

PROJECT KICKOFF

PUBLIC MEETING APRIL 17, 2023







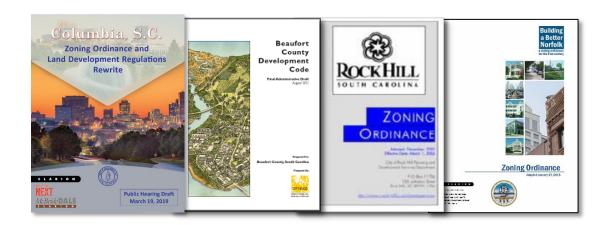


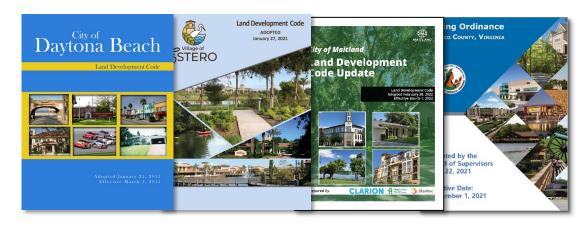




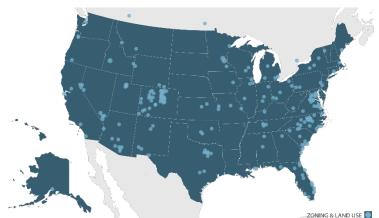
Overview

- The Clarion Team
- Work Program and Schedule
- Input on Potential Project Goals
- Question and Answers
- Next Steps

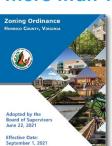




CLARION



More than 150 comprehensive code rewrites







Examples of Code Experience

- ✓ Norfolk, VA | Zoning Ordinance
- ✓ Columbia, SC | Zoning Ordinance & Subdivision Regulations
- **Beaufort County, SC | Form-Based** Code
- Rock Hill, SC | Zoning Ordinance
- ✓ Prince Georges County, MD | Zoning Ordinance & Subdivision Regulations
- Daytona Beach, FL | Land **Development Code**
- Maitland, FL | Land Development Code
- Estero, FL | Land Development Code
- Kannapolis, NC | Kannapolis **Development Ordinance**
- Henrico County, VA | Zoning Ordinance & Subdivision Regulations
- Teton County, WY | Land **Development Regulations**

Geoff Green Project Manager

Project Director

Craig Richardson



Don Elliot Advisor on Equity Issues



Emily Gvino Proiect Planner



Gordy Moore Code Draftina



Addie Sherman Graphics





DOVER, KOHL & PARTNERS

Responsibilities

Form-based coding and design-related issues

Project Experience

- ✓ Charleston, SC | Plan West Ashley
- ✓ Arlington, VA | Columbia Pike Plan and Code
- ✓ Charleston, SC | Rethink Folly Road
- ✓ Bradenton, FL | Downtown Form-based Code

With Clarion:

- ✓ Henrico County, VA | Form-Based Districts
- ✓ Albany, NY | Re-Zone Albany Form-Based Code



Responsibilities

Development and building standards to address rising water environment

Project Experience

- National architecture/planning firm with experience in adaptive reuse, rehabilitation, new construction in historically significant contexts
- Experience with building design issues related to resiliency and sea level rise
- ✓ Newport, RI | Keeping History Above Water Case Study & Inaugural Conference
- ✓ Salem, MA | House of Seven Gables

 Museum Resiliency & Adaptation Planning





Responsibilities

Development review procedures

Project Experience

- ✓ Mount Pleasant, SC | Zoning and Development Codes Assessment
- ✓ York County, SC | Zoning and Subdivision Codes Rewrite
- ✓ Charleston County, SC | Planned Development and Affordable Housing issues in code update
- ✓ North Augusta, SC | Zoning & Development Standards Ordinance Update
- ✓ Los Angeles, CA | Code Rewrite-Development Procedures Code



Responsibilities

Sustainability/rising water issues and facilitation

Project Experience

- ✓ Significant civic engagement and comprehensive planning experience
- ✓ South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority | South Carolina Statewide Sustainability Assessment
- ✓ **Columbia, SC** | Clean Water 2020 Infrastructure Initiative
- ✓ Pike County, GA | Water Resources Management Plan







Parking, mobility, circulation, complete streets, & transportation issues in formbased districts and Zoning Code update

Project Experience

- ✓ Charlotte, NC | Uptown Cyclelink
- National Association of City
 Transportation Officials |
 Urban Bikeway Design Guide
- ✓ Sommerville, MA | Sommerville by Design



