



Chapter Summary – Community Character

City Council Review | April 10, 2024

WORKSHOP EXPECTATIONS

For each chapter, the City Council shall come prepared to provide direction to staff for any desired modifications to the narrative, goals, and policies, offer comments, and ask questions.

STAFF NOTES:

- Not a required Chapter per RCW 36.70A (Growth Management Act).
- Included in this packet is a “clean copy” of the chapter allowing for ease of reading. You can find a strikethrough and underline (with notes) version online [here](#).
- Community “Key Goals” integrated into the goals and policies.

NOTABLE AMENDMENTS:

Plan Context Update (page 2):

The character of a community is influenced by a variety of factors, including its residents, social network, schools, community and business organizations, history, built environment, and natural resources. Although it is not possible to legislate a strong community, public policy can provide a framework that supports desirable characteristics. Community cohesiveness develops in many ways. It can come from a shared vision for the community. It can be nurtured by community events. It can be developed through the use of public places for interaction.

The Community Character Chapter provides a framework for shaping the future form and character of Poulsbo. This chapter focuses on placemaking and on those physical features which shape the setting for life in the community. It addresses the building and site design, public spaces and landscapes, streetscapes, and other physical features.

Question for Council: Does this updated context capture the intent of the Community Character chapter?

Community Festival and Events (page 3):

Policy CC-1.1

Continue to support traditional and non-traditional community festivals and events that reflect the diversity, heritage, and cultural traditions of the community. Emphasize events that are important to Poulsbo’s history and heritage.

Question for Council: Does this updated policy represent recent conversations by the City Council?

Arts Committee (page 3):

Policy CC-1.6

Explore the creation of an arts committee to review and make recommendations on public art, secure funding, and identify locations suitable for art installations.

Question for Council: Does the City Council support this new policy?

Wayfinding (page 4):

Policy CC-2.2

Enhance the visual appeal of the city by developing a signage and wayfinding program that identifies Poulsbo, is cohesive throughout the city, and links the community’s resources to its citizens.

Question for Council: Does the City Council support this new policy?

Downtown Poulsbo (page 4):

Policy CC-5.2

Preserve the existing eclectic character of Front Street with its individual small storefronts located at the sidewalk, street-facing building facades, awnings, unique design elements, and up to 35 feet height limit.

Question for Council: Does the City Council support a specific height limit within this policy?

Downtown Poulsbo (page 7):

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Districts and Neighborhoods (page 7-8):

Question for Council: Does the City Council support this new section of goals and policies?

Historic Resources and Landmarks (page 9):

Policy CC-7.3

Incentivize the protection and conservation of designated historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and resources by allowing for adaptive reuse and providing incentives for historic preservation-

Question for Council: Does the City Council support incentivizing protection and conservations of historical sites?