
OMAK CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

AGENDA

Tuesday – June 7, 2022 – 5:30 PM

Zoom – Hybrid Meeting

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Stacey Okland, Chair
Anne Potter, Vice Chair
Erin Munding

Barry Hansen
Jack Schneider

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2022



D. OLD BUSINESS

1. City of Omak Shoreline Master Program – Periodic Review and Survey Update

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Comprehensive Plan – Element F: Community Facilities - Review

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

City Update

Action by Planning Commission

If you need support, contact the City Clerk in advance of the meeting by calling 509-826-1170 or e-mail clerk@omakcity.com for assistance.

Cindy Hicks is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Planning Commission Meeting

Time: Jun 7, 2022 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94085787830?pwd=UEsvZjFVQUJhdVlpNDhuSERuR2IGQT09>

Meeting ID: 940 8578 7830

Passcode: 5Q8AZX

**OMAK PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 3, 2022**

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Okland called the meeting of the Omak Planning Commission to order at 5:35PM and a quorum was established.

Commissioner & Administrative Personnel:

Stacey Okland, Chair	Kurt Danison, Contract Planner
Erin Munding	Tyler Wells, Building Official - absent
Barry Hansen - absent	Cindy Hicks, Deputy Clerk
Anne Potter, Vice Chair	Jack Schneider

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Potter moved, seconded by Commissioner Schneider, to approve the minutes from April 5, 2022. As there were no comments, the Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

New Business:

City of Omak Shoreline Master Program – Periodic Review and Survey Recommendation to Town Council

Contract Planner, Kurt Danison, reviewed with the Commission, the Public Participation Plan and Survey for the Shoreline Master Program update. The Commission discussed possible ways of getting the survey out to as many people as possible. Some of these suggestions were placing on the city website, putting it with the monthly water bill, having a booth at the Farmer's Market or other events. Clarification was made that this survey is going to the community in general, and not just to Omak residents. Kurt will update and provide a "strike out" copy of the Periodic Review section and timelines as well as prepare it to go to the Town Council.

Commissioner Munding moved, seconded by Commissioner Potter, to recommend to the Town Council, the utilization of the Shoreline Master Program Periodic Review Public Participation Plan and Survey. With all in favor, the Commissioners voted to approve the motion.

Old Business:

Community and Economic Development – Element D

Contract Planner, Kurt Danison, reviewed Element D with the Planning Commission. After review, there was Commission consensus that the changes looked good and to move forward with Element F, Community Facilities. Deputy Clerk, Hicks, will forward it to the Planning Commission to start review.

Cultural Preservation – Element E

Contract Planner, Kurt Danison, reviewed Element D with the Planning Commission. After review, there was Commission consensus that the changes looked good and to move forward with Element F, Community Facilities. Deputy Clerk, Hicks, will forward it to the Planning Commission to start review.

**OMAK PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 3, 2022**

Other Business:

City Update

Contract Planner, Kurt Danison, updated the Commission on the Engh Road – Hwy 97 project. The bid was awarded to J.R. Construction.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

SIGNED:

Stacey Okland, Chair

Cindy Hicks, Deputy Clerk

PLAN ELEMENT F: COMMUNITY FACILITIES

I. BACKGROUND

An important consideration for the future of the Greater Omak Area is the quality of community facilities provided in and around the area. This quality affects not only the health, safety, and welfare of residents, but also the economic attractiveness of the area as a location for business and industry.

In addition, community facilities such as libraries, parks, museums, indoor recreation facilities, community centers, clubs, theaters, sports fields, golf courses, etc., whether public or private, all serve as benefits to a more interesting social and cultural environment.

Community facilities in the Greater Omak Area include public schools (North and East Elementary Schools, and the Middle and High Schools), the Omak Alternative High School, a Montessori School, the Okanogan County Early Childhood Education Program's Head Start Center, North Cascades Athletic Club, Bowling Alley, a video arcade, many churches, the Tribes' East Omak Community Center, Central Okanogan Valley Sports Complex, the City's many parks, the Omak Senior Center, the Senior Citizens Transportation Office, Mid-Valley Hospital, several private medical clinics, the City Hall and Police/Fire Station complex, the Omak Cinema and new Mirage Theater, the Omak Performing Arts Center, Wenatchee Valley College - Omak, Heritage University, the Omak Public Library, the offices of the State Departments of Employment Security and Social and Health Services, the County Mental Health Department, the Omak Chamber's Visitors Information Center, the Omak Stampede Arena and Headquarters and others.

Policies for Community Facilities

The following policies are intended to guide decision making regarding implementation of this plan.

The City, County and Tribes:

- Policy 1: encourage the provision of common services such as hospitals, libraries, schools, and other public/private financed institutions as well as those of purely private organizations such as churches, recreation facilities etc.
- Policy 2: encourage those community facilities of a regional nature which enhance the Greater Omak Area's central position in Okanogan County and the region.
- Policy 3: recognize and support School District objectives for the placement of new facilities and play grounds in areas planned for residential expansion.

- Policy 4: encourage and support tourist oriented activities such as the Omak Stampede and Indian Encampment and the provision of additional tourist accommodations not only in Omak but also in the surrounding trade area.
- Policy 5: encourage the evaluation of city, county and tribal land use regulations to ensure provisions are made for the location of community service agencies in compatible land use zones.
- Policy 6: should work to improve access to community facilities (i.e. additional postal drop boxes) throughout the Planning Area.
- Policy 7: recognize the existence of and agree to work towards coordinated implementation of City, County and Tribal park and recreation plans.

Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

The City, County and Tribes are all involved in parks and recreation to some extent. The City and Tribes have had ongoing efforts to plan and seek funding for parks and recreation projects while the County has only recently begun to expand its recreation efforts. In fact, the City and Okanogan County completed preparation of Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plans within the past year. For Omak, the planning effort represented an update of the City's existing park plan, while the County's plan, intended to be an element of the County's comprehensive plan, was the first such effort. For detailed information on each jurisdiction's park and recreation facilities, please seek the appropriate park and recreation plan.

Map XXVI found in the Map Appendix depicts the City's park system.

The goals and objectives from City, County and Tribal Park and Recreation plans are restated below.

City of Omak Park Plan Goals and Objectives:

Goals

- Provide a wide variety of quality recreational opportunities that meet the needs of present and future generations
- Ensure that recreational opportunities are provided for the ethnically and culturally diverse population of the community and its visitors
- Ensure that recreational activities are developed without undue harm to the environment

- Cooperate and coordinate the provision of recreation opportunities with other public agencies and the private sector

Objectives

- Promote coordinated planning with nearby cities, the Colville Confederated Tribes, Okanogan County, School District No. 19, as well as state and federal agencies responsible for administration of recreation lands in the area
- Recognize the use of the City's recreational lands and programs in the larger service area and by visitors.
- Preserve productive wildlife areas, providing for human observation in a way which will not interfere with these areas as wildlife habitat
- Encourage the development of recreational (green) areas throughout the City and the various zones, coordinating with commercial/ residential and multi-use areas as parks of private development, to be funded and maintained by adjacent property owners
- Encourage development of theaters, restaurants, museums, and other commercial and non-profit entertainment facilities as mixed uses within recreational areas when deemed compatible with existing uses.
- Provide park and recreation facilities which serve ethnically and culturally diverse groups in the community and their different recreational needs
- Provide a mechanism for users to contribute to maintenance and improvement of recreational facilities
- Encourage an understanding of the contribution of recreational facilities and activities to the "quality of life" and the value of this contribution in stabilizing and strengthening the economic base of the community
- Recognize water as a valuable and non-renewable resource, and require water conservation in planning and development of parks and recreational facilities
- Recognize the Okanogan River as the major natural feature of the area and include a focus on river and waterfront use in planning the improvement
- Recognize the needs of the physically disadvantaged for recreational facilities and assurance of accessibility of facilities

- Require that quality be a primary consideration in all capital improvements and that style be compatible with the natural surroundings and carry forth the established theme
- Encourage the development of pedestrian/non-motorized trails and ways linking recreational opportunities.

