



Town of Reading

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COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION & BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MEMORANDUM

To: Downtown property owners and abutters within 1,000 feet of downtown & Downtown business owners
CC: Town of Reading Boards, Committees and Commissions
From: Jeff Hansen, Chair, Community Planning & Development Commission
John Halsey, Chair, Board of Selectmen
Date: June 30, 2016
Re: July 19th Zoning Charrette

We are writing on behalf of the CPDC and BOS to invite you to a **Zoning Charrette on July 19th from 6:00-8:30 PM in the Great Room at the Pleasant Street Senior Center.**

Our boards are interested in pursuing this in order to advance housing production and economic development in Town, and community input is essential to understanding future visions for the downtown area. Specifically we want to understand:

- The needs of residents and other stakeholders
- How best to align zoning to land use goals including housing production and economic development
- How rezoning or zoning overlays can be drafted with the broadest support possible

To assist us with ordering food for the Charrette, please RSVP by July 14th to Julie Mercier, Community Development Director: jmercier@ci.reading.ma.us / 781-942-6648

The Charrette will focus on different zoning options for the following areas*:

- The Business B Green Street neighborhood south of the Downtown Smart Growth District; and
- The Business B Main Street corridor from Haven Street to the railroad tracks.

*See map on the back of this sheet – these areas were identified as priority areas by community members at a Downtown Zoning Workshop on April 11, 2016.

The format of the Charrette will include the following:

- 6:00-6:45 PM: Refreshments, poster boards, familiarization with downtown zoning
- 6:45-7:15 PM: Presentation of feedback, zoning options, and process
- 7:15-8:30 PM: Q&A and roundtable discussions

Preparation in advance of the Charrette is encouraged via:

- Town of Reading Zoning Bylaw
(http://www.readingma.gov/sites/readingma/files/uploads/2015-11_zoning_bylaw_0.pdf)
 - Section 5: Use Regulations per Zoning District
 - Section 6: Dimensional Regulations per Zoning District
 - Section 10.5: Downtown Smart Growth District (DSGD)
- Economic Development Action Plan
(http://www.readingma.gov/sites/readingma/files/u281/readingedactionplannarrativeappendicesmerged_2016-2022.pdf)
- Feedback received at the Downtown Zoning Workshop on April 11, 2016:
(<http://www.readingma.gov/community-planning-and-development-commission/pages/downtown-zoning-workshop-april-11-2016>)

