Requested Development Code Amendments- Docketed by Director

Log#	Category	Requested Change	Requested By	Chapter	Section(s)	Title	Proposed Change	Staff Recommendation
D-1	Dimension	Change the size of allowed exempt structures to 200 Sq. Ft. to be consistent with the IRC.	City Planning Staff	20.50	100(1)		Change allowed size from 120 Sq. Ft. to 200 Sq. Ft.and add requirement for fire separation as identified in the adopted building code.	Staff panel recommends adoption of this change for consistency between the Development Code and the Building Codes.
D-2	Trees	Reduce requirement of tree size for Landmark Tree to 24" DBH.	Boni Biery- Comprehensive Plan Amendment Comment	20.20	48	"T" Definitions	Reduce requirement of tree size for Landmark Tree to 24" DBH.	A reduction in size requirements for a landmark tree may allow for a request for the designation of a landmark tree that is only a significant tree and has not reached a maturity in it's life to be considered a landmark tree. However, this reduction in size only affects the eligibility of an application for designation as a landmark tree and does not exempt the application from being evaluated by a certified arborist. Furthermore, the application may only be filed by the property owner, who may desire to preserve the trees on their property. In this case there is no negative effect of reducing the requirements to 24" because the determination is ultimately up to an arborist, and the designation of a landmark tree may not be forced on a property owner. Staff panel neutral regarding this proposed change.
D-3	Clearing and Gradin	Change the requirements to be more specific about when a C & G permit is required.	City Legal Staff	20.50	300	Requirements	Remove 20.50.300 (E), add provision that makes all replacement trees protected trees, modify language around when a clearing and grading permit is required, and modify language regarding compliance with the Critical Areas section of Development Code.	Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-4	Fence	Change fence requirements to make content amendments and allow for construction of a solid 6 foot fence on top of a retaining wall.	City Planning Staff	20.50	110 & 210		Change fence requirements to make content amendments and allow for construction of a solid 6 foot wall on top of a retaining wall. Eliminate language requiring an offset design for fences along private driveways.	The current provision in the code does not allow for the construction of a six foot solid fence on top of a wall, and limits a property owners ability to construct a privacy fence on top of a retaining wall allowing the uphill neighbor to have a full view into the downhill neighbor's yard. Change will also eliminate provision in the code that requires the construction of an alternating type fence on private roads. Staff panel found this to be too restrictive, and may promote the construction of fences and landscaping that can hide burglars/thieves. Staff panel recommends consideration of these proposed changes.
D-5	Security Fencing	Add provision to allow for barbed wire and razor wire fences for public and infrastructure facilities in residential and commercial zones so long as fence is effectively screened from neighboring public areas.	Police Department	20.50	110 (C), 210 (D), 270 (C & D)		Add provision to allow for barbed wire and razor wire fences for public and infrastructure facilities in residential and commercial zones so long as fence is effectively screened from neighboring public areas.	Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-6	Noticing	Add description to Administrative section of code clarifying when noticing is required for each type of permit.	City Planning Staff	Many	Many	Procedures and Administration	Add Clarifying language that the noticing requirement for notice of decision applies to Type B and C actions only.	Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-7	Administrative	Change Street Vacations to Type "C" actions.	City Legal Staff	20.30	70	Legislative Decisions	Change Street Vacations to Type "C" actions.	By changing a Street Vacation action to a Type C action, the appearance of fairness on ex parte communication would apply, and contact made with opponents or advocates of the vacation would be reserved until all evidence is submitted at the public hearing allowing all merits of the action to be identified prior to formation of opinion. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-8	Vesting	Add provision that allows applicant to apply for a stay if subject to LUPA process.	City Legal Staff	20.30	160	Land Use Permits and		By changing this section to allow for an automatic extension of vesting the applicant may be granted the full two years before expiration of approved land use action while decision is not subject to legal injunction. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-9	Technical	Amend section 20.30.740 D(2) to properly reference 20.50 and add legal language		20.30	740		Amend section 20.30.740 D(2) to properly reference 20.50 and add legal language.	Technical amendment. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.

