



July 1, 2021

Planning Commissioner,

Welcome to the City of Eugene Planning Commission! We deeply appreciate your desire to serve your community and bring your perspectives to the important work of planning our future. The commitment of community members like you is essential to making decisions and guiding policies that are responsible, accountable, and transparent.

Land use planning is a complicated field that is constantly evolving. Fortunately, there are many resources available to help you navigate your responsibilities and develop your own expertise. This resource notebook provides an introduction to some of the essential aspects of planning that you will be involved with as a Eugene Planning Commissioner. The notebook covers the function of the Planning Commission itself, the Planning Division and the larger Planning and Development Department, the City of Eugene organization, the Oregon Statewide Planning Program, and the legal framework of land use planning. For topics that may not be covered in the notebook, and for questions that arise, staff are ready and eager to help you along the way.

The Planning Commission has three major roles within the City of Eugene:

- Make recommendations to the Eugene City Council on “legislative” actions such as land use code amendments or changes to the comprehensive plan
- Make “quasi-judicial” land use decisions such as appeals of development applications for specific properties
- Provide guidance and input on community member involvement in land use processes (including legislative, quasi-judicial, and planning projects) as Eugene’s Community Member Involvement Committee

We believe that working together with policy makers, public professionals, and community members in a respectful and collaborative process is essential to thriving community. Your knowledge and voice are valuable to our community, and we look forward to working with you. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Alissa Hansen
Planning Director