

ORDINANCE 1477

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO GROWTH MANAGEMENT AMENDING THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL CYCLE: ADDING A NEW ELEMENT FOR ARTS AND CULTURE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Gig Harbor plans under the Growth Management Act (chapter 36.70A RCW); and

WHEREAS, the Act requires the City to adopt a Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted a revised GMA Comprehensive Plan as required by RCW 36.70A.130 (4) in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the City is required to consider suggested changes to the Comprehensive Plan (RCW 36.70A.470); and

WHEREAS, except under circumstances not applicable here, the City may not amend the Comprehensive Plan more than once a year (RCW 36.70A.130); and

WHEREAS, the City is required to provide public notice and public hearing for any amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and the adoption of any elements thereto (RCW 36.70A.035, RCW 36.70A.130); and

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2021, the City Council evaluated the comprehensive plan amendment applications submitted for the 2021 annual cycle, held a public hearing on such applications, and forwarded those initiated to the Planning Commission for further processing; and

WHEREAS, Applications PL-COMP-18-0001, PL-COMP-21-0001, PL-COMP-21-0002, PL-COMP-21-0003, PL-COMP-21-0004 were initiated by City Council; and

WHEREAS, Applications PL-COMP-21-0002 and PL-COMP-21-0003 are proposed amendments to the City of Gig Harbor Shoreline Master Program and were approved under separate ordinances – Ordinance Nos. 1472 and 1462 – consistent with GHMC 19.09.020; and

WHEREAS, Applications PL-COMP-21-0001 and PL-COMP-21-0004, respectively proposing amendments to the Land-use and Housing elements of the Comprehensive Plan, are not under consideration through this ordinance, and will be retained on the Docket and presented as part of the 2022 Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposals; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2021, the City's SEPA Responsible Official issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for the comprehensive plan amendments pursuant to WAC 197-11-340(2), which was not appealed; and

WHEREAS, the Director notified the Washington State Department of Commerce of the City's intent to amend the Comprehensive Plan and forwarded a copy of the proposed amendments on October 14, 2021 pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a work study session on October 7, 2021 to discuss Application PL-COMP-18-0001; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on Application PL-COMP-18-0001 on November 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing on November 4, 2021, the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the proposed Arts and Culture Element as documented in the Planning Commission's written recommendations signed and dated November 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on November 22, 2021, the Gig Harbor City Council held a public hearing and first reading of Ordinance 1477 amending the Comprehensive Plan as recommended by the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2021, the Gig Harbor City Council conducted a second reading of Ordinance 1477 amending the Comprehensive Plan;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington, do ordain as follows:

Section 1. Revisions. The City of Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan shall be amended to include the Arts and Culture Element as set forth in Exhibit A.

Section 2. Adoption.

Notice. The City Clerk confirmed that public notice of the public hearing held by the City Council on the following applications was provided.

Hearing Procedure. The City Council's consideration of the comprehensive plan text amendments is a legislative act. The Appearance of Fairness doctrine does not apply.

Criteria for Approval. The process for Comprehensive Plan amendments (Chapter 19.09) states that the City Council shall consider the Planning Commission's recommendations and after considering the criteria found in GHMC 19.09.170 shall make written findings regarding each application's consistency or inconsistency with the criteria. The criteria found in GHMC 19.09.170 are as follows:

- A. The proposed amendment will further and be consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan; and
- B. The proposed amendment is consistent with the Growth Management Act, the countywide planning policies and other applicable interjurisdictional policies and agreements, and/or other state or local laws; and
- C. The proposed amendment will not adversely impact the city's ability to provide sewer and water, and will not adversely affect transportation facilities and other public facilities and services such as parks, police, fire, emergency medical services and governmental services; and
- D. The proposed amendment advances the public interest; and
- E. For text amendments which propose to increase density or intensity of permitted development and all land use map amendments, the following approval criteria also apply:
 - 1. Adequate infrastructure, facilities and services are available to serve the proposed or potential development expected as a result of this amendment, according to one of the following provisions:
 - a. The city has adequate funds for needed infrastructure, facilities and services to support new development associated with the proposed amendments; or
 - b. The city's projected revenues are sufficient to fund needed infrastructure, facilities and services, and such infrastructure, facilities and services are included in the schedule of capital improvements in the city's capital facilities plan; or
 - c. Needed infrastructure, facilities and services will be funded by the developer under the terms of a development agreement associated with the comprehensive plan amendment; or
 - d. Adequate infrastructure, facilities and services are currently in place to serve expected development as a result of this comprehensive plan amendment based upon an assessment of land use assumptions; or
 - e. Land use assumptions have been reassessed, and required amendments to other sections of the comprehensive plan are being processed in conjunction with this amendment in order to ensure that adopted level of service standards will be met; and
 - 2. For a land use map amendment, the subject parcels being redesignated are physically suitable for the allowed land uses in the designation being requested, including compatibility with existing and planned surrounding land uses; and
 - 3. The proposed amendment will not create a demand to change land use designations of other properties, unless the change in land use designation for other properties is in the long-term interest of the community in general.

