# Page Replacement Packet for DZC Text Amendment 1: Mailed Rezoning Notice

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12.3.4.2 Types of Public Notice

There are two types of public notice addressed by this Section:

A. **Notice of Public Hearings**

When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, “Notice of Public Hearings” provides the public with advance notice of a required hearing at which a review- or decision-making body will take action on an application under this Code. Such notice may be provided in writing (mailed), by posting (signs), or by publication.

B. **Informational Notice**

When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, "Informational Notice" provides the public with notice of Community Planning and Development's receipt of an application for review (e.g., a zoning permit or site development plan), and/or the approving authority's final decision on such application and available avenues for appeal. Such notice may be provided in writing (mailed) and/or by posting (signs).

12.3.4.3 Public Notice – When Required

Required public notices are summarized in the table shown in Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice. More detailed information may be included with each specific zoning procedure described in Division 4 of this Article 12.

12.3.4.4 Notice of Public Hearing

A. **Written Notice of Public Hearings**

When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, written notice of a public hearing shall be provided in compliance with the following standards:

1. **Official Map Amendment (Rezoning) - Written Notice of Planning Board Public Hearings**

   a. No later than 15 days before a required Planning Board public hearing on a proposed official map amendment (rezoning), the Manager shall notify the following parties:

      i. The city council members in whose district the subject property is located.

      ii. The at-large city council members.

      iii. Registered neighborhood organizations registered according to D.R.M.C. Section 12-94 whose boundaries encompass or are located within 200 feet of the proposed official map amendment (rezoning).

      iv. The owners of any real property located in whole or in part within, or within 200 feet of, the proposed official map amendment (rezoning).

2. **All Other Applications - Written Notice of Planning Board Public Hearings**

   a. Except for an official map amendment (rezoning) application, no later than 15 days before a required Planning Board public hearing on an application, the Manager shall notify the following parties:

      i. The city council members in whose district the subject property is located.

      ii. The at-large city council members.

      iii. Registered neighborhood organizations registered according to D.R.M.C. Section 12-94 whose boundaries encompass or are located within 200 feet of the proposed application.

3. **Written Notice of City Council Public Hearings**

No later than 21 days before a required City Council public hearing on an application, the Manager shall notify the city council members in whose district the subject property is located and the at-large city council members. In addition, if the subject application affects...
areas within, or within 200 feet of, a registered neighborhood organization's boundaries, the Manager shall notify such registered neighborhood organizations registered according to D.R.M.C. Section 12-94.

4. General Requirements
   a. The notice shall be sent via U.S. mail first class or by electronic mail if the recipient has indicated their acceptance of notice by electronic mail.
   b. Notification shall include, where applicable, the location and general description of the proposed action; the process to be followed, including the date, time and place of the scheduled public hearing and/or public meeting.

5. Minor Defects in Notice Do Not Impair Hearing
   Minor defects in a notice shall not impair the notice or invalidate proceedings under the notice if a *bona fide* attempt has been made to comply with applicable notice requirements. Where written notice was properly mailed, failure of a party to receive written notice shall not invalidate any subsequent action. In all cases, however, the requirements for the timing of the notice and for specifying the time, date, and place of a hearing and the location of the subject property shall be strictly construed. If questions arise at the hearing regarding the adequacy of notice, the review or decision-making body shall make a finding regarding whether there was substantial compliance with the notice requirements of this Code before proceeding with the hearing.

B. Posted Notice of Public Hearings
   When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, posted notice of a required public hearing shall be provided in compliance with the following standards:

   1. No later than 15 days prior to the required Planning Board public hearing, and no later than 21 days prior to the required City Council public hearing, the applicant shall be responsible for posting signs on the subject property providing public notice thereof.

   2. Posted notice shall be in number, size, location, and content as prescribed by the Manager and shall indicate the time and place of the public meeting or hearing, and any other information prescribed by the Manager.

   3. The applicant shall take all reasonable efforts to assure that posted signs remain on the site in the number and location prescribed by the Manager, and in good condition to maintain legibility, during the posting period.

   4. Posted notices shall be removed by the applicant from the subject property no later than 15 days after the public hearing has been held. Failure to do so shall constitute a violation of this Code.

C. Published Notice of City Council Public Hearing
   No later than 21 days prior to the required City Council public hearing, the Office of the City Council, together with the Denver City Clerk’s Office, shall publish notice of the time and place of a required public hearing before the City Council in the official newspaper.

12.3.4.5 Informational Notice – General Provisions

A. Written Notice of Receipt of Application
   When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, written notice of receipt of application shall be provided in compliance with the following standards:

   1. Official Map Amendment (Rezoning) - Timing of Notice
      For an official map amendment (re zoning) application, Community Planning and Development shall cause written informational notice to be provided no later than 10 days after the determination that a complete application has been received in accordance with
Section 12.3.3.8, Determination of Complete Application. Community Planning and Development shall cause written informational notice to be sent to the following parties:

a. The city council members in whose district the subject property is located.

b. The at-large city council members.

c. Registered neighborhood organizations registered according to D.R.M.C. Section 12-94 whose boundaries encompass or are located within 200 feet of the proposed official map amendment (rezoning).

d. The owners of any real property located in whole or in part within, or within 200 feet of, the proposed official map amendment (rezoning).

2. **All Other Applications - Timing of Notice**

   Except for an official map amendment (rezoning) application, no later than 10 days after receipt of a complete application, Community Planning and Development shall cause written informational notice to be sent to the city council members in whose district the subject property is located, to the at-large city council members, and to those neighborhood organizations registered according to D.R.M.C. Section 12-94, whose boundaries encompass or are within 200 feet of the proposed development.

3. **Notice to Landmark Preservation Commission**

   If the subject property falls within an area designated as a structure or district for preservation according to the D.R.M.C., Chapter 30 (Landmark Preservation), Community Planning and Development shall notify the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission regarding the application within the same time periods specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

4. **General Rules**

   a. The informational notice shall be sent via U.S. mail first class or by electronic mail if the recipient has indicated their acceptance of notice by electronic mail.

   b. Notification shall include the location and general description of the application and proposed action; and the process to be followed, including the date, time and place of any related public meeting or hearing, if such has been scheduled; and information concerning, as applicable, when and where written comments may be submitted.

   c. The failure of any real property owner or a registered neighborhood organization, for whatever reason, to receive a notification required hereunder shall not invalidate any final action by the city.

B. **Posted Notice of Receipt of Application**

   When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, posted notice of receipt of an application shall be provided in compliance with the following standards:

   1. No later than 10 days after receipt of a complete application, the applicant shall post the subject property in a conspicuous location for 10 days with a sign or sign template provided by Community Planning and Development. The start of the 10-day period shall be the first day of the posting of the sign.

   2. Such sign shall describe the proposal, give directions for submitting comments to Community Planning and Development within 30 days from the beginning of the posting period, and state that any final decision to approve the application shall be posted at the same location for 15 days as soon as it is effective.

   3. Posted notices shall be removed by the applicant from the subject property by no later than 15 days after the end of the posting period. Failure to do so shall constitute a violation of this Code.
C. **Posted Notice of Final Administrative Action**
   When required by Section 12.2.9, Summary Table of Authority and Notice, posted notice of final administrative action on an application shall be provided in compliance with the following standards:

   1. Within 7 days after reaching a final decision to approve an application subject to informational notice, Community Planning and Development shall cause the applicant to post the property with a copy of the approving decision for a period of 15 days.

   2. The applicant shall post the property in a conspicuous location with a sign or sign template provided by Community Planning and Development.

   3. The effective date of the final administrative action and the start of the 15-day period during which appeals may be made to the Board of Adjustment shall be the first day of the posting of the sign. Such sign shall describe how an appeal from the final administrative decision may be filed and state that any appeal must be filed within 15 days, and shall provide contact information for obtaining the standards and criteria that will govern the appeal.

