

MEMO

DATE: October 17, 2019

TO: Planning Commission Members

FROM: Rachel Bacon, AICP, Senior Planner

Re: Reengaging in Columbia Imagined Status Report- update

Columbia Imagined, the City's comprehensive plan, was adopted in October of 2013 after significant and meaningful engagement by the public, the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Comprehensive Plan Task Force, city staff from a variety of departments, boards and commissions, and community groups, agencies and stakeholder organizations.

In 2018, the Planning Commission spent five work sessions over several months reviewing the status of the plan's implementation at midpoint of the plan's update cycle. Due to the need to engage in a variety of time-sensitive topics at its work sessions the past ten months (including but not limited to medical marijuana, short term rentals, and the Business Loop CID and Rock Quarry Stakeholder plans), the Commission is now able to return its attention to reviewing the plan's implementation to-date.

This review will allow the Commission and staff to produce a status report for review and comment by stakeholders and the public, and ultimately, the City Council as described by the implementation chapter of the plan (Chapter 5). The status report will identify areas by which the plan has been successfully implemented, elements where additional attention is needed, and indicators and elements to consider in the next full plan update (anticipated to begin after the data from the 2020 Census becomes available in 2022). The report may also identify areas of opportunity and alignment with other plans to continue successful implementation opportunities.

In terms of how the review of the plan is organized, the Commission is roughly half-way through the process:

Initial review by Commission complete; ongoing review as needed:

- Review the history of the plan development and how the plan is implemented and used day-to-day and longer-term

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- Review the Future Land Use Map for potential revisions which may be needed and evaluate planning cases (including annexation and zoning) since 2014 in terms of accordance with the FLUM
- Discuss emerging issues/elements/community concerns which have come about since plan adoption (e.g. sharing economy, short-term rentals, etc.)
- Implementation Table Revisions: Areas of success, potential opportunities, emerging indicators, etc.

Next steps:

- Identify areas of opportunity and alignment with other plans to continue successful implementation opportunities
 - **Review other City plans adopted since 2014 to highlight plan implementation, identify areas where plans “cross-walk”**
 - **Decide if there is a need to include discussion of conflicts or “tensions” between goals and objectives in Columbia Imagined and intra/inter city plans**
- USA discussion- in-depth review of the Urban Service Area boundary with Utility Staff in light of their master plan for potential updates
- Produce updated Maps/Charts (identify key data updates)
- Engage stakeholders to produce status report and then comment on the report itself

The bolded text above identifies the review staff would like to engage in with the Commission at the October 24 work session. As Columbia Imagined is intended to be the umbrella plan (thus the “Comprehensive Plan” moniker) for the community and is intended to be informed by other plans that include specific goals and objectives, staff is interested in the degree to which the status report should address these plans and the inter-relationship.

Additionally, staff sees benefit in discussing conflicts between and within the plans themselves. This has been brought up by the Commission when reviewing land use cases, text amendments and when reviewing plans produced by other departments or external organizations. For example, environmental regulations such as set asides and buffers may negatively impact affordable housing objectives. And while the status report is not designed to be a vehicle for solving such conflicts, there may be benefit in acknowledging them and identifying decision making frameworks at this time as Columbia Imagined did not include a “tensions” or “friction analysis” chapter.

This summer an intern spent time identifying the City plans adopted since Columbia Imagined was adopted which may have conflicts or overlap (“crosswalk”) the comprehensive plan in terms of goals, objectives, strategies and implementation actions. This list of plans may need to be modified by Commission feedback to include additional plans such as the Business Loop 70 CID plan, the Rock Quarry Stakeholder Report, or others if the Commission wishes to include a deeper analysis. A sample

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“crosswalk” between the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) was produced during the Commission’s discussion on that plan and is attached for reference as an example of the type of content the Commission would like to see included in the status report.

Overall, staff respectfully asks the Commission to what extent they would like to spend time reviewing plans which are informed by, and may also inform, the comprehensive plan, and how these plans may be included in the plan’s status update.

Attachments:

- City plans adopted post-adoption of Columbia Imagined (Internship project)
- Sample plan crosswalk example developed to show overlap between Columbia Imagined and the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

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