

#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS REWRITE

Cool Spring Terrace Civic Association March 28, 2015



The Maryland – National Capital Park & Planning Commission





# **Project Background – What are we doing?**

Prince George's County is comprehensively rewriting the County's Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations.





# **Project Background – Why are we** *rewriting?*

- Current ordinance is outdated, lengthy, and confusing
- Not responsive to the county's vision for future growth and development
- Priority Implementation step of *Plan Prince George's 2035*



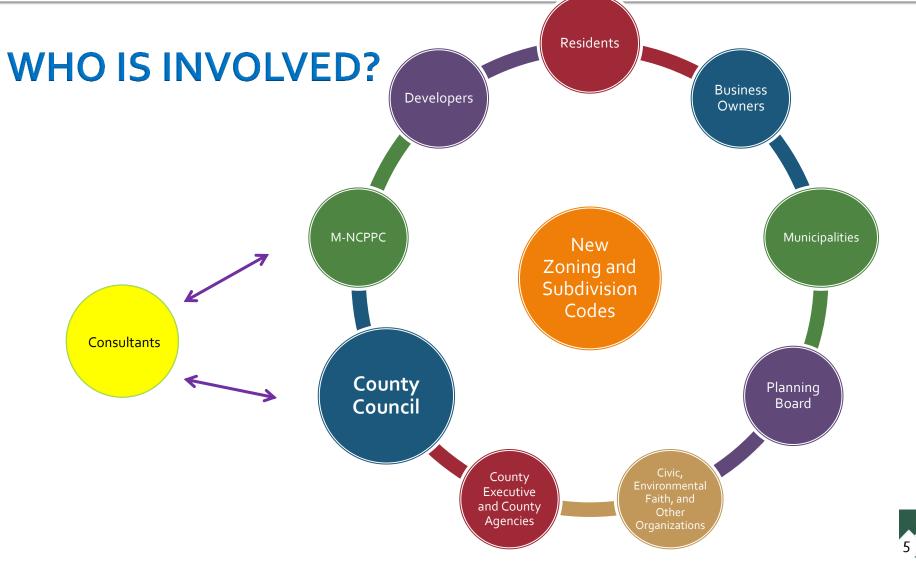


# **Project Goals – What do we hope to accomplish?**

- Streamline the ordinance and development approval process
- Modernize and consolidate our zones and development standards
- Incentivize revitalization and economic, transitoriented, and mixed-use development
- **Protect** stable residential neighborhoods









## **The Zoning Ordinance Balance**



Successful Communities

Regulation





## <u>The Clarion Team</u> <u>Recommendations</u>



## **Protect** Existing Neighborhoods



### **Enhanced Community Involvement**

 Meaningful input up front = more ability to collaborate and influence

### **Design Regulations**

- Neighborhood Compatibility Standards: Requiring new development projects to mitigate potential negative impacts to existing neighborhoods
- Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone: tool to ensure the desired character of a neighborhood is protected
- "Baseline" standards in the Zoning Ordinance ensure a higher level of quality than we often see today while still remaining flexible



## Enhance Community Involvement



- Make the code easier to understand
- Work with the community in developing the code to ensure regulations are clear and sufficient
- Improve application notification and incorporate modern technology
- Require pre-application neighborhood meetings for any discretionary review application
- Require pre-application conferences with staff and implement a process to ensure application completeness
- Institute a formal and clear interpretations process



## Implement Design Regulations



### **Neighborhood Compatibility Standards**

- Protect the character of established single-family neighborhoods
- Apply to new non-residential, mixed-use, and multifamily development near single-family residential communities
- Potential standards include: building dimensions, parking/loading/refuse areas, lighting, signage, open space, and operational standards

#### Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone

- Similar to ACO Zone/historic district regulations, but less detailed
- Incorporates a pre-approved area or neighborhood plan covering infill and redevelopment and consistency with elements found in existing community
- Administrative review



