

Planning Update

Transportation, Planning and Development Committee



Agenda

- Clean Up Text Amendment #4
 - Clean-up vs policy text amendments
 - Proposed modifications
- Residential Refinement & Affordable Housing
 - Potential changes to plexes
 - New partnerships
 - New ideas



Clean Up Text Amendment #4



Clean-up Text Amendment #4

CITY OF CHARLOTTE



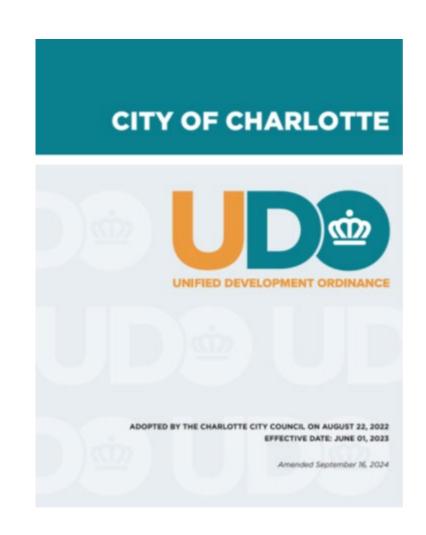
ADOPTED BY THE CHARLOTTE CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 22, 2022 EFFECTIVE DATE: JUNE 01, 2023

Amended August 21, 2023

- Text Amendment Filed: October 11, 2024
- Addresses multiple items identified by community, industry, and staff
- Virtual Community Engagement info sessions:
 - November 6, 2024 (6:00 7:00 pm)
 - November 7, 2024 (12:00 noon 1:00 pm)
- Public Hearing: November 18, 2024

Why Is This Text Amendment Needed?

- A major document such as the UDO requires adjustments and revisions after adoption to correct minor errors, add clarity, and adjust use permissions and prescribed conditions to better align with the Comprehensive Plan.
- The proposed text amendment will make the UDO a more user-friendly ordinance and result in better functionality.



Community Engagement for Text Amendments

UDO text amendments are classified as either technical (clean-

up/maintenance) or policy-based

Engagement for technical text amendments:

- Virtual information/engagement sessions
- Overview posted on the UDO website
- Publicized through social media
- Information disbursed to mailing lists and UDO website subscribers
- Council **public hearings** (televised on the City's YouTube channel and the Government Channel)
- Public engagement sessions



Policy text amendments have a unique engagement approach depending on the nature of the amendment and will include additional engagement activities

Clarifying Definitions and Standards

- Adds, deletes, and modifies several general definitions.
- For N1 districts, clarifies where setbacks are measured from
- For residential development on corner lots, clarifies building orientation
- Updates procedural and applicability requirements for Neighborhood Character Overlay (NCO) and Residential Infill Overlay (RIO) districts
- Adjusts allowable building lengths for schools and places of worship
- Clarifies connection requirements for attached housing

Align Housing Uses with Intended Outcomes

Currently in the UDO, infill duplex, triplex, and quadraplex dwellings are **not always allowed** in higher intensity zoning districts that allow multi-family apartments.

To increasing housing opportunities, we propose allowing duplexes, triplexes, and quadraplexes:

- On small lots (0.5 acre or less) in mixed use and uptown adjacent districts (example: Third Ward)
- In new multi-dwelling developments in higher intensity multi-family, office and commercial districts
 - Note: unit types are already allowed as part of a multi-dwelling development in mixed-use and uptown adjacent districts.





Learning from Examples: Aligning Uses to Intended Outcomes

Example of TOD-NC and TOD-UC extending into existing neighborhoods on small lots

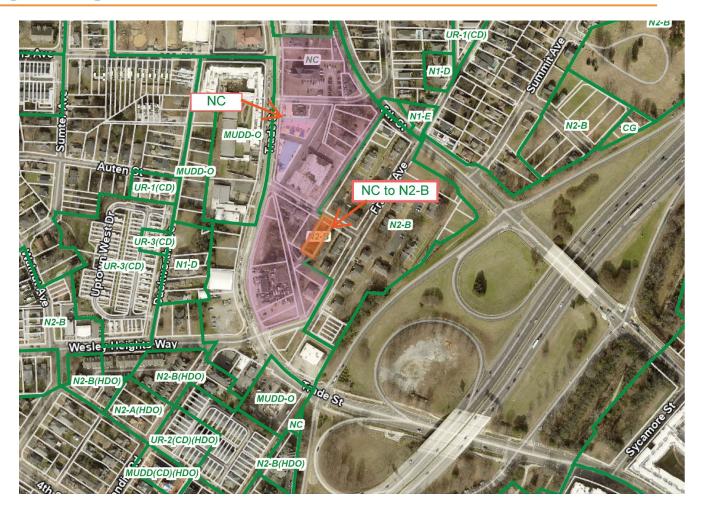
- Allowing duplex or triplex in this situation is a more compatible form of development
- Some of the existing lots already have duplexes on them, which are not currently permitted in TOD-NC or TOD-UC
- Helps create more opportunities for missing middle housing options, and context appropriate development



