

ARTICLE IX
ZONING DISTRICTS AND ZONING MAP

PART I. ZONING DISTRICTS

Section 15-141.4 Conditional Zoning Districts. (AMENDED 5/27/08; REWRITTEN 6/22/21)

(a) Conditional zoning districts are zoning districts in which the development and use of the property so zoned are governed by the regulations applicable to one of the conventional use zoning districts listed in the Table of Permissible Uses, as modified by the conditions and restrictions imposed as part of the legislative decision creating the district and applying it to the particular property. Accordingly, the following conditional zoning districts may be established:

R-20-CZ, R-15-CZ, R-10-CZ, R-7.5-CZ, R-3-CZ, R-2-CZ, R-R-CZ, R-S.I.R.-CZ, and R-S.I.R.-2-CZ

B-1(C)-CZ, B-1(G)-CZ, B-2-CZ, B-3-CZ, B-3-T-CZ, B-4-CZ, CT-CZ, O-CZ, O/A-CZ, M-1-CZ, M-2-CZ, M-3-CZ (AMENDED 4/27/10; 6/23/15; 10/23/18)

There may also be established a HR-CC-CZ zoning district, pursuant to the purpose statement and criteria described in Section 15-136.1.

(b) The conditional zoning districts authorized by this section may be applied to property only in response to a petition signed by all the owners of the property to be included within such district.

(c) Subject to the provisions of subsections (k), (l), and (n), the uses permissible within a conditional zoning district authorized by this section, and the regulations applicable to property within such a district, shall be those uses that are permissible within and those regulations that are applicable to the conventional use zoning district to which the conditional district corresponds, except as those uses and regulations are limited by conditions imposed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. For example, property that is rezoned to a B-2-CZ district may be developed in the same manner as property that is zoned B-2, subject to any conditions imposed pursuant to subsection (d). (AMENDED 10/23/18)

- (1) Property that is zoned B-4-CZ may be developed for use classifications 1.231 (duplex, maximum 20% units > 3 bedrooms/dwelling unit), 1.241 (two family apartment, maximum 20% units > 3 bedrooms/dwelling unit), 1.321 (multi-family residences, maximum 20% units > bedrooms/dwelling unit and 1.331 (multi-family, maximum 20% units > 3 bedrooms/dwelling unit) 1 in addition to other uses permissible in the B-4 district, subject to a special use permit-A, and the following: (i) not more than 25% of the total land area covered in this district may be developed for such uses; and (ii) the area developed for such uses shall have a minimum of 1,500 square

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feet per dwelling unit (except that applicable density bonuses shall apply).

- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the uses that are permissible within a M-3-CZ district, and the regulations applicable to property within such a district shall be those uses and those regulations that would be applicable to any property zone M-1-CZ (i.e. excluding specific conditions made applicable to any property zoned M-1-CZ) with the addition of use 3.230.
- (3) Property that is zoned O/A-CZ shall be subject to all regulations applicable to the O/A district (including but not limited to the performance standards set forth in part I of Article XI), except as follows:
 - a. No area less than four contiguous acres and no more than a total of twenty-five (25) acres may be rezoned to the O/A-CZ.
 - b. Uses within the O/A-CZ district shall be limited to those where loading and unloading occurs during daylight hours only.
 - c. Buildings within the O/A-CZ district shall comply with the following standards:
 1. Exterior walls shall be constructed of materials commonly used on the exterior walls of single-family residences (such as brick, stone, wood or fabricated residential lap siding made of hardboard or vinyl).
 2. The pitch of the roof shall have a minimum vertical rise of one foot for every two feet of horizontal run.
 3. Windows shall be of a scale and proportion typically of single-family residences.

(d) When a rezoning petition for a conditional zoning district is submitted (in accordance with Article XX of this chapter), the application shall include a list of proposed conditions (which may be in the form of written statements, graphic illustrations, or any combination thereof) to be incorporated into the ordinance that rezones the property to the requested conditional zoning district. The rezoning petition for a VMU district, described in subsection 15-141.2(g)(1), shall include a master plan as a condition of the approval. **(AMENDED 10/25/16)**

(e) A rezoning petition may be submitted to allow use classification 3.260 Social Service Provider with Dining within a building of more than two stories or 35 feet in height. **(AMENDED 10/25/16)**

