## FOUNTAIN CITY TOWN HALL, INC. PO BOX 18001, KNOXVILLE, TN, 37928-8001

Mr. Gerald Green Executive Director, Metropolitan Planning Commission City-County Building, Suite 403 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN, 37902

September 12, 2018

Dear Mr. Green:

Members of Fountain City Town Hall are very interested in the proposed changes to Knoxville zoning regulations and how they will impact their lives. Members have been actively engaged in Knoxville's efforts to update zoning regulations through town hall style meetings and by engaging with other town hall members. The city's Recode Knoxville initiative will provide a powerful update to zoning regulations that shape how Knoxville is zoned and developed for decades to come. This large-scale effort will impact tens of thousands of residents and businesses and as such is an important change that must be thoroughly debated by all. We recognize this is a complex endeavor and have worked with Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) staff and community members to facilitate engagement and understanding in this very important process.

Based on public input following the roll-out of the second Draft Zoning Code (Public Draft Version 2.0) in July 2018 and due to the complexity of proposed zoning revisions, the Board of Fountain City Town Hall, Inc. respectfully requests MPC and the City of Knoxville allow additional time to discuss the proposed changes. It is apparent to us that there are important issues that still require additional discussion and resolution before finalizing zoning changes. Rushing such a complex series of zoning changes before thoroughly discussing and considering all ramifications would likely result in significant public frustration and zoning issues that would last for decades. The Board of Fountain City Town Hall, Inc. requests additional time for public input to be received and discussed with MPC staff. Granting additional time to carefully consider and resolve zoning

issues would of course necessitate a delay in city council's approval of Recode Knoxville changes. However, we believe this would result in better zoning for the future.

The Board is interested in finalizing the Recode Knoxville effort and is happy to meet with you and your staff to discuss additional public outreach mechanisms. The easiest way to contact us is by emailing the board president at kellenburg79@gmail.com.

Yours truly,

**Kelly Ellenburg** 

Chair, Fountain City Town Hall Board

Cc Knoxville City Council Knoxville Mayor