

- C. That plight of the owner is due to the unique circumstances of the property, such as the shape of the parcel, unique topographic or environmental conditions, or any other physical situation on the land, building or structure deemed by the Zoning Board of Appeals to be extraordinary; and
- D. That the requested variance is the minimum amount necessary to permit reasonable use of the land, building or structure; and
- E. That the authorization of such variance will not be of substantial detriment to adjacent properties and will not materially impair the intent and purpose of this Ordinance or the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community; and
- F. That the need for the requested variance is not the result of actions of the property owner or previous property owners (self-created).

In granting any variance, the Zoning Board of Appeals may prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards in conformity with this Ordinance, provided that said conditions:

- (1) Are designed to protect natural resources, the health, safety, and welfare and social and economic well-being of the public; and
- (2) Are necessary to meet the intent and purpose of this Ordinance, are related to the standards established in the section for the land use or activity under consideration and are necessary to ensure compliance with those standards.

- 3. **Use Variances Prohibited.** The Zoning Board of Appeals shall not have the authority to grant a use variance to permit a use that is not permitted in a zoning district. However, the Zoning Board of Appeals may consider expansions or alterations of non-conforming uses in accordance with [Section 13.01](#).
- 4. **Approval Period.**
  - A. No order of the Zoning Board of Appeals permitting the erection or alteration of buildings shall be valid for a period longer than one year unless a building permit for such erection or alteration is obtained within such period and such erection or alteration is commenced and proceeds to completion in accordance with the terms of such permit.
  - B. No order of the Zoning Board of Appeals permitting a use of a building or premises shall be valid for a period longer than one year unless such use is established within such period; provided, however, that the use of such permit is dependent upon the erection or alteration of a building, such order shall continue in full force and effect if a building permit for such use, erection or alteration is obtained within such period and such erections or alterations are commenced and proceed to completion in accordance with the terms of such permit.
- 5. **Appeals of Decisions to Circuit Court.** The decision of the ZBA shall be final. An appeal of a decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals shall be taken to the Oakland County Circuit Court within a time period specified in the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (P.A. 110 of 2006, as amended) and by such persons permitted by State statute and common law. Upon appeal, the court shall review the record and decision of the ZBA to ensure that the decision complies with the constitution and laws of the state, is based upon proper procedure, is supported by competent, material, and substantial evidence on the record and represents the reasonable exercise of discretion granted by law to the ZBA. As a result of this review required by this Section, the court may affirm or modify the decision of the ZBA.
- 6. **Resubmittal.** No application for a variance which has been denied in whole or in part by the Zoning Board of Appeals shall be re-submitted for a period of three hundred sixty five (365) days from such denial, except on the ground of new evidence or proof of changed conditions found by the Zoning Board of Appeals to be valid.

## Section 15.07 Zoning Ordinance Amendments (Map and Text)

The City Council may amend, supplement, or change the regulations or the district boundaries of this Ordinance pursuant to the authority and according to the procedure set forth in Act 110, of the Public Acts of 2006, as amended. Changes in the text or zoning district boundaries of this Ordinance may be proposed by the Planning Commission, Planning and Zoning Administrator, other City Staff, or any interested person or organization.

1. **Application for Amendment.** An application for an amendment to the text of this Ordinance or an amendment to change the zoning classification of a particular property shall be commenced by filing an application with the Community and Economic Development Department on the forms provided by the Department and accompanied by the fees specified. The application shall describe the proposed amendment and shall be signed by the applicant. Applications for rezoning of a specific site shall be accompanied by a plot plan or survey which specifies the boundaries and legal description of the site. The Planning and Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission, and City Council may request additional information with the application.
  
2. **Amendment Review Procedures.** The amendment, be it a text or a map amendment, and application materials shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of this Article and shall be reviewed in accordance with the following procedure. Amendments or application materials that do not meet the stipulated requirements shall be considered incomplete and shall not be eligible for consideration by the Planning Commission:
  - A. **Technical Review.** Prior to Planning Commission consideration, the proposed amendment and application materials shall be distributed to the Technical Review Committee for review, comment, and recommendations. The proposed amendment and application materials may also be distributed to applicable outside agencies and designated city consultants for review.
  - B. **Public Hearing.** A public hearing shall be held at a Planning Commission meeting in accordance with [Section 15.01](#)
  - C. **Planning Commission Consideration of the Proposed Amendment.** The Planning Commission shall review the proposed amendment, together with any reports and recommendations from staff, consultants, other reviewing agencies, and any public comments. The Planning Commission shall identify and evaluate all factors relevant to the petition, including the appropriate criteria listed in this Section, and shall report its findings and recommendation to the City Council.
  - D. **City Council Action on the Proposed Amendment.** Upon receipt of the report and recommendation from the Planning Commission, the City Council may approve or deny the proposed amendment. If determined to be necessary, the City Council may refer the amendment back to the Planning Commission for further consideration. City Council may, but is not required to, hold an additional public hearing. In the case of an amendment to the official Zoning Map, the City Council shall approve or deny the amendment, based upon its consideration of the criteria contained in this Ordinance.
  
