

**STAFF REPORT
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TEXT AMENDMENT
MISSION, VISION AND VALUES; STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING;
CODE ENFORCEMENT**

I. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT

The City of Sumner is proposing text amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to include the City's adopted mission statement, vision statement and values; to specify that the City will seek to employ and retain qualified and well trained staff; and goals and policies related to adequate and efficient enforcement of the municipal code.

II. WHY THE AMENDMENT IS BEING PROPOSED

The amendments are being requested in order to: 1) incorporate recently updated and adopted mission, vision, and values statements that were adopted by the City Council in 2005; 2) to carry out these values it is necessary to specify that the City will seek to maintain well trained and highly qualified staff; and 3) enforcement is a necessary part of implementing the Comprehensive Plan and should be stated as a goal with supporting policies.

III. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT CRITERIA

Only those amendments which are found to be in substantial compliance with all criteria listed below shall be approved (SMC 18.56.147(N)):

- 1. An amendment is necessary to resolve inconsistencies between the Sumner comprehensive plan and other city plans or ordinances; or, to resolve inconsistencies between the Sumner comprehensive plan and other jurisdictions' plans or ordinances.**

Mission, Vision, and Values

The amendments are necessary to resolve inconsistencies between adopted City policies by the Council in Resolution No. 1164 adopted October 3, 2005.

Staff Qualifications and Training

It is necessary to have well trained and highly qualified staff to improve the efficiency of the organization and to implement the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations and carry out the vision for the City. This would clarify consistency with current policy.

Code Enforcement

Code enforcement is an integral part of being a responsive government organization and is consistent with the mission, vision, and value statements already adopted by City Council.

- 2. Conditions have so changed since the adoption of the Sumner comprehensive plan that the existing goals, policies, objectives, and/or map classifications are inappropriate.**

The proposed amendments add language to the Governance Sub-element in the Comprehensive Plan. This additional language resolves inconsistencies with current city policy regarding the mission, vision, and values of the organization and clarifies the need and desire for qualified staff, and efficient and adequate code enforcement. It is not so much changing what is “inappropriate” as it is clarifying and augmenting the current goals and policies.

3. The proposed amendment is consistent with the overall intent of the goals of the Sumner comprehensive plan.

The Land Use Element of the Sumner comprehensive plan contains a Governance Sub-element that is intended to provide policy direction for “good governance” that is stated in Goal 1: “Seek broad representative, dedicated, participatory, open, visionary, and responsible civic government.” (page 35, Governance Sub-element) The proposed goals and policies related to incorporation of the mission, vision, and values for the City; employing well-trained and qualified staff; and efficient and adequate code enforcement are consistent with the intent and goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

4. The proposed amendment is consistent with chapter 36.70A RCW, the county-wide planning policies for Pierce County, and the applicable Multi-county planning policies.

Consistency with GMA

There are three goals in the Growth Management Act (GMA) that pertain generally to these amendment requests: Property Rights, Permits, and Citizen Participation, (RCW 36.70A.020 (6), (7) and (11)).

The goal of Property Rights states that “landowners shall be protected from arbitrary and discriminatory action” which pertains to enforcement as well as qualified staff making appropriate decisions. The goal of Permits relates to the processing permits in a “timely and fair manner to ensure predictability” again, this relates to good and efficient government processes, trained staff and adequate enforcement of permit conditions. The goal of Citizen Participation expresses the need for “involvement of citizens in the planning process” and “coordination” between communities. Citizen participation is a measure of the effectiveness of government to communicate with the public and involve them in decision making processes. The mission, vision, and value statements and qualified staff provide a direction and means to better interact with the public through workshops, discussion groups, the internet, and daily interactions.

Consistency with CWPPs

The County-wide planning elements and policies do not specifically address the amendments being considered, however, the amendments are consistent with the implementation of the City’s Comprehensive Plan, which is consistent with implementing the County Wide Planning Policies.

Consistency with VISION 2040

VISION 2040 goals and policies do not specifically address the amendments being considered, however, the amendments are consistent with the implementation of the City's Comprehensive Plan, which is consistent with implementing the regional plan embodied in VISION 2040.

