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Barney Heath
Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 16, 2016

TO: Councilor Ted Hess-Mahan, Chairman
Members of the Zoning and Planning Committee

FROM: Barney Heath, Director, Department of Planning and Development
James Freas, Deputy Director

RE: Zoning Phase 2 Update

CC: City Council
Planning and Development Board
Donnalyn Kahn, City Solicitor
John Lojek, ISD Commissioner



Welcome to the first bi-weekly update on Phase 2 of our zoning project. The project continues to move forward as we prepare for the public kick-off event, now scheduled for **October 5 at 6:00 PM**, location TBD. Staff provided a briefing to the EDC on the project process on September 13th and an interdepartmental staff team drawing from the Law Department and ISD began meeting this week.

Highlighting Places in Newton

The first significant part of the Zoning project is the Newton Pattern Book. This book will be an analysis of the patterns of development across the City, looking at the scale of development in our different villages and neighborhoods, and the types of buildings that characterize these different areas of the City. Creating this book will involve a lot of tours of various places, looking at maps and pictures, collecting input from citizens, and ultimately, compiling a lot of data. One of the first tasks is identifying target areas to focus our attention, and for that, we are looking for assistance.

We are requesting that each member of ZAP work with their ward colleagues to identify the buildings, streets and/or areas in their ward that are most representative of these places. We are trying to capture the make-up of the City as it exists today; its urban form and character; so we are asking you to identify what we should be looking at in your ward that would most clearly demonstrate those factors. Try to provide a variety including single and multi-family as well as

commercial, office or industrial. Any notes you want to include to accompany the information provided would be welcome. The data can be provided as a list of addresses or streets and/or you could mark on a map, whatever is easiest for you and your colleagues. We need this information by **Friday September 30th**.

Zoning Examples

Members of the committee asked about “context-based zoning” examples. We have begun compiling some examples and will provide those in the next update. As desired, these could be presented at a future ZAP meeting.

Please mark your calendar for October 5th and we look forward to receiving the ward-based information.