Okanogan County Outdoor Recreation Plan Goals:

Goals

- Provide recreational opportunities to meet the diverse needs of residents and visitors
- Protect history, environment, culture, and agriculture
- Promote economic stability within Okanogan County
- Promote public awareness of the economic, environmental, interpretive and natural resource management values of recreation and leisure activities
- Facilitate the development, maintenance, expansion and improvement of socially, economically and environmentally relevant public policy that supports recreation, parks and leisure programs and services
- Promote the development and dissemination of information about the economic value of recreation in Okanogan County
- Increase the knowledge of local service staff – such as restaurant and hotel workers – about local recreational opportunities and resources
- Develop and implement ongoing partnerships for resource sharing and cooperation among all entities with a stake in parks and recreation
- Monitor, evaluate and revise the Capital Improvements Plan section of this plan on an annual basis
- Identify a county agency or organization as the lead entity for implementation of this plan and the objectives herein

During the preparation of the City and County plans, extensive efforts were made, including surveys to determine the needs and desires of area and County residents. The resulting plans accurately reflect the results of these efforts and the plans should be consulted by persons interested in parks and recreation development.

As plans are adopted by each respective government, they are hereby incorporated into this Greater Omak Area Comprehensive Plan by reference. The purpose of adopting them in such a fashion is to encourage interested persons to obtain a copy of either plan for detailed examination rather than repeating much of what the documents contain in this plan.

Community Facilities and Services

The following text describes the publicly owned and operated community facilities in the Greater Omak Area.

a. City Hall

The City Hall, which houses the administrative headquarters for the City is located at Central and Ash in downtown Omak. The 8,900 sq. ft. building constructed in 1999 is one story with slab on grade floor, brick veneer and metal roof. The total site area is 21,700 sq. ft. and includes 23-space parking lot and landscaping. The present facility provides office space for the Clerk/Treasurer and staff, Mayor, Building Official, Public Works Director and staff, and the Council Chambers that will seat 100 individuals.

The facility also provides a lobby and public counter, large conference room that will seat 14, an office that has been converted to a small conference room that will seat 6, two currently vacant offices, a copy and mail center, employee break room, and a records storage area including a vault for essential records. The existing City Hall should provide adequate room for the staffing and equipment needed to provide for the needs of area residents.

b. Fire Protection

The City Fire Department is located immediately north of City Hall on Ash Street in downtown Omak.

The Fire Hall, which shares a building and office space with the City Police Department, houses the City Fire Department (3 trucks, extra fire hose, firefighting equipment and a scba air compressor for filling air bottles, etc.) as well as Fire District #3 (4 trucks, etc.). Both the City and Fire District #3 provide emergency fire response through mutual aid agreements to all of the Planning Area.

For the near term, the existing Fire Hall should provide adequate room for the staffing and equipment needed to provide for the needs of area residents. The central location of the Fire Hall should allow adequate response time to most parts of the Planning Area, however, it is possible that during the life of this plan that a satellite

station may need to be developed. Also, additions to personnel and equipment may be required to serve the increased construction and the increased length of runs required to the north and northeast portions of the Planning Area.

At present, in addition to the mutual aid agreement with district #3, the Fire Department also cooperates on a mutual backup basis with the City of Okanogan Fire Department to serve not only the individual cities but also the urban area around the cities in emergencies.

Medical emergency services, formerly provided by the Omak Ambulance Association, were privatized several years ago. These services are now offered by Lifeline Ambulance Company that maintains emergency vehicles in downtown Omak and Okanogan.

c. Law Enforcement

Law Enforcement in the Greater Omak Area is the shared responsibility of the City of Omak Police, Okanogan County Sheriffs Department and the Tribal Police Departments. Each government has specific areas of coverage, but have mutual aid packs and cross-deputization to ease the ability to jointly respond when needed and requested.

