

City Council Agenda Bill

20214 **Bill Number**

Subject: Consideration of an ordinance to amend the Comprehensive Plan to add narratives and modify the land use designation maps for the Samish, Happy Valley, and Cordata Neighborhoods, and amend the zoning table for Area 17A of Cordata.

Summary Statement: The City Council approved three guasi-judicial rezones that created the following new areas in the development code: Samish Area 5A, Happy Valley Area 5A, and Cordata Area 17A. To ensure consistency between the comprehensive plan and development code, staff is proposing to add the above mentioned sub-areas to the neighborhood plans and land use designation maps. Planning Commission held a public hearing on 10/17/2013, and voted 6-0 to recommend approval of the changes. They also added an additional code change for Area 17A of the Cordata Neighborhood that removed the Cordata Pkwy dedication special condition.

Previous Council Action: Resolution #2013-10 establishing the docket of proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments to be reviewed in 2013-2014.

Fiscal Impact: Proposal included as part of the 2013-14 work program for PCDD.

Funding Source:	Gener	al fund for staff t	ime		
Attachments:	B- Pl C- C	A	ion Staff Report an Goals and Policies ion Meeting Minutes		
	Publi (No v	c Hearing Notice vritten comment v	was received by City Counc	sil.)	
Meeting Activi	ty	Meeting Date	Staff Recommendation	Presented By	Time
Public Hearing Cou Vote Requested	uncil	09-Dec-2013	Pass Ordinance	Lindsay Kershner, Planner I	5 min

Council Committee:

Agenda Bill Contact:

Lindsay Kershner, Planner I, 778-8369

Reviewed By Jeff Thomas, PCD Director

Initials Date

Committee Actions:

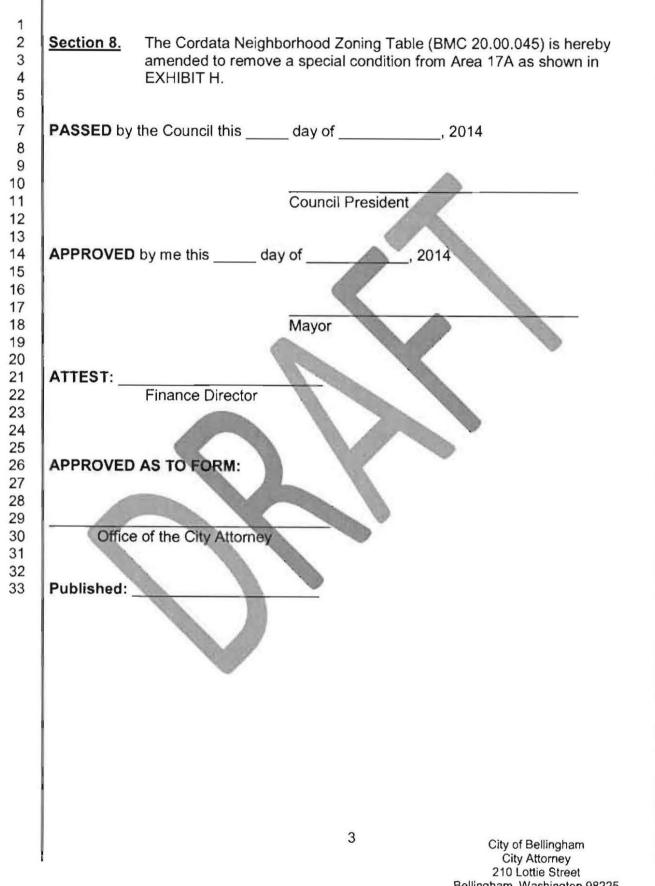
Legal Mayor

Council Action:

Attachment A

1	ORDINANCE NO
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM RELATING TO BELLINGHAM'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ADDING NEW SUB-AREAS TO THE SAMISH, HAPPY VALLEY, CORDATA NEIGHBORHOOD PLANS, AMENDING EACH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATION MAP, AND AMENDING BMC 20.00.045 CORDATA NEIGHBORHOOD TABLE OF ZONING REGULATIONS.
9 10 11 12	WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham has adopted 25 neighborhood plans as a component of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan, including the Samish, Happy Valley, and Cordata Neighborhood Plans; and
13 14 15 16 17	WHEREAS, the City has a process to amend the comprehensive plan and the neighborhood plans once per year in accordance with BMC 20.20 and BMC 21.10.150; and
18 19 20 21	WHEREAS, the proposed neighborhood plan amendments to add narratives for Samish Area 5A, Happy Valley Area 5A, and Cordata Area 17A and modify the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designation maps, will provide consistency between the Bellingham Municipal Code and the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan; and
22 23 24 25 26	WHEREAS, on June 27, 2013, the Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the 2013-2014 docketing requests and recommended to City Council that the subject neighborhood plan amendments be placed on the annual 2013-2014 Docket; and
27 28 29	WHEREAS, the City Council conducted a public hearing on July 15, 2013 and placed the subject proposal on the annual 2013-2014 comprehensive plan amendment Docket; and
30 31 32 33	WHEREAS, the responsible official reviewed the proposed amendments under the procedures of the State Environmental Policy Act, and existing environmental documents were adopted on September 24, 2013; and
34 35 36 37	WHEREAS, required by RCW 36.70A.106 notice of the City's intent to adopt the proposed comprehensive plan amendments was sent to the Department of Commerce on October 4, 2013; and
38 39 40	WHEREAS, after mailed and published notice as required by BMC Chapter 21.10, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed neighborhood plan amendments on October 17, 2013; and
41 42 43 44	WHEREAS, the Planning Commission determined that the proposed amendments to the neighborhood plans and land use designation maps for the Samish Neighborhood Area 5A, Happy Valley Neighborhood Area 5A, and Cordata Neighborhood Area 17A comply
	1 City of Bellingham City Attorney 210 Lottie Street

