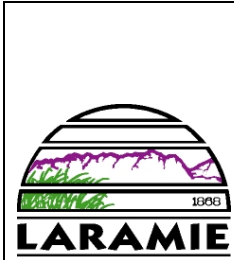


## CITY OF LARAMIE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING September 1, 2020



### Agenda Item: Orig. Ordinance - 3rd Reading

**Title: Original Ordinance No. 2016 amending various sections of Title 15.08 and 15.14 of Laramie Municipal Code regarding Downtown Commercial Zoning District regulations.**

### Recommended Council MOTION:

Move to approve Original Ordinance No. 2016 as recommended by the Planning Commission, on third and final reading, in accordance with findings of fact and conclusions of law, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign.

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### Administrative or Policy Goal:

Under Section 15.04.050.A the City Manager's Office shall have the authority to review and make recommendations to the appropriate decision making authority for Text Amendments. Under Section 15.06.060.A states the purpose of a text amendment is for the purpose not to relieve particular hardships nor to confer special privileges or rights on any person, but rather to make adjustments to the text of this code that are necessary in light of changed conditions, changes in the comprehensive plan, public policy, or that are necessary to advance the general welfare of the city. As well, under Section 15.02.050 states that this code should be regularly reviewed, evaluated and amended, if necessary, based on private and city economic conditions, vision for the community, changing planning and zoning principles, frequent difficulty in implementing or enforcing any specific standard(s), or changes in the state, federal or case law.

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### Council Update:

At Council's August 4<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting, the Council split Ord. 2016 into two separate sections, one with section including Section 5, 7 and 8 which are Patio designs, Protruding signage size and prohibiting temporary banners, and the second section including sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, and 11 of Ord. 2016. A motion to postpone the second section to February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 was passed with a vote of 5 Aye and 4 Nay. A motion to approve the first section on First Reading was approved by 7 Aye and 2 Nay. The reason for section 2 postponement was to allow for council and the public to have more opportunity to be educated about these changes, allow for staff and Main Street to engage more with downtown business and building owners and to allow for more of a buffer of the economic hardships that have come with the COVID-19 pandemic. At the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Planning Staff will only be bringing Sections 5, 7 and 8 for second reading, still as Ord. 2016.

### Background:

The present amendment is initiated by the City of Laramie as part of the continual effort to keep the Unified Development Code (UDC) accurate, correct concerns, and remove potential avenues of confusion. All prior

revisions to LMC Chapter 15 (Unified Development Code) can be found online at [www.cityoflarmie.org/UDC](http://www.cityoflarmie.org/UDC).

The proposed text updates will encourage development within the DC District and put less restrictive practices on developers, while also ensuring a more vibrant downtown by ensuring higher quality design and use of land. Laramie Downtown is many times the first place that visitors encounter and staff believes that this text amendment will contribute to a sustainable growth in the DC District, and surrounding areas as our downtown grows and implement best planning practices for downtowns.

The amendments and updates within this UDC Text Amendment have been gathered through efforts of City Staff and Laramie Main Street throughout the past few years. These amendments and additions were also prompted through project experience, new business models, enquiries from the public and staff's constant effort to improve Laramie's UDC as development continues to evolve.

The proposed amendments have been presented to the Laramie Main Street for review. Laramie Main Street has shown its support for these code updates and has also been present throughout the process of the update and creation of these codes.

**Proposed Text Amendments:**

- Update code to prohibit temporary banners within the DC District
- Include Patio design standards for the DC District
- Update protruding signage size

**Planning Commission Recommendation:**

Planning Commission recommended approval of TA-20-01 at the June 22, 2020 meeting with a vote of Aye: 4. Nay: 0. Absent: 3.

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**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

- Laramie Municipal Code: Title 15 (Unified Development Code)
- Wyoming State Statutes Title 15 Cities and Towns, Article 5 Planning
- Wyoming State Statutes Title 15 Cities and Towns, Article 6 Zoning
- Laramie Comprehensive Plan

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**Responsible Staff:**

Todd Feezer, Assistant City Manager,  
721-5304

Matthew Cox, Associate Planner,  
721-5344

Future dates are subject to change

Advertised	
Public Hearing (PH) Held	July 21, 2020
PH Advertised	
Introduction/1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	August 4, 2020
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	August 18, 2020
3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading	September 1, 2020

**Attachments:**

- Proposed Ordinance No. 2016
- Planning Commission Staff Report (June 22, 2020)