

TO: St. Francis City Council
FROM: Beth Richmond, Planner
SUBJECT: 2023 Code Revisions – 1st Reading
DATE: January 16, 2024

OVERVIEW:

The City adopted an updated zoning code in April 2021. Following this update, Staff's practice has been to make necessary housekeeping revisions on an annual basis. Typically, these revisions reflect current concerns, changes to modern or best practices, or issues and/or clarifications that Staff has identified as needed over the past year. This year, Staff is proposing revisions to the Zoning Code (Chapter 10) and Subdivision Code (Chapter 11). Revisions to Chapter 4, Building Regulations and Permits, are also proposed and will be brought forward for formal action at a later date. Each requested revision is explained in more detail in the attached Planning Commission memo.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission reviewed the proposed Code amendments at their meeting on December 20, 2023 and held a public hearing. No members of the public spoke for or against the proposed amendments. Commissioners discussed the new "sacred communities" use in greater detail. Staff noted that new legislation was passed in 2023 which establishes this use as a required allowable use on religious property. Standards for this use were also established by state statute. Commissioners also clarified that the proposed septic setback language is intended to codify an existing practice within the City.

Following the public hearing and discussion, Commissioners unanimously recommended approval of the Zoning Code amendments as presented by Staff.

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

Given the Planning Commission's recommendation for approval, draft approval documents have been prepared for your consideration.

Suggested Motions:

1. Move to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance 325 approving housekeeping amendments to Divisions 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 of the Zoning Code.
2. Move to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance 326 approving amendments to Chapter 11 Subdivisions in the City Code.

Attachments:

- Draft Ordinances
 1. Ordinance 325 – Chapter 10 Zoning
 2. Ordinance 326 – Chapter 11 Subdivisions
- Planning Commission Memo for December 20, 2023 Meeting