3. **Standards of Review for Amendments.**
  - A. **Text Amendments.** In considering any petition for an amendment to the text of this Ordinance, the Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the following criteria in making findings, recommendations, and a decision. The Planning Commission and City Council may also take into account other factors or considerations that are applicable to the application but are not listed below.
    - (1) Consistency with the goals, policies and objectives of the Master Plan and any sub-area or corridor plans. If conditions have changed since such plans were adopted, consistent with recent development trends in the area shall be considered.
    - (2) Consistency with the basic intent and purpose of this Zoning Ordinance.
    - (3) Consideration of changing conditions since the Zoning Ordinance was adopted or a finding that there is an error in the Zoning Ordinance that justifies the amendment.
  - B. **Map Amendments.** In considering any petition for an amendment to the Zoning Map, the Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the following criteria in making findings, recommendations, and a decision. The Planning Commission and City Council may also take into account other factors or considerations that are applicable to the application but are not listed below.
    - (1) Compatibility of the site's physical, geological, hydrological and other environmental features with the uses permitted in the proposed zoning district.
    - (2) Compatibility of all the potential uses allowed in the proposed zoning district with surrounding uses and zoning in terms of land suitability, impacts on the environment, density, nature of use, traffic impacts, aesthetics, infrastructure and potential influence on property values.

- (3) Consistency with the goals, policies and objectives of the Master Plan (including the Future Land Use Plan), and any sub-area or corridor plans. If conditions have changed since such plans were adopted, consistent with recent development trends in the area shall be considered.
- (4) The boundaries of the requested rezoning district will be reasonable in relationship to surrounding zoning districts, and construction on the site will be able to meet the dimensional regulations for the requested zoning district.
- (5) The requested zoning district is considered to be more appropriate from the city's perspective than another zoning district.
- (6) If a rezoning is requested to allow for a specific use, rezoning the land is considered to be more appropriate than amending the list of permitted or special land uses in the current zoning district to allow the use.
- (7) The requested rezoning will not create an isolated or incompatible zone in the neighborhood.
- (8) The capability of the street system to safely and efficiently accommodate the expected traffic generated by uses permitted in the requested zoning district.
- (9) That the amendment will not be expected to result in exclusionary zoning.

C. **Rezoning with Conditions.** The Planning Commission and City Council recognize that, in certain instances, it would be an advantage to both the City and to a property owner seeking rezoning if the property owner proposes certain conditions and limitations as part of a petition for rezoning. Therefore, it is the intent of this Section to provide a process consistent with the provision of Section 405 of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended, being MCL 125.3405, to permit property owners to offer conditions regarding the use and/or development of land as part of the rezoning request. It is the further intent of this ordinance to accomplish, among other things, the objectives of the Zoning Ordinance and the Master Plan to achieve integration of the proposed land development project with the characteristics of the surrounding area.

(1) **Authorization and Eligibility.**

- (a) The standards of this Section shall grant a property owner the option of voluntarily proposing conditions for the development and use of property in connection with the submission of a petition seeking a rezoning. Such conditions may be proposed at the time the application for rezoning is filed, or at a subsequent point in the process of review of the proposed rezoning.
- (b) In order to be eligible for consideration of a Rezoning with Conditions, a property owner must propose a rezoning of property to a new zoning district classification, and must, as part of such proposal, voluntarily offer certain site-specific conditions (to be set forth in a Rezoning with Conditions Agreement) that are more strict or limiting than the regulations that would apply to the land under the proposed new zoning district. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (i) The location, size, height or other measure for and/or of buildings, structures, improvements, setbacks, landscaping, buffers, design, architecture and other physical features of the proposed development.
  - (ii) Specification of maximum density or intensity of development and/or use, expressed in terms fashioned for the particular development and/or use. For example: units per acre, maximum usable floor area, or hours of operation.
  - (iii) Preservation of open space, natural resources and/or natural features.
  - (iv) Improvements to address traffic issues, including paving, substantial improvements to or funding of improvements to major roads to the benefit of the entire City.
  - (v) Site improvements such as signage, lighting, landscaping, building materials for the exterior of some or all structures above and beyond what would otherwise be required by City Ordinance.
  - (vi) Limitations on permissible uses of the property.
  - (vii) Any other conditions that may be voluntarily proposed by the property owner.

