

Greetings!

The City of Springfield is continuing to take action on the momentum to make the vision for Downtown a reality, and we are excited to share some updates. I am reaching out to you as the newest member of the [Downtown Planning](#) project team, though not new to my commitment to the Springfield community. Since Linda Pauly's retirement in August of 2018, I officially joined the City in February and have felt lucky to be here each day since. Some of you are former Downtown Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) members and/or are industry experts who shared dedication to downtown alongside Linda—thank you for your insightful work and for taking this work to a level that would not be as great as it is today without you.

What progress has been made?

It has so far become clear to me that making Downtown even stronger involves many minds coming together to tackle common interests and efforts, two of which will serve as a framework for how downtown could look in the future. These are:

- (1) Updates to Downtown Sign District language within [Chapter 8 of the Springfield Municipal Code](#)
- (2) New design standards for a Downtown Mixed-Use Zoning District

Downtown Sign District

- City Council held three Work Sessions to discuss the CAC's recommendation and to provide additional direction. The Work Sessions were on February 4, March 25, and April 22 of 2019.
- On April 16, the project was a featured item at Discover Downtown Springfield's quarterly business meetup. This opportunity helped staff get the word out about the project to a larger audience, answer questions, provide information for how the City can continue to serve as a resource, and to keep connecting with Downtown's business community.

Standards for a New Downtown Mixed-Use Zoning District

- One key action the project team identified, while I am getting up-to-speed, is to confirm the project's direction with City Council before Council's summer recess. Here is more on our upcoming efforts:

What's next?

Downtown Sign District

- **May 20, 2019:** City Council will hold a Public Hearing and First Reading of the proposed changes, which require adoption of an ordinance. No final decisions will be made at this time. This is the time to voice your support or concerns!
- **June 3, 2019:** City Council will hold a Second Reading of the proposed changes. The date the new requirement becomes effective depends on the date Council adopts the proposed changes by ordinance. An ordinance will become effective 30 days after it is adopted. For example, if Council adopts the changes on June 3, the new requirements will apply to properties within the Downtown Sign District on July 3.

Standards for a New Downtown Mixed-Use Zoning District

- **May 28, 2019:** City Council Work Session to confirm the direction for this effort.
- **September 23, 2019 (Tentative):** City Council Work Session for staff to provide a project update.

Council Work Sessions are always open to the public though no public comment is taken during these meetings. Public comment is welcome at Council Regular Sessions. You can find more about Council's public meetings by viewing the [Council web page](#).

Want to continue staying informed?

There are other ways to keep in touch aside from the [project website](#) and [Council Calendar](#).

Have you joined the E-update list?

[Click here to sign up](#) (if you have not already)—*or*—e-mail me back directly with your permission for the City to add you to the list.

Do you no longer want to receive E-updates?

Feel free to contact me directly if you would like to be removed from the list—*or*—if you have already subscribed through the website, you can also click “unsubscribe” at the bottom of any previous e-mails about planning for Downtown.

I look forward to hearing from you and to the months ahead!



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Keep up with all the happenings in downtown Springfield: www.discoverdowntownspringfield.org

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<http://www.springfield-or.gov/accessibility.html>