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- (1) The petition shall include information that demonstrates that, if the project is completed as proposed, it:
 - a. Will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property; and
 - b. Will be in harmony with the area in which it is to be located. The manner in which a project is designed to accommodate additional building height including, but not limited to, scale, architectural detailing, compatibility with the existing built environment and with adopted policy statements in support of vibrant and economically successful and sustainable, mixed-use, core commercial districts shall be among the issues that may be considered to make a finding that a project is or is not in harmony with the area in which it is to be located. The applicant may use a variety of graphic and descriptive means to illustrate these findings; and
 - c. Will be in general conformity with the Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Plan, long range transportation plans, and other plans officially adopted by the Council. **(AMENDED 3/22/16, 10/25/16)**

- (2) All relative provisions of the Land Use Ordinance shall apply except to the extent that such provisions are superseded by the provisions of this section or any conditions incorporated into the conditional zoning district described in subsection (d) and (f). **(AMENDED 10/25/16)**

(f) The specific conditions proposed by the petitioner or the Town may be modified by the planning staff, advisory boards or Town Council as the rezoning application works its way through the process described in Article XX, but only those conditions mutually approved by the Town and consented to by the petitioner in writing may be incorporated into the zoning regulations. Unless consented to by the petitioner in writing, the town may not require, enforce, or incorporate into the zoning regulations any condition or requirement not authorized by otherwise applicable law, including, without limitation, taxes, impact fees, building design elements within the scope of G.S. 160D-702(b), driveway-related improvements in excess of those allowed in G.S. 136-18(29) and G.S. 160A-307, or other unauthorized limitations on the development or use of land. Conditions and site-specific standards imposed in a conditional district shall be limited to those that address the conformance of the development and use of the site to the requirements of this chapter, or the impacts reasonably expected to be generated by the development or use of the site.

(g) Except as allowed under minor modifications below, all changes to conditional zoning districts are major amendments and shall follow the same process as for the original approval as described in this section and in Article XX. Changes to conditional zoning districts may also require amendments or modifications to associated special use permits, zoning permits or sign permits for the development as pursuant to Section 15-64.

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- (1) Minor modifications in conditional zoning districts may be reviewed and approved administratively subject to the following limitations:

The minor modification:

- a. Does not involve a change in uses permitted or the density overall of the development permitted;
 - b. Is a limited minor change that does not have a substantial impact on neighboring properties, the general public, or those intended to occupy or use the proposed development, such as, without limitation, a minor adjustment to internal road or parking configuration, a minor adjustment to building location, or a minor adjustment to internal tree screening or other landscaping, or a minor adjustment to utility location;
 - c. Does not increase the impacts generated by the development on traffic, stormwater runoff, or similar impacts beyond what was projected for the original development approval;
 - d. Meets all other applicable conditions of the rezoning; and
 - e. Meets all other ordinance requirements.
- (2) For a conditional zoning district applicable to multiple parcels, the owners of individual parcels may apply for a minor modification or major amendment so long as the change would not result in other properties failing to meet the terms of the conditions. Any approved changes shall only be applicable to those properties who owners petition for the change.

(h) A decision on a minor modification may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment as an administrative determination as provided for in subsection 15-93.1. An application for a minor modification does not preclude an applicant from seeking a variance from the Board of Adjustment.

(i) All uses that are permissible in the conditional zoning district shall require the issuance of the same type of permit that such use in the corresponding conventional use district would ordinarily require (according to the Table of Permissible Uses), i.e. a special use permit-A, special use permit-B, or zoning permit.

(j) Notwithstanding the foregoing, all uses that are permissible in the B-4-CZ zoning district and M-3-CZ zoning district shall require the issuance of a special use permit-A. **(AMENDED 10/23/18)**

(k) Notwithstanding the foregoing, in approving a rezoning to a B-1(g) – CZ zoning district, the Town Council may authorize the property so zoned to be developed at a higher level

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of residential density than that otherwise permissible in B-1(g) zoning districts under Section 15-182 if the rezoning includes conditions that provide for site and building elements that will create a more vibrant and successful community. Site and building elements are intended to be selected from at least three of the following seven areas: stormwater management, water conservation, energy conservation, on-site energy production, alternative transportation, provision of affordable housing, and the provision of public art and/or provision of outdoor amenities for public use. Conditions that may be included to meet the above stated objective include but shall not be limited to the following: **(AMENDED 11/9/11)**

