

**KITTITAS COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STUDY SESSION MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' AUDITORIUM, 205 WEST 5TH ROOM 109
Regular Meeting**

MONDAY

1:30 PM

September 9, 2024

Board members present: Vice Chairman Laura Osiadacz, Commissioner Cory Wright.

Others: Josh Fredrickson, Arden Thomas Rebecca Cruse, Public Works; Chad Bala, Jamey Ayling, Jessica Miller, Community Development Services; Stephanie Hartung, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Christopher Whitsett, Sheriff Office; No members of the public.

At 1:30 PM Vice Chair Laura Osiadacz opened the Public Works and Community Development Services Study Session.

No Citizen Comments.

KITTITAS COUNTY WATER MITIGATION FOR KITTITAS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO.1

Arden Thomas briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the Kittitas Public Utility District No.1's desire to secure water rights for future construction of a new facility and stated based on facility usage the cost reimbursement would be equivalent of 2 standard water bank packages. The Board supports the special use and directed staff to prepare enabling documents for consideration.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OUTREACH

Arden Thomas stated staff began updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan 1 year ago and have completed outreach effort throughout the year. Arden Thomas stated 15 jurisdictions have been involved in drafting this plan and anticipated having it available to the public by early October including additional hazards identified and components. Staff is requesting the Board of County Commissioners support to post public notice requesting comment on the draft plan and a virtual meeting. Commissioner Cory Wright asked if staff received much public input in the past? Arden stated that there is not much participation and therefore proposed a two-week comment period. The Board of County Commissioners directed staff to move forward with public notice and include on social media.

UPPER COUNTY TRAFFIC CALMING GATES

Josh Fredrickson stated staff continues to explore traffic calming efforts in Upper Kittitas County and gates are an option that were not initially identified. Josh Fredrickson requested direction on vetting the impact and legality of a gate install to prevent I-90

bypass traffic on a regular basis. Vice Chair Laura Osiadacz stated she understood people's frustration all around the issue and finding a solution is important. Chris Whitsett stated the difference in this gate implementation from Vantage Highway is that Vantage is a crucial route, and gates are manned in an emergency situation and filter people who belong and those who do not, and the heavy traffic is directional. Vice Chair Laura Osiadacz would like the Fire Departments to be involved with the vetting process also. Josh Fredrickson stated they will first explore gates as an emergency services component.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ODD FELLOWS AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

Jamey Ayling received a request from Odd Fellows for a letter of support of the affordable housing project they are seeking funding for. The Board of County Commissioners stated it was unusual for a request like this to not go through the Homeless and Affordable Housing Committee and agreed they are not asking for funding but rather a letter of support from the Planning Departments to ensure the project aligns with planning goals. The Board authorizes the letter to be included in the Odd Fellows funding application.

At 1:57PM the Board of County Commissioners announced that they would recess into Executive Session for 5 minutes with Chad Bala per RCW 42.30.110(g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body salaries, wages, and other conditions of employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when a governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary of an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging or disciplining an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public.

At 2:03PM the Board of County Commissioner reconvened out of Executive Session with no action.

Meeting concluded at 2:03 PM

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



**Rebecca Cruse, Administrative
Assistant**



Laura Osiadacz, Vice Chair