(2) **Application and Review Procedures.**

- (a) Application.

- (i) At the time of making application for amendment of this ordinance seeking a rezoning of property, or at a later time during the process of City consideration of such rezoning a property owner may submit a complete application for approval of a Rezoning with Conditions to apply in conjunction with the rezoning.
  - (ii) The application, which may be amended by the applicant during the process of consideration, shall specify the Rezoning Conditions proposed by the applicant, recognizing that Rezoning Conditions shall not authorize uses or development not permitted in the district proposed by the rezoning.
  - (iii) An application for a Rezoning with Conditions shall include a Rezoning with Conditions Agreement (“the Agreement”). The Agreement shall set forth the rezoning conditions and may incorporate a Rezoning with Conditions Plan.
  - (iv) The application shall include a notarized signature of the property owner indicating that the conditions attached to the rezoning are voluntarily offered.
- (b) Technical Review Committee Review. The proposed Rezoning with Conditions will become an agenda item for the Technical Review Committee, with comments forwarded to the Planning Commission.
- (c) Planning Commission Review.
- (i) The proposed Rezoning with Conditions shall be noticed for public hearing in accordance with [Section 15.01](#) before the Planning Commission as a proposed legislative amendment of the Zoning Ordinance.
  - (ii) Following the public hearing, and further deliberations as deemed appropriate by the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission shall make a recommendation to the City Council on the proposed Rezoning with Conditions.
- (d) City Council Review. Upon recommendation by the Planning Commission, the City Council shall make a final determination to approve or deny the Rezoning with Conditions as offered by the applicant. The City Council may only consider the conditions offered by the applicant and may not attach any other conditions to the rezoning other than those offered by the applicant. Any new conditions voluntarily offered by the applicant shall require Planning Commission review and a new public hearing. The City Council’s deliberations shall include, but not be limited to, a consideration of the review criteria for a Rezoning with Conditions.
- (3) **Review Criteria.** A Rezoning with Conditions shall only be approved if it meets the following requirements and standards:
- (a) The proposed Rezoning with Conditions will further the goals and objectives of the City Master Plan.
  - (b) Rezoning conditions shall not authorize uses or development not permitted in the district proposed by the rezoning (and shall not permit uses or development expressly or implicitly prohibited in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement).
  - (c) The use of the property in question shall be in complete conformity with all regulations governing development and use within the zoning district to which the property is proposed to be rezoned, including, without limitation, permitted uses, lot area and width, setbacks, height limits, required facilities, buffers, open space areas, and land use density; provided, however, the following shall apply:
    - (i) Development and use of the property shall be subject to the more restrictive requirements shown or specified in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement, and/or in other conditions and provisions set forth in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement required as part of the Rezoning with Conditions approval. Such Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall supersede all inconsistent regulations otherwise applicable under the Zoning Ordinance.
  - (d) The proposed Rezoning with Conditions will result in integration of the proposed land development project with the characteristics of the project area, and result in an enhancement of the project area as compared to the existing zoning, and such enhancement would be unlikely to be achieved or would not be assured in the absence of the use of a Rezoning with Conditions.
  - (e) As compared to the existing zoning and considering the site-specific conditions and/or land use proposed by the applicant, it would be in the public interest to grant the Rezoning with Conditions. In determining whether approval of a proposed application would be in the public interest, the benefits

which would reasonably be expected to accrue from the proposal shall be balanced against and be found to clearly outweigh the reasonably foreseeable detriments, taking into consideration reasonably accepted planning, engineering, environmental and other principles, and also taking into consideration the special knowledge and understanding of the City by the City Council and Planning Commission.