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1	with, and will and	implement the goals and policies of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan;
3 4 5 6 7	WHEREAS, regarding the	the Planning Commission recommended to remove a special condition dedication of Cordata Parkway in the zoning table for Area 17A of the phorhood, BMC 20.00.045, due to the property not abutting Cordata
8 9 10 11		the Planning Commission considered the staff report and thereafter made inclusions and voted 6-0 to recommend the City Council adopt the proposed and
12 13 14 15	held a public	after mail and published notice as required by BMC 21.10, the City Council hearing on the proposed neighborhood plan amendments and modification table on December 9, 2013; and
16 17 18 19	Commission	the City Council considered the recommendation of the Planning and the staff report, and hereby adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions endations of the Planning Commission; and
20 21 22 23	plans and la Valley Neigh	the City Council finds that the proposed amendments to the neighborhood nd use designation maps for the Samish Neighborhood Area 5A, Happy aborhood Area 5A, and Cordata Neighborhood Area 17A, meet the ve/Neighborhood Plan review criteria in BMC 20.20.040 A.
24 25 26	NOW THERE	FORE, THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM DOES ORDAIN:
27 28 29	Section 1.	The City Council adopts the Findings and Conclusions of the Planning Commission as attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.
30 31 32	Section 2.	The Samish Neighborhood Plan is hereby amended as shown in EXHIBIT B.
33 34 35	Section 3.	The Samish Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map is amended as shown in EXHIBIT C.
36 37 38	Section 4.	The Happy Valley Neighborhood Plan is hereby amended as shown in EXHIBIT D.
39 40 41	Section 5.	The Happy Valley Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map is amended as shown in EXHIBIT E.
42 43 44	Section 6.	The Cordata Neighborhood Plan is hereby amended as shown in EXHIBIT F.
45 46	Section 7.	The Cordata Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map is amended as shown in EXHIBIT G.
		2 City of Bellingham City Attorney 210 Lottie Street



BELLINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

OCTOBER 17, 2013

SUMMARY

Following the public hearing and deliberation on the proposed amendments to the Samish, Happy Valley, and Cordata Neighborhood plans, the Planning Commission has determined that the proposed changes comply with and implement the goals and policies of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan, and meets the criteria in BMC 20.20.040 A. As part of this proposal the Planning Commission recommended changes to Area 17A in the Cordata Neighborhood table of zoning regulations to remove an outdated condition that required the dedication of 10 feet of right-of-way along Cordata Pkwy.

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Proposal Description

Consideration of neighborhood plan amendments to add narratives for recently rezoned areas in three neighborhood plans and amend the corresponding comprehensive plan land use designation maps. Also proposed is a minor change to the zoning table for the Cordata Neighborhood to remove a special condition in Area 17A. The requested amendments to the Samish, Happy Valley, and Cordata Neighborhood plans and the Cordata Neighborhood zoning table, are minor changes that will ensure consistency between the neighborhood plans and land use development code.

The proposed amendments are shown in the draft ordinance (Attachment A).

2. Background Information/Procedural History

- 1. Samish Neighborhood In June, 2007, the City Council approved a rezone that created a new Area, Area 5A, on the Samish Neighborhood zoning map and in the zoning table. Ordinance #2007-06-044
- 2. Happy Valley Neighborhood In March, 2010, the City Council approved a rezone that created a new Area, Area 5A, on the Happy Valley Neighborhood zoning map and in the zoning table. Ordinance #2010-03-016
- Cordata Neighborhood On April 25, 2013, the City Council approved a rezone that created a new Area, Area 17A, on the Cordata Neighborhood zoning map and in the zoning table. Ordinance #2013-07-052
- 4. On June 27, 2013, the Bellingham Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the 2013-2014 docketing requests and recommended to City Council that the proposed neighborhood plan amendments be placed on the annual 2013-2014 docket.

5. The City Council conducted a public hearing on July 15, 2013 and placed the proposed neighborhood plan amendments on the annual 2013-2014 docket for the Samish, Happy Valley, and Cordata Neighborhoods.

3. Public Comment

A Public Hearing Notice was mailed to property owners, neighborhood representatives and Associations, and other interested parties. Notice also published in the Bellingham Herald. No public comments were received.

4. State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Determination

The City adopted existing environmental documents on September 24, 2013. Notice of the adoption was published in the Bellingham Herald.

5. Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Decision Criteria

BMC 20.20.040 requires the Planning Commission to consider the following decision criteria when reviewing Comprehensive Plan amendments:

A. There exists an error, omission or inconsistency in the pertinent comprehensive plan or neighborhood plan provision;

The amendments to the neighborhood plans are minor and will ensure consistency between the associated neighborhood plans and the land use development code sections. The proposal will create a narrative for each area in the neighborhood plan and amend the neighborhood comprehensive land use designation maps to show these areas.