- (1) Reduction in nitrogen loading from the site by at least 8% from the existing condition, as determined by the North Carolina Stormwater Nitrogen and Phosphorus (SNAP) Tool.
- (2) Energy performance in building requirements to meet one or more of the following.
 - a. Achieve 40% better than required in the Model Energy Code, which for NC, Commercial is ASHRAE 90.1-2004-2006 IECC equivalent or better, and Residential is IECC 2006, equivalent or better).
 - b. “Designed to Earn the Energy Star” rating.
 - c. Architecture 2030 goal of a 50 percent fossil fuel and greenhouse gas emission reduction standard measured from the regional (or country) average for that building type.
 - d. AIA goals of integrated, energy performance design, including resource conservation resulting in a minimum 50 percent or greater reduction in the consumption of fossil fuels used to construct and operate buildings.
 - e. LEED certification to achieve 50% CO2 emission reduction, or LEED silver certification
 - f. US Conference of Mayors fossil fuel reduction standard for all new buildings to carbon neutral by 2030.
 - g. Specific energy saving features, including but not limited to the following, are encouraged.
 - i. Use of shading devices and high performance glass for minimizing heating and cooling loads
 - ii. Insulation beyond minimum standards;
 - iii. Use of energy efficient motors/HVAC;
 - iv. Use of energy efficient lighting;
 - v. Use of energy efficient appliances
 - vi. LED or LED/Solar parking lot lighting (50-100% more efficient).
 - vii. Active and passive solar features.
- (3) Provision of onsite facilities (e.g. solar, wind, geothermal) that will provide 5% of electricity demand associated with the project.

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- (4) Use of harvested rainwater for toilet flushing.
- (5) Parking lot meets the standard for a “green” parking lot, per the EPA document Green “Parking Lot Resource Guide.”
- (6) Inclusion of Low Impact Development features.
- (7) Provision of covered bike parking sufficient to provide space for one space per every two residential units.
- (8) Provision of a safe, convenient, and connected internal street system or vehicle accommodation area designed to meet the needs of the expected number of motor vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit trips.
- (9) Inclusion of at least one (1) parking space for car sharing vehicles.
- (10) Provision of public art and/or outdoor amenities for public use.
- (11) Use of surface materials that reflect heat rather than absorb it.
- (12) Use of devices that shade at least 30% of south-facing and west-facing building facades.
- (13) Provision of affordable housing in accordance with Town policy.

(l) If a B-1(g) – CZ zoning district is created and, pursuant to subsection (k) of this section, a higher level of residential density than that otherwise permissible in B-1(g) zoning districts is approved for that district, then it shall be a requirement of such district that at least twenty percent (20%) of the total leasable or saleable floor area within all buildings located within such zoning district shall be designed for non-residential use. Occupancy permits may not be given for residential floor area if doing so would cause the ratio of residential floor area for which an occupancy permit has been issued to non-residential floor area for which an occupancy permit has been issued to exceed four to one (4:1). **(AMENDED 11/9/11)**

(m) For property that is zoned B-4-CZ, the Town Council may approve a special use permit-A that authorizes the tract to be divided into two or more lots, so long as (i) the application for the special use permit-A contains sufficient information to allow the Town Council to approve (and the Council does approve) such subdivision (including without limitation the street system, stormwater control system, open spaces, and all other common areas and facilities outside the boundaries of the subdivided lots) as well as the development of at least one of the lots within the subdivided tract, all in accordance with the applicable standards and requirements of this chapter (i.e. The subdivision and development of such lot(s) require no further review by the Council); and (ii) the application specifies (as a proposed condition on the CUP) the use or uses, maximum height, and maximum floor area of any structure(s) allowed on each lot for which the application does not provide sufficient information to allow development approval by the Council.(Amended 10/23/18)

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- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 15-64(d), with respect to lots for which the application for a special use permit-A for the entire tract does not provide sufficient information to allow development approval of such lots by the Council, the Council shall specify (by way of a condition upon the special use permit-A) whether development approval of such lots shall be regarded as an insignificant deviation or a minor modification, or shall require a new application. In making this determination, the Council shall consider the extent to which the initial special use permit-A imposes limitations on the use and design of each such lot beyond the minimum requirements of this section. The Council's determination as to the type of approval of such lots shall apply only to applications that are consistent with the permit previously approved by the Council. Such applications may be submitted by persons who have an interest (as described in Section 15-48) only in such lots, rather than the developer of the entire tract zoned B-4-CZ.
 - (2) Except as provided in subdivision (1) above, the provisions of Section 15-64 and Subsection 15-141.4 shall apply to proposed changes to a special use permit-A issued in connection with a B-4-CZ rezoning.
- (n) For property that is zoned M-3-CZ, pursuant to subsection 15-141.4(c)(2) the following provisions shall apply.
- (1) If the Town Council concludes that a proposed development of property zoned M-3- CZ will contain site and building elements that will create a more vibrant and successful community and provide essential public infrastructure, the Council may approve a special use permit-A that allows up to a specified maximum percentage of the gross floor area of the development to be devoted to any combination of uses 8.100, 8.200, 8.500, 8.600, and 8.700. The specified maximum percentage of the gross floor area of the development that may be devoted to such uses shall be proportional to the extent to which the development provides site and building elements that exceed the basic requirements of this ordinance. Such site and building elements are intended to be selected from the following five areas: stormwater management and water conservation; substantial transportation improvement and alternative transportation enhancement; on-site energy production and energy conservation; creation of new and innovative light manufacturing operations; and the provision of public art and/or provision of outdoor amenities for public use.
 - (2) The following relationships between site and building elements and uses are hereby deemed to satisfy the standard set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection: (i) up to fifteen percent of the gross floor area of a development approved pursuant to this section may be devoted to any combination of uses 8.100, 8.200, 8.500, 8.600, and 8.700 if the development includes at