Omak Police:

The Department is housed at the Police/Fire building on N. Ash St. The building is generally in satisfactory condition, with two primary needs being for a new HVAC system and additional storage space for evidence and lost or stolen property. Office space is tight but acceptable. The building meets Washington State Accessibility Standards. The Department, up until 2004, operated a shooting range on City property. The range was closed down due to safety reasons and the Police Department now leases the Okanogan County Shooting Range on a yearly basis.

The Police Department is made up of ten commissioned police officers, one Code Enforcement officer and two office staff. The prime function of the police department is to enforce all city ordinances and applicable state and federal laws. Jail and dispatch service is provided through contract by Okanogan County.

County Sheriff:

The County Sheriff maintains headquarters in the Okanogan County Grainger Administrative Building near the County Courthouse in Okanogan,

which is approximately 4 miles south of Omak. The Grainger Building was renovated in 2001 to provide space for the Sheriff's office staff, along with the County Commissioners, Building Department, Planning Department, Water and Human Resources offices. The Sheriff presently employs 33 full-time deputies, sheriffs, under sheriffs, and detectives, which provide 24-hour law enforcement coverage to the entire county.

Tribal Police:

The Colville Tribal Police Services operates a sub-station within the Omak Tribal Housing area. There are four officers assigned to this area full-time. The Tribe is part of the Inter-Agency task force with Omak and the Counties; the departments are cross-deputized and have law enforcement authorities within each other's jurisdictions. The Tribal Police have conducted joint investigations with the Omak Police Department and will continue to do so. The Tribal officers primarily patrol the East Omak area, and the detectives investigate all felony crimes reported within the reservation boundaries. As with most departments, the Tribal Police Services can always use more officers to effectively patrol and service the Omak community; however, other officers from the tribal police do assist the Omak district officers when necessary. The working relationship with the City and County is good.

Budget restrictions cause inadequate coverage in East Omak. Additional manpower and equipment will obviously be indicated in keeping with the growth projected.

d. East Omak Community Center

The East Omak Community Center was developed to deliver services to the local community that were not normally delivered on the reservation to Indian people. The purpose of the center is to maintain a good public image and to develop a public relations program that would contribute to the entire community, to sponsor activities and remain open Monday through Sunday, to encourage outreach services to utilize the space available at the centers, to encourage group activities that range from the very young to the elders of the Tribes, and to insure that the Indian people of the community are receiving all of the services and care possible.

e. Mid-Valley Hospital

Omak Mid-Valley Hospital is a 35,000 square foot facility sitting on nearly eleven acres at the south end of Omak. The hospital district covers approximately thirty square miles and serves approximately 14,000 people. The current facility was built in 1954 with additions in 1974 and 1977. In 1999 the new admissions area and imaging

center were completed. In 2002 a 1.3 million surgery project completed. The hospital purchased the Family Medical Center building. The hospital owns and operates Mid Valley Medical Group physician clinic since 2003. The hospital is licensed 44 beds served by a staff of 170 professionals and a medical staff of 23 active physicians and 80 courtesy staff, and 11 allied health care providers. Numerous medical specialists as well as support and administrative staff are employed. Diagnostic, clinical, and therapeutic services are provided by Mid-Valley Hospital as well as specialized services such as childbirth classes, restorative services, and nutritional counseling. With improving medical technology and the acquisition of more diagnostic equipment, the hospital is exploring plans to expand the current facility on adjacent land it now owns within city limits. Expansion plans include provisions for additional parking and upgraded emergency room and outpatient facilities. The hospital is staffed 24 hours a day to ensure round-the-clock care and treatment. Lifeline transport and MedStar serve the hospital for moving patients to Spokane, Wenatchee, and Seattle via helicopter, fixed-wing aircraft, and land transport.

f. Omak Performing Arts Center

Built by the Omak School District in 1989, the Omak Performing Arts Center (PAC) is a state of the arts facility that presents quality professional singing, dancing, and acting. The private, non-profit Omak PAC Foundation was organized at the same time. The PAC is the premier location for presentation of artistic talents as well as an ideal setting for seminars and ceremonies. The PAC has auditorium seating for 560 people, a spacious stage, orchestra pit, full fly loft and sophisticated lighting and sound systems. There are two costume rooms located off the wings, and extra rooms available if needed.

