

CITY OF WESTMINSTER
ORDINANCE NO. 2622

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING
A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT (CASE NO. 2025-0039)
AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE WESTMINSTER MUNICIPAL
CODE, CHAPTER 17.620 – GENERAL PLAN, ZONING MAP
AND ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS

WHEREAS, the City of Westminster, California (“City”) recognizes the need to allow City Staff to be able to proactively initiate Zoning Code amendments; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment will allow City Staff to be more responsive to the needs of the City and its residents as well as changing state laws; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission initiated said amendment at a regular meeting on February 5, 2025; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2025, the Planning Commission of the City of Westminster, California held a duly noticed public hearing on the zoning text amendment, considered written and oral comments, and facts and evidence presented by the applicant, City staff, and other interested parties and voted 3-1 to not recommend approval of the ordinance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2025, the Planning Commission voted 2-1-2 against adopting an updated resolution which memorialized the Planning Commission’s vote on April 2; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Government Code Section 65091(a)(4), for projects affecting over 1,000 property owners, a one-eighth (1/8th) page notice of the public hearing describing the project, date, time and location of the hearing was advertised in the *Westminster Herald Journal* newspaper on May 29, 2025. A notice was also posted at City Council Chambers, City Hall, Westminster Branch Library, Community Services and Recreation Building, and on the City’s website; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2025, the City Council of the City of Westminster, California, held a duly noticed public hearing on the proposed amendment, considered written and oral comments, and reviewed facts and evidence presented by City staff and other interested parties, after which the City Council found that the proposed amendments are consistent with the goals and policies of the City’s General Plan and Westminster Strategic Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Incorporation of Recitals. The City Council of the City of Westminster, California, hereby finds that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein as substantive findings of the City Council.

SECTION 2. CEQA. The City Council finds that the proposed zoning code amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it is an administrative activity that will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change to the environment and is thus not a "project" under State CEQA Guidelines 15378 (see State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15060(c)(2) and (3)).

SECTION 3. Findings. Pursuant to WMC Section 17.620.030, the City Council approves Case No. 2025-0039, based upon the following findings:

1. The proposed amendment ensures and maintains internal consistency with the goals, policies, and strategies of all elements of the General Plan and will not create any inconsistencies with this Title, in the case of a Zoning Code amendment;

The proposed amendment proposes a procedural change that allows Staff the ability to initiate zoning code amendments, an action which currently requires Staff to present a Resolution of Intention to the Planning Commission or City Council. As such, the current amendment does not modify the code in any substantial way which would cause conflicts with the General Plan or with the Zoning Code itself.

2. The proposed amendment would not be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the City; and

The proposed amendment proposes a procedural change that will not affect issues relating to public health, safety, convenience, or welfare. As the amendment would allow City Staff to be more responsive to the needs of the City and its residents, the amendment would be beneficial to the public interest.

3. The proposed amendment is in compliance with the provisions of CEQA.

The adoption of the proposed zoning code amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it is an administrative activity that will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change to the environment and is thus not a "project" as defined by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 (see State CEQA Guidelines, § 15060(c)(2) and (3)).

SECTION 4. WMC § 17.620.010. Amendment. Title 17 (Land Use), Chapter 17.620 (General Plan, Zoning Map and Zoning), Section 17.620.010, is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

§ 17.620.010 INITIATION OF AMENDMENTS

An amendment may be initiated by the:

- A. Council. A resolution of intention initiated by the Council.
- B. Planning Commission. A resolution of intention initiated by the Planning Commission.
- C. Staff. The Director of Community Development, or their designee, by notice to the City Manager.
- D. Property Owner. An application from a property owner.

SECTION 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of all other provisions of this ordinance. The City Council of Westminster hereby declares that it would have passed the ordinance codified in this chapter, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase or portion thereof, even though any one or more of the sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 6. The City Clerk certifies that the Mayor and City Council introduced and conducted first reading on the 11th day of June 2025. The City Clerk further certifies that the Mayor and City Council at its Regular Meeting on the 25th day of June 2025, conducted second reading, passed, and adopted Ordinance No. 2622 and shall affix their signature and City Seal and that same shall be entered into the Book of Ordinances.

SECTION 7. Attestation. The Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the passage of this Ordinance. The City Clerk shall cause the same to be published once in the official newspaper within 15 days after its adoption. This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days from its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 25th day of June, 2025.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

CHI CHARLIE NGUYEN
MAYOR

ATTEST:

ASHTON R. AROCHO, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

SCOTT PORTER
CITY ATTORNEY

DRAFT

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**

**CERTIFICATION
OF
ORDINANCE**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) ss.
CITY OF WESTMINSTER)

I, Ashton R. Arocho, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Westminster, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2622 was introduced for first reading on the 11th day of June 2025, and duly passed, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Westminster at a Regular Meeting held on the 25th day of June 2025, with the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ashton R. Arocho, MMC
City Clerk

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