The narratives need to be added to the neighborhood plans for each area because they help define the character of the area and provide guidance for discretionary permits. The maps need to be modified to show that the land use designation for the areas has changed.

II. CONCLUSIONS

The Planning Commission concludes:

- 1. The proposal to add narratives for each area to the corresponding neighborhood plans is needed to provide consistency between the Bellingham Municipal Code and the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan.
- 2. The proposal to modify the comprehensive plan land use designation maps will provide consistency between the zoning and comprehensive plan maps.
- The proposal to remove the requirement, "dedication of 10 feet of right-of-way along Cordata Pkwy," in the special conditions column of the zoning table for Area 17A of the Cordata Neighborhood, BMC 20.00.045, is necessary because the area does not abut Cordata Parkway.
- 4. The proposed amendments to Cordata Area 17A, Happy Valley Area 5A, and Samish Area 5A are consistent with, and will help implement, the goals and policies of the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan, and meet the Comprehensive Plan and Neighborhood Plan amendment criteria in BMC 20.20.040 A.

III. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions, the Bellingham Planning Commission recommends that the City Council approve the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to add narratives to the neighborhood plans and modify the land use designation maps for Cordata Area 17A, Happy Valley Area 5A, and Samish Area 5A as shown in the attached documents. The Bellingham Planning Commission also recommends that the City Council approve the amendment to the special conditions section of the zoning table for Area 17A of the Cordata Neighborhood, BMC 20.00.045, to remove the condition requiring dedication of Cordata Parkway.

ADOPTED this 17TH day of October	, 2013.
M cQ	
Monar Januar	
Planning Commission Chair	
ATTEST: Doather Rem	
Recording Secretary	

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

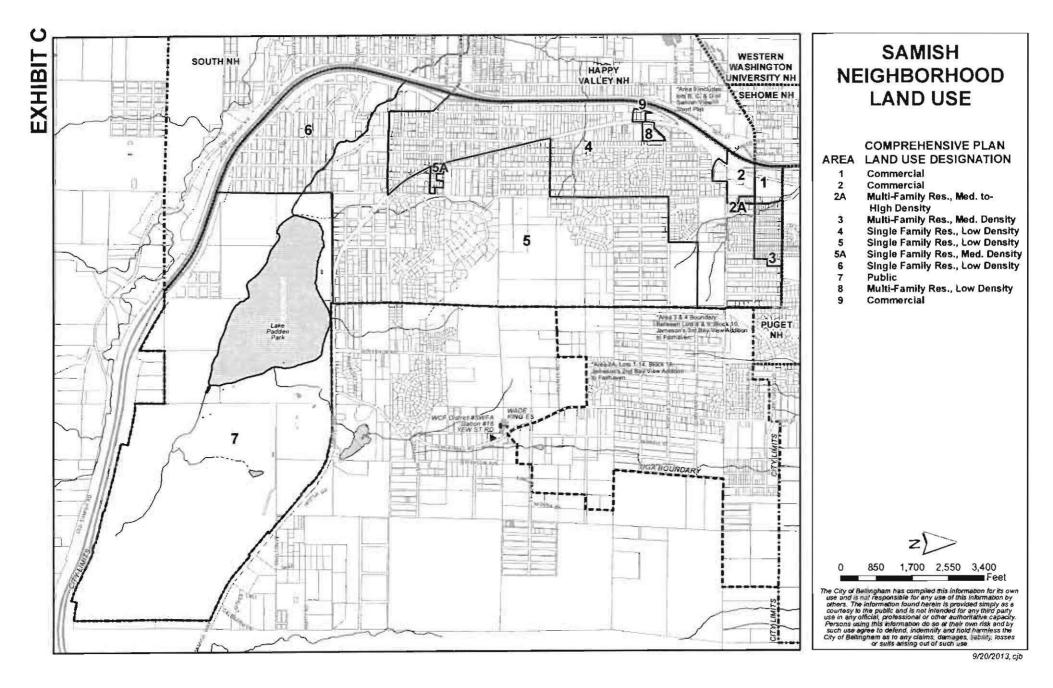
Samish Neighborhood

AREA 5A

This area is approximately 2.19 acres in size and is bordered by Lindsay Avenue to the north, Connelly Avenue to the south, and Samish Way to the west. The area was rezoned in 2007 from 20,000 square feet per detached single family residence to 7,201 square feet per detached single family residence.

The area is characterized as forested with the potential for views of Bellingham Bay. Tree retention and/or preservation language should be considered for the zoning table to help maintain the area's wooded atmosphere and important natural qualities.

Area 5A Land Use Designation: Single Family Residential, Low Density



Happy Valley Neighborhood

Area 5A

This is an 1.19 acre area that is bounded by Wilson Avenue to the north, 20th Street to the east, and Old Fairhaven Parkway to the south. The area was rezoned in 2010. The rezone effectively maintained the existing single family zoning and density (twelve dwelling units), but allowed houses to be clustered on smaller lots for purposes of consolidating open space on the south side of the area. The zoning table outlines special conditions and regulations concerning development and protection/enhancement for the south side of the property.

On March 2, 2010, the City and the property owner signed a development agreement that indicates development and design standards to construct attached and detached single family residences.