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least fifteen percent of the examples of performance measures from the five areas of site and building element categories set forth below; (ii) up to thirty percent of the gross floor area of a development approved pursuant to this section may be devoted to any combination of the foregoing uses if the development includes at least thirty percent of the examples of performance measures from the five areas of site and building element categories set forth below; and (iii) up to forty percent of the gross floor area of a development approved pursuant to this section may be devoted to any combination of the foregoing uses if the development includes at least forty percent of the examples of performance measures from the five areas of site and building element categories set forth below. In addition, the Council may allow up to forty percent of a development approved pursuant to this section to be devoted to any combination of the foregoing uses if it concludes that the development will be making a substantial enough investment in one or more of the performance measures listed below to satisfy the standard set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

Performance Measures

Site and Building Element Categories	Examples of Performance Measures
Stormwater management and Water conservation	1) Substantial stormwater retrofits 2) Reduction in nitrogen loading from the site by at least 8 percent from the existing condition, as determined by the Jordan Lake Accounting Tool
Substantial transportation improvement and Alternative transportation enhancement	3) Provision of a safe, convenient, and connected internal street system or vehicle accommodation area designed to meet the needs of the expected number of motor vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit trips 4) Substantial improvement to public infrastructure, such as enhanced bicycle and pedestrian paths, or access to transit 5) Construction of substantially improved site entrance, intersection
On-site energy production and energy conservation	6) Meets or exceeds standards for LEED Gold certification 7) Installation of active and passive solar features such as sufficient solar arrays to account for 50 percent or more of the electrical usage for the property 8) Use of harvested rainwater for toilet flushing

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	<p>9) Use of devices that shade at least 30 percent of south-facing and west-facing building elevations</p> <p>10) Use of low emissivity (low-e²) windows along south-facing and west-facing building elevations</p> <p>11) Installation of attic insulation that exceeds the current building code R-value rating by 35 percent or greater</p> <p>12) Use of geothermal heat system to serve the entire complex</p> <p>13) Use of LED fixtures for parking and street lights</p> <p>14) Meets the Architecture 2030 goal of a 50 percent fossil fuel and greenhouse gas emission reduction standard, measured from the regional (or country) average for that building type or the US Conference of Mayors fossil fuel reduction standard for all new buildings to carbon neutral by 2030</p>
Creation of new and innovative light manufacturing operations	<p>15) The development of clean, innovative light manufacturing operation(s) that creates employment for a more than ten workers</p> <p>16) Incorporates technologies to reduce production waste by 50 percent or more</p>
The provision of public art and/or provision of outdoor amenities for public use	<p>17) Outdoor amenities such as major public art</p> <p>18) Amphitheatre or outdoor theater, outdoor congregating/gathering area</p> <p>19) Outdoor eating facilities</p> <p>20) Outdoor tables with game surfaces, etc.</p>

- (3) In approving a special use permit-A for a development of infill property zoned M-3-CZ, the Council may allow deviations from the otherwise applicable standards relating to public streets as follows:
- a. The Council may approve a curb and gutter street having a right-of way of not less than 50 feet, travel lanes of not less than 11 feet, divided by a raised concrete median, with a two foot planting strip and a five foot sidewalk if the development provides a separate ten-foot wide paved bike path or shared-use path that constitutes a satisfactory alternative to a bike lane with the street right-of-way if the applicant can demonstrate that the proposed road will provide the functional equivalent to the required street classification standard for all modes of travel from the point of origin to the terminus at the property boundaries.

