the Built Environment

Framework for the Other Elements

LAND USE ELEMENT

Current Comprehensive Plan

13 Goals

32 Policies

12 Actions

LAND USE ELEMENT

Create vibrant, well-maintained, pedestrian-oriented commercial areas with a mix of businesses to increase employment opportunities.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Ensure there are adequate services and facilities and enough buildable land to provide for needed jobs and housing and if land needs to be annexed to accomplish this, plans are in place for these provisions.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Provide the opportunity for a variety of housing types and densities in order to serve all levels of income, seniors, and special-needs housing.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Create a network of pedestrian and bicycle routes to link residents with parks, community services, and commercial areas.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Protect the environment, including shorelines, wetlands, and fish and wildlife habitat.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Provide an adequate amount of open spaces, parks, trails, and recreational opportunities for citizens and tourists.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Create community gateways.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Encourage citizen participation.

LAND USE ELEMENT

Prepare for the possibility of an essential public facility being located in Medical Lake.

LAND USE ELEMENT

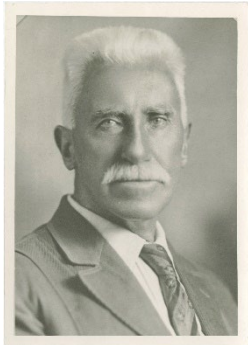
Meet the social and health needs of the citizens, including keeping the city clean, safe, and affordable.

Medical Lake, February 2024

Over the past year, the Medical Lake Planning Commission has been discussing the “brand” for the city based on historical, geological, and geographical features.

Medical Lake is a small residential community. The Planning Commission wants it to remain so. At the same time, Medical Lake has been described as a “diamond in the rough,” that is, a raw, uncut diamond, existing well below its potential. After one hundred and thirty-four years, an effort should be made to realize that potential.

Many Planning Commission ideas are far-reaching and, realistically, may not be realized until after present Commissioners have passed away. The overriding responsibility of the Commission, however, is to begin the process leading to the maximization of Medical Lake potential. When Lord Stanley Hallett, the first Medical Lake mayor, built his three-story home at the corner of the Lake Street and Stanley Street, he expected others would follow suit. Although geological and geographical characteristics have not changed, and while Medical Lake has some interesting history, Medical Lake residential and commercial districts have seen nothing of enduring significance since Hallett built his home in 1890, one hundred and thirty-four years ago.



The greater Medical Lake area uniquely has six lakes and dozens of ponds. Those features are the greater Medical Lake area’s basis of attraction and cannot be compromised.

The Planning Commission has several visions. An example is an eventual tie with Fairchild AFB. Fayetteville, NC, for example, tied into Ft. Bragg (renamed Ft. Liberty in 2023) with the Airborne and Special Ops Museum. Fredericksburg, TX tied into the WWII Pacific theater, from Pearl Harbor to Japan’s surrender aboard the USS Missouri, with the expansive National Museum of the Pacific War (Admiral Chester Nimitz was born in Fredericksburg). Fairchild and the tanker fleet have a history given little attention. The Planning Commission believes that history should be brought to light.

Realizing our ideas will require considerable perseverance. In all actual cases, development at times will seem at an impasse. Over years in other municipalities such as those mentioned above, indomitable citizen support and participation, however, ultimately won the day. The Medical Lake Planning Commission members consequently encourage citizen attendance at meetings in City Hall, upstairs, every fourth Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

Cutting and polishing the Medical Lake diamond will require careful planning and patience. While obstacles will be prominent, the finished product will justify the effort. Again, Commissioners may not be around to see some of their visions realized. To Hallett and those who went before, however, we owe the effort, and for posterity, we should make the effort.