

City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Coast Guard City, USA

Memorandum

To: Mayor Paxton and Assembly Members

Chair Spivey and Planning Commission Members

John Leach, Municipal Administrator

From: Amy Ainslie, Director, Planning and Community Development

Scott Brylinsky, Special Projects Manager /s

Subject: No Name Mountain/Granite Creek Master Plan draft – Joint Work Session

Date: May 29, 2020

We are pleased to present for your consideration the draft of the No Name Mountain / Granite Creek Land Use Master Plan. The draft has been developed by consultants Jones and Jones, subconsultants PND Engineers, the McDowell Group, and Anderson Land Planning with support from city staff.

The June 3 work session will include a 20-minute overview paralleling the plan's general structure – background, economic analysis, public input that informed the plan, alternate land use schemes considered, and recommendations, followed by approximately 30 minutes for questions and general discussion.

As we all know, formal actions cannot be taken at a work session. However, the less formal structure of a work session is an effective format to allow for general discussion, questions, and feedback.

The work session is immediately followed by a Planning Commission meeting at 7pm. That meeting has an agenda item: "Discussion/direction on No Name Mountain / Granite Creek Master Plan," that will provide an opportunity for formal action by the Planning Commission, as well as public comment.

Based on feedback received at both meetings, the consultants will prepare a final plan to be delivered in mid-June.

The consultants will be attending the work session through Zoom. Staff will be physically present.

Late comments

A few organizations submitted written comments after the survey period closed. Late comments came from organizations including Sitka Conservation Society, Sitka Trail Works, Sitka Cycling Club, and Sitka Tribe of Alaska and are included in the appendix of the draft plan. Those comments are generally supportive of the plan options. However, Sitka Tribe of Alaska felt that due to Covid-19 health risks limiting the ability to convene their committees, they were unable as an organization to fully consider tribal interests in the study area.

Next steps

Generally, final planning documents are first considered by the Planning Commission, and then brought before the Assembly for adoption as official policy of the city and borough. It is our expectation that this plan will follow a similar process.

Attachments

Draft Master Plan Assembly Action Plan