Learning from Examples: Aligning Uses to Intended Outcomes

Example of NC (Neighborhood Center) not supporting duplexes

- Property in orange had to rezone from NC to N2-B to allow the option to build a duplex on a small lot
- NC did not allow a duplex
- Helps create more opportunities for missing middle housing options, and context appropriate development without the barrier of possibly needing to rezone



Administrative Updates

- Modifies the newly created Alternative Compliance Review Board (ACRB) in Section 35.5.A, while clarifying the criteria prior to hearing first cases
- Allows expansion of a nonconforming use to be expanded in specific conditions
- Modifies EX standards for Convention Center, Public Transit Facility, and Stadium uses to align to design specific issues related to large uses (example: convention center, stadium, arena).
- Aligns vesting periods throughout ordinance for consistency



Residential Refinement



Residential Refinement – Why we are here

- Housing crisis in Charlotte with demand outpacing supply
- Gentle density can provide supply that is aligned to Charlotte Future 2040 Plan, while providing for-sale housing opportunities.
- Council referral dealt primarily with larger, greenfield development projects
- Need to focus on infill and small-scale development options (missing middle) to increase home ownership opportunities and inventory

U.S. housing market is 1.5 million housing units below a "balanced market," finds Freddie Mac

Freddie Mac: "To bring the vacancy rate, both rental and homeowner, back in line with historical averages, the U.S. would need to add an additional 1.5 million vacant for-sale and for-rent homes"

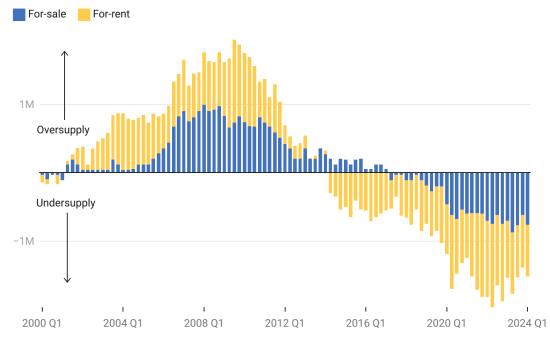


Chart: Lance Lambert • Source: Freddie Mac's analysis, published in May 2024, of U.S. Census Bureau data • Created with Datawrapper







Residential Change Considerations

- Appropriately scaled density: Explore ways to encourage stacked quads (2 over 2)
- Allow housing in more places: Develop more flexibility for housing through partnerships and conversions
- Affordable small-scale solutions: Revise ADU standards
- Make it easier to develop preferred housing types: Create preapproved pattern books for missing middle housing types
- Increase affordable housing tools and explore options to fast-track affordable projects







Creating Housing Through Partnerships

Allow residential uses under prescribed conditions when accessory to a place of worship or educational facility

- This would include all dwelling types with the possible exception of multi-family stacked
- Multi-family attached would be developed under N2-A or N2-B guidelines
- Would not require a rezoning
- Questions to solve: eligibility, ensuring workforce/affordability outcomes, fostering ownership opportunities, parcel size requirements, allowance of multi-family stacked on smaller urban lots

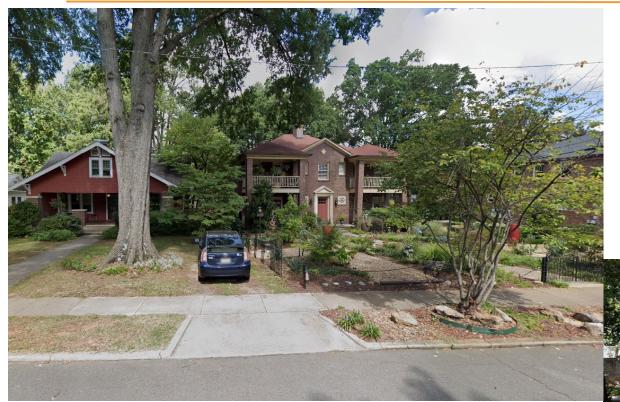


Residential Refinement - Stacked Quads

Stacked Quads

- Traditional form found in many existing neighborhoods
- Building form often fits better in the fabric of existing neighborhoods as it is closer in appearance to SF structure
- Create as a defined use as 2 over 2
- Determine appropriate N1 districts
 - Consider 60' wide and greater which is the most conducive after internal testing
 - Do we limit by districts or lot width?

Residential Refinement – Stacked Quads



Stacked Quad examples:

 Typically, doesn't interrupt street rhythm and appearance in mainly SF areas

- Most effective with parking in rear and on-street
- How do we create this outcome effectively?



Residential Refinement – Duplexes and Triplexes

Duplexes and Triplexes

- When no garage is provided, parking now required to be to the side and rear
- Consider additional refinements?
- Are all N1 districts appropriate for triplexes?
 - Do we need to consider any limit by districts or lot width?
 - Do we limit to corner lots?

Residential Refinement - Office Conversions

Office conversions to residential uses

- Allowing office conversions to residential uses under prescribed conditions
 - Residential uses would be permitted in adaptive reuse situations
 - Consider allowing
 MF residential uses as a new
 stand alone use in the OFC
 and OG districts and not just
 as adaptive reuse

"Asana Partners, MRP Realty to start \$250M overhaul of uptown Charlotte office building this summer" – May 2024 - CBJ



Affordable Housing Incentives

1st Workshop Held 10/23

Attendees:

- Affordable Housing Developers
- Market Rate Real Estate Developers
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Design Professionals

Workshop Goals:

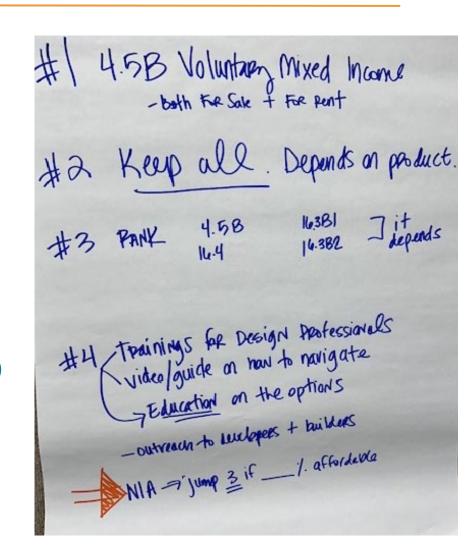
Technical conversations:

- to assess current UDO incentives
- develop recommendations to remove barriers for affordable housing projects AND inclusion in market rate projects in the UDO



Incentives: What's Working

- Fee in lieu/Height bonus is a productive tool (\$19M committed since 2019) but not for midrise and affordable projects
- Current options for mid-rise and affordable projects are ok:
 - Voluntary mixed income density bonus
 - Horizontal density bonus
 - Relief from limited ordinance requirements



Workshop Recommendations

Recommendations:

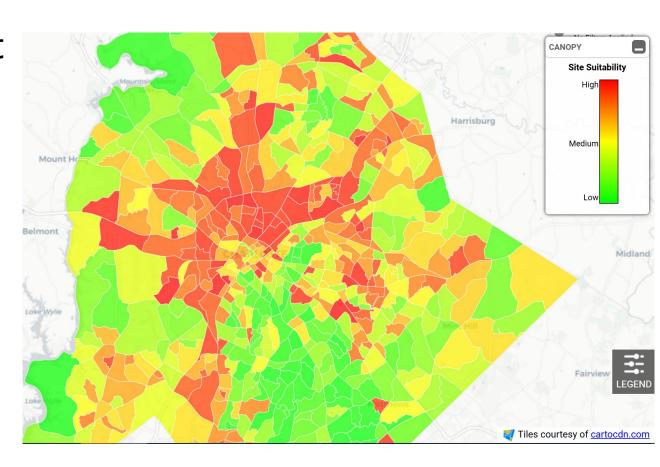
- More incentives for mid-rise construction as density/height bonus doesn't work
- Ordinance relief requested for tree save, stormwater, public streets, open space
- Lower required set-aside (% of units, % AMI) for tools to make them more viable
- Streamline the approval process



New Affordable Housing Ideas/Efforts

New Idea:

- Create a tree mitigation bank that can be used as an option for affordable projects to meet tree save requirements (gives 15% of the site back for development)
 - Prioritize mitigation bank purchases in areas of low canopy
- Plant trees on site using Canopy Care Funds



New Affordable Housing Ideas/Efforts

- Education, training and awareness of existing incentives is greatly needed
- Test horizontal density bonus and refine
- Evaluate additional development costs that may have creative mitigation solutions
- Continue hosting workshops with key technical stakeholders to develop/refine incentives



Questions/Discussion

