

ZCA-2024-0016

Applicant: Los Alamos County, Community Development Department

Request: Recommendation for Approval to County Council

Purpose: To amend Chapter 16, “County of Los Alamos Development Code” with revisions related to Zone Map Amendments, and associated authority, responsibilities, and procedure sections as applicable.

BACKGROUND

- December 2022 - County Council approved to repeal and replace the Development Code.
- January 23, 2023 – Development Code is effective
- To Current – Staff has utilized the updated Development Code and identified areas that should be considered as amendments:
 1. Clarify language
 2. Address inconsistencies
 3. Correct typos and grammatical errors and/or omissions
 4. Specific standards or procedures that can further county goals and policies

DEVELOPMENT CODE

“CLEAN-UP”

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PZC DATE
Minor Zone Map Amendment	Removing contradictory language; clarify approval authority	September 25, 2024
Clean-Up, Part 1	Correcting minor errors and omissions; amendment will fix text typos, errors, redundant language, and add text omitted.	October 9, 2024
Clean-Up, Part 2	Proposed changes that staff have determined require additional discussion, such as: Temporary Signs, Open Space Zoning Map Corrections, as well as other clarifications	Early First Quarter 2025
Clean-Up, Part 3	Complete Comprehensive Plan update to include a consultant for community engagement and drafting of the document.	TBD: RFP for consulting by end of Nov. 2024
Requests for changes to for potential consideration	Issues requested for analysis and potential changes, such as: parking maximums, ADUs, extension of DTLA boundaries, Open Space rezoning.	TBD

PROPOSED CHANGES

SECTION	PROPOSED CHANGE
16-68 Community Development Department/Community Development Designee	Amend text for clarity
16-69 Planning and Zoning Commission	Amend text for clarity, categorize Zone Map Amendments, and defines final-decision making body for Minor Zone Map amendments.
16-70 County Council	Amend text for clarity, categorize Zone Map Amendments, and defines final-decision making body for Major Zone Map amendments.
16-71 Table 49: Procedures Summary Table	Revise application type column to match titles as listed in other sections
Section 16-74(h) Minor Zone Map Amendment	Amend text for clarity

DECISION CRITERIA

- a. The request substantially conforms to the intent and policies of the comprehensive plan and other adopted county policies and plans.
- b. The proposed change will not result in land use inconsistent with the purpose of the district or incompatible with a use allowed in the underlying zone district.
- c. The proposed change will clarify existing language, remove redundant or inconsistent language, or simplify the understanding and implementation of the Code.
- d. The proposed amendment promotes public health, safety, and welfare.