The Performing Arts Center is available to accommodate all manner of bookings - dance, concerts, theater, civic meetings, trade shows, conferences and seminars.

g. Omak Visitor Center

Centrally located at 401 Omak Avenue next to Omak's East Side Park, which provides visitors with information on all Okanogan County, the Pacific Northwest and southern British Columbia.

h. Stampede Arena

The Omak Stampede Area is over 50 years and has reached the end of its useful life. In 2004, through a public outreach effort provided by consultant team Northwest Architecture Company, a community consensus appeared in favor of creating a new arena/events center for the Omak Stampede. This project entails the cooperative efforts of the Omak Stampede Inc., the City of Omak, the Omak Rodeo & Native

American Center Association, the Colville Tribes and the Suicide Race Owners and Jockeys Association. This project, which will provide a new arena with approximately 5,000 seats, new livestock area, parking, and concession facilities is ready to enter the design and permitting phase.

The arena, in Omak's East Side Park, can accommodate many types of celebrations of local history and culture in addition to the Omak Stampede and World-Famous Suicide Race.

i. General Community Facilities

- North Cascades Athletic Club
- Okanogan County Fairgrounds
- Schools, colleges
- DSHS and Employment Security, etc...

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- That support group(s) be formed to collect information and to raise money for advertising and promotion of fund raising, bond issues or other financing needed for expansion of community facilities that directly relate to quality of life and economic development.
- That the County Commissioners be encouraged to appoint a county-wide Parks and Recreation Commission, as outlined in the County's new Park and Recreation Element, with area committees from each region of the County. Participate in the Central Okanogan area committee.
- That a performing arts institute (dance, acting, music, art) be created in the Central Valley centered on use of public facilities (schools, PAC, Centennial Band Shell, Stampede Arena, Fairgrounds) for classes and performances.
- That the utilization and diversification of activities be increased in all public facilities (e.g. Fairgrounds, PAC, Stampede Arena, schools, etc...)
- That a fully equipped conference facility be developed, preferably by private enterprise, in the Central Okanogan Valley.
- That private and public RV parks be expanded in the Central Valley.
- That a community-based support group be developed to help Wenatchee Valley College - North Campus leadership meet the need for new classroom space.

- That the following outdoor recreation facilities be considered for further development:
 - greenway (Cariboo Trail) between Okanogan and Omak
 - biking/walking/equestrian lanes or trails throughout the area
 - activity-oriented facilities for all age groups in existing parks
 - year-round and additional river access including a new boat launch in the Omak area
 - sports complex (Master Plan for Eastside Park in Omak).
 - additional golf facilities including possible new course, driving range
 - continued improvements to the Loup Loup Ski Bowl
 - continued improvements to Sno-Parks and snowmobile trails
 - continued improvements to nordic skiing trails at the Loup Loup Summit area

- That the Omak Visitor Center be expanded to include meeting rooms, Stampede Museum and Indian Museum and Interpretive Center.

- That efforts be made to work with the Tribes to expand or relocate the Central Valley Pow-Wow grounds and encourage a greater number of Indian cultural activities in the area.

- That the City expand the RV Park in Eastside Park.

- That in-service training programs at Mid-Valley Hospital be expanded.

- That efforts be made to expand available classroom space.

- That efforts are made to encourage, support and assist in the expansion of Mid-Valley Hospital (both the physical plant and improved services).

- That programs be developed for ongoing educational and training opportunities based on year round use of public educational facilities.