



# CONVERSATIONS ABOUT COMMUNITY

## Updating Medical Lake's Comprehensive Plan

October 2024

### **Economic Development**

The Economic Development Element of the comprehensive plan addresses economic growth and vitality to enhance the City's character and quality of life.

The target of a thriving local economy and government efficiency includes growing and sustaining a balanced and resilient economy by providing jobs, community prosperity, and fiscal health while maintaining and improving the provision of high quality, affordable, and efficient community services to citizens and businesses.

Medical Lake's rural and recreation based economy is well connected to the natural environment.

### **Planning Commission**

The Planning Commission invites you to attend their monthly meetings. The Commission usually meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, but due to the holidays, November and December have been changed to the third Thursday.

October 24th

November 21st

December 19th

Meetings start at 5:30 and can be attended in person at City Hall or via Zoom. The agenda is available on the City website a week in advance.

### **Natural Environment**

Medical Lake is rich in beauty and natural resources, including its lakes and wetlands. Besides the beauty offered by the natural environment, there are immeasurable benefits such as opportunities for recreational activities, providing important wildlife habitat, increasing awareness of air and water quality, and the preservation of open space. These important aspects of the community contribute to quality of life factors such as health and safety, economy, and environment.

### **Critical Areas**

The City strives to protect its natural resources. Critical Areas is a term referring to wetlands, animal habitats, frequently flooded areas, geologically hazardous areas, and aquifer recharge areas. The first three categories are currently regulated by the municipal code. The latter two are being evaluated for appropriate regulations to adopt in the future.

### **Shoreline Master Program**

In 2021, the City Council adopted an updated Shoreline Master Program to protect the shores of Medical Lake and West Medical Lake. This program is overseen by the Department of Ecology and strives to preserve the ecological qualities of the shoreline while providing public access to the lakes.