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**STAFF REPORT AMD-21-01**

**Date Submitted:** Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
**Agenda Date Requested:** Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
**To:** John Day Planning Commission  
**From:** Daisy Goebel, City of John Day  
Associate Planner  
**Subject:** Staff report for Ordinance No. 21-190-01, An Ordinance Amending the John Day Comprehensive Plan to Adopt the Recreation Economy for Rural Communities Action Plan (Type IV Procedure) AMD-21-01  
**Location:** Citywide

**Type of Action Requested**

Resolution                       Ordinance  
 Formal Action                       Report Only

**1. BACKGROUND**

The City of John Day is proposing a Comprehensive Plan amendment to adopt the 2020 Recreation Economy for Rural Communities (RERC) action plan as a supporting element of the Comprehensive Plan.

John Day was one of ten communities selected nationally by the Environmental Protection Agency to participate in the first round of planning assistance for revitalizing the economy by capitalizing on our available outdoor recreation opportunities. The planning process brought together individuals from diverse segments of our community and focused on economic diversification and access to recreation opportunities.

The final RERC Action Plan (Exhibit A) includes a series of goals and implementation steps to expand recreation opportunities, support recreation-oriented businesses, and promote the community's outdoor recreation options to residents and visitors. This document will support and inform the future update of our comprehensive plan for statewide planning goal 8 (recreational needs). The full RERC action plan is included as Exhibit A.

## 2. APPLICABLE CRITERIA

This request is a legislative amendment to amend the John Day Comprehensive Plan. The approval criteria in section 5-4.1.050.G apply.

## 3. PLANNING COMMISSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Planning Commission's review must focus on the relevant code criteria and follow the public hearing requirements for a Type IV Legislative Amendment under section 5-4.7.020. The Planning Commission should recommend the City Council approve the request if it conforms to the approval criteria.

## 4. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission make a recommendation to the City Council to **adopt Ordinance 21-90-01, as presented** and findings in this report.

## 5. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The City of John Day mailed public notice to all affected property owners on December 18, 2020 and notice was posted in the Blue Mountain Eagle on December 23, 2020 as required by the Development Code.

Public comments received:

## 6. ADOPTION PROCEDURE AND FINDINGS

The following section shown in italics and boldface provides the decision making criteria as required by John Day Development Code Section 5-4.1.050.G.

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***Decision-Making Criteria. The recommendation by the Planning Commission and the decision by the City Council shall be based on the following factors:***

- 1. Approval of the request is consistent with the Statewide Planning Goals;***
- 2. Approval of the request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan; and***
- 3. The property and affected area is presently provided with adequate public***

*facilities and services, including transportation, sewer and water systems, to support the use, or such facilities and services are provided for in adopted City plans and can be provided concurrently with the development of the property.*

**Finding:** The City of John Day Comprehensive Plan, in compliance with Oregon statute, mirrors the statewide planning goals and applies them in the context of the John Day community. The primary goal that this amendment addresses is Goal 8: Recreational needs. Goal 8 requires governmental agencies to satisfy the recreational needs of our citizens and visitors where appropriate in coordination with private enterprise, in appropriate proportions, and in such quantity, quality, and locations as is consistent with the availability of the resources to meet such requirements.

The Recreation Economy for Rural Communities Action Plan (RERC) will serve as a supplemental element of the plan and will form a foundation for the update of goal 8 during the comprehensive planning process the City plans to undertake in the next few years. The RERC process involved a diverse coalition of local and regional stakeholders representing governmental, business, nonprofit, and community interests. These stakeholders participated in a multi-day planning workshop to develop the initial Action Plan and a smaller steering committee worked over the following months to compile, condense, and prioritize the stakeholders' work product to create the resulting 64-page document.

The RERC Community Action Plan includes an inventory of recreational needs and resources, an overview of the community vision and values, an analysis of stakeholder priorities, and an in-depth breakdown of what is needed in order to achieve each action item identified during the workshop. The group identified seventeen action items. The action items were created with the intention to achieve four goals set by the committee; marketing and promotion, business acceleration, community participation, and expansion of recreation opportunities. An appendix to the plan also includes a funding strategy to support the implementation of the RERC.

The proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment does not include any exceptions to the statewide planning goals. No significant impact on public facilities and services is anticipated as a result of this ordinance.

## **7. PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION**

After hearing the staff presentation and any public testimony, including any rebuttal, the commission will close the hearing and deliberate. The following motion is suggested:

“I move to recommend City Council approve AMD-21-01 based on the findings contained in the staff report [with conditions, if any].”

*The staff report may be amended during the course of the hearing.*

**RECOMMENDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL** by the John Day Planning Commission this  
12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nays: \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstentions: \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vacancies: \_\_\_\_\_

ORDERED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Boethin, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas Green, City Manager