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- b. The Council may approve a street lighting system consisting of LED lights on 15 foot poles if satisfactory arrangements are made to ensure that all costs associated with the installation, operation, and maintenance of such poles and lights are borne by the developer or the developer's successor, and not the Town.
- c. The Council may approve a street tree planting plan that provides for the installation of fewer 6" caliper trees rather than the planting of more numerous 2" caliper trees required by Section 15-316.

PART II. ZONING MAP**Section 15-142 Official Zoning Map.**

(a) There shall be a map known and designated as the Official Zoning Map, which shall show the boundaries of all zoning districts within the town's planning jurisdiction. This map shall be drawn on acetate or other durable material from which prints can be made, shall be dated, and shall be kept in the planning department.

(b) The Official Zoning Map dated April 1973 is adopted and incorporated herein by reference. Amendments to this map shall be made and posted in accordance with Section 15-143.

(c) Should the Official Zoning Map be lost, destroyed, or damaged, the administrator may have a new map drawn on acetate or other durable material from which prints can be made. No further authorization or action is required so long as no district boundaries are changed in this process.

Section 15-143 Amendments to Official Zoning Map. (AMENDED 4/27/10; 10/26/10; 9/24/13)

(a) Amendments to the Official Zoning Map are accomplished using the same procedures that apply to other amendments to this chapter, as set forth in Article XX.

(b) The administrator shall update the Official Zoning Map as soon as possible after amendments to it are adopted by the Town Council. Upon entering any such amendments to the map, the administrator shall change the date of the map to indicate its latest revision. New prints of the updated map may then be issued.

(c) No unauthorized person may alter or modify the Official Zoning Map.

(d) The planning department shall keep copies of superseded prints of the zoning map for historical reference.

Section 15-143.4 Downtown Neighborhood Protection Overlay District. (AMENDED 8/23/05)

(a) There is hereby created a Downtown Neighborhood Protection (DNP) Overlay District. The purpose of this district is to establish special height, setback, and design requirements applicable to lots in certain commercially zoned downtown areas where such lots abut or are directly across the street from residentially zoned properties.

(b) Because the DNP district is an overlay district, properties within this district are subject to the regulations applicable to the underlying district except as those regulations are modified or superseded by the requirements of the DNP district. The requirements of the DNP district are set forth in Section 15-185.1 of this chapter.

Section 15-143.5 Lloyd/Broad Overlay District. (AMENDED 6/26/2018)

ARTICLE XX

AMENDMENTS

Section 15-320 Amendments in General.

(a) Amendments to the text of this chapter or to the zoning map or to the comprehensive plan may be made in accordance with the provisions of this article, or in the case of non-substantive editorial changes, may be made administratively by the planning director, as described in Section 15-38 of this ordinance. **(AMENDED 9/01/87; 6/22/21)**

(b) The term “major map amendment” shall refer to an amendment that addresses the zoning district classification of five or more tracts of land in separate ownership or any parcel of land (regardless of the number of lots or owners) in excess of fifty acres. All other amendments to the zoning district map shall be referred to as “minor map amendments.”

(c) All properties within the University Lake Watershed are zoned WR, B-5, WM-3 or C. As provided in Subsection 15-137(b), no additional areas may be rezoned WM-3 or B-5, and no areas within the University Lake Watershed may be rezoned to any classification other than WR, or C. **(AMENDED 10/15/96)**

(d) The regulations applicable to the watershed districts do, and all amendments to these regulations shall, comply with the water supply watershed protection rules promulgated by the State pursuant to G.S. section 143-214.5. Copies of all amendments to section 15-266 shall be sent to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Division of Water Resources and the Environmental Management Commission (EMC). **(AMENDED 10/15/96; 6/22/21)**

Section 15-321 Initiation of Amendments.

(a) Whenever a request to amend this chapter is initiated by the Town Council, the planning board, the board of adjustment, other town advisory board, or the town administration, the town attorney in consultation with the planning staff shall draft an appropriate ordinance and present that ordinance to the Town Council so that a date for a public hearing may be set.

(b) Any other person may also petition the Council to amend this chapter. The petition shall be filed with the planning department and shall include, among the information deemed relevant by the planning department:

- (1) The name, address, and phone number of the applicant. If a change in zoning district classification to a less dense development density is proposed, the name, address, phone number and signature of all property owners consent to the application is required. Applications for down-zoning shall not be considered unless all the property owners consent to the application. **(AMENDED 6/22/21)**

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- (2) A description of the land affected by the amendment if a change in zoning district classification is proposed.
- (3) Stamped envelopes containing the names and addresses of all those to whom notice of the public hearing must be sent as provided in Section 15-323.
- (4) A description of the proposed map change or a summary of the specific objective of any proposed change in the text of this chapter.
- (5) A concise statement of the reasons why the petitioner believes the proposed amendment would be in the public interest.