Applications. The City Council hereby enters the following findings and conclusions for each application:

1. PL-COMP-18-0001 – Arts and Culture Element.

Summary: Adding a new element to the Comprehensive Plan – Arts and Culture.

Findings:

- A. Council finds that the proposed amendment will further and be consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element offers support of public art and the arts in general. A section of the element, entitled Cultural Arts Programs and Resources provides support for arts programs and emphasizes the importance of “The Arts” to include: visual art, music, theater, dance poetry and prose, film and other creative endeavors. The section further supports the arts through goals and policies lending credence and direction to the Arts Commission as the overseer of acquisition and placement of public art, and the entity fostering the arts and cultural programs. As an example, Goal 11.10 states: Celebrate the creative spirit of our community and encourage fine and performing arts partnerships and programs that reflect the community's vision and culture.

- B. The Council finds that the proposed amendment is consistent with the Growth Management Act, the countywide planning policies and other applicable interjurisdictional policies and agreements, and/or other state or local laws.

An arts and culture element is not a mandatory element as required by the Growth Management Act (GMA; RCW 36.70A.070). However, GMA does allow a plan to incorporate “additional elements, items or studies dealing with other subjects relating to the physical development within its jurisdiction...” (RCW 36.70A.080). Therefore, in this sense, an Arts and Culture Element would be consistent with GMA.

- C. The City Council finds that the proposed amendment will not adversely impact the City's ability to provide sewer and water, and will not adversely affect transportation facilities and other public facilities and services such as parks, police, fire, emergency medical services and governmental services.

- D. The proposed amendment advances the public interest.

Based on the survey conducted by the Arts Commission in 2017, the public interest would appear to be served through the adoption of an Arts and Culture Element. The survey had approximately 900 respondents, most of whom appear to enjoy arts and culture in a variety of ways, and most of whom appear to support and value arts and culture in their community. While the number of respondents offers a small sample size when compared to the

City's gross population, it is still noteworthy and does show, at least some advancement of the public interest around the subject.

E. Not applicable to this amendment.

Conclusion: After consideration of the materials in the file, staff presentation, the Planning Commission recommendation, the City's Comprehensive Plan, criteria for approval found in Chapter 19.09 GHMC, applicable law, and public testimony, the City Council hereby **approves** application PL-COMP-18-0001 and hereby adds the Arts and Culture Element to the Comprehensive Plan.

Section 3. Transmittal to State. The Planning Director is directed to forward a copy of this ordinance, together with all of the exhibits, to the Washington State Commerce Department within ten days of adoption, pursuant to RCW 36.70A.106.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 5. Correction of Errors. The City Clerk and codifiers of the ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, sections/subsection numbers and any references thereto.

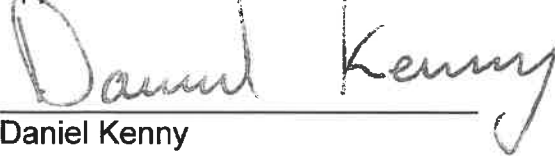
Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting thereof, held this 13th day of December, 2021.



Kit Kuhn
Mayor

Approved as to form:



Daniel Kenny
City Attorney

Attest:



Josh Stecker
Interim City Clerk

PUBLICATION DATE: December 16, 2021
EFFECTIVE DATE: December 21, 2021

Exhibit A

Chapter 14 – Arts + Culture Element

Introduction

The arts and cultural activities are valuable tools for accomplishing larger community goals including economic vitality, quality education, and community design. Investment in the arts is an investment in making Gig Harbor a better place to live and work.