- (f) The proposed conditions will not preclude future zoning and planning actions by or on behalf of the municipality.
  - (g) Existing and available public services will be capable of serving proposed or potential development that will occur as a result of the Rezoning with Conditions without negatively impacting the delivery of public services to other properties in the City, or the conditions will ensure that public services will be sufficient to serve both the site and other properties in the City.
  - (h) The offered condition(s) are beneficial to the public good and likely to be enforceable.
  - (i) The condition does not have the same effect as a use variance.
  - (j) The proposed conditions do not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of securing any applicable site plan, plat, condominium, or special land use approvals.
- (4) **Effect of Approval.** Approval of the Rezoning with Conditions and Rezoning with Conditions Agreement confirms only the rezoning of the property, subject to any conditions reflected in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement. Any applicable site plan, plat, condominium, special land use, or variance approvals shall be required before any improvements to the property may be undertaken.

If approved, the zoning district classification of the rezoned property shall consist of the district to which the property has been rezoned, accompanied by a reference to "CR Rezoning with Conditions". The Zoning Map shall specify the new zoning district plus a reference to "CR" e.g., the district classification for the property might be "B-1, Neighborhood Business District (CR, Rezoning with Conditions)", with a Zoning Map Designation of "B-1/CR." Use of the property so classified and approved shall comply with the conditions set forth in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement. No development or use of the land inconsistent with the conditions of the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall be permitted.

(5) **Compliance with Conditions.**

- (a) Any person who establishes a development or commences a use upon land that has been rezoned with conditions shall continuously operate and maintain the development or use in compliance with all of the conditions set forth in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement. Any failure to comply with a condition contained within the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall constitute a violation of this Zoning Ordinance and shall be punishable accordingly. Additionally, any such violation shall be deemed a nuisance per se and subject to judicial abatement as provided by law.
- (b) No permit or approval shall be granted under this Ordinance for any use or development that is contrary to an applicable Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.

(6) **Period of Approval.**

- (a) The Rezoning with Conditions and Agreement shall expire after a period of one (1) year from the effective date of the Rezoning unless substantial progress towards obtaining site plan and other required approvals has been made, and shall expire after a period of two (2) years unless development of the property is substantially begun within such two (2) year period and proceeds diligently and in good faith as required by ordinance to completion.
- (b) In the event substantial progress towards obtaining site plan and other required approvals has not commenced within one (1) year and bona fide development has not commenced within two (2) years from the effective date of the rezoning, the Rezoning with Conditions and the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall be void and of no effect.
- (c) The property owner may apply for a one (1) year extension two (2) times. The request must be submitted to the Community and Economic Development Department before the approval time limit expires. The property owner must demonstrate why the extension should be granted, and must also demonstrate that there is a strong likelihood that the development or use will commence within the period of extension and proceed diligently thereafter to completion, and if the City Council finds that there has not been a change

in circumstances that would render the Rezoning with Conditions incompatible with adjacent or nearby use and zoning of land or is otherwise inconsistent with sound zoning policy.

- (d) An extension request shall be considered by the City Council following a recommendation by the Planning Commission.
  - (e) If the Rezoning with Conditions becomes void in the manner provided in this section, the following procedures shall apply:
    - (i) The property owner may seek a new rezoning of the property within thirty (30) days of the expiration of the period of approval.
    - (ii) If no application is made for a new rezoning of the property, the land shall revert to its former zoning classification as set forth in MCL 124.286i (as amended). The City Council shall direct the Planning Commission to proceed with consideration of rezoning the land to its former zoning designation following the standard rezoning procedures set forth in this Zoning Ordinance.
    - (iii) Until such time as a new zoning district classification of the property has become effective, no development shall be undertaken or permits for development issued.
- (7) **Rezoning with Conditions Agreement Requirements.** A Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall be executed between the applicant and the City at the time of City Council approval of a Rezoning with Conditions.
- (a) Rezoning with Conditions Agreements shall, at a minimum, contain all of the following items:
    - (i) Identification of the requested zoning district and a listing of the conditions offered by the applicant.
    - (ii) A statement acknowledging that the Rezoning with Conditions was proposed by the applicant, and further agreement and acknowledgment that the conditions and Rezoning with Conditions Agreement are authorized by all applicable state and federal law and constitution, and that the Agreement is valid and was entered into on a voluntary basis and represents a permissible exercise of authority by the City.
    - (iii) Agreement and understanding that the property in question shall not be developed or used in a manner inconsistent with the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.
    - (iv) Agreement and understanding that the approval and Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the property owner and City, and their respective heirs, successors, assigns, and transferees.
    - (v) If the City Council grants an extension of approval, a new Rezoning with Conditions Agreement with the new expiration date shall be recorded.
    - (vi) Agreement and understanding that, if a Rezoning with Conditions becomes void, no development shall be undertaken or permits for development issued until a new zoning district classification of the property has been established.
    - (vii) Agreement and understanding that each of the requirements and conditions in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement represents a necessary and reasonable measure which, when considered with all other conditions and requirements, is roughly proportional to the increased impact created by the use represented in the approved Rezoning with Conditions, taking into consideration the changed zoning district classification and the specific use authorization granted.
    - (viii) A legal description of the property affected by the Rezoning with Conditions.
    - (ix) Development regulations affected by the conditions of rezoning, including but not limited to density, setbacks, height, site coverage, signs, parking, architecture, etc.
    - (x) Revocation of approval provisions returning the property to its original zoning designation if the developer violates the terms of the Agreement. A Rezoning with Conditions Plan may be included as an exhibit to the Agreement.
  - (b) The Rezoning with Conditions Plan may show the conceptual layout of the proposed development or use, along with any other information deemed relevant by the applicant. Inclusion of a Rezoning with Conditions Plan as an exhibit to a Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall not replace the

