

September 30, 2009



## Planning Department Newsletter

### REVIEW PROCEEDS ON COLLEGE HILL DRAFT PLAN

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Last month, the planning department released a draft plan for the “College Hill Core” neighborhood, which encompasses the land bounded by Stadium Way, Grand Avenue, and Main Street, excepting the WSU campus. As explained in last month’s newsletter, the document contains a vision statement, goals, and implementation strategies that promote responsibility and respect among College Hill residents and business persons; emphasize a harmonious mix of concentrated uses in an attractive, historic setting served by exemplary public facilities and services; support the provision of sufficient vehicular parking in the area; and prescribe continuous interaction among all stakeholders to enhance neighborhood quality and ensure consistency with the Comprehensive Plan for the entire community. The complete document can be viewed at the planning department page of the city’s website (<http://www.pullman-wa.gov>).

To begin the review process for this draft plan, the City Council conducted an introductory discussion on August 25. At that time, the Council made several substantive comments regarding the document and approved a tentative schedule for further review of the proposal.

On September 9, the Planning Commission held a public input session regarding the draft plan. Approximately 30 people attended the event, and 21 parties provided oral or written remarks before, during, and after the meeting. The most frequent comment delivered by the public to the Commission was that the proposed implementation measures in the draft plan should be stronger and more definitive. There was also a considerable amount of attention paid to the zoning map changes called for in the document. Most folks were supportive of the proposal to rezone a portion of the College Hill National Historic District (between Indiana and Monroe Streets) from R2 Low Density Multi-Family Residential to RT Residential Transitional (a reduction in terms of allowable housing density), but mixed responses were offered with respect to the proposed rezone of the Maple Street area from R2 to R4 High Density Multi-Family Residential and the suggestion for a mixed commercial/residential zoning district along Colorado Street. Several individuals expressed support for the architectural design standards prescribed for new construction in the neighborhood, and there was substantial agreement that more needs to be done to ensure thorough collection of refuse and recyclables on the hill.

*(Continued on page 2)*

Following up on this public forum, the Planning Commission arranged a series of workshops every Wednesday evening through the middle of October to discuss amendments to the draft plan. The Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing regarding its version of the draft plan on Wednesday, October 21, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. At the

conclusion of this hearing, the Commission will make a formal recommendation on the draft plan to the City Council. Council consideration of the document is scheduled to begin with a public input session on Thursday, November 5. Throughout this entire review period, the planning department welcomes public comments pertaining to the draft plan.

## 2010 CENSUS APPROACHING

Census 2010 is only 182 days away, and as this event draws near, Pullman planning staff will be promoting full participation by all local citizens. In addition, the planning office will continue to assist the U.S. Census Bureau in its preparations for this population count.

The census is an enumeration of every person in the United States. The first census was done in 1790, and it has been conducted every 10 years since then. The process is mandated by the U.S. Constitution, and participation by all residents in the nation is required by law. Census data are used for apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, arrangement of state legislative and congressional districts, and configuration of county, city, and school district assignment areas. The information is also utilized for distribution of funds for various governmental programs, and identification of future needs for public facilities and services at the local level. In addition to the population figures, the Census provides housing and economic information that is quite useful for gaining a better understanding of a community.

Census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to every household in the United States in March of next year. The questions will prompt the recipient to provide responses that are accurate for his/her household as of April 1, 2010, and all personal information will be kept confidential in accordance

with federal law. The Census Bureau states that completion of the questionnaire should take less than 10 minutes. The Census Bureau must count everyone and submit state population totals to President Obama by December 31, 2010.

Cities and counties assist with this effort by providing information on local conditions to the Census Bureau. For the 2010 census, Pullman's initial support came in the form of participation in the "Local Update of Census Addresses." In this program, the Census Bureau provided an address list and maps for the city and requested appropriate additions, deletions, or revisions to the documents. Planning staff updated this address information in 2008. Recently, the Census Bureau asked the city to take part in its "New Construction" program. This procedure provides the city an opportunity to submit a list of addresses for housing units that were started recently and that are expected to be completed by April 1 of next year. This program will help to ensure that the Census Bureau has a complete list of residential addresses for Pullman.

Through activities like this, the planning department is working to achieve an accurate count of its population on census day. Please watch for delivery of your census questionnaire next spring, and please do your part by providing the requested information to the Census Bureau in a timely fashion.



WSU students residing in the city on April 1 are counted as part of Pullman's population.



## Pending Land Use Proposals

Displayed below are land use applications submitted to the planning or public works department or city-generated proposals for planning provisions that require a public meeting, public notice, or site plan review in accordance with the city code.

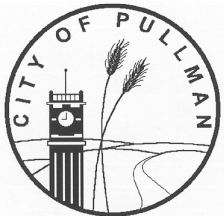
PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	STATUS
Certified Local Government Program	establish historic preservation program for community	citywide	CC requested ordinance revisions on 1/20; ad hoc committee met on 2/9 to address ordinance revisions; legal staff reviewing draft ordinance amendments
Hinrichs Annexation	annex 37 acres to the city	west of Sunnyside Park and north of SW Old Wawawai Road	applicant revising legal description of property
Mader Land Prezone Proposal	prezone 433 acres as R2, 67 acres as I1, and 15 acres as C3	outside city limits; west of SR 27, east of Brayton Road, both sides of Albion Road	PC hearing initiated 9/23; continued to 10/7
College Hill Core Neighborhood Draft Plan	establish neighborhood plan for College Hill Core area	area surrounded by Stadium Way, Grand Avenue, Main Street, except WSU campus	CC meeting to introduce plan held 8/25; PC public input session held 9/9; PC workshops scheduled for 9/30, 10/7, and 10/14; PC public hearing scheduled for 10/21
Whispering Hills No. 5 Planned Residential Development (PRD) Final Plan	establishment of 17 lots on 2.2 acres in a PRD	south of Old Wawawai Road and west of Sunnyside Park	staff reviewing application; additional application materials forthcoming
Itani Valley Road Apartments site plan (09-1)	construct 16-unit apartment building on 27,000-sq-ft lot	1245 NE Valley Road	staff requested applicant to revise site plan
Chen Housing Development site plan (09-6)	construct 3 townhouses on 10,010-sq-ft lot	1070 NE Monroe Street	staff approved site plan as of 9/30
Abuelo's Restaurant site plan (09-8)	remodel existing building and add 750-sq-ft deck	1215 S. Grand Avenue	staff approved site plan as of 9/30

KEY TO ZONING DISTRICTS: R1 Single Family Residential; RT Residential Transitional; R2 Low Density Multi-Family Residential; R3 Medium Density Multi-Family Residential; R4 High Density Multi-Family Residential; C1 Neighborhood Commercial; C2 Central Business District; C3 General Commercial; I1 Light Industrial; I2 Heavy Industrial; IRP Industrial Research Park; WSU Washington State University

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS: CC: City Council; PC: Planning Commission; BOA: Board of Adjustment; DOE: State Department of Ecology; LC: Landmarks Commission

NOTES: 1) If an applicant fails to act on a pending application for a period of six months, said application will be dropped from the above list.. 2) Numbers in parentheses are planning staff's internal file numbers. 3) Site plan review by city staff is generally conducted for proposed construction of developments other than single family homes, duplexes, or manufactured homes; it does not apply to most construction on the WSU campus.





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