

# **Louisville Metro Planning Commission**

## **2011 Annual Report**



**January 19, 2012**

Presented by Phillip Bills, AICP  
Director of Planning & Design Services  
Department of Codes & Regulations

## Introduction

### Louisville Metro Planning Commission

The purpose of the Planning Commission shall be to direct the economic growth and physical development of Jefferson County and the communities therein, and to guide such development in such a manner as to assure the prosperity, health, safety, morals and general welfare of the county and its communities.

### 2011 Planning Commissioners

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Donnie Blake, Chairman        | Greg Scheer     |
| Vince Jarboe                  | David Tomes     |
| Robert Kirchdorfer            | Clifford Turner |
| Ventra Mapp                   | Paula Wahl      |
| David Proffitt, Vice Chairman | Chip White      |



The Planning Commission experienced a major change of membership in 2011. Four long-serving Commissioners retired from the Commission. These Commissioners are Chief Richard Carlson, Lula Howard, Yvonne Wells-Hatfield, and Susan Hamilton. Commissioner Tom Stockton resigned. Six new Commissioners were appointed to fill these positions and one vacant seat. These Commissioners are Vince Jarboe, Robert Kirchdorfer, Ventra Mapp, Greg Scheer, Clifford Turner, and Chip White.

### 2011 Planning Commission Committees

#### Land Development & Transportation

Donnie Blake, Chair  
Paula Wahl, Vice Chair  
Clifford Turner  
Ventra Mapp  
Greg Scheer

#### Development Review Committee

Paula Wahl, Chair  
David Tomes, Vice Chair  
Robert Kirchdorfer  
Vince Jarboe  
Chip White

#### Site Inspection Committee

All Commissioners – rotating assignment

#### Planning Committee

Robert Kirchdorfer, Chair  
Paula Wahl, Vice Chair  
Clifford Turner  
Chuