

# Board of Supervisors Land Use Policy Committee

May 16, 2023

Government Center Conference Room 11

## ***Board of Supervisors (Board) Members present:***

Jeff McKay, Chairman  
James Walkinshaw, Braddock District  
John Foust, Dranesville District  
Walter Alcorn, Hunter Mill District  
Rodney Lusk, Franconia District  
Penelope Gross, Mason District (Vice Chairman)  
Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District  
Dalia Palchik, Providence District  
Pat Herrity, Springfield District  
Kathy Smith, Sully District (Committee Chair)

The Land Use Policy Committee (Committee) meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.

The summary of the April 25, 2023, Committee meeting was accepted without change.

## **Signs, Part II:**

Casey Judge, Principal Planner, Zoning Administration Division (ZAD), Department of Planning and Development (DPD) presented proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance provisions regarding signs. Also in attendance were Tracy Strunk, Director, DPD, Leslie Johnson, Zoning Administrator, ZAD, DPD, and Carmen Bishop, ZAD, DPD. Ms. Judge provided information on the proposed changes regarding electronic display signs, special exceptions for sign modifications and other revisions for the Committee's consideration. The proposed changes for electronic signs would increase the maximum nighttime brightness in nonresidential districts. The revised special exception would consolidate current application types, revise aspects that may be modified, and add review standards and submission requirements. Other proposed changes include reserved parking space, drive-through ordering, window and subdivision signs. The next steps include additional outreach with a timeline for public hearings at the end of 2023.

Discussion ensued with input from staff clarifying the proposed provisions regarding nonconforming signs, signs in store windows, electronic signs in residential areas, size, location and brightness of electronic signs, and subdivision signs. It was the consensus of the Committee that staff move forward as discussed.

## **Landscaping and Screening:**

Sara Morgan, Senior Planner, DPD, presented proposed changes to the landscaping and screening provisions in the Zoning Ordinance. Also in attendance were Tracy Strunk, Director,

DPD, Leslie Johnson, Zoning Administrator, ZAD, DPD, and Carmen Bishop, ZAD, DPD, and Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forest Management, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. Ms. Morgan described the scope, outreach and timing of the review of the landscaping and screening provisions. Changes are proposed regarding the amount, and distribution of landscaping requirements for parking lots; transitional screening and barriers, including redesigning the table; use of existing vegetation; a new street frontage landscaping requirement; and other changes. The next steps include a proposed schedule for outreach and public hearings.

Discussion ensued with input from staff regarding the planting standards, the process for implementation of landscape plans, street frontage landscaping requirements, enforcement, potential conflicts, plant species, parking deck shading, maintenance, and utilities. With the concurrence of the Committee, staff will review and move forward as discussed.

**Notices:**

Tracy Strunk, Director, DPD, briefly described potential changes to notices for land use cases. Also in attendance were Suzanne Wright, Director, Zoning Evaluation Division, DPD, and Jill Cooper, Director, Department of Clerk Services. Ms. Strunk presented considerations related to providing written notices to renters, not just property owners, for land use cases, and the use of certified or first-class mail for notices. Discussion ensued with input from staff regarding the preferred policy for providing notices in the most efficient and effective manner. Due to limited time, staff will return to the Committee for additional discussion.

The Committee meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.