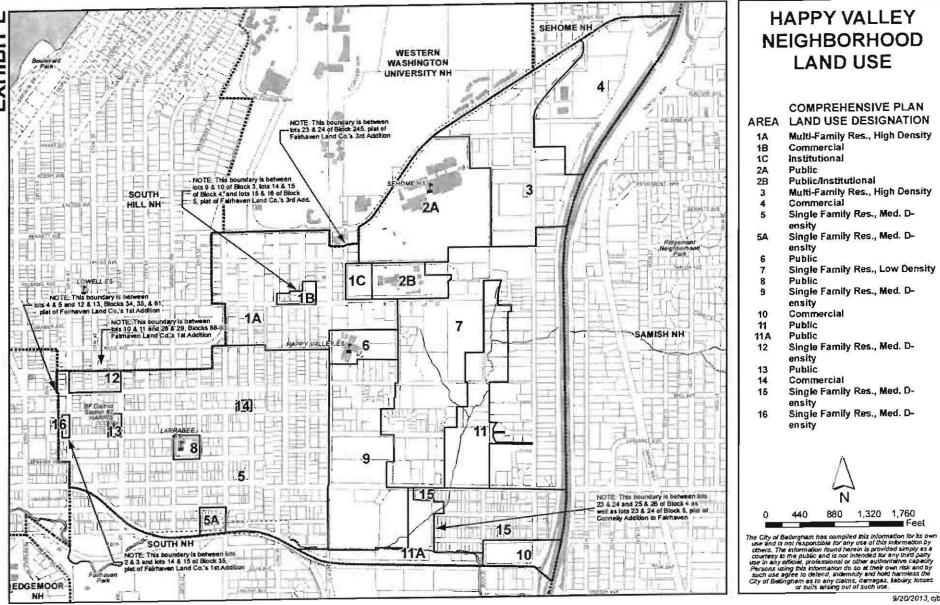
AREA 5A LAND USE DESIGNATION: SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, MEDIUM DENSITY

Title	Page Number
VIII. LAND USE	43
Introduction	
Area 2B	
<u>Area 5A </u>	

INDEX Happy Valley Neighborhood Plan

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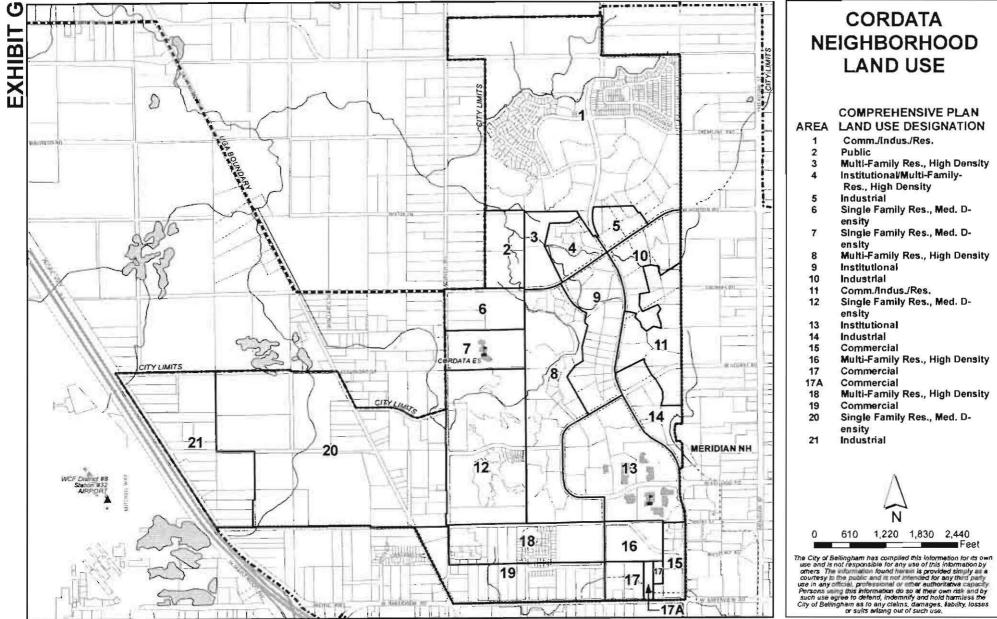
9/20/2013, cjb

Cordata Neighborhood

Area 17A

This 2.4-acre area, is located on West Bakerview Road and is surrounded by commercial development to the east and west and residential development to the north. The area was rezoned in 2013 to remove the minimum planned contract site plan area for commercial and residential development. Silver Creek bisects the site in an underground culvert. Necessary easements and maintenance provisions for this section of Silver Creek should be provided as development occurs. Given the proximity of Area 17A to existing residential and commercial development, either commercial or a mix of commercial and residential development, would be compatible for the site and neighborhood.

