



Planning & Development Services

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Memorandum

To: **Planning Commission**

From: Michael Cerbone, AICP
Andrew Graminski, Long Range Planning Intern

Date: July 25, 2019

Re: **Planning Commission Workshop Follow up – Docket Item C-4**

This is a supplemental staff report outlines questions from planning commissioners from the July 2 2019 Planning Commission workshop on docket item C-4. Questions and responses from staff are outlined below.

Question: Why was this docket item put on the 2019 CPAs?

Response:

Two years ago, a similar long-range work plan item was brought forward via a staff member regarding non-motorized trails as an outright permitted use in the Industrial Forest-Natural Resource Lands Zone (2017). This docket item branches off the 2017 work plan item to address trails in other zones in the County.

Question: What have other jurisdictions done with the definition of trails in their code? Are some outright permitted and other type's administrative special use?

Response:

Several nearby Counties reference trails in their code. Of the researched Counties which include Whatcom, Snohomish, Island, San Juan, King, and Kitsap, Whatcom County was the only jurisdiction to define trails in their code. Please see below for their full definition.

Whatcom County Code Trail definition: 20.97.435.3 Trails.

“Trails” mean areas used for walking and hiking. Where these are adequately constructed, then they may be used for bicycling and may meet ADA standards for wheelchair accessibility. Trails may also be used for mountain biking, cross-country skiing and horseback riding where appropriate. (Ord. 2008-043 § 1, 2008; Ord. 2004-026 § 1, 2004. Formerly 20.97.435.2).

Whatcom County allows trails as an outright permitted use in most of their zones. In the remaining sections of their zoning code, trails are either an administrative special use or not included.

King County references trails in their zoning code, superficially with their Recreational/Cultural land uses section (*King County Code 21A.08.040 Recreational/cultural land uses*). Trails are a permitted use in this zone.

The other remaining Counties do not mention trails in their zoning codes as either an outright permitted use or an administrative special use.

Question: How does Skagit County deal with trails in other zones?

Response:

Skagit County Code mentions two types of trails; Non-motorized trails and trails. Depending on the zone, trails are either outright permitted use or administrative special use.

Trails are an outright permitted use in the following zones:

- Small Scale Recreation and Tourism (SRT)
- Bayview Ridge Residential (BR-R)
- Urban reserve Public-Open Space (URP-OS)

Trails are an administrative special use in the following zones:

- Rural Village Commercial (RVC)
- Rural Center (RC)
- Rural Freeway (RFS)
- Small Scale Business (SSB)
- Natural Resource Industrial (NRI)
- Hamilton Industrial (H-I)
- Bayview Ridge Heavy Industrial (BR-HI)
- Urban Reserve Commercial-Industrial (URC-I)
- Aviation Related (AVR)
- Rural Intermediate (RI)
- Rural Village Residential (RVR)
- Rural Reserve (RRv)
- Urban Reserve Residential (URR)
- Hamilton Residential (HR)
- Hamilton Urban Reserve (H-URv)
- Agricultural-Natural Resource Lands (Ag-NRL)
- Industrial Forest-Natural Resource Lands (IF-NRL)
- Secondary Forest-Natural Resource Lands (SF-NRL)

- Rural Resource-Natural Resource Lands (RRc-NRL)

Question: Is there any private property in the OSRSI zone?

Response:

There are 224 private properties in OSRSI. Please see the attached map for more detail on the extent and location of the private property within the OSRSI.

Properties Zoned OSRSI in Skagit County December 2017