(b1) If a change in zoning district classification is proposed, the petitioner shall hold at least one neighborhood information meeting on the application. A mailing is required in accordance with the standards in 15-323(c). **(AMENDED 6/22/21)**

- (c) Upon receipt of a petition as provided in (b), the planning staff shall either:
- (1) Treat the proposed amendment as one initiated by the town administration and proceed in accordance with subsection (a) if it believes that the proposed amendment has significant merit and would benefit the general public interest; or
 - (2) Forward the petition to the Council with or without written comment for a determination of whether an ordinance should be drafted and a public hearing set in accordance with subsection (d).

(d) Upon receipt of a proposed ordinance as provided in subsection (a), the Council may establish a date for a public hearing on it. Upon receipt of a petition for an ordinance amendment as provided in subsection (b), the Council may summarily deny the petition or set a date for a public hearing on the requested amendment and order the attorney, in consultation with the planning staff, to draft an appropriate ordinance. In accordance with G.S. 160D-601(d), petitions for proposed map changes that would result in a downzoning of property shall only be initiated by the owners of the property or the Town. (See subsection (b)(1) above.) **(AMENDED 6/22/21)**

Section 15-322 Planning Board and Other Advisory Consideration of Proposed Amendments.

(a) If the Council sets a date for a public hearing on a proposed amendment, it shall also refer the proposed amendment to the planning board for its consideration and may refer the amendment to the appearance commission if community appearance is involved, and may refer the amendment to the transportation advisory board if the amendment involves community transportation issues, and may refer the amendment to the environmental advisory board if the amendment involves community environment issues, and may refer the amendment to the affordable housing advisory commission if the amendment involves an affordable housing issue, and may refer the amendment to the economic sustainability commission if the amendment

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involves an economic development issue or any other board if the amendment involves an issue of which the board has expertise. **(AMENDED 9/19/95; REWRITTEN 2/25/14; AMENDED 6/25/19; 6/22/21).**

(b) The planning board shall advise and comment on whether the proposed amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Plan, long-range transportation plans, or other applicable plans officially adopted by the Town Council. The planning board shall provide a written recommendation to the Town Council that addresses plan consistency and other matters as deemed appropriate by the planning board. If no written report is received from the planning board within 30 days of referral of the amendment to that board, the Town Council may proceed in its consideration of the amendment without the planning board report. **(AMENDED 10/24/06; 6/22/21)**

(c) A comment by the planning board that a proposed amendment is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Plan, long-range transportation plans or other officially adopted plan shall not preclude consideration or approval of the proposed amendment by the Town Council, and the Town Council is not bound by the recommendations of the planning board. **(AMENDED 10/24/06; 6/22/21)**

(d) A member of the planning board and any other advisory committee that provides direct advice to the Town Council (i.e. it does not report to the planning board) shall not vote on any legislative decision regarding a development regulation adopted pursuant to this Chapter where the outcome of the matter being considered is reasonably likely to have a direct, substantial, and readily identifiable financial impact on the member. An appointed board member shall not vote on any zoning amendment if the landowner of the property subject to a rezoning petition or the applicant for a text amendment is a person with whom the member has a close familial, business, or other associational relationship. **(AMENDED 10/24/06; 6/22/21)**

Section 15-323 Hearing Required: Notice.

(a) No ordinance that amends any of the provisions of this chapter may be adopted until a public hearing has been held on such ordinance.

(b) The planning staff shall publish a notice of the public hearing on any ordinance that amends the provisions of this chapter once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the Carrboro area. The notice shall be published for the first time not less than ten days nor more than twenty-five days before the date fixed for the hearing. This period is to be computed in accordance with G.S. section 160D-601(a), which provides that the date of publication is not counted but the date of the hearing is. **(AMENDED 6/22/21)**

(c) With respect to all map amendments, the planning staff shall mail, by first class mail, written notice of the public hearing to the record owners of all properties whose zoning classification is changed by the proposed amendment as well as the owners of all properties any portion of which is abutting the property rezoned by the amendment, including property separated by a street right of way, railroad or other transportation corridor and any other property that is within 1000 feet of the property rezoned by the amendment. For purposes of this section the term “owners” shall mean the persons shown as owners on Orange County’s computerized land records system. The planning staff

