



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### Public Meeting to Review Proposed Mixed Use District Zone in Bearden

**Knoxville, Tennessee – September 14, 2016** – Staff from the Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) will hold a public meeting regarding the proposed Mixed Use District zone for the Bearden Village area on Tuesday, September 20, at Bearden United Methodist Church, 4407 Sutherland Avenue, from 6-7:30 pm. Interested residents, property owners, and business owners are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate in the discussion.

The agenda for the meeting will include an overview of revisions to the proposed zoning regulations, zoning map and height map; detailed discussion on frontage types; and a draft frontage type map for the district. There will be an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft frontage type map at the meeting and it will be posted online as well.

The Bearden Village Opportunities Plan was developed in 2001 with extensive input from the community. The plan for this “urban village” focuses on enhancing pedestrian activity and access, enhancing the sense of place and community, and building upon Bearden’s urban character and unique atmosphere. Recommendations include creating a complete and integrated community of housing, shops, workplaces, schools, parks, and civic facilities within easy walking distance of each other.

In order to realize the Bearden Village concept, new types of development are necessary. Over the past year, MPC staff has determined that existing development standards are not adequate for residential uses and that changes need to be made to existing commercial areas. MPC has proposed the Mixed Use District zoning to achieve this. Public input from three previous meetings has helped shape the current draft.

The proposed Mixed Use District zoning regulations and a mapping tool that compares current and proposed zoning and height maximums are available online at <http://www.knoxmpc.org/mixed-use/bearden>.

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#### **Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission**

The Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) was established in 1956 by Knoxville and Knox County as the agency responsible for comprehensive county-wide planning and administration of zoning and land subdivision regulations and remains so today (except for the town of Farragut). Funding for MPC activities comes primarily from city and county appropriations and from federal grants for specific studies. The Commission prepares and adopts a general plan, reviews subdivision regulations and site plans, prepares and recommends zoning ordinances and maps to the Knox County Commission and Knoxville City Council, reviews proposed zoning amendments, and prepares a capital improvements plan for the City of Knoxville. For more information, visit our website: [www.knoxmpc.org](http://www.knoxmpc.org)