

# Development Code Modernization

## Work Plan

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# Presentation Objectives

1. Provide briefing on proposed work plan
2. Identify staff resources
3. Define “code rewrite”
4. Describe phased approach to process
5. Present timeline

# Purpose of Development Codes

- Comply with the GMA
- Implement the Comprehensive Plan
- Evolve to meet changing municipal, state & federal requirements



# History

- 1959: First zoning ordinance
- 1980: Code reorganized to current ECDC format
- Hundreds of zoning and development code amendments since
- Some previous consultant efforts have been done in “fits and starts” due to lack of dedicated staff ability to support extensive legislative changes

An obsolete reference to the City's datum point:

A sandstone four inches square with a hole in the middle, a box around it and planted at the southeast corner of the Hotel Stevens on Bell Street is the initial point.

[Ord. 54 § 1, 1895]

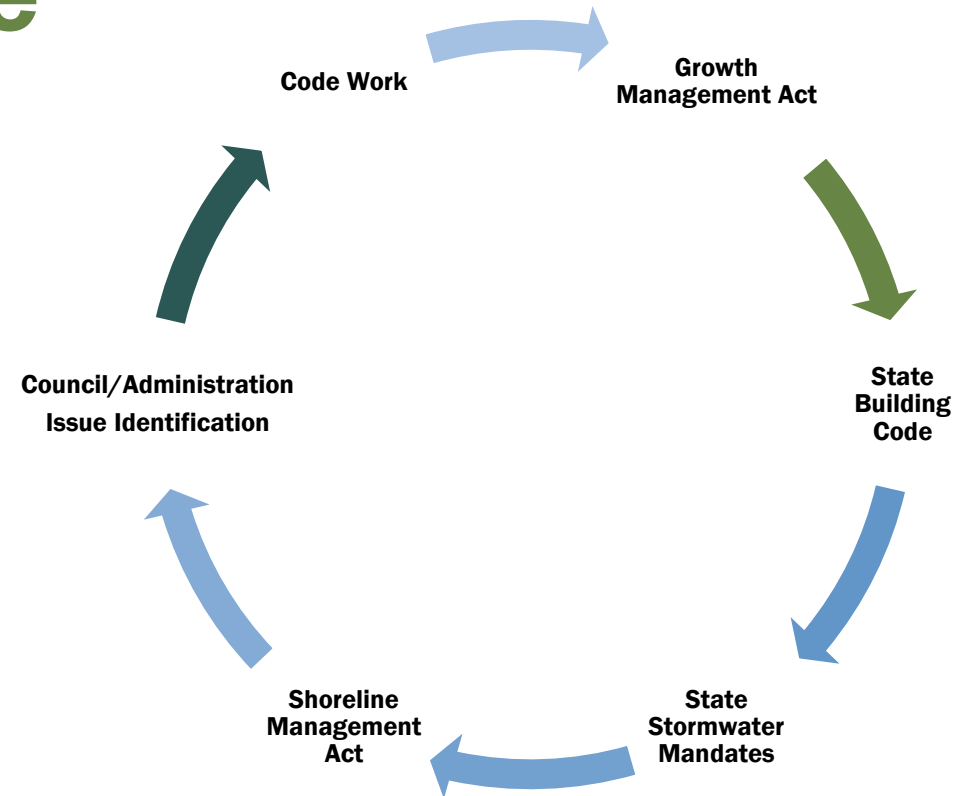


# Staff Resources

- Dedicated FTE to manage code (issue identification, process improvements, etc), lead legislation and work with consultants, as needed
- In house subject matter experts
- Budget for on-call services

# Defining “Code Rewrite”

- A continuous process of improvement to the Edmonds development codes
- Includes changes to both structure and content



# Structural Changes

- Reorganize Titles 15 – 24 to be more accessible and usable
- Improve search and interactive functions (Code Publishing)
- Complete during 2022 – 2023, prior to adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in 2024

# Content Changes

## New amendment process types: minor and major

- Council (and staff) want a responsive process that responds to policy decisions
- Implemented through changes to ECDC 20.80

## Overall changes:

- Use plain language
- Replace words with graphics and illustrations
- Eliminate unnecessary code

Minor



Major





# Frequent Minor Amendments



- Create streamlined process for minor updates
- Promote clarity, eliminate redundancy, streamline processes, better align with best practices
- Correct inconsistencies and scrivener's errors
- Would be presented directly to Council on a semi-annual basis (December/June) or more frequently as needed



# Major Amendments

- These take time
  - Need to be thorough with detailed data/analysis
  - Inclusive public engagement
  - Required process through GMA and our own code

# Examples

## Minor



### **Remove references to “CG2” code**

- Zoning district no longer exists
- No policy impact; not controversial

## Major

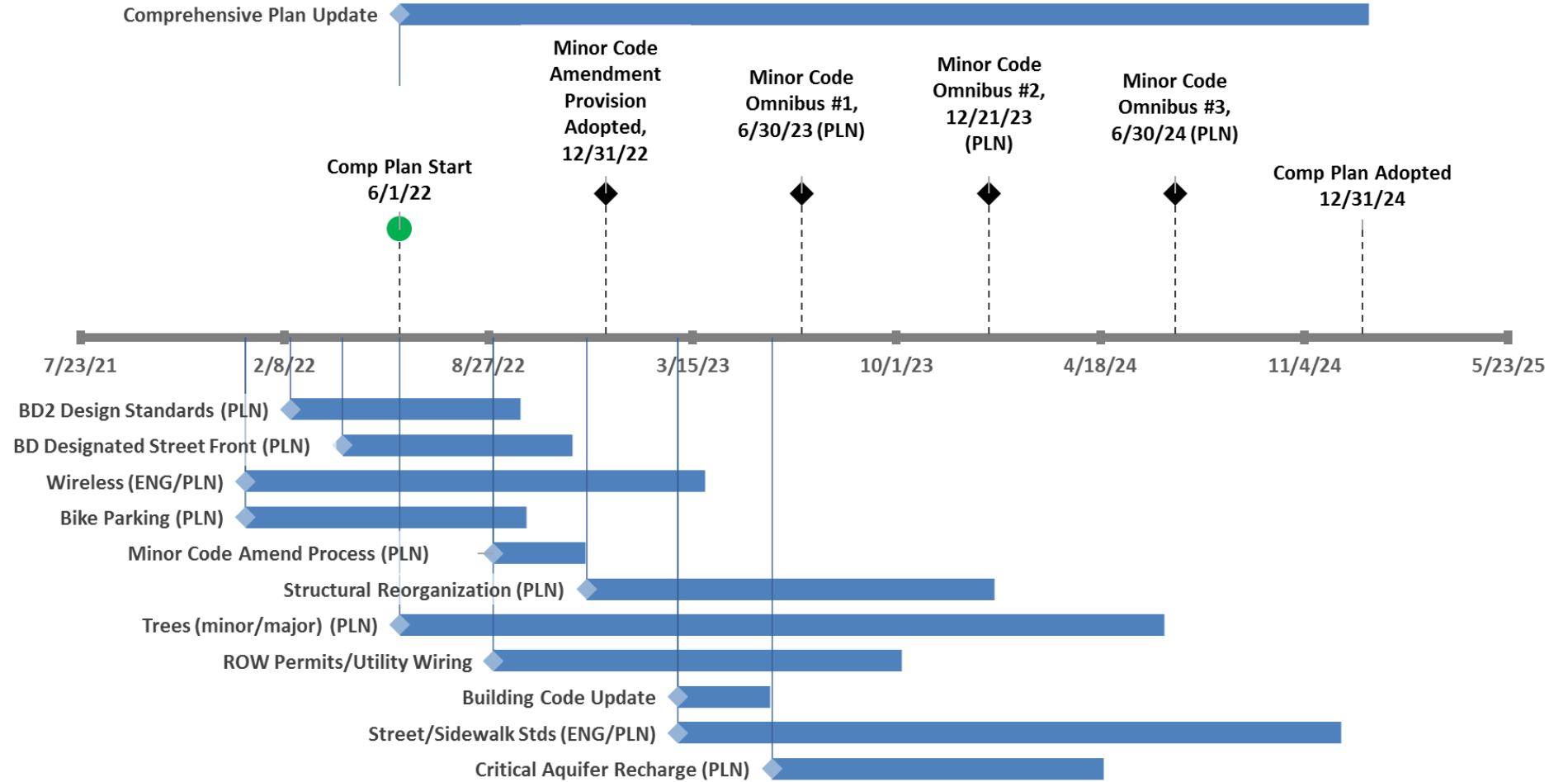


### **EV charging infrastructure requirements (ECDC 17.115)**

- Large policy impact, important to the development community

## Development Code Modernization Snapshot

# Timeline



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