requirement for preliminary and final site plan, subdivision, condominium, special land use or variance review and approval.

- (8) **Amendment of Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.** Amendment of a Rezoning with Conditions Agreement shall be proposed, reviewed and approved in the same manner as a new Rezoning with Conditions.
  - (9) **Recordation of Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.** A Rezoning with Conditions shall become effective following publication in the manner provided by law, and, after recordation of the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement, whichever is later.
  - (10) **Termination.** The City Council shall be the only body with the authority to terminate a Rezoning with Conditions agreement. The consideration to terminate the agreement shall be for reasons of expiration of the agreement, discovery of false information upon which the initial approval was based, or the existence or discovery of new information that alters the viability of the approved rezoning. The Termination shall comply with any applicable provisions of this ordinance or the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement.
  - (11) **City Right to Rezone.** Nothing in the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement or in the provisions of this Section shall be deemed to prohibit the City from rezoning all or any portion of land that is subject to a Rezoning with Conditions to another zoning classification. Any such rezoning shall be conducted in compliance with this Ordinance and the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.
  - (12) If land that is subject to a Rezoning with Conditions Agreement is thereafter rezoned to a different zoning classification or to the same zoning classification but with a different or no Rezoning with Conditions Agreement, the Rezoning with Conditions Agreement attached to the former zoning classification shall cease to be in effect.
4. **Notice of Adoption of Amendment.** Following adoption of an amendment by the City Council, one (1) notice of adoption shall be filed with the City Clerk and one (1) notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City within fifteen (15) days after adoption, in accordance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended. A record of all amendments shall be maintained by the City Clerk. A Zoning Map shall be maintained by the City Clerk, which shall identify all map amendments. The required notice of adoption shall include all of the following information:
- A. In the case of a newly adopted Zoning Ordinance, the following statement: "A zoning ordinance regulating the development and use of land has been adopted by the City of Madison Heights."
  - B. In the case of an amendment(s) to the existing Zoning Ordinance, either a summary of the regulatory effect of the amendment(s), including the geographic area affected, or the text of the amendment(s).

## Section 15.08 Temporary Use Permits

1. **Purpose.** This section sets forth the requirements for the application, review, approval, and enforcement of temporary use permits in the City of Madison Heights. Temporary use permits may be reviewed and acted upon by the Planning and Zoning Administrator, Technical Review Committee, or Planning Commission.
2. **Use-Specific Standards.** Temporary uses are subject to the use-specific standards of [Section 7.03\(43\)](#)
3. **Planning and Zoning Administrator/Technical Review Committee Review.** The Planning and Zoning Administrator may review and approve certain temporary uses addressed in Section 7.03(XXXX). The Planning and Zoning Administrator reserves the right to refer any request for a temporary use permit to the Technical Review Committee or Planning Commission for review and approval.
4. **Planning Commission Review.** The Planning Commission shall review and act upon temporary use permit requests where the applicant seeks approval for a time period longer than otherwise allowed by [Section 7.03\(43\)](#) or for a temporary use not specifically permitted in [Section 7.03\(43\)](#) nor deemed similar by the Planning and Zoning Administrator; provided, that the temporary use complies with all other relevant development and operational standards for the use as provided in this Zoning Ordinance.