## Simplify the Code Structure



## 8 Divisions

## **48 Sections**

Subtitle 27: Suggested Zoning Ordinance Structure

**Division 27-1 General Provisions** 

**Division 27-2 Administration** 

Division 27-3 Zone and Zone Regulations

**Division 27-4 Use Regulations** 

Division 27-5 Development Standards

**Division 27-6 Nonconformities** 

**Division 27-7 Enforcement** 

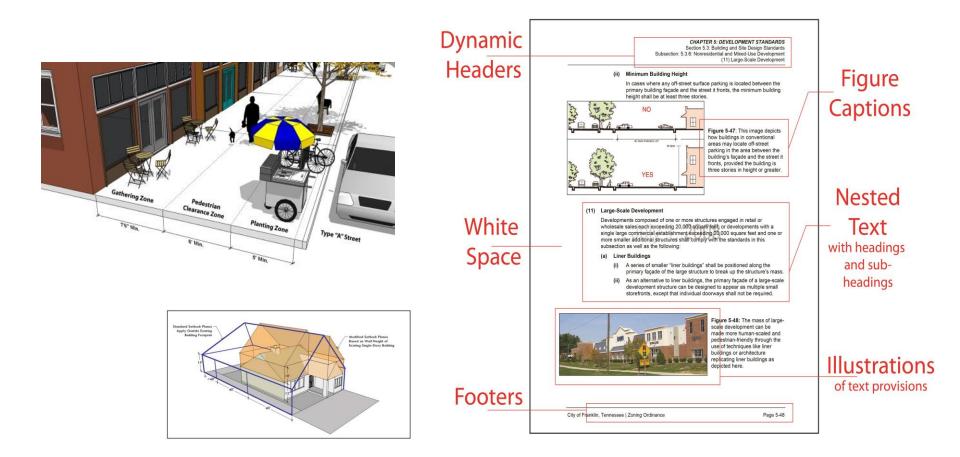
**Division 27-8 Definitions** 

APPENDIX



## Integrate Text, Tables and Graphics







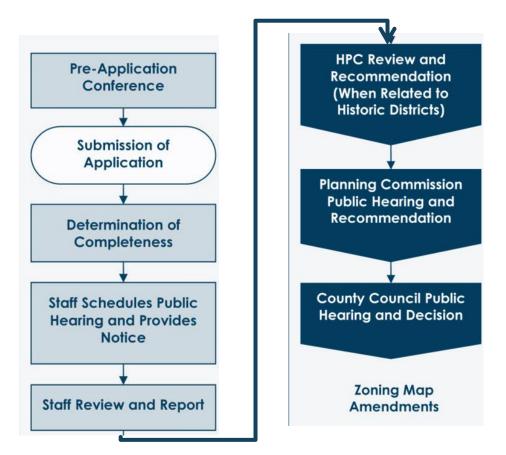
## **Explain** Procedures with Flowcharts



#### **Public Hearings**



#### **Zoning Map Amendments**





## **Consolidate** Zones and Regulations



	Today	Recommended
	73 Zones	43 Zones
Conventional	33	25
"Floating"	26	7
Overlay	14	11





- Current code <u>30</u>! Mixed-Use Zones, <u>18</u> DDOZ/TDOZ and <u>4</u> M-U-TC Development Plans in place
- Recommended code supports Plan 2035 and County priorities
  - Regional Transit Districts
- Neighborhood Centers
- Local Transit Districts
- Town Centers
- Both "by-right" base zones and flexible Planned Development zones



## Incorporate Best Practices



## Other Key Plan Prince George's 2035 Goals

- Infill; redevelop and revitalize commercial corridors
- Sustainability
- Connectivity, roadway design, parking, and loading
- Open space and agriculture



## **Modify** Review Authority



## **Development Review Decision Makers**

- District Council
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Zoning Hearing Examiner
- Planning Board
- Planning Director





## WHAT COMES NEXT?

- Continue to engage in community outreach and education
- Code drafting to begin ~ April, 2015







## **Zoning Rewrite Draft Schedule**

Module	Public Review Draft
Zones and Uses	Fall 2015
Development Standards and Subdivision Regulations	Spring 2016
Processes and Administration	Summer 2016
Comprehensive Review Draft	Fall 2016
Final Approval	March 2017





### **Contact Information**

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