This Arts + Culture Element identifies ways in which the City's goals and aspirations can be realized through inclusion of arts and culture among other considerations in comprehensive planning.¹ The vision for the City's arts and cultural future is expressed here, identifying relationships with other City policy, and presenting specific policies and strategies the City may pursue to realize desired outcomes.

This element also recognizes the essential nature of arts and cultural activities as ways to express, honor, and educate residents about the past, from the community's early formation to narratives rooted in native culture and pre-history.

Using this Element

The City of Gig Harbor hopes to realize the expansive potential of local arts and culture, addressing the community's needs for artistic involvement and expression and recognizing how powerful the arts can be in achieving multiple community aspirations. This element serves multiple roles and multiple audiences, seeking to:

- Clarify City policy related to arts and culture;
- Guide decision-making and future investments by other City departments, the Gig Harbor Arts Commission and other local groups and organizations;
- Identify complementary policies and community initiatives including land use, community design, transportation, economic development, parks and recreation, and capital facilities.

This element is organized to provide a brief introduction to arts and cultural advocacy in Gig Harbor and a summary of associated benefits, followed by a three-part listing of related policy. The policy is categorized and expressed from broad-brush and aspirational ("goals"), to more topical and directive ("policies"). Readers may note the facility of this approach as providing flexibility for implementation, where aspirational objectives are supplied to guide – rather than attempt to anticipate and direct – ever-evolving behavioral patterns and activity needs. This approach is dynamic, benefitting from regular review and coordination and updating with the rest of the comprehensive plan.

History

Arts and cultural activities have long played an important role in establishing Gig Harbor's visual identity and pride of place. But prior to 2001, there were no city-sponsored cultural art grants or monies for public art. In 1999, the idea for a memorial celebrating Gig Harbor's maritime history spurred formation

¹ Considerations regarding the Arts in this element to include "visual art, music, theater, dance, poetry and prose, film and other creative endeavors...", per 2018 Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan amendment application.

of a group that championed the installation of such a feature and later became the City's first Gig Harbor Arts Commission (GHAC) in 2001.¹ Since then, the GHAC has helped lead and support a wide range of arts and cultural activities including art fairs, festivals, concerts, theatrical and dance performances, workshops and lectures – all helping draw tourists to Gig Harbor and boosting local revenues. In addition, the GHAC has led the commission of numerous artworks in the city, including several important installations in City Hall and sculptures at the Bogue Viewing Platform, Maritime Pier and in Ancich Park.

Gig Harbor incorporated arts-related policy in its 2012 comprehensive plan's parks and recreation element. In February 2018, City Council approved a work plan including the goal to create a separate and distinct arts and culture element for the Gig Harbor Comprehensive Plan. By this, the City set a course to more effectively coordinate its resources with arts and cultural activities, boosting the city's unique position in the region and helping realize the many of the community's long-term goals.

The 2018 work plan also led to the creation of a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), which reviewed numerous other regional and state arts and culture plans, reports and economic studies. Among benefits seen in their research findings, the CAC noted numerous outcomes applicable to in Gig Harbor and its goals, including:

- Arts, culture and creativity contribute to the physical, mental, social, and economic well-being of communities;
- Arts and culture nurture creative thought and expression and encourage an exchange of ideas among citizens;
- The arts provide tools for accomplishing larger community goals such as economic vitality, quality education and community planning and design;
- The arts help strengthen the cultural fabric of communities and enrich the lives and spirits of residents;
- Arts and culture activities contribute to local prosperity by providing employment, attracting out of town visitors and boosting sales tax revenues;
- Arts and cultural programs can enhance the image of a community, thereby attracting new businesses and workers;

The CAC, with the help of the City's Tourism & Marketing Department, also created a widely-distributed and successful survey regarding arts and culture values in Gig Harbor. Findings from this questionnaire – reflecting responses from 915 community members – show strong support for the idea that arts and culture are essential in creating a healthy, vibrant and prosperous city.

These and other findings show that Gig Harbor residents understand and support the value of arts and culture as a means of strengthening the community and fostering economic growth.

¹ The famed Fishermen's Memorial in Jerisich Park is a bronze statue by Russian artist Alexandre Safonov.

