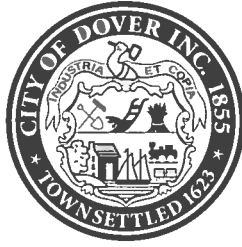


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City of Dover, New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS TO THE DOVER PLANNING BOARD

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE
FILLING OUT ATTACHED APPLICATION.
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW.**

Dear Applicant:

This will serve to briefly inform you regarding the process to have the Dover Planning Board (the Board) review a land use application. Please refer to the NH Statutes on Land Use and Regulation the Dover Code, and our Developer's Handbook for more specific information.

The Board primarily reviews 5 types of applications:

1. **Site Plans** - A site plan is a professionally rendered drawing which delineates the proposed development of a site. This plan is required for non-residential development, creation of multi-family residential structures, and for extensions of parking lots and alteration of an acre or more of land. These plans require meeting with the Technical Review Committee before Planning Board review.
2. **Subdivisions** - A subdivision is the division of the lot, tract, or parcel of land into two (2) or more lots, plats, sites or other divisions of land for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale, rent, lease or building development. It includes re-subdivision and, when appropriate to the context, relates to the process of subdividing or to the land or territory subdivided. Major subdivision plans (4+) require meeting with the Technical Review Committee before Planning Board review.
3. **Lot Line Adjustments** - A lot line adjustment alters the size of two (2) or more lots, but does not create a new buildable lot.
4. **Conditional Use Permits** - A conditional use permit is required for any alteration of wetlands, wetland buffers or work within the City's conservation district. Additionally, a conditional use permit could be issued as to offer relief in the Central Business District, for plans in the Residential Mixed Use Overlay District, or parking relief. Environmental Conditional Use Permits are acted on after Conservation Commission review.
5. **Excavation Permits** - NH RSA Chapter 155-E grants municipalities the authority to regulate earth excavations within their borders. This authority rests with the Planning Board.

The Board cannot and will not review applications that do not meet zoning requirements. **Please review the need to apply to the Zoning Board of Adjustment prior to applying to the Board.**

Professional agents will prepare your application; however, you may represent yourself or authorize, in writing, someone else to represent you before the Planning Board.

In most cases, the first step would be to appear before the Technical Review Committee, to apply, eight (8) folded copies of the site plan with scale of not less than 1"=50' or 1" =100' for larger site plans, and a PDF, need to be provided, along with payment of plan review fees. These meetings occur on Thursday, and materials and payment must be submitted three (3) weeks prior to meeting. Meetings are scheduled, upon receipt of completed applications with the full checklist and payment.

The next step would be to provide, two weeks prior to Planning Board, the final plan sets (three (3) full size and twelve (12) half size (11x 17), folded, copies of the plan), and 15 copies, and a PDF, of all supporting materials, including response to TRC comments. Please print all materials on both sides of paper.

For projects not appearing before the Technical Review Committee, Plan Review Fees are due along with three (3) full size and twelve (12) half size (11x17), folded, copies of the plan set and 15 copies, plus a PDF, of plans and materials, 3 weeks prior to the Planning Board meeting. Please print all materials on both sides of paper.

Staff will generate an abutter list, and Abutter/Notice Fees will be invoiced. They are due 28 hours prior to Planning Board. If they are not paid, the application will not be heard.

Once an item is placed upon an agenda the following process is used:

- The Board will hold a public hearing on your application at a regularly scheduled meeting
 - Typically the second or fourth Tuesday of the Month.
- Public notice of the hearing will be posted at the City Clerk's office and the Planning Department office and printed in the newspaper.
- Certified letters will be mailed to you and to all abutters at least ten days before the date of the hearing.
- 28 hours prior to the meeting, abutter/notice fees must be paid
- At the meeting
 - Staff will introduce your project
 - You and all other parties will be invited to appear in person or by agent or counsel to present your application.
 - Your project will be pre-loaded onto a laptop for review by the Board and public
 - The Board may ask clarifying questions
 - The Board will vote to accept jurisdiction on the application
 - If accepted:
 - The Board will hold a public hearing
 - The Board may ask additional questions
 - The Board will deliberate on your application
 - Typically decisions are made the night of the presentation, but an application may be tabled
 - After deliberation, a decision will be made.
 - You will be sent a notice of the decision.