

RCW (Revised Code of Washington)

RCW 35.63.010

Definitions.

As used in this chapter the following terms shall have the meaning herein given them:

"Appointive members" means all members of a commission other than ex officio members;

"Board" means the board of county commissioners;

"City" includes every incorporated city and town;

"Commission" means a city or county planning commission;

"Council" means the chief legislative body of a city;

"Ex officio members" means the members of a commission chosen from among city or county officials;

"Highways" include streets, roads, boulevards, lanes, alleys, viaducts and other traveled ways;

"Mayor" means the chief executive of a city;

"Municipality" includes every county and city.

[1965 c 7 § [35.63.010](#). Prior: 1935 c 44 § 1; RRS § 9322-1.]

RCW 35.63.020

Commissioners — Manner of appointment.

If any council or board desires to avail itself of the powers conferred by this chapter it shall create a city or county planning commission consisting of from three to twelve members to be appointed by the mayor or chair of the municipality and confirmed by the council or board: PROVIDED, That in cities of the first class having a commission form of government consisting of three or more members, the commissioner of public works shall appoint the planning commission, which appointment shall be confirmed by a majority of the city commissioners. Cities of the first class operating under self-government charters may extend the membership and the duties and powers of its commission beyond those prescribed in this chapter.

[2009 c 549 § 2113; 1965 c 7 §[35.63.020](#) . Prior: (i) 1935 c 44 § 2, part; RRS § 9322-2, part. (ii) 1935 c 44 § 12; RRS § 9322-12.]

RCW 35.63.030

Commissioners — Number — Tenure — Compensation.

The ordinance, resolution, or act creating the commission shall set forth the number of members to be appointed, not more than one-third of which number may be ex officio members by virtue of office held in any municipality. The term of office for ex officio members shall correspond to their respective tenures. The term of office for the first appointive members appointed to such commission shall be designated from one to six years in such manner as to provide that the fewest possible terms will expire in any one year. Thereafter the term of office for each appointive member shall be either four or six years, as determined by legislative action of the council.

Vacancies occurring otherwise than through the expiration of terms shall be filled for the unexpired term. Members may be removed, after public hearing, by the appointing official, with the approval of his or her council or board, for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office.

The members shall be selected without respect to political affiliations and they shall serve without compensation.

[2011 c 59 § 1; 2009 c 549 § 2114; 1965 c 7 § [35.63.030](#). Prior: 1935 c 44 § 2, part; RRS § 9322-2, part.]

RCW 35.63.040

Commissions — Organization — Meeting — Rules.

The commission shall elect its own chair and create and fill such other offices as it may determine it requires. The commission shall hold at least one regular meeting in each month for not less than nine months in each year. It shall adopt rules for transaction of business and shall keep a written record of its meetings, resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations which record shall be a public record.

[2009 c 549 § 2115; 1965 c 7 § [35.63.040](#). Prior: 1935 c 44 § 3; RRS § 9322-3.]

RCW 35.63.050

Expenditures.

The expenditures of any commission or regional commission authorized and established under this chapter, exclusive of gifts, shall be within the amounts appropriated for the purpose by the council or board. Within such limits, any commission may employ such employees and expert consultants as are deemed necessary for its work.

[1965 c 7 § [35.63.050](#). Prior: 1935 c 44 § 4; RRS § 9322-4.]

RCW 35.63.060

Powers of commissions.

The commission may act as the research and fact-finding agency of the municipality. To that end it may make such surveys, analyses, researches and reports as are generally authorized or requested by its council or board, or by the state with the approval of its council or board. The commission, upon such request or authority may also:

- (1) Make inquiries, investigations, and surveys concerning the resources of the county, including but not limited to the potential for solar energy development and alternative means to encourage and protect access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems;
- (2) Assemble and analyze the data thus obtained and formulate plans for the conservation of such resources and the systematic utilization and development thereof;
- (3) Make recommendations from time to time as to the best methods of such conservation, utilization, and development;
- (4) Cooperate with other commissions and with other public agencies of the municipality, state and United States in such planning, conservation, and development; and
- (5) In particular cooperate with and aid the state within its territorial limits in the preparation of the state master plan provided for in RCW [43.21A.350](#) and in advance planning of public works programs.

In carrying out its powers and duties, the commission should demonstrate how land use planning is integrated with transportation planning.

[2002 c 189 § 1; 1988 c 127 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 170 § 3; 1965 c 7 § [35.63.060](#). Prior: 1935 c 44 § 10; RRS § 9322-10.]

Notes:

Severability -- 1979 ex.s. c 170: See note following RCW 64.04.140.

RCW 35.63.065

Public notice — Identification of affected property.

Any notice made under chapter [35.63](#) RCW that identifies affected property may identify this affected property without using a legal description of the property including, but not limited to, identification by an address, written description, vicinity sketch, or other reasonable means.

[1988 c 168 § 9.]

RCW 35.63.100

Restrictions — Recommendations of commission — Hearings — Adoption of comprehensive plan — Certifying — Filing or recording.

The commission may recommend to its council or board the plan prepared by it as a whole, or may recommend parts of the plan by successive recommendations; the parts corresponding with geographic or political sections, division or subdivisions of the municipality, or with functional subdivisions of the subject matter of the plan, or in the case of counties, with suburban settlement or arterial highway area. It may also prepare and recommend any amendment or extension thereof or addition thereto.

Before the recommendation of the initial plan to the municipality the commission shall hold at least one public hearing thereon, giving notice of the time and place by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality and in the official gazette, if any, of the municipality.

The council may adopt by resolution or ordinance and the board may adopt by resolution the plan recommended to it by the commission, or any part of the plan, as the comprehensive plan.

A true copy of the resolution of the board adopting or embodying such plan or any part thereof or any amendment thereto shall be certified by the clerk of the board and filed with the county auditor. A like certified copy of any map or plat referred to or adopted by the county resolution shall likewise be filed with the county auditor. The auditor shall record the resolution and keep on file the map or plat.

The original resolution or ordinance of the council adopting or embodying such plan or any part thereof or any amendment thereto shall be certified by the clerk of the city and filed by him or her. The original of any map or plat referred to or adopted by the resolution or ordinance of the council shall likewise be certified by the clerk of the city and filed by him or her. The clerk shall keep on file the resolution or ordinance and map or plat.

[2009 c 549 § 2116; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 8; 1965 c 7 § [35.63.100](#). Prior: 1935 c 44 § 8; RRS § 9322-8.]

Notes:

Effective date -- 1967 ex.s. c 144: The effective date of 1967 ex.s. c 144 is July 30, 1967.

Severability -- 1967 ex.s. c 144: See note following RCW [36.900.030](#).

Validation -- 1967 ex.s. c 144: "Any city comprehensive plan and all amendments thereto which have been filed or recorded with the county auditor prior to the effective date of this 1967 amendatory act shall be valid and need not be refiled with the clerk of the city to remain valid and in full force and effect." [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 10.]

RCW 35.63.105

Amendments to comprehensive plan to be adopted, certified, and recorded or filed in accordance with RCW [35.63.100](#).

All amendments to a comprehensive plan shall be adopted, certified, and recorded or filed in the same manner as authorized in RCW [35.63.100](#) for an initial comprehensive plan.

[1967 ex.s. c 144 § 9.]

Notes:

Severability -- 1967 ex.s. c 144: See note following RCW [36.900.030](#).

Validation -- 1967 ex.s. c 144: See note following RCW [35.63.100](#).