Responsibilities

Parking, mobility, & transportation issues in form-based districts and Zoning Code update

Project Experience

- ✓ Charleston, SC | Traffic and Transportation On-Call Services
- ✓ Mt. Pleasant, SC |

 Development Codes

 Assessment
- Local firm with extensive experience working in Charleston



Responsibilities

Stormwater and green infrastructure issues related to form-based districts

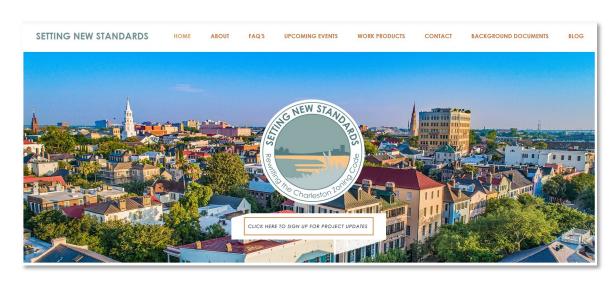
Project Experience

- ✓ Charleston, SC | Plan West Ashley
- ✓ Charleston, SC | West Ashley Greenway Master Plan
- ✓ Jamestown, RI | Sustainable Jamestown



The Project's information hub:

- Project information
- Sign-up form for project updates
- Information about upcoming meetings
- Access background documents and draft work products, take surveys, and provide comments
- Read frequently asked questions about the project
- Contact information



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Work Program and Schedule

Five main tasks

Currently at Project Initiation Phase



PROJECT INITIATION

- DOCUMENT REVIEW
- STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS
- MEETINGS WITH PUBLIC, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND CITY COUNCIL

CODE ASSESSMENT

- PREPARE CODE ASSESSMENT
- MEETINGS TO RECEIVE INPUT

DRAFT UPDATED CODE

- DRAFT UPDATED CODE, IN 3 MODULES
- CHARETTES & DEVELOP FORM- BASED DISTRICTS/ CONTEXT-SENSITIVE REGULATIONS
- MEETINGS ON DRAFT CODE MODULES

TEST UPDATED CODE

- TEST 5 DEVELOPMENT SITES UNDER UPDATED CODE
- MEETINGS TO RECEIVE INPUT

PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT OF UPDATED CODE

- PREPARE PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT OF UPDATED CODE
- PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ADOPTION



Develop Elevation-Based Code that Addresses Rising Water Issues and Incorporates Sustainable Development Practices

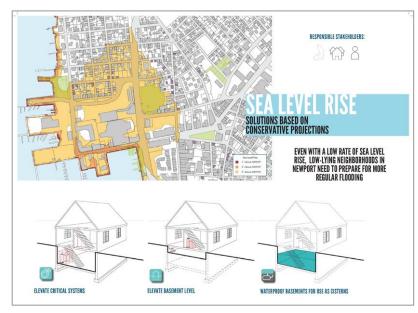
- Evaluate potential updates to land use and zoning regulations such as:
 - Restricting development in the most vulnerable areas, and encouraging development on higher ground
 - Restoring and mitigating natural systems to better address rising water environment
- Improve City's ability to absorb shocks from flooding and severe storms (such as hurricanes)
- Consider impacts from rising water conditions in future





Develop Elevation-Based Code that Addresses Rising Water Issues and Incorporates Sustainable Development Practices

- Evaluate development standards for new construction in the context of rising water levels
- Consider changes to
 - Building design and elevation requirements
 - Minimum parking standards and impervious surface requirements
 - Setbacks and buffers along watercourses and flood-prone areas
- Evaluate standards for redeveloping properties to address rising water issues

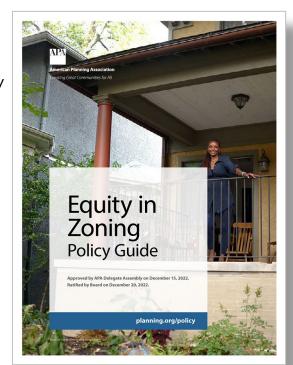


Graphic from Union Studio



Evaluate and Incorporate Equity Concepts into New Code

- Zoning regulations have historically been used to exclude, often historically disadvantaged or vulnerable groups
- Equity in zoning attempts to reduce or reverse these exclusionary elements and address barriers for these impacted communities
- Equity analysis involves close review of:
 - Substantive rules with inequitable impact (e.g., material standards, restrictions on housing types)
 - Development review processes where discretion may be abused
 - Zoning map standards that can cause additional harms (e.g., location of polluting facilities)





