

Attachment A – Draft Ordinance
ORDINANCE NO. 12 - _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, PROVIDING THAT THE BILLINGS, MONTANA CITY CODE BE AMENDED BY REVISING SECTION 27-1502 – AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER - TO DELETE LANGUAGE AND ADD LANGUAGE TO CLARIFY THE REGULATION AND ADOPT THE REVISION AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND SET A TIME PERIOD FOR THE REGULATION TO BE EFFECTIVE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA:

Section 1. RECITALS. *Title 76, Chapter 2, Part 3, MCA, and Section 27-1502, BMCC,* provide for amendment to the City Zoning Regulations from time to time. The City Council initiated the amendment to the City Zoning Regulations and the City Zoning Commission and staff have reviewed the proposed zoning regulations hereinafter described. The recommendations of the Zoning Commission and staff have been submitted to the City Council, and the City Council, in due deliberation, has considered the proposed amendments to the City Zoning Regulations.

Section 2. DESCRIPTION. The zoning regulation shall apply to all land within the City of Billings.

Section 3. AMENDMENT. That the Billings, Montana City Code be amended by revising Section 27-1502 as follows:

SEC. 27-1502. AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER.

(c) *Planning department study and responsibility.* The zoning coordinator, upon receiving an application for rezoning of an area or a particular piece of property shall do the following:

(2) Study each application with reference to its appropriateness and effect on existing and proposed land use, and references to the growth policy comprehensive plan;

(4) ~~Advertise~~ Publish notice of the application in a newspaper of general circulation at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the date of the city zoning commission public hearing. The notice shall contain: the classification sought, the location of the property, and the date, time and place of the city zoning commission public hearing;

(d) *City zoning commission action.* The city zoning commission shall review and take action upon each application in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, and after a public hearing at which the application has been legally advertised. Each application shall be presented to the city zoning commission by the zoning coordinator, together with his/her findings and conclusions on the matter. The city zoning commission may, by a majority vote of the members present, delay action for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, without prejudice to the applicant. A report of the

commission's recommendation decision and the zoning coordinator's findings and conclusions shall be submitted to the city council. The city zoning commission shall make a recommendation to the city council to:

- (1) Deny the application; or
- (2) Grant the application.

The city zoning commission shall submit its recommendations in writing along with a statement indicating its reasons for the recommendation to granting, denying, or allow recommending withdrawal of the amendment within fifteen (15) days following the public hearing. In no case shall the city zoning commission make a recommendation that an amendment be granted for an amendment that was not legally advertised.

In making its recommendation to the city council for an amendment to the official map or text of this chapter, the city zoning commission shall consider, among other things, the following:

- (1) Whether the new zoning ~~was~~ is designed in accordance with the growth policy comprehensive plan;
- (2) Whether the new zoning ~~was~~ is designed to ~~lessen congestion in the streets~~ secure from fire and other dangers;
- (3) Whether the new zoning will promote public health, public safety and general welfare;
- (4) Whether the new zoning will ~~secure safety from fire, panic and other dangers~~ facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks and other public requirements;
- (5) Whether the new zoning will provide adequate light and air;
- (6) Whether the new zoning will ~~prevent the overcrowding of land~~ effect motorized and nonmotorized transportation;
- (7) Whether the new zoning will ~~avoid undue concentration of population~~ promote compatible urban growth;
- ~~(8) Whether the new zoning will facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, fire, police and other public requirements;~~
- ~~(9) Whether the new zoning gives reasonable consideration to the character of the district;~~
- ~~(10) (8) Whether the new zoning gives reasonable consideration to the character of the district and the peculiar suitability of the property for particular uses;~~
- ~~(11) (9) Whether the new zoning was adopted with a view to~~ will conserve ing the value of buildings; and
- ~~(12) (10) Whether the new zoning will encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the City of Billings.~~

~~The city zoning commission shall adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of public hearings and meetings, which shall be published and available to the public, as well as conflict of interest rules, to ensure that no member is entitled to vote on a matter in which he/she has a direct or indirect interest.~~

(e) *City council public hearing.* Before taking action on an application for an amendment to the official map, and after presentation of the city zoning commission report, the city council shall hold a public hearing on the application.

As provided in Montana Code Annotated, Section 76-2-305(2) (1999)-, in the event of a protest petition against such zone change signed by the owners of twenty-five (25) percent or more of: (1) the area of the lots included in any proposed change; or (2) those lots or units, as defined in MCA 70-23-102, one hundred fifty (150) feet from a lot included in a proposed change, such proposed amendment shall not become effective except by the favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the present and voting members of the city council. For purposes of this protest provision, each unit owner is entitled to have the percentage of the unit owner's undivided interest in the common elements of the condominium, as expressed in the declaration, included in the calculation of the protest. If the property, as defined in 70-23-102, spans more than one lot, the percentage of the unit owner's undivided interest in the common elements must be multiplied by the total number of lots upon which the property is located. The percentage of the unit owner's undivided interest must be certified as correct by the unit owner seeking to protest a change or by the presiding officer of the association of unit owners. The protest petition must be received in the planning department office by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the first reading of the amendment by the city council.

Section 4. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 5. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this ordinance which may be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be effective from and after final passage and as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council on first reading April 23, 2012.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED on second reading May 14, 2012.

CITY OF BILLINGS:

BY: _____
Thomas W. Hanel

ATTEST:

BY: _____
Cari Martin, City Clerk