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shall also make reasonable efforts to mail a similar written notice to the non-owner occupants of residential rental property located within 1,000 feet of the lot that is the subject of the rezoning. The notices required by this subsection shall be deposited in the mail at least 10 but not more than 25 days prior to the date of the public hearing. If the rezoning map amendment is being proposed in conjunction with an expansion of municipal extraterritorial planning and development regulation jurisdiction under G.S. 160D-202, a single hearing on the zoning map amendment and the boundary amendment may be held. In this instance, the initial notice of the zoning map amendment hearing may be combined with the boundary hearing notice and the combined hearing notice mailed at least 30 days prior to the hearing. The staff member mailing such notices shall certify to the council that the notices have been mailed, and such certificate shall be deemed conclusive in the absence of fraud. **(AMENDED 10/12/82; 1/22/85; 10/1/85; 4/15/97; 3/26/02; 6/22/21)**

(d) The first class mail notice required under subsection (c) of this section shall not be required if the zoning map amendment directly affects more than 50 properties, owned by a total of at least 50 different property owners, and the Town elects to use the expanded published notice provided for in this subsection. In this instance, the Town may elect to either make the mailed notice provided for in subsection (c) of this section or may, as an alternative, elect to publish notice of the hearing as required by G.S. section 160D-602(b), but provided that each advertisement shall not be less than one-half (1/2) of a newspaper page in size. The advertisement shall only be effective for property owners who reside in the area of general circulation of the newspaper which publishes the notice. Property owners who reside outside of the newspaper circulation area, according to the address listed on the most recent Orange County property tax listing for the affected property, shall be notified according to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. **(AMENDED 10/24/06; 6/22/21)**

(e) For proposed zoning map amendments, the planning staff shall prominently post a notice of the public hearing on the site proposed for a rezoning or an adjacent public street or highway right-of-way at least 10 but not more than 25 days prior to the date of the public hearing. When multiple parcels are included within a proposed zoning map amendment, a posting on each individual parcel is not required, but the planning staff shall post sufficient notices to provide reasonable notice to interested persons. **(AMENDED 6/22/21)**

(f) The planning staff shall take any other action deemed by the Planning Department to be useful or appropriate to give notice of the public hearing on any proposed amendment.

(g) The notice required or authorized by this section (other than the posted notice required by subsection (e)) shall: **(AMENDED 11/24/09)**

- (1) State the date, time, and place of the public hearing.
- (2) Summarize the nature and character of the proposed change.
- (3) If the proposed amendment involves a change in zoning district classification, reasonably identify the property whose classification would be affected by the amendment.

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- (4) State that the full text of the amendment can be obtained from the town clerk.
- (5) State that substantial changes in the proposed amendment may be made following the public hearing.

(h) The planning staff shall make every reasonable effort to comply with the notice provisions set forth in this section. However, it is the Council's intention that the notice requirements set forth in this section that are not required by state law shall not be regarded as mandatory, and therefore a failure to comply with such requirements shall not render any amendment invalid. **(AMENDED 11/24/09)**

(i) Except for a town-initiated zoning map amendment, when an application is filed to request a zoning map amendment and that application is not made by the owner of the parcel of land to which the amendment would apply (regardless of how the staff treats the proposed amendment under subsection 15-321(c)), the applicant shall certify to the Town Council that the owner of the parcel of land as shown on the county tax listing has received actual notice of the proposed amendment and a copy of the notice of public hearing. The person or persons required to provide notice shall certify to the Town Council that proper notice has been provided in fact, and such certificate shall be deemed conclusive in the absence of fraud. **(AMENDED 11/24/09)**

(j) Actual notice of the proposed amendment and a copy of the notice of public hearing required under subsection 15-323(i) of this section shall be by any manner permitted under G.S. section 1A-1, Rule 4(j). If notice cannot with due diligence be achieved by personal delivery, registered or certified mail, or by a designated delivery service authorized pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 7502(f)(2), notice may be given by publication consistent with G.S. section 1A-1, Rule 4(j1). This subsection applies only to an application to request a zoning map amendment where the application is not made by the owner of the parcel of land to which the amendment would apply. This subsection does not apply to a town-initiated zoning map amendment. **(AMENDED 11/24/09)**

Section 15-324 Council Action on Amendments. **(AMENDED 10/24/06)**

(a) At the conclusion of the public hearing on a proposed amendment, the Council may proceed to vote on the proposed ordinance, refer it to a committee for further study, or take any other action consistent with its usual rules of procedure.