Establish Context-Sensitive Regulations or Formbased Districts in Appropriate Locations

- Multiple unique areas of town with distinctive, site design, development patterns, and neighborhood amenities
- Work with staff and public to determine areas where special, context-sensitive regulations make sense (including form-based districts) and draft regulations as part of update









Provide and Incentivize Affordable Housing

- Affordable housing is an increasingly pressing issue nationwide and in the City
- Provide a greater diversity of housing options in appropriate locations
 - Duplexes and triplexes ("Missing Middle" housing)
 - Cottage homes
 - Higher density multi-family and townhomes in appropriate locations
- Consider strengthening incentives for developments that provide affordable housing opportunities







Detached Garage + ADU



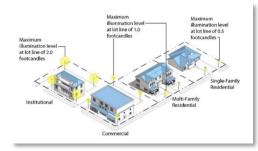
Cottage Homes



Make the Document More User-Friendly

- Add graphics, illustrations, and summary tables
- Remove obsolete, unused, and redundant provisions
- Incorporate updated zone district format



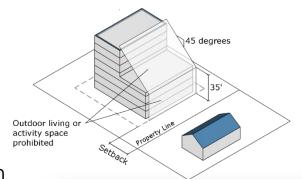


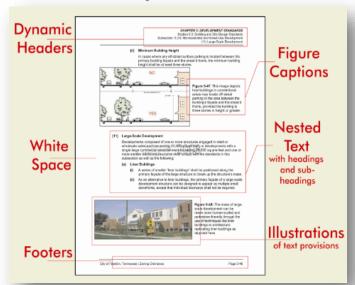




Make the Document More User-Friendly

- Make organization logical and more intuitive
- Update page layout and reference system
- Address conflicting language and eliminate redundancy
- Ensure internal consistency
- Use more precise language and "plain English"
- Resolve inconsistencies and contradictions
- Update definitions
- Add cross-references to standards outside the code that apply







Improve Procedural Efficiency

Consolidate all procedures in one chapter or article

Consolidate common procedures (e.g., application submission and

public notice requirements)

Clarify review standards and procedures

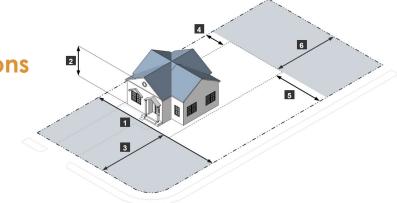
 Ensure regulations are consistent with review procedures and requirements

- Clarify permit distinctions; consider other permit-related updates
- Clarify when waivers or exceptions are available, and make them staff-level approvals, where appropriate



Modernize the Zone Districts and Use Regulations

- Modernize, restructure, and streamline the zone districts
- Remove unused or redundant districts
- Ensure districts support types of development called for in Charleston City Plan
- Reduce reliance on Planned Unit Development zoning
- Modernize, clarify, and define all uses and use regulations
- Add new uses (e.g., EV charging stations), and include a use table



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Use Category	Use Туре	C	ŁΑ		Residential												Nonresidential & Mixed-U										
		C-1	A-1	R-0	R-0A	R-1	R-1A	R-2	R-2A	R-3	R-3A	R-4	R-4A	R-5A	R-5	R-6	RTH	CMU	0-1	0-2	E-0	s/o	B-1	B-2	B-3	M-1	M-2
Day Care	Adult day care center	-	-	-	1		-			-	-	-		-	R	R	-		R				R		R	R	-
	Childcare center	-	-	-			•	1		-	-	-	-	-	R	R	•	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	-
Educational Facilities	College or university	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Р	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	Р	Р	R	R	R	-



Modernize the Development Standards

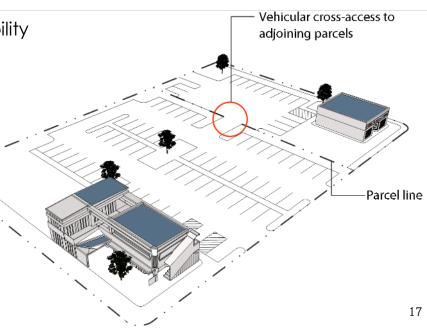
General Updates

- Remove barriers to infill development
- Review development standards through sustainability and equity lenses

Parking, Mobility, and Circulation

- Modernize parking standards based on best practices
- Move away from "one size fits all" approach to parking requirements; consider eliminating minimum parking requirements in more areas or throughout City
- Update site and building design standards to prioritize bicycle and pedestrian access







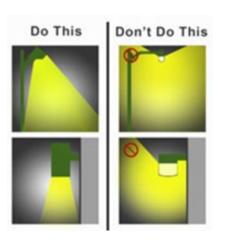
Modernize the Development Standards

Exterior Lighting

Add general exterior lighting standards to improve comfort and help protect the night sky

Neighborhood Compatibility

Refine existing standards that protect residential neighborhoods from incompatible commercial or multifamily development







Input on Potential Project Goals

We want your input!

