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Neighborhood meeting in Dover to focus on Silver Street zoning changes

DOVER, N.H. – The City of Dover is currently updating the zoning regulations for the areas surrounding Silver Street, the goal of which is to celebrate and support some of Dover’s most historic neighborhoods. The intent is to create a new zoning district named the “Heritage Residential District” which will have dimensional and use regulations that are specifically tailored to the unique characteristics of these historic residential neighborhoods. A neighborhood meeting to discuss the proposed regulations for the Heritage Residential District will be held on Monday, June 2, 6:30 p.m. at Woodman Park School.

The June 2 meeting serves as a follow up from an initial meeting held on April 23 at the Silver Fountain Inn.

“The purpose of the April 23 meeting was to introduce the residents and property owners in the area to some of the preliminary concepts for the proposed Heritage Residential District,” said Assistant City Planner Tim Corwin. The meeting also included an exchange of ideas on how the zoning regulations could be adjusted to help support the historic homes and the primarily residential uses in the area.

Based on the feedback from the April 23 meeting, Planning Department staff and Jeff Taylor and Associates, the project consultant, have revised some of their preliminary concepts for the proposed zoning district and have prepared a draft Table of Use containing the proposed regulations. In addition, the boundaries of the proposed district have been expanded to include Washington Street from Arch Street to the Community Trail, Towle Avenue, Clifford Street, Woodman Park Drive, Parker Street, and Rutland Street from Silver Street to Fisher Street. Revised maps of the area will be ready for viewing at the June 2 meeting.

The Planning Department anticipates a large turnout on June 2.

“We were extremely pleased that approximately 75 people took the time to attend the meeting on April 23,” said Christopher Parker, Director of Planning and Community Development. “It’s clear that our residents are active and engaged and care about their neighborhoods.”
Corwin emphasizes that, as with other projects undertaken by the Planning Department, “public input drives both the process and the product. Public participation is key to ensuring that any zoning changes enacted reflect the values of the community.”

Recognizing that several residents had questions about the Silver Street reconstruction, Douglas Steele III, Community Development Director, will be on hand to provide information about that project. The focus of the meeting, however, will be a discussion of the draft zoning regulations and the Heritage Residential District project.

The draft Table of Use for the proposed Heritage Residential District is available for viewing on the Planning Department’s website.

For more information about the project, contact Tim Corwin, Assistant City Planner, at 516-6008 or by e-mail at t.corwin@dover.nh.gov.

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