- 5. Where an amendment to the comprehensive plan map is proposed, the proposed designation is adjacent to property having a similar and compatible designation, or the subject property is of sufficient size, or other conditions are present.**

This is not an amendment to the comprehensive plan map.

- 6. Environmental impacts have been disclosed, and measures have been included to reduce possible adverse impacts.**

An Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Statement Comprehensive Plan Update, October 2004 has been completed under a separate cover to analyze impacts, however, the changes to the policies are minor in this case and have no affect on the environment.

- 7. Potential ramifications of the proposed amendment to other comprehensive plan elements and supporting plans have been considered and satisfactorily addressed.**

The amendments to the Governance element to include goals and policies relating to the City's adopted mission, vision, and values will need to remain consistent with the direction of City Council and amended as necessary. No other potential ramifications are apparent with these proposed amendments.

IV. PUBLIC/AGENCY COMMENTS

PUBLIC:

None at this time.

AGENCY:

None at this time.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission APPROVE a recommendation that the City Council adopt amendments as proposed in section IX below.

VI. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission recommends APPROVAL.

VII. IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Development Regulations:

No changes.

Maps:

No changes.

VIII. EXHIBITS:

None

IX. TEXT AMENDMENTS

GOVERNANCE SUB-ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Vision Statement encourages a number of measures which relate more to the governance of the City and the role of government within the City structure. These policies are not all inclusive with regard to governance of a historic growing community, but attempt to address the concerns expressed during the vision process as they relate most directly to planning and implementing a desired future for the community.

GOALS, POLICIES, AND OBJECTIVES

1. *Seek broad representative, dedicated, participatory, open, visionary and responsible civic government.*
 - 1.1 Recognize all members of the community; residents, property owners, business owners and operators, industry, people who work here, people who play and shop here, children, senior citizens; as stakeholders in the future of the City.
 - 1.2 Strengthen communication between government and the people through the use of technology, e-media, between the government, citizens, and customers.
 - 1.3 Seek broad representation on boards, commissions and advisory groups.
 - 1.4 Promote volunteerism to address appropriate public needs by providing for recruiting, training, organization and recognition of volunteers within the community.
 - 1.5 Promote creative and innovative solutions to the problems and issues that face the City. The City shall strive for solutions which involve partnerships with affected parties.

- 1.6 Work with civic organizations and the school district to educate the general public on the responsibilities of government and the importance of their participation.
 - 1.6.1 Make available on the City's website information on appointed and elected bodies, and local civic organizations to inform citizens on how they may actively be involved.
 - 1.6.2 Continue to provide educational events such as Sumner University and the Police Academy.
 - 1.6.3 Actively engage the public in government processes and decisions in a manner that educates, inspires, and empowers.
- 1.7 Ensure the City government meets environmental and social policies such as water and energy conservation, compatible building design, accommodations for the disabled, outreach services, and water and air quality.

2. *Equitably distribute City resources and the costs of regulations.*

- 2.1 Seek to equitably distribute City resources between existing, older areas of the City and newer growing areas.
- 2.2 Compensate property owners when property is taken for public use.
- 2.3 Protect the rights of property owners from arbitrary and discriminatory actions.

3. *Carry out the City of Sumner's adopted mission statement, vision statement and values through the daily operations of the City.*

3.1 MISSION: To provide needed and valued services that promote our sense of community.

3.2 VISION: Sumner will set the standard of excellence for a progressive small city.

3.3 Values:

3.3.1 We are collaborative and professional.

3.3.2 We are responsive and accountable.

3.3.3 We serve with respect and integrity.

3.3.4 We are innovative and visionary.

4. *Employ well-trained and highly qualified staff.*

4.1 Provide opportunities for training and education to ensure that city staff has the necessary knowledge and skills for peak performance.

4.2 Provide training opportunities that expose employees to different government functions and disciplines to build a better team and collaboration.

4.3 Provide competitive salaries and benefits.

5. *Enforce the City's Municipal Code fairly and efficiently.*

4.1 Provide necessary resources to adequately and efficiently enforce code violations.

4.2 Seek innovative and collaborative solutions to code violations through communication and education of the public.

4.3 Adopt regulations that are clear, concise, and enforceable and periodically review regulations for improvement.