(b) The Council is not required to take final action on a proposed amendment within any specific period of time, but it should proceed as expeditiously as practicable on petitions for amendments since inordinate delays can result in the petitioner incurring unnecessary costs.

(c) Voting on amendments to this chapter shall proceed in the same manner as on other ordinances, subject to Section 2-15 of the Town Code.

(d) When adopting or rejecting any zoning or text amendment, the Council shall adopt a statement describing whether the action is consistent or inconsistent with an adopted comprehensive plan, which shall not be subject to judicial review. **(AMENDED 2/6/2018;**

REWRITTEN 6/22/21)

- (1) If the amendment is adopted and the action was deemed inconsistent with the adopted plan, the zoning amendment shall have the effect of also amending any future land use map in the approved plan, and no additional request or application for a plan amendment shall be required.
- (2) A plan amendment and zoning amendment may be considered concurrently.
- (3) If a zoning map amendment qualifies as a “large-scale rezoning” under G.S. section 160D-602(b), the Council’s statement describing plan consistency may address the overall rezoning and describe how the analysis and policies in the relevant adopted plans were considered in the action taken.

(d1) When adopting or rejecting any petition for a zoning map amendment the Council shall adopt a statement explaining the reasonableness of the proposed rezoning. The statement of reasonableness may consider, among other factors: (i) the size, physical conditions, and other attributes of any area proposed to be rezoned; (ii) the benefits and detriments to the landowners, the neighbors, and the surrounding community; (iii) the relationship between the current actual and permissible development and the development permissible under the proposed amendment, (iv) why the action taken is in the public interest; and (v) any changed conditions warranting the amendment. If a zoning map amendment qualifies as a “large-scale rezoning” under G.S. section 160D-602(b), the statement on reasonableness may address the overall rezoning.

(e) A Council member shall not vote on any legislative decision regarding a development regulation adopted pursuant to this Chapter where the outcome of the matter being considered is reasonably likely to have a direct, substantial, and readily identifiable financial impact on the member. A Council member shall not vote on any zoning amendment if the landowner of the property subject to a rezoning petition or the applicant for a text amendment is a person with whom the member has a close familial, business, or other associational relationship. (See also Carrboro Town Code Section 2-35). **(REWRITTEN 6/22/21)**

Section 15-325 Ultimate Issue Before Council on Amendments.

In deciding whether to adopt a proposed amendment to this chapter, the central issue before the Council is whether the proposed amendment advances the public health, safety or welfare. All other issues are irrelevant, and all information related to other issues at the public hearing may be declared irrelevant by the mayor and excluded. In particular, when considering proposed minor map amendments:

- (1) Except when the request is to rezone property to a conditional zoning district, the Council shall not consider any representations made by the petitioner that, if the change is granted, the rezoned property will be used for only one of the possible range of uses permitted in the requested classification. Rather, the Council shall consider whether the entire range of permitted uses in the requested classification is more

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appropriate than the range of uses in the existing classification. **(AMENDED 05/25/99; 05/27/08)**

- (2) The Council shall not regard as controlling any advantages or disadvantages to the individual requesting the change, but shall consider the impact of the proposed change on the public at large.

Section 15-326 Citizen Comments on Zoning Map and Text Amendments. (AMENDED 10/24/06, REWRITTEN 12/6/16; 6/22/21).

The Town of Carrboro Land Use Ordinance may from time to time be amended, supplemented, changed, modified or repealed. If any resident or property owner in the Town submits a written statement regarding a proposed amendment, modification or repeal to a zoning regulation including a text or map amendment that has been properly initiated as provided in G.S. 160D-601, to the Clerk of the Town Council at least two (2) business days prior to the proposed vote on such change, the Clerk to the Council shall deliver such written statement to the Council. If the proposed change is the subject of a quasi-judicial proceeding under G.S. section 160D-705 or any other statute, the Clerk shall provide only the names and addresses of the individuals providing written comment, and the provision of such names and addresses to all members of the Council shall not disqualify any member of the Council from voting. Written statements submitted in connection with a quasi-judicial proceeding may be admitted into evidence at such a proceeding if the Council determines that such statements are admissible under the N.C. Rules of Evidence in the proceeding. (Amended 12-6-16; and enacted pursuant to a Resolution in Opposition to the General Assembly's Repeal of Statutory Authority for Qualified Protest Petitions to Trigger a Super Majority Vote for Certain Zoning Map Amendments, dated 12-6-16).