



February 21, 2023

CPCR.2023.001

**RESOLUTION OF THE RICHMOND CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
TO ESTABLISH THE ZONING ORDINANCE REVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 17.04 of the City Charter, it is the duty of the City Planning Commission to make and adopt a master plan that is the equivalent of the comprehensive plan for which Title 15.2, Article 3 of the Code of Virginia provides; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 17.13 of the City Charter, it is the duty of the City Planning Commission to prepare and submit to the City Council a comprehensive zoning plan, in the form of a zoning ordinance, to carry out the purposes of such master plan; and

WHEREAS, the zoning ordinance divides the city into districts and provides for the regulation and use of land, buildings, and structures within the districts; and

WHEREAS, while the zoning ordinance has been amended in a piecemeal manner from time to time, the last comprehensive revision was in 1976; and

WHEREAS, provisions within the zoning ordinance prohibit development that aligns with current economic conditions, social preferences, environmental realities, and the ability to accommodate a growing number of residents, employees, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Richmond must use its land in the most effective, efficient, equitable, and resilient manner possible, for it is sixty-two and one-half (62½) square miles in size, and the Commonwealth of Virginia has prohibited it from annexing any land to grow; and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission adopted, and City Council approved, its master plan, *Richmond 300*, in December 2020, which envisions Richmond in 2037 as a welcoming, inclusive, diverse, innovative, sustainable, and equitable city of thriving neighborhoods, ensuring a high quality of life for all; and

WHEREAS, *Richmond 300* identifies six (6) big moves, that if implemented in the first five years after adoption, will place Richmond on track to achieve its vision; and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission desires to take a substantial step forward on the first big move, which is to revise the zoning ordinance; and

WHEREAS, that pursuant to section 2-457 of the City Code, the Department of Planning and Development Review shall provide staff services as may be required by the City Planning Commission in preparing and revising a comprehensive zoning plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission desires the Director of Planning and Development Review to oversee and manage the development of the zoning ordinance revision process; and

WHEREAS, the City Planning Commission seeks to create a demographically, educationally, and geographically diverse advisory body to support the Director in this process and create public engagement activities that lead to exponential awareness and a more diverse, informed, and engaged land use and zoning constituency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Planning Commission requests that the Director of Planning and Development Review oversee and manage the process for revising the zoning ordinance, including the solicitation and selection of a professional consultant or consultant team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Planning Commission, in order to expedite its work, establishes an ad hoc Zoning Ordinance Revision Advisory Committee, whose members shall be appointed by the Chair, and which shall contain an odd number of members, not to exceed seventeen (17) members, of which no fewer than fourteen (14) members shall be residents of the City of Richmond, and shall contain two (2) members nominated by the City Planning Commission, one (1) by City Council, one (1) by the Board of Zoning Appeals, and one (1) by the Mayor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Zoning Ordinance Revision Advisory Committee shall have the power to create multiple Working Groups, consisting of Committee members and additional persons with relevant subject matter expertise, each of which will be cooperatively led by a city employee and member of the Committee, to work on specific technical aspects and public engagement activities as directed.

Rodney Poole
Chair, City Planning Commission

Alyson Oliver
Secretary, City Planning Commission