AREA 17A LAND USE DESIGNATION: COMMERCIAL



9/20/2013, cjb

EXHIBIT H

Area	Zoning	Use Qualifier	Density	Special Conditions	Prerequisite Considerations	Special Regulations
17A	Commercial	Planned, residential units allowed; small scale office, 2,500 sq. ft. or less per building	Establish residential density through planned review process; density greater than RM 2,500 will require underground parking or an alternative approved through the planned process.	Buffers; internal and pedestrian circulation; dedication of 10 feet of right-of-way along Cordata Pkwy.	Land or fee contribution to combined park/trail system for W. Bakerview area between Cordata Pkwy. and Northwest (see 1993 Tate Plan).	None

20.00.045 Cordata neighborhood table of zoning regulations.

CITY OF BELLINGHAM PLANNING STAFF REPORT

Agenda Topic:	Comprehensive Plan Amendments to add narratives and modify the land use designation maps for the following areas: Samish Neighborhood Area 5A, Happy Valley Area 5A, and Cordata Area 17A.
For:	October 17, 2013 - Planning Commission Public Hearing
Staff Contact:	Lindsay Kershner, Planner I

I. Proposal Summary

Consideration of neighborhood plan amendments to add narratives for recently rezoned areas
in three neighborhood plans and amend the corresponding comprehensive plan land use
designation maps to show the new areas. The three requested amendments to the Samish,
Happy Valley, and Cordata Neighborhoods are minor changes that will ensure consistency
between the neighborhood plans and land use development code.

21 II. Role of the Planning Commission

The proposal before the Commission are legislative neighborhood plan amendments requiring a Type VI process. The Planning Commission must hold a public hearing and issue findings of fact and conclusions along with a recommendation to the City Council. The Council will also hold a public hearing and consider the proposed neighborhood plan amendments. Comprehensive plan amendments can only be approved once a year, therefore the Council will adopt a package of plan amendments that have been reviewed throughout the 2013-2014 comprehensive review cycle.

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Staff has provided draft Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations (Attachment 2).
 [Removed see Attachments in the City Council Packet] The Planning Commission should adopt
 or modify the findings as necessary to support their final recommendations.

35 III. Background

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37 Samish Neighborhood – In June, 2007, the City Council approved a rezone that created a new
38 Area, Area 5A, on the Samish Neighborhood zoning map and in the zoning table.

Happy Valley Neighborhood – In March, 2010, the City Council approved a rezone that created
a new Area, Area 5A, on the Happy Valley Neighborhood zoning map and in the zoning table.

- 42
 43 Cordata Neighborhood On April 25, 2013, the City Council approved a rezone that created a
 44 new Area, Area 17A, on the Cordata Neighborhood zoning map and in the zoning table.
- 45

46 On June 27, 2013, the Bellingham Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the

- 47 2013-2014 docketing requests and recommended to City Council that the proposed
- 48 neighborhood plan amendments be placed on the annual 2013-2014 docket.

1 The City Council conducted a public hearing on July 15, 2013 and placed the proposed

neighborhood plan amendments on the annual 2013-2014 docket for the Samish, Happy Valley,
 and Cordata Neighborhoods.

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The zoning tables and maps of the approved rezones are shown in Exhibit A.

IV. Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies

The proposal is consistent with and carries out the goals and policies of the City's
Comprehensive Plan. The City's Comprehensive Plan identifies that neighborhood plans should
be periodically updated to ensure that the plans are consistent with and implement the
Comprehensive Plan. The proposed amendments to the neighborhood plan will result in a clear
public benefit by providing updated information to the community.

Relevant Comprehensive Plan goals and policies are listed in Exhibit B. [Removed see
 Attachments in the City Council Packet]

18 V. Issue

The proposed neighborhood plan amendments are the result of quasi-judicial rezones that were approved by the City Council, whereby new areas were created in the development code, but not in the neighborhood plans. To ensure consistency with the land use development code the Samish, Happy Valley and Cordata Neighborhood Plans need to be amended to include narratives for the areas and the comprehensive land use designation maps also need to be updated.

27 VI. Analysis 28

The following decision criteria in Bellingham Municipal Code (BMC) 20.20.040A will be used by the Planning Commission and City Council to evaluate amendment requests:

1. There exists an error, omission or inconsistency in the pertinent comprehensive plan or neighborhood plan provision;

City Council previously approved rezones that created Area 5A of the Samish Neighborhood, Area 5A of the Happy Valley Neighborhood, and Area 17A of the Cordata Neighborhood in the land use development code. The zoning maps and tables were revised to show the boundaries of these areas. The approved rezones were consistent with the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan. The neighborhood plans were not amended when these rezones were approved because comprehensive plan amendments can only occur once a year. The proposed amendments to the neighborhood plans are minor and will ensure consistency between the associated neighborhood plans and the land use development code sections. The proposal will create a narrative for each area in the neighborhood plan and amend the neighborhood comprehensive land use designation map to show these areas.

The narratives need to be added to the neighborhood plans for each area because they
help define the character of the area and provide guidance for discretionary permits. The
maps need to be modified to show that the land use designation for the areas has
changed.

- 1 The new narratives for each neighborhood sub-area are listed below and correspond to the
- 2 existing zoning tables in BMC 20.00. The new land use designation maps for each
- 3 neighborhood also correspond to the zoning tables in BMC 20.00 by showing the rezoned areas
- 4 (Attachment 3). [Removed see Ordinance in the City Council packet] 5

6 Samish Area 5A

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8 This area is approximately 2.19 acres in size and is bordered by Lindsay Avenue to the north,
9 Connelly Avenue to the south, and Samish Way to the west. The area was rezoned in 2007
10 from 20,000 square feet per detached single family residence to 7,201 square feet per detached
11 single family residence.

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The area is characterized as forested with the potential for views of Bellingham Bay. Tree retention and/or preservation language should be considered for the zoning table to help maintain the area's wooded atmosphere and important natural qualities.