Get out your cell phone We will ask you to rate potential project goals

- You will choose your response on your cell phone
- Once most people have made a response, we will share results on the screen
- To make sure everyone is comfortable with the technology, we will start with two sample questions



Instructions

Go to

www.menti.com

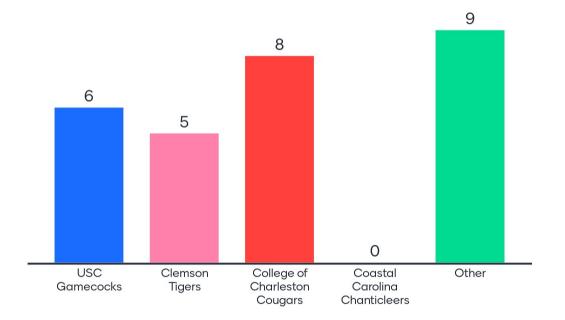
Enter the code



Or use QR code



What is your favorite college sports team?







How much do you support the Mentimeter following proposals?

Not supportive

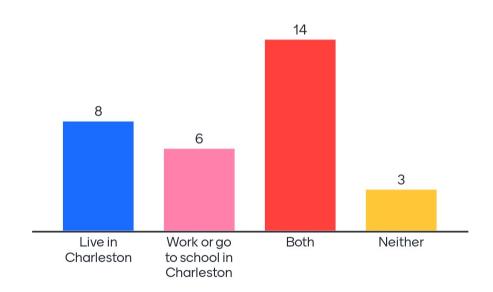
Adding cat cafes to all fice buildings

Requiring pirespple on all pizzas



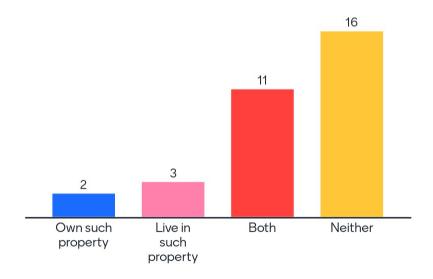
Mentimeter

Do you live, work, or attend school in the City of Charleston?



Mentimeter

Do you own or live on property that is in a low-lying area or is otherwise susceptible to flooding, either tidal or during storms?







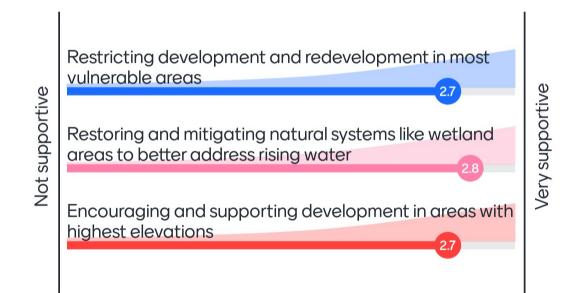
Polling on Project Goals

One of the goals identified for the project is to create an "Elevation-Based Zoning Code" whose purpose is to mitigate adverse impacts from a rising water environment (flooding, storms, sea level rise, and related problems).

The next several questions address this topic.

Mentimeter

Would you support these general approaches of an Elevation-Based Zoning Code?



Would you support the following provisions in an Elevation-Based Zoning Code?

Mentimeter

Not supportive

Require new development to build three feet above the 100-year storm base flood elevation (BFE)

2.4

Strengthen development standards to require building expansions or remodels to increase its resilience to rising water

2.3

Require critical facilities (public buildings, pharmacies, schools, police/fire/EMS) to be located out of areas most susceptible to flood

Would you support the following provisions in an Elevation-Based Zoning Code?

Mentimeter

Not supportive

Require that proposed new development account for future sea level rise estimates (e.g., projected sea levels in 15-25 years)

Limit ability to rebuild development damaged by floods or storms (for example, only if damage is less than 25% of structure's value)

Increase development density/intensity in areas of higher elevations that are less susceptible to flooding

Would you support the following provisions in an Elevation-Based Zoning Code?

