

**CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
May 6, 2025**

ATTENDEES: Council members Smith, Green, Arsanto, Burbank, Anderson and Bergerson.

Also, in attendance were: Mayor Burkett, City Administrator Brunell, Finance Director Hines, Fire Chief Skogen, Public Services Director Banks, Senior Planner Farnsworth, Police Records Clerk Burkett, and Deputy Clerk Clark.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Finance Software Update:

Finance Director Hines through research shared with Council that the software systems Springbrook and Tyler were the top two choices and staff agreed because of the ease and functionality that they offered. If Council would like, this can be brought to the next Council meeting to be approved.

Fire Department Update:

Fire Chief Skogen explained to Council that things have changed drastically in the last few years due to growth and call volumes. If Council were to approve for shift work, it can reduce call volumes by three minutes, which is substantial. Ideally and a goal to work for would be 3 full-time employees per shift. That would be enough to get two units out the door.

City Administrator Brunell added that we already have a higher call volume than neighboring East Pierce areas and they have four or five full-time firefighters each shift.

Council discussed options the City could have to obtain more full-time firefighters.

Comp Plan Amendment:

Senior Planner Farnsworth explained to Council on why these edits have come forward for the Comprehensive Plan and we are currently in the process of doing this to incorporate comments from the Department of Commerce.

The edits to the Comprehensive Plan include the following

1. Land use and planning tools to reduce and mitigate wildfire risk.
2. Accommodating growth for emergency housing.
3. Identifying areas that have a high risk of residential displacement.
4. Including a direct reference to the Racially Disparate Impact report in the Housing Element. (Report is attached in the packets)

Next steps will be to have a Public Hearing with City Council on May 27th and City Council adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment on July 8th.

Logo Redesign:

Mayor Burkett spoke on the new logo design and has been working with a local graphic designer to explore a refreshed City logo. The revised logo is a simplified and more modern design that reflects Buckley today. Some key elements include adding the White River, a Sasquatch, and the elk head in the mountain.

City Administrator Brunell will look into the total cost for changing to the new logo.

The Council discussed the options, and all agreed with option "B". Council member Anderson would like to see the maroon and gold stay, to represent White River High School colors.

Speed Limit Review:

Mayor Burkett has requested that we study potential speed limit reductions on key roads leading into downtown Buckley. This has been brought up with the conflicts on "A" and Main St. Mayor Burkett explained to Council why this would be a wise idea.

Streets currently under consideration for a lower speed limit include:

- Main St. from Spruce St. to SR 410
- Spruce St. from Main St. to Jefferson Ave.
- Jefferson Ave. from SR 410 to A St.
- Park Ave. from SR 410 to N A St.
- A St. from Park Ave. to Spiketon Rd.

Council discussed options and gave opinions on this topic and to keep the roads safe. Council would like to get an estimate for speed bumps and signage to slow people down. Public Services Director Banks was there to answer Council's questions and concerns.

With nothing further, the Study Session was adjourned at 7:37 PM.



City Administrator



Mayor

Prepared by: Jessica Clark, Deputy City Clerk