The Gig Harbor Arts Commission

The Gig Harbor Arts Commission (GHAC) plays a vital role in local culture by supporting and promoting the arts and arts organizations. The Commission oversees the acquisition and placement of public art, fosters arts and cultural programs for the enrichment of citizens and visitors, encourages an environment for the success of working artists and strengthens new and existing arts organizations. The Arts Commission supports the following statements:

- The arts provide tools for accomplishing larger community goals such as economic vitality, quality education and community planning and design.
- Arts and culture are essential to the continuing growth and development of our community's economy, education, and quality of life. Support of the arts is an investment in making our community a better place to live.
- The arts help strengthen our cultural fabric and enrich the lives and spirits of our citizens.
- Arts and cultural programs are a powerful economic development tool in their ability to enhance Gig Harbor's image and thereby entice new businesses to locate here.
- The arts can be a source of civic pride and Gig Harbor is a place where citizens and visitors alike can be engaged and inspired.

Goals & Policies

Creative + Economic Vitality

Acknowledging the important dynamic between creative enterprise and economic vitality.

Goal 14.1 Enhance the quality of life in Gig Harbor by creating an environment in which artistic and cultural activities flourish.

Related Policies

14.1.1 Provide arts and cultural leadership for the city as advocates to the Mayor and Council for the development of arts and cultural activities for the benefit of its citizens.

14.1.2 Collaborate with the Gig Harbor Tourism and Marketing Department and Pierce County Tourism to increase artistic, historic, and cultural tourism in Gig Harbor.

14.1.3 Strengthen the operational capacity of the arts, heritage, and cultural community through the development of a city arts fund to support grants for artists/writers/performers and non-profit organizations that offer creative and cultural experiences.

14.1.4 Keep current with community arts and culture needs and trends, shaping actions to be adaptive and relevant to changing conditions.

Public Arts + Community Design

Sponsoring functional anchors for pride of place that are unique to the community.

Goal 14.2 Strengthen and expand Gig Harbor's public art program to create visible landmarks and cultural points of reference to reinforce the harbor's identity, culture and character.

Related Policies

14.2.1 Advocate for the development of creative public spaces; create a cohesive wayfinding and interpretive signage strategy, including the identification of unique city landmarks.

14.2.2 Consider expansion of the Public Art Fund to acquire and manage works of public art through commissioned works, temporary works, direct purchases, and community projects;

14.2.3 Advocate for the inclusion of quality public art in new construction projects.

14.2.4 Manage the community's resources dedicated to arts and culture and provide tools to guide grant programs for the arts, protocols for accepting donated art, a framework for arts commissions, locational criteria for public art, and other needs as they may arise in Gig Harbor's evolving arts environment.

Education + Engagement

Supporting ways to engage citizens in lifelong arts- and culture-related learning opportunities.

Goal 14.3 Foster a unique, plentiful and learning-oriented arts and cultural environment.

Related Policies

14.3.1 Demonstrate a commitment to quality arts education and life-long learning by advocating for comprehensive inclusion of the arts throughout our community.

14.3.2 Foster partnerships between the city, the business community and arts and culture organizations to create and produce education and engagement opportunities for Gig Harbor citizens through the sponsorship of arts and cultural programming.

14.3.3 Explore opportunities for the public to watch artists, conservators, and historic preservationists at work and to observe the creative process as well as participate in hands-on learning experiences.

Spaces + Places

Recognizing the need for space and facilities to foster culture activities.

Goal 14.4 Encourage the development of adequate, affordable and appropriate spaces for artistic and cultural activities for all.

Related Policies

14.4.1 Respond to the growing need for artistic and cultural facilities; identify short-and long-term facility needs and priorities.

14.4.2 Encourage the development of venues suitable for cultural and artistic activities including visual and performing arts centers, marketplaces, performance and exhibition spaces and maker spaces.

14.4.3 Advocate for current and future arts-related businesses, open studio spaces and live-work housing.

Culture + Heritage

Understanding the past to guide plans for the future.

Goal 14.5 Identify, preserve, and advance the city's cultural heritage and history.

Related Policies

14.5.1 Advocate for the preservation, interpretation, and adaptive reuse of historic and cultural sites in partnership with local entities devoted to preservation.

14.5.2 Recognize the value of heritage and cultural arts to promote tourism for Gig Harbor using geographic and historic themes that complement other types of visitation and travel experiences.

14.5.3 Support projects that use the arts as a vehicle for understanding and celebrating other cultures and Gig Harbor heritage.