

Upcoming Engagement on September 1 - For Village Center Zoning Updates

1 message

City of Newton - Zoning Redesign <zoningredesign@newtonma.gov>
Reply-To: zoningredesign@newtonma.gov

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Zoning Redesign: Village Centers

The City of Newton's project to update the zoning code

July Recap & Looking Towards the Fall

- [Upcoming Engagement for Village Center Zoning Updates - Kick Off on September 1](#)
- [Tentative Agenda](#) for August ZAP Meeting



Image description: Three sketches of streets, each with a different set of buildings and trees. The buildings increase in height from the left to the right.

Upcoming Engagement for Village Center Zoning Updates!

From September 1 through October 16th, the City of Newton will collect opinions on the proposed updates to the village center zoning regulations. [Learn more below.](#)

What are the proposals? Based on the first phase of engagement for the village center zoning and research, City staff presented an overarching 'framework' of twelve proposed changes to the Zoning and Planning committee (ZAP) in [this memo released on May 27](#). ZAP workshopped these proposals and reached consensus on further developing and getting community feedback on them. You can read in detail a summary of the city memo, merged together with ZAP's opinions and straw votes for each proposal [by clicking here](#).

You'll see that there's a lot of information in the document above. What City staff are working on - with input by community members (see below about the Network) - is making these technical proposals accessible to the public, so that more Newton community members can give input on these important changes being considered by the council. The City will ask questions about the overarching framework and intended impacts of the proposals in dialogue with one another - rather than asking about each of the twelve technical proposals.



How is the City of Newton collecting opinions?

How can Newton community members participate?

How is the City of Newton collecting opinions? In multiple ways*!

-  **Feedback Tool:** Community members will give their input through an online survey with educational information and visuals. This will be available through one's cell phone or computer, and as a hard-copy for those who prefer to fill it out by hand.
-  **Library Exhibit:** In the Newton Free Library, the City will install an exhibit about zoning and the zoning proposals and will have a 'community engagement' station. It will be open at the same hours as the library.
-  **(Virtual) Library Exhibit:** A document (PDF) that contains all of the library exhibit information, intermittent with discussion prompts and guidance on how to fill out the feedback tool. This is for community members to use in virtual or in-person meetings that are not at the library.
-  **Zoning Redesign Community Engagement Network:** Over 80 community members joined the Network to develop their own community engagement plans and engage their community spaces. You can join one of their sessions - [see the community spaces that Network members are engaging with](#) and let City staff know if you want to be connected with that group - or host your own [by using the engagement plan worksheet](#).

**All of the material above will be available by September 1st.*

How can Newton community members participate? While the city is still finalizing the material that community members will be able to access beginning September 1st, you can do the following to prepare:

- [Sign up for the Zoning Redesign newsletter](#) to get notifications
- Review the takeaways from the first phase of engagement and analysis for the village centers' zoning at this site: <https://newtonma.gov/zoningredesign/vc>

Get connected with a Network member if you have a connection [to their community space](#) or [develop your own engagement plan](#) to engage your own neighborhood block!

Upcoming ZAP Meeting in August

Review July's meeting reports at [ZAP's website](#). See the tentative agenda for August (these are not finalized and are subject to change):

Monday, August 8th, 2022 at 7pm

- #125-22 - Requesting updates on the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust
- #401-22 - Request for review and amendment to Section 5.11.5.E
- #192-22 - Request for review and amendments to Section 6.7.1 (continued discussion)

- #38-22 - Discussion and review relative to the draft Zoning Ordinance regarding village centers
- #396-22 - Reappointment of Rick Wetmore to the Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission
- #397-22 - Reappointment of Susanna Lannik to the Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission



Visit Zoning Redesign on the web

[Click here to find a link to or a PDF of this Newsletter \(under 'Monthly Newsletters'\)](#)

City of Newton, Massachusetts

617-796-1120 | zoningredesign@newtonma.gov | www.newtonma.gov/zoningredesign

City of Newton | [1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA 02459](#)

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