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17 Happy Valley Area 5A

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19 This is an 1.19 acre area that is bounded by Wilson Avenue to the north, 20th Street to the east, 20 and Old Fairhaven Parkway to the south. The area was rezoned in 2010. The rezone

effectively maintained the existing single family zoning and density (twelve dwelling units), but allowed houses to be clustered on smaller lots for purposes of consolidating open space on the

south side of the area. The zoning table outlines special conditions and regulations concerning
 development and protection/enhancement for the south side of the property.

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On March 2, 2010, the City and the property owner signed a development agreement that
 indicates development and design standards to construct attached and detached single family
 residences.

- 29
- 30 Cordata Area 17A
- 31

32 This 2.4-acre area, is located on West Bakerview Road and is surrounded by commercial 33 development to the east and west and residential development to the north. The area was 34 rezoned in 2013 to remove the minimum planned contract site plan area for commercial and 35 residential development. Silver Creek bisects the site in an underground culvert. Necessary 36 easements and maintenance provisions for this section of Silver Creek should be provided as 37 development occurs. Given the proximity of Area 17A to existing residential and commercial 38 development, either commercial or a mix of commercial and residential development, would be 39 compatible for the site and neighborhood. 40

41 VII. Public Comment

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Notice of the Planning Commission hearing was mailed to land owners within 500 feet of Area
 17A of the Cordata Neighborhood, and the Neighborhood presidents and Mayor's
 Neighborhood Advisory Commission members of the Cordata, Happy Valley, and Samish

46 Neighborhoods. Notice was also posted onsite and published in the Bellingham Herald.

48	At the time of	f this staff report,	staff has received	no comments.

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1 VIII. State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

The City adopted existing environmental documents on September 24, 2013. Notice of the
adoption was published in the Bellingham Herald.

6 IX. Staff Recommendation

8 Staff hereby recommends approval of the proposed amendments as shown in the Draft
9 Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Recommendations.
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11 X. Exhibits:

- A. Zoning tables and maps of the approved rezones
- B. Comprehensive Plan goals and policies [see Attachments in the City Council packet]

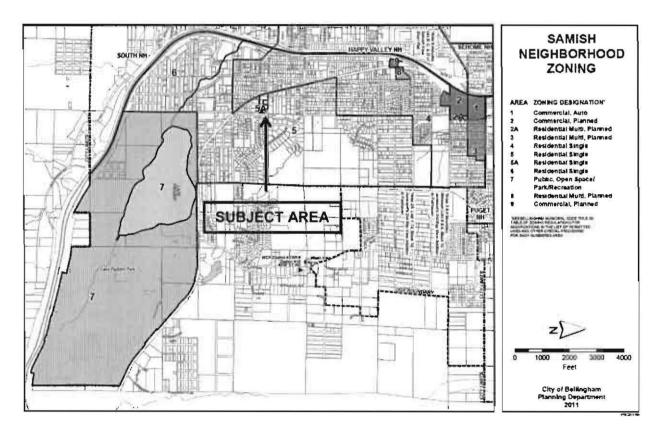
EXHIBIT A

Neighborhood zoning tables and maps

1. Samish Neighborhood Area 5A, Rezoned July 2007, Ordinance #2007-06-044

Area	Zoning	Use Qualifier	Density	Special Conditions	Prerequisite Considerations	Special Regulations
5A	Residential Single	Detached	ft. minimum	view,		All lots developed in this area shall be required to submit a tree/vegetation preservation and replacement plan. The plan shall minimize clearing, address tree/vegetation removal, building footprint and a replacement plan for those trees/vegetation to be removed.

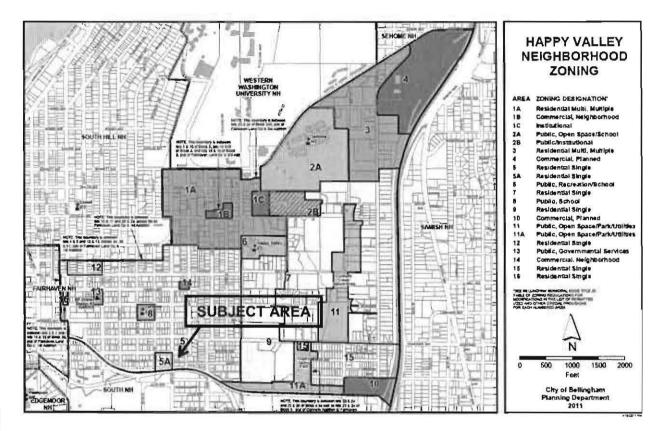




2. Happy Valley Neighborhood Area 5A, Rezoned March 2010, Ordinance #2010-03-016

vrea Z	Zoning	Use Qualifier	Density	Special Conditions	Prerequisite Considerations	Special Regulations
	esidential ngle	Agreement	With Development Agreement as outlined in Special Regulations: Maximum of 12 dwelling units; 3,000 sf minimum cluster detached lot size. Without Development Agreement as outlined in Special Regulations: Single-family detached 5,000 sf min. detached lot size. Cluster attached lot size, maximum of two units attached for cluster development, one bedroom max. per 1,000 sf of land.	Stream setbacks; Clearing Open space should be consolidated on the south side of the block for future daylighting of Padden Creek, floodway	None	With Development Agreement: Development shall comply with the Development Agreement approved by Ordinance No. 2010-03-016 unless the agreement expires or terminates. In order to meet the objectives outlined in the Area 5A Special Conditions, the following modifications to Chapter 20.30 BMC apply to the Development Agreement 1. The designated "front yard" of those lots that abut the open space trac on the south side of the block shall be the common property line wit said open space tract. 2. Setbacks (minimum): a. Primary Residence: 10 feet from property lines abutting the open space tract; five feet from all other property lines. b. Detached Accessory Buildings: 10 feet from all front and side flanking property lines; 0 feet on a internal side and rear property lines. c. A garage (attached or detached), the vehicular entrance of which faces the private alley, shall be set back from the private alley to provide 22 feet of vehicular maneuvering. The width of the improver alley may be included in the calculation of maneuvering. 3. BMC <u>20.30.050</u>