Mentimeter

Not supportive

Allow a diversity of housing types (such as duplexes and triplexes) in primarily single-family residential neighborhoods

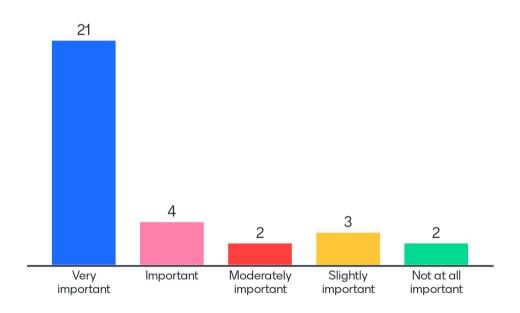
2.4

Mitigate impacts of single-family neighborhoods from more intense commercial and multifamily development being developed nearby

How important are the following priorities in the updated Zoning Code?

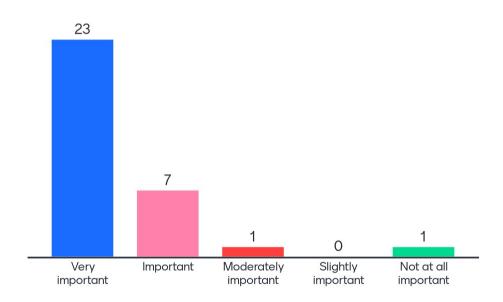
Mentimeter

Allow higher density townhome and multifamily development in areas of the City less susceptible to flooding



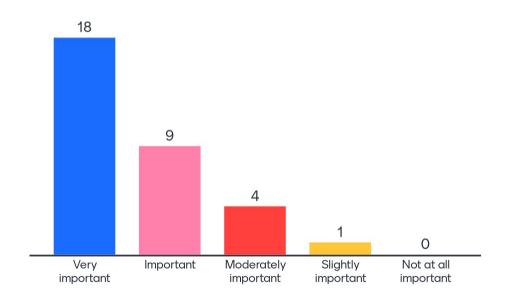
Mentimeter

Include stronger incentives for providing workforce housing





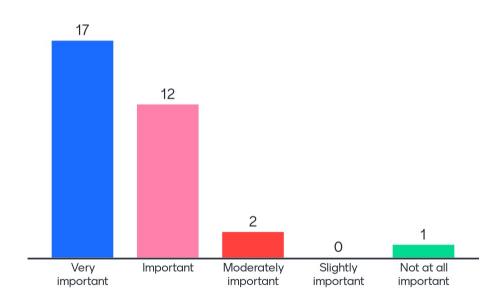
Use graphics, photos, and flowcharts to communicate zoning concepts



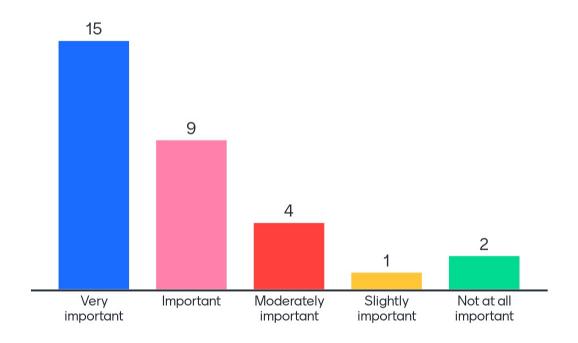


Mentimeter

Include more streamlined and logical development review procedures

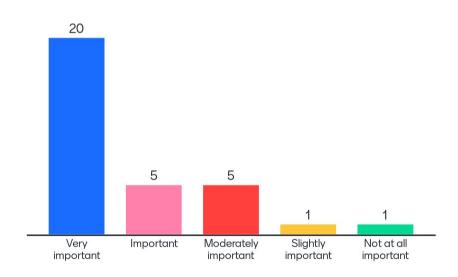


Include enhanced tree protection standards



Mentimeter

Include strengthened stormwater management standards, such as requiring runoff reduction for the first one inch of rainfall



Would you support the following priorities?

Not supportive

Updating the off-street parking standards to align them with modern best practices (required number of spaces, design, etc.)

Broaden opportunities to reduce parking by allowing offsite parking, traffic demand management, and valet and tandem parking



What questions do you have about the project?





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Second Kickoff Meeting

May - June 2023

Code Assessment

September 2023

Meetings and Input on Assessment

September – October 2023