

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

## Amendments to the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Conservation District Plan and Overlay Zone

Introduction & Possible Adoption January 27, 2025

www.rockvillemd.gov

## **Presentation Outline**

- Background of proposal.
- Review proposed amendments.
- Recommendation and action.

## Background

- Design standards already exist.
- Standards are too limiting for making improvements.
- Proposal focuses on revising existing conservation district; design guidelines no longer proposed.
- Amendments look to solve issues with existing standards.
- Conservation district plan and overlay zone must be updated to reflect revised standards.

# **Proposed Amendments**

#### Standards for new construction.

- 1,500sf max. lot coverage requirement removed; replaced with 1,800sf max. building footprint.
- 25' and 29' max. building heights removed; replaced with 30' max. building height.
- 25' front setback remains.
- 7 standards removed to remove redundant rules, vague guidelines and unnecessary standards.

### Building footprint for additions to existing 1-story homes.

2,100sf max building footprint for additions to 1-story homes.

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# Proposed Amendments (cont.)

#### Future Amendments to Standards.

 Allows for future amendments without requiring a comprehensive plan amendment.

#### **Alternative Compliance.**

- Proposed process; replaces variance process in Conservation District.
- Allows for alternative standard(s) if meeting certain criteria.
- Subject to Chief of Zoning approval.
- Staff will provide information on applications to the neighborhood civic association.

### **Two Actions Needed to Implement Amendments**

- 1. Adopt the ordinance to amend the Conservation District **Plan** that includes the revised standards and other changes.
- 2. Adopt the ordinance to amend the Conservation District **Zone** (ZTA) to implement the standards.

## Recommendation

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the Mayor and Council Adopt the Ordinance to Adopt an Amendment to the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Conservation District Plan as an Amendment to the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Steps:

- One Councilmember introduces the ordinance.
- Vote to waive the layover period.
- Vote to adopt the Ordinance as stated above.

# **Recommendation (cont.)**

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the Mayor and Council Adopt Zoning Text Amendment Application TXT2024-00267, to Amend Article 14 of the Zoning Ordinance to Revise Development Standards in the Lincoln Park Conservation District.

Steps:

- One Councilmember introduces the ordinance.
- Vote to waive the layover period.
- Vote to adopt the Ordinance as stated above.