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D-10	Technical	Add provision to promote the protection of retained significant trees from damage during construction.	City Planning Staff	20.50	350	Tree Replacement and Site Restoration	Require the bonding of protection measures and tree maintenance to ensure survival and health for 36 months following construction.	This would allow staff the ability to enforce the installation of tree protection measures on site. Sometimes this is not installed properly and leads to significant impact on the trees root system and eventual decline in health. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-11	Technical	Change every occurrence of "Code Violation" to a capital "V". Change every reference to Director or Designee to just Director.	City Legal Staff	Many	Many	Many	Change every occurrence of "Code Violation" to a capital "V".	This helps provide for consistency. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-12	Technical	Create an alternative to allow for the planting of trees on the property line side of the sidewalk, not directly next to the street (Comment also forwarded to Jim Curtin in Engineering for consideration in next Engineering Guide update).		20.5	480	Street Trees	SMC 20.50.480 (C) allows for this option based on an existing condition. Proposed change would allow for design flexibility based on site conditions, and may allow for improved visibility and safety in some situations. Change would also require that sidewalks with tree pits maintain a minimum four foot passage strip, instead of the two foot strip that is currently allowed through the use of tree pits with a six foot sidewalk.	Damage to streets and sidewalks by tree roots, and impact of restricted root growth to trees would also be minimized by moving trees to private property side of sidewalk. Staff agrees that change should be made to the engineering guide to show this alternate design, and to limit the placement of tree pits when sidewalk is less than eight feet wide. Engineering staff and Staff panel recommend consideration of this proposed change.
D-13	Technical	Change the reference to Fire Code to properly identify the IFC, not the UFC.	City Planning Staff	20.30	290 B(4)	Variance from the engineering standards (Type A action)	Change the reference to Fire Code to properly identify the IFC, not the UFC.	This helps provide for consistency. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-14	Administrative	Add application expiration limitations.	City Planning Staff	20.30	100	Time limits	Change section 20.30.100 and 20.30.110 to include a clause regulating the expiration of a complete permit application.	Upon adoption of the IBC the City lost requirements that were in place under the UBC for clearing and grading/site development application expiration. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-15	Technical	Make technical changes to the Animals section of Zoning and Use Provisions.	City Planning Staff	20.40	240	Animals	Technical changes to 20.40.240 to properly describe sizes of cages for birds and eliminate birds from the animal specific section.	These minor changes are due to some inconsistencies found in the code. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-16	Technical	Move temporary use permits from use provisions to the review and decision criteria section. Change reference in use tables to properly reflect this change.	City Planning Staff	20.40	540	Temporary Use	Move temporary use permits from use provisions to the review and decision criteria section. Change reference in use tables to properly reflect this change.	A temporary use permit is not listed in the use tables but is found in the list of supplementary criteria. Moving the requirements for a temporary use permit to the permit review and decision criteria section for Type A permits better locates this section for the user. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-17	Technical	Make technical change to heading of section 20.30.140	City Planning Staff	20.30	140	Time Limits	Make technical change to heading of section 20.30.140.	This change will help clarify the content of the section. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-18	Clearing and Grading Permit Requirements	Change performance section to individually describe performance and maintenance bonds.	City Legal Staff	20.50	360	Tree replacement and site restoration	Change performance section to individually describe performance and maintenance bonds.	This change helps differentiate between a performance guarantee and maintenance bond. Staff Panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-19	Administrative	Add section regulating the expiration of clearing and grading and site development permits.	City Planning Staff	20.30	165		Add section 20.30.165 that addresses time limits and expiration of site development and clearing and grading permits.	Upon adoption of the IBC the City lost requirements that were in place under the UBC for clearing and grading/site development permit expiration. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-20	Administrative	Add reference to site development permit for subdivision section that references the new permit expiration limitations.	City Planning Staff	20.30	430	Site development permit for required subdivision improvements – Type A action.	Add reference in 20.30.430 to properly identify new section regulating expiration of site development permit.	Upon adoption of the IBC the City lost requirements that were in place under the UBC for clearing and grading/site development permit expiration. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.
D-21	Noticing	Revise neighborhood meeting standards and noticing requirements to better notify the public of potential land use actions and allow potential issues to be identified and resolved prior to Planning Commission public hearings.		20.30	80-180	Procedures and Administration	No proposed language was submitted. Staff drafted some amendments to try and address the comment.  Clarify that the meeting notice include a description of the project, zoning, site & vicinity maps and possible future land use decisions i.e. rezone, SEPA, etc.  Add minimum requirements for meeting content i.e. basic agenda for meeting.  Add a step to have the City mail submitted neighborhood minutes to all meeting attendees for additions, corrections, etc.	Provide more information in the neighborhood meeting notice to better alert neighbors to potential projects/change. Add some basic structure to the neighborhood meeting to insure that adequate information is being relayed to meeting attendees for the purposes of early discussions. By mailing the meeting summaries submitted by the applicant's to the meeting attendees, attendees could verify the information. This could address concerns that the applicant's minutes are not reflecting the comments at the meeting. Staff panel recommends consideration of this proposed change.