



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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City extends public comment on 'Beaufort Code' through April

Because of scheduling conflicts and a large number of public comments that need to be reviewed, the 'Beaufort Code' public review schedule has been extended through April.

A new draft of the code will come out on or before April 6, and the City of Beaufort Planning Department will hold a series of meetings to review the changes and hear more input during the month. The first Metropolitan Planning Commission meeting to review the project in its updated form will be the week of May 16.

The Beaufort Code is an update of the Unified Development Ordinance. Once adopted by the Beaufort City Council, it will put more emphasis on how buildings relate to the street and each other, rather than guiding development by a building's interior use as has been the case with traditional zoning.

A primary goal: Create a user-friendly document that clearly explains and illustrates what types of construction, development and buildings are appropriate in different areas of the city.

During the March public review process, city planners received more than 200 comments and questions – which are available under the Projects link at www.cityofbeaufort.org.

The new extended public review period includes the following sessions in the City Hall Planning Conference Room:

- Wednesday, April 13, 10 a.m. -- review of code changes and public comment session
- Wednesday, April 13, 5:30 p.m. -- review of code changes and public comment session
- Wednesday, April 20, 5:30 p.m. -- public comment session
- Monday, April 25, 2 p.m. -- public comment session

A new draft of the Beaufort Code considering public comments heard through April 29 will be published on or about May 6, said Libby Anderson, planning director for the City of Beaufort.

During May, the Metropolitan Planning Commission will again review the Code and the changes made since public review and comments were taken. The tentative schedule is for the MPC and then City Council to take up the lengthy document in June and July.

For more details, visit www.cityofbeaufort.org, click on Projects and go to The Beaufort Code.

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