

ARTICLE 8. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 8.010. AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE AMENDMENTS. An amendment to the text of this Ordinance or to a zoning map may be initiated by the County Court, the County Planning Commission, or by application of a property owner. The request by a property owner for an amendment shall be accomplished by filing an application with the Planning Department using forms prescribed pursuant to Article 9.

SECTION 8.020. PUBLIC HEARINGS ON AMENDMENTS. The Planning Commission shall conduct at least one public hearing on the proposed amendment within 60 days after the amendment is proposed and shall recommend to the County Court approval, disapproval or modified approval of the proposed amendment. After receiving the recommendation of the Planning Commission, the County Court shall hold at least one public hearing on the proposed amendment.

SECTION 8.030. NOTICE. Notice will be provided according to Article 9 of this Ordinance. It will be reasonably calculated to give actual notice to interested persons, including news media as required, and to those which have requested notice, of the time and place for any and all hearings.

SECTION 8.040. CRITERIA. The proponent of the application or permit has the burden of proving justification for its approval. The more drastic the request or the greater the impact of the application or permit on the neighborhood, area, or county, the greater is the burden on the applicant. The following criteria shall be considered by the Planning Commission in preparing a recommendation and by the County Court in reaching their decision.

A. The local conditions have changed and would warrant a change in the zoning of the subject property(ies).

B. The public services and facilities are sufficient to support a change in designation including, but not limited to, water availability relevant to both quantity and quality, waste and storm water management, other public services, and streets and roads.

1. Amendments to the zoning ordinance or zone changes which significantly affect a transportation facility shall assure that land uses are consistent with the function, capacity, and level of service of the facility identified in the Transportation System Plan. This shall be accomplished by one of the following:

a. Limiting allowed land uses to be consistent with the planned function of the transportation facility or roadway;

b. Amending the Transportation System Plan to ensure that existing, improved, or new transportation facilities are adequate to support the proposed land uses consistent with the requirement of the Transportation Planning Rule; or,

c. Altering land use designations, densities, or design requirements to reduce demand for automobile travel to meet needs through other modes.

2. A plan or land use regulation amendment significantly affects a transportation facility if it:

- a. Changes the functional classification of an existing or planned transportation facility;
- b. Changes standards implementing a functional classification;
- c. Allows types or levels of land use that would result in levels of travel or access that are inconsistent with the functional classification of a transportation facility; or
- d. Would reduce the level of service of the facility below the minimal acceptable level identified in the Transportation System Plan. (MC-C-8-98)

C. That the proposed amendment is consistent with unamended portions of the Comprehensive Plan and supports goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, that there is a public need for the proposal, and that the need will be best served by allowing the request. If other areas in the county are designated for a use as requested in the application, then a showing of the necessity for introducing that use into an area not now so zoned and why the owners there should bear the burden, if any, of introducing that zone into their area.

D. The request addresses issues concerned with public health and welfare, if any.

SECTION 8.050. LIMITATIONS ON REAPPLICATIONS. No application of a property owner for an amendment to the text of this ordinance or to the zoning map shall be considered by the Planning Commission within the six (6) month period immediately following denial of a previous application; if in the opinion of the Planning Commission, new evidence or a change of circumstances warrant it, however, the Planning Commission may permit a new application.

SECTION 8.060. FINAL DECISION. The decision of the County Court will be final unless appealed. Eligibility to appeal is governed by Oregon Revised Statute and Oregon Administrative Rule.

MC OR-1-2013