

December 7, 2019

To: Ivan Miller  
KCCP Manager

Ivan,

The Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council (GMVUAC) submits below the attached two **Docket Item (D.I.) Requests** for consideration in the *2020 King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP)* cycle.

## 1. Site-Specific Rezones

### Request

The KC Code should be amended so that any “*site-specific land use amendment coupled with zone reclassification*” cannot be reviewed and considered as part of the annual KCCP Docket Item process (or, for that matter, any other KCCP update process). Such site specific applications must go through the Type 4 permit review process before the Hearing Examiner. Moreover, the Code amendment must expressly provide that such site specific proposals cannot be added as a last minute amendment made by the King County Council during its consideration of a KCCP Update.

### Introduction

The current Docket Process allows an applicant to submit a singular request for a site specific land use amendment and zone reclassification. Current practice regarding such a coupled request is to bifurcate it with the King County Council legislatively addressing the land use amendment while the Hearing Examiner conducts a public hearing in a quasi-judicial review of the zone reclassification, making recommendations back to the Council. This bifurcated process has the appearance of unfairness and probable bias, as the premature legislative consideration of a land use amendment could unfairly influence and be outcome determinative of the zone reclassification resulting in a dramatic change in land use and zoning of a specific site contrary to the public interest and the goals and objectives of the Growth Management Act.

Such requests should neither be bifurcated nor be subject to the Docket Process; site-specific requests for both a land use amendment and zone reclassification must go through the *Type 4 permit review process* before the Hearing Examiner—to include a Public Hearing—for a recommendation to the King County (KC) Council regarding any changes to the KCCP and zoning.

### Background

The Docket Process is discussed and defined in the following sections of the current adopted KC Comprehensive Plan (updated through 2018): Chapter 1, Part II, Section H (at p. 1-11); Chapter 12, Part II (at pp. 12-4 – 12-5) / Policy I-205; and Glossary (at p. G-7). Site-specific *Land Use Amendment* and *Zone Reclassification* are discussed in

the following sections of the current adopted KC Comprehensive Plan (updated through 2018): Chapter 1, Part II, Section F (at p. 1-9) / Policy RP-116; Chapter 3, Part III, Section B (at p. 3-17) / Policy R-304; and Chapter 11, Part B (at p. 11-5)

### **KC Code**

The following sections of the King County Code should be appropriately amended to incorporate the provisions of this Docket Request: KC Code 20.08.160 (zone reclassification); KC Code 20.08.170 (land use amendment); KC Code 20.18.130 (Council amendment); KC Code 20.18.140 (docket request process); and KC Code 20.20.020(E) (land use decision types).

## **2. KC Council Response to KCCP Public Comments**

### **Request**

The KC Council shall prepare and publish responses to Public Comments it receives on the KC Executive's proposed KCCP Update.

### **Introduction**

Responses currently prepared and published by KC Executive's Office on the *Public Review Drafts (PRDs)* have proven helpful to the Public. Currently, after the Public provides comments on the Executive's proposed KCCP (sent to the KC Council on 10/1), the KC Council reviews them prior to finalizing and approving the KCCP Update by 6/30 of the next year—a 9-mo review period, which provides plenty of time to issue responses to Public comments. Currently, the KC Council does not publish its responses to the Public comments it receives. Consequently, at this point, we believe the KC Council should publish its responses to better close the cycle and meet its obligations of its KCCP Update *Public Participation Program*.

### **Background**

The GMA calls for a clear, rigorous, and continuous Comprehensive Plan Update *Public Participation Program*. Public comment/Government response cycles are critical to achieving same.

Thank you.

Peter Rimbos  
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