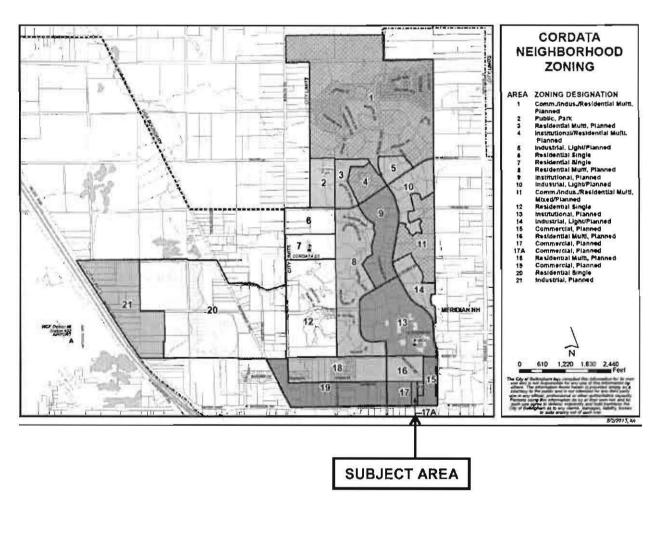
Area	Zoning	Use Qualifier	Density	Special Conditions	Prerequisite Considerations	Special Regulations
						(Optional development regulations) shall not apply.



3. Cordata Neighborhood Area 17A, Rezoned March 2010, Ordinance #2010-03-016

Area	Zoning	Use Qualifier	Density	Special Conditions	Prerequisite Considerations	Special Regulations
17A	Commercial	Planned, residential units allowed; small scale office, 2,500 sq. ft. or less per building	Establish residential density through planned review process; density greater than RM 2,500 will require underground parking or an alternative approved through the planned process.	Buffers; internal and pedestrian circulation; dedication of 10 feet of right-of-way along Cordata Pkwy.	Land or fee contribution to combined park/trail system for W. Bakerview area between Cordata Pkwy. and Northwest (see 1993 Tate Plan).	None





Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies: Part 9 - Land Use Policies: Framework Land Use Policies

FLU-1 It is the City's overall goal to preserve and protect the unique character and qualities of the existing neighborhoods. All policies, proposed development code and zoning changes should be reviewed with this goal in mind.

FLU-2 Bellingham's land use pattern should accommodate carefully planned levels of development that promotes efficient use of land, reduces sprawl, encourages alternative modes of transportation, safeguards the environment, promotes healthy neighborhoods, protects existing neighborhood character, and maintains Bellingham's sense of community.

FLU-12 Encourage active participation by all Bellingham residents in planning for the future.

FLU-14 Establish a collaborative neighborhood planning process that reflects the City's commitment to neighborhood planning. Updating neighborhood plans should be guided by the goals and policies in this plan to ensure that:

- Neighborhood character is maintained as new development occurs;
- Both neighborhood specific and city-wide goals and policies are considered; and
- Representatives of the City and the neighborhoods are working together in partnership.

ATTACHMENT D

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION CITY OF BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON PUBLIC HEARING

THURSDAY

October 17, 2013 Video-taped & Audio-recorded 7:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS www.cob.org

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Tom Grinstad, Chairman of the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL:

Tom Grinstad, Jeff Brown, Danne Neill, Garrett O'Brien, Ali Taysi, Phyllis McKee and Steve Crooks

Present:	Tom Grinstad, Jeff Brown, Danne Neill, Garrett O'Brien, Ali Taysi and Steve Crooks
Absent:	Phyllis McKee
Staff Present:	Lisa Pool, Senior Planner; Lindsay Kershner; Planner I; Kathy Bell, Planner II; and

Applicants:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from October 10, 2013 were submitted to the Commission for approval.

Heather Aven, Recording Secretary.

MOTION: Danne Neill moved to approve the minutes from October 10, 2013 as amended. SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0-1 (*Motion Passes – BROWN ABSTAINED*)

15 MINUTE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No testimony given.

PUBLIC HEARING #1:

Adding new narratives to the neighborhood plans and amend the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designation maps for the following neighborhoods: Cordata Neighborhood, Area 17A; Happy Valley Neighborhood, Area 5A; and Samish Neighborhood, Area 5A. City Council previously approved rezones in these areas and the neighborhood plans and Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designation maps were never amended to reflect the changes.

STAFF PRESENTATION

Lindsay Kershner explained that the proposed amendments are simply minor clean-ups of previously approved rezones that were never reflected in the Comprehensive Plan. She noted that the proposed amendments would add narratives to three neighborhood plans (Cordata Neighborhood, Area 17A; Happy Valley Neighborhood, Area 5A; and Samish Neighborhood, Area 5A.), as well as, the associated land use designation maps. She pointed out that the decision criteria applicable in this situation is: an error, omission or inconsistency in the Comprehensive Plan or Neighborhood Plan provisions exists. She stated that it is staff's opinion that the proposed amendments meet the decision criteria, given that they will ensure consistency between the development code and the neighborhood plans.

Lindsay Kershner pointed out that there was an additional inconsistency in the special conditions section of the zoning table for Area 17A of the Cordata Neighborhood (third condition) related to the property

abutting Cordata Parkway. She stated that due to the fact that the property does not abut Cordata Parkway, that language should also be stricken as part of the "clean-up" being done to the plans. She noted that no public comment was received and recommended approval of the amendments.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

No public testimony given.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

MOTION: Jeff Brown moved to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations included in the October 17, 2013 staff report, including the removal of the third condition from the special conditions section of Area 17A in the Cordata Neighborhood zoning table; and forward a recommendation of approval to the City Council. SECONDED.

VOTE: ALL AYES (Motion Passes 6-0)

PUBLIC HEARING #2:

The proposed amendments to the Bellingham Municipal Code (BMC) are to clarify the density bonus provisions currently allowed through residential proposals reviewed under BMC 20.38 Planned Development and as referenced in BMC 20.00 Table of Zoning Regulations. The proposed amendments are minor in nature and are intended to clarify and help alleviate confusion regarding how density bonuses may be applied through the planned development process.

STAFF PRESENTATION

Kathy Bell noted that inquiries have been received from the public related to Areas 8, 9, 10 and 13 of the King Mountain Neighborhood regarding the process for incorporating density bonuses into development proposals. She stated that the proposed text amendment are necessary to fix current errors in the code, clarify the process for administering density bonus requests in the above mentioned areas, and to modify the cluster bonus options to be more adaptable to multifamily development. She stated that no public comment was received, and staff recommends approval of the amendments.

There was a conversation about what the public inquiries were regarding and what infrastructure currently exists in Areas 8, 9, 10 and 13.

Jeff Brown wanted to know if these amendments affected the development that previously came before the Commission as the King Mountain Urban Village in any way.

Kathy Bell clarified that the King Mountain Urban Village proposal was denied by City Council and stated that these amendments do not change the opportunities the developer has for density. She pointed out that they provide clarity for the use of cluster bonus provisions in multi-family development as well as the single family development.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED

No public testimony given.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

MOTION: Garrett O'Brien moved to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations included in the October 17, 2013 staff report and forward a recommendation of approval to the City Council. SECONDED.

VOTE: ALL AYES (Motion Passes 6-0)

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Planning Director's Report No Report.

Staff / Commissioner Discussion

ADJOURNED: 7:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 7

Minutes prepared by:

Heather Aven, Recording Secretary

Minutes edited by Planning Commission members and various Planning Staff.

e.



BELLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225 Telephone (360) 778-8200 Fax (360)778-8101 Email: ccmail@cob.org Website: www.cob.org

BELLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Bellingham City Council will hold a public hearing on <u>Monday, December 9,</u> <u>2013, @ 7:00 PM</u>, or as soon thereafter as possible, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington, to take public comment on the following:

AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADD NEW NARRATIVES TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLANS AND AMEND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATION MAPS FOR THE FOLLOWING NEIGHBORHOODS: CORDATA NEIGHBORHOOD, AREA 17A; HAPPY VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD, AREA 5A; AND SAMISH NEIGHBORHOOD, AREA 5A, TO REFLECT MAP AND ZONING CHANGES PREVIOUSLY APPROVED.

Detailed information can be found at: <u>http://www.cob.org/government/public/boards-commissions/planning-materials.aspx</u> (June 27, 2013)

Staff Contact: Lindsay Kershner, Planning and Community Development Department (360) 778-8369 or lkershner@cob.org

Anyone wishing to comment on this topic is invited to attend; or if unable to attend, to send your comments, in writing to the Council Office, 210 Lottie Street, or email to <u>ccmail@cob.org</u>, or fax to 778-8101, to be received prior to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 4th, to be included in the agenda packet. Comment received after that time will be distributed to Council but not included in the published meeting materials.

FOR OUR CITIZENS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, the Council Chambers is fully accessible. Elevator access to the second floor is available at City Hall's west entrance. Hearing assistance is available and a receiver may be checked out through the clerk prior to the evening session. For additional accommodations, persons are asked to contact the Legislative Assistant at 778-8200 in advance of the meeting. Thank you.

Publication date: Friday, November 8, 2013

JACK WEISS louncil Member 1st Ward 738-2103 Weiss@cob.org GENE KNUTSON Council Member 2^{ad} Ward 734-4686 GKnutson@cob.org CATHY LEHMAN Council Member 3nd Ward 224-8877 CLehman@cob.org STAN SNAPP Council Member 4th Ward 305-0607 SSnapp@cob.org TERRY BORNEMANN Council Member 5th Ward 305-0606 TBornemann@cob.org MICHAEL LILLIQUIST Council Member 6th Ward 920-1583 MLilliquist@cob.org SETH FLEETWOOD Council Member At Large 671-3299 SPleetwood@cob.org