



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Brian Boudet, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services  
Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Ordinance – Adopting the Proposed Minor Plan and Code Amendments  
September 17, 2019  
**DATE:** August 23, 2019

**SUMMARY:**

An ordinance amending various chapters of Title 1, Title 8, and Title 13 of the Municipal Code, relating to proposed minor plan and code amendments as part of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code for 2019, as recommended by the Planning Commission on June 19, 2019.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

Adopting the minor plan and code amendments, as part of the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code, reflects the desire of engaged citizens and fulfills the requirements of the Washington Growth Management Act and other relevant state laws, and is therefore best aligned with the following strategic policy priority:

- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

**BACKGROUND:**

Prepared pursuant to the Growth Management Act, the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code for 2019 (2019 Amendment) include the following six applications: (1) Future Land Use Map Implementation, (2) Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review, (3) Affordable Housing Action Strategy, (4) Historic Preservation Code Amendments, (5) Manitou Potential Annexation Area, and (6) Minor Plan and Code Amendments.

The Planning Commission completed its review of the 2019 Amendment through an extensive and inclusive public engagement process, including two public hearings conducted on May 1 and May 15, 2019. The public hearing on May 15, 2019, also included a joint public hearing with the State Department of Ecology concerning the application of Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review. The Commission recommended on June 19, 2019, that the 2019 Amendment be adopted by the City Council. The Commission submitted, and filed with the City Clerk’s Office, the Planning Commission’s Findings of Fact and Recommendations Report for the 2019 Amendment, June 19, 2019. The report documents the public review and community engagement process and the Commission’s deliberations and decision-making concerning the six applications.

Pursuant to Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) 13.02.045, the City Council shall hold a public hearing before enacting any proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and the TMC. The City Council has fulfilled said requirement by conducting a public hearing on August 20, 2019, concerning all six applications for the 2019 Amendment.

**ISSUE:**

This ordinance pertains to the application of minor plan and code amendments, which includes 28 proposed amendments to Chapters 1.37, 8.30, 13.04, 13.05, 13.06, 13.06A, and 13.09 of the TMC, that are intended to keep information current, address inconsistencies, correct minor errors, and clarify and



improve provisions that, through implementation of the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan and administration of the TMC, are found to be unclear or not fully meeting their intent. The application does not suggest substantive or policy-level amendments to the One Tacoma Plan or the TMC.

Proposed amendments to TMC 1.37, 8.30, 13.04, 13.05, 13.06, and 13.06A are depicted in Exhibits A-F. Upon adoption by the City Council, the proposed amendments will become effective on October 31, 2019. In addition, an index of the 28 proposed amendments and the associated sections of the TMC being amended is shown in Exhibit H, which is referenced herewith in this ordinance for documentation purposes.

The Planning Commission also recommends the City pursue an effort to reorganize certain sections of the TMC in order to consolidate various use districts into their own category to be consistent with the approach of the One Tacoma Plan, to make the code more intuitive and user friendly, and to set the stage for future code updates and expansions. The framework for the proposed code reorganization is depicted in Exhibit G. By adopting Exhibit G, the City Council is authorizing appropriate staff to proceed with the code reorganization effort.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

There are no specific alternatives being considered at this time.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the City Council adopt the minor plan and code amendments, as recommended by the Planning Commission and as depicted in Exhibits A-G. Staff also recommends setting the effective date of the legislation as October 31, 2019 for Exhibits A-F and January 2, 2020 for Exhibit G.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.