



City of Florence
A City in Motion

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024 – Housing Code Updates Written Record Open through February 15, 2024 at 4 pm

FLORENCE, OR – On Monday, February 5th, the City Council reviewed Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024 at their regular City Council meeting. At the February 5th meeting, the City Council received the staff report on the proposed ordinance, heard testimony during the public hearing, asked questions of staff, and discussed the process of the ordinance adoption. The City Council elected to close the public hearing, but hold the written record open as an opportunity for the public to have more time to review the proposed ordinance and background materials, as well as receive additional information related to the questions from Council asked at the meeting. The written record will be open through Thursday, February 15th at 4 pm.

About Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024

Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024, is an ordinance adopting legislative amendments to the Florence City Code Title 10, to support missions, emergency shelters, and transitional housing, associated with phase 2 of the Housing Implementation Plan project and reduce lot dimensions for medium density single unit detached dwellings.

This ordinance is the next step in the process of updating the City’s housing codes that began in 2017. This ordinance addresses transitional and emergency housing, a portion of the initial Housing Implementation Plan (HIP) process that was delayed due to the need for additional time to develop the proposed code. The topic was included with the recent 2022-2023 HIP Phase 2 process.

House Bill 2916 (2019) implemented under ORS 446.265 directs jurisdictions to permit transitional housing which they define as “accommodations (that) are intended to be used by individuals or families on a limited basis for seasonal, emergency or transitional housing purposes and may include yurts, huts, cabins, fabric structures, tents and similar accommodations.” The accommodations are limited to persons who lack permanent or safe shelter or cannot be placed in other low-income housing.

Proposed Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024, includes amending Florence City Code (FCC) Title 10 to permit Transitional Housing, Emergency Shelters, and Missions and creating code criteria. It also updates the Medium Density District to reduce lot frontage and lot size requirements. Transitional housing is defined in the proposed code as “residential shelter provided for an extended but definite period that is integrated with other social services and counseling programs to assist in the transition to self-sufficiency through the acquisition of permanent housing.” The emergency shelter and mission criteria are intended for a

similar population as the transitional housing. They are not intended for natural disasters or similar. That sheltering will be considered for a code update to FCC Title 1 through a future proposed ordinance process.

Background Information

For information related to Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024, please review the links below. The City Council meeting website will have the full agenda item summary for the ordinance, the presentation provided during the meeting, and the link to view the City Council meeting video. Background and information on the process of the ordinance development can be found on the Housing Implementation Plan Project webpage.

- Notice of Potential Ordinance Passage: www.ci.florence.or.us/council/notice-potential-ordinance-passage-49
- February 5, 2024 City Council Meeting Materials: www.ci.florence.or.us/council/city-council-meeting-258
- Housing Implementation Plan Project: www.ci.florence.or.us/planning/housing-implementation-plan-project

Submitting Written Testimony through February 15th at 4 pm

The City Council will accept additional written comment through February 15th at 4:00pm. Since the public hearing was closed at the February 5th City Council meeting, there will not be verbal testimony taken on this agenda item at the March 4th meeting. Those wanting to submit their views to the City Council regarding Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024, may do so via written comment:

1. Written comment: Written testimony can be submitted by...
 - a. Email to the City Recorder at cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us;
 - b. Mail to Florence City Hall, Attn: City Council, 250 Hwy 101, Florence, OR 97439
 - c. Drop Off at the City of Florence drop box located at Florence City Hall (250 Hwy 101) to the right of the main entrance.

**** Note:** Written comments need to be submitted by February 15th by 4:00 pm to be distributed to the City Council, posted to the City of Florence website, and made part of the record for the City Council to review prior to the meeting.

March 4, 2024 City Council Meeting

The City Council will reconvene to consider Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024, at their March 4th City Council beginning at 5:30 pm at Florence City Hall (250 Hwy 101). At that meeting, the City Council will review any additional public input received through the February 15th deadline, receive an update on questions and comments from staff, and discuss the ordinance as they consider adoption.

The Florence City Council meeting agenda and meeting materials are published on the Thursday afternoon the week preceding the meeting (February 29th) on the meeting webpage. The March 4th materials will be available at www.ci.florence.or.us/council/city-council-meeting-259. To be notified via email directly when the agenda and meeting materials are available, please subscribe to the City Council meeting email distribution list at www.ci.florence.or.us/newsletter/subscriptions.

Interested citizens not able to attend in person may listen and view the March 4th City Council meeting through the 'GoToWebinar' platform. The link to the meeting will be posted the week prior to the meeting on the City of Florence website at www.ci.florence.or.us/council/city-council-meeting-259. Meetings are also live on Cable Channel 191 and online at www.ci.florence.or.us/citymanager/public-meetings-live.

For more information on the City of Florence's Public Meeting Policies, visit the City of Florence website at www.ci.florence.or.us/council/rules-procedure. For details regarding the upcoming City Council meeting or how to submit testimony, please contact City Recorder Lindsey White at 541-997-3437 or via email at cityrecorder@ci.florence.or.us.

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