

Office of the Mayor
Attn: Kelli Linville
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

June 1, 2019

Subject: Letter of Resignation from Planning Commission

Dear Mayor Kelli, Rick, Ali, and Heather,

I am reaching out with a full heart to share that I need to resign from my term as a member of the City of Bellingham Planning Commission, effective after our meeting on June 20, 2019.

I have committed to earning my Juris Doctor degree in public interest law at George Washington University, beginning this August. This next step will bring my personal mission into alignment with how I hope to make an impact.

I did not intend to step away before the end of my term. I regret that this transition will unfold so quickly. I am open to resigning prior to our June 20 meeting if you would prefer to have my replacement present for the public hearing.

Serving our City in this role (and many others) has been immensely positive. Collaborating and learning alongside commissioners, staff, and neighbors is at the core of my experience. Consider this the beginning of many thank yous: for answering my endless questions; for representing Commission's voice on tough issues; and for the opportunity to serve.

I came to Planning Commission with an intimate and nearly lifelong understanding of what it means to live here. The impacts of so many of our decisions hit close to home. My passion for the projects that we engaged in will fuel my future pursuits. I look forward to returning to our community with an enhanced set of skills and experiences to contribute.

You can count on my continued connection to Bellingham and support of your work, planning for a safe and nourishing community for all.

Onward together,



Iris Maute-Gibson
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CC: Rick Sepler and Heather Aven, Planning & Community Development; Ali Taysi, Planning Commission