**SECTION 12.3.5 EFFECT OF APPROVED APPLICATIONS, PLANS AND PERMITS**

All applications, plans and permits approved under this Article 12 and this Code shall be binding upon the applicants, their successors and assigns, shall limit and control the issuance and validity of all subsequent site development plans and zoning permits, and shall restrict and limit the construction, location, use, and operation of all land and structures in accordance with such plans or permits. See also Section 12.3.7, Modification and Amendment of Approved Applications, Plans and Permits, below.

**SECTION 12.3.6 LAPSE OF APPROVAL PROVISIONS AND EXTENSION OF APPROVAL PERIOD**

12.3.6.1 In General - Lapse of Approved Applications, Plans and Permits
   An application, site development plan, or zoning permit approved under this Code may lapse if certain actions related to the approved application are not taken within a specified time period as set forth in Division 12.4, Zoning Application and Review Procedures. Specific actions that must be taken with regard to each application, plan or permit to avoid lapsing of the approval are set forth in Division 4 of this Article for each type of zoning application.

12.3.6.2 Beginning of Approval Period - General Rule
   Unless otherwise specified in Division 4 of this Article 12, the approval period of an approved application, plan or permit, after which lapse will occur, shall begin on the date of the decision-making body’s final action, which shall be interpreted to mean:

   A. Except as stated in Section 12.3.6.2.B regarding site development plans, for approved plans or permits that this Code requires to be recorded: the date of recordation.

   B. For all other approved applications, plans or permits, including site development plans: the date of the decision-making body’s final action, which shall be affixed to all approved applications, plans or permits.

12.3.6.3 Extension of Approval Period
   A. The Zoning Administrator may grant an extension of an approval period up to 12 months for good cause, including but not limited to a showing that development was delayed by economic or physical problems beyond the applicant’s or property owners’ control.
B. In no case shall the Zoning Administrator grant an extension if, since the date of the original approval, the subject property’s zoning designation has changed or the applicant proposes an amendment to the approved application, plan or permit with the request for extension. See Section 12.3.7, Modification or Amendment of Applications, Plans and Permits, below.

C. All requests for extensions shall be submitted to Community Planning and Development in writing at least 30 days before the expiration of the approval period. An extension request shall include:

1. Payment of any required fee for the extension review; and
2. A narrative stating the reasons for the applicant's or owner's inability to comply with the specified deadlines, listing any changes in the character of the neighborhood, any changes to the Comprehensive Plan or this Code that have occurred since the original approval date and that affect the subject development, and the anticipated time schedule for completing the development.

D. Additional review of the application, permit or plan may result in additional conditions placed on the extended approval, application, permit or plan, as applicable.

E. If the extension is denied, the applicant may re-submit a new application, subject to the fees, standards, and regulations in effect at the time of re-submittal, for the same project.

SECTION 12.3.7 MODIFICATION OR AMENDMENT OF APPLICATIONS, PLANS AND PERMITS

12.3.7.1 Modifications to Pending or Approved Applications, Plans or Permits

This Section 12.3.7.1 shall not apply to modifications to GDPs; instead see Section 12.4.12.17.

The following types of minor modifications, changes, removal, or release of either (1) the Code standards applicable to a pending application; or (2) the Code provisions applicable to, or the conditions attached to, an approved application, plan or permit, shall be treated as "modifications" rather than "amendments," and may be approved administratively by the Zoning Administrator according to this Section.

A. Modifications to Regulating Plans, Site Development Plans or Zoning Permits

1. Modifications to a pending or approved regulating plan, site development plan or zoning permit application that are expressly permitted as "administrative adjustments" under Section 12.4.5 (Administrative Adjustments) of this Code, may be approved by the Zoning Administrator according to the procedures and criteria in Section 12.4.5.

2. The Zoning Administrator may allow minor changes to an approved regulating plan, site development plan or zoning permit provided such minor changes do not constitute an "amendment" under Section 12.3.7.2.B, "Amendments to Approved Regulating Plans, Site Development Plans and Zoning Permits," below.

3. All modifications to an approved regulating plan, site development plan or zoning permit shall be submitted to the Zoning Administrator as "redline" edits to the previously approved plan or permit documents. After approval, the Zoning Administrator shall record a modified regulating plan or site development plan in the records of the Denver County Clerk and Recorder's Office, and shall register a modified zoning permit in the records of Community Planning and Development.

B. Other Modifications to Approved Applications, Plans, or Permits

Changes, modifications, removal, or release of all or some of the provisions of an approved application, plan or permit, which do not otherwise qualify as "modifications" under Section 12.3.7.1.A above, or as an "amendment" under Section 12.3.7.2, Amendment to Approved Ap-
Amendments to Approved Applications, Plans and Permits
This Section 12.3.7.2 shall not apply to amendments to GDPs. See Section 12.4.12.17.

A. Procedure for Amendments

1. An "amendment" to an approved application, plan or permit shall be reviewed according to the same procedures and subject to the same limitations and requirements, including the payment of fees, as if it were a new application, including, where applicable, review at a public hearing before the Planning Board.

2. Unless otherwise allowed by this Code, each application for amendment shall include the entire land area of the original approved application, plan or permit, and may be initiated by the owner(s) or agent of the owner(s) of the property to which the amendment applies.

3. The Manager shall record all amendments to a site development plan approved according to this Section in the records of the Denver County Clerk and Recorder’s Office.

B. Amendments to Approved Regulating Plans, Site Development Plans and Zoning Permits

1. All changes to all or some of the provisions of an approved regulating plan, site development plan or zoning permit, including but not limited to a site development plan in a PUD District (but excluding a PUD District Plan amendment which requires City Council approval), which do not qualify as a "modification" under Section 12.3.7.1 above, shall be considered amendments subject to this Section 12.3.7.2.

2. In addition, any of the following changes to an approved regulating plan, site development plan or zoning permit, including but not limited to a site development plan in a PUD District (but excluding a PUD District Plan amendment which requires City Council approval), shall be considered amendments subject to this Section 12.3.7.2:
   a. An increase in overall project density;
   b. An increase in the maximum height of any building by more than 5 feet or 5 percent, whichever is less;
   c. An increase in the floor area ratio (FAR) by greater than 10 percent as calculated on a total project basis;
   d. A change to the permitted uses or mix of uses if the proposed uses are more intensive than the approved uses, as determined by the Zoning Administrator according to the criteria in Section 12.4.6 (Code Interpretations and Determination of Unlisted Uses);
   e. A change to the location of permitted land uses that would substantially change the development’s character or impacts on surrounding property, as determined by the Zoning Administrator;
   f. A reduction in required minimum setbacks from zone lot lines;
   g. An increase in required build-to location from zone lot lines;
   h. An increase in permitted building coverage, including coverage by surface parking;
   i. A reduction by more than 5 percent in the land area designated for landscaping;
   j. A reduction in the ratio of parking or loading spaces to overall gross floor area or dwelling units;
   k. A change in the permitted number, size or lighting of signs;
l. Changing the vehicle access from and through public rights-of-way; provided, however, that curb cut locations may shift unless specifically established by the approved plan or permit;

m. Changing or negating a condition of approval; or

n. Modifying any other element of an approved application, plan or permit, including but not limited to architectural concepts, building elevations, facade treatments, and exterior building materials, which would substantially change its character or impacts on surrounding property, as determined by the Manager.

SECTION 12.3.8 WITHDRAWAL OF RECORDED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Pursuant to the same procedure and subject to the same limitations and requirements by which such site development plans or General Development Plans (GDPs) were approved and recorded, all site development plans and GDPs recorded under this Code may be withdrawn, either partially or completely, if all land and structures remaining under such site development plans can be made to comply with all regulations established by this Code. Upon approval of an application to withdraw, the Manager shall record in the real property records of the Denver County Clerk and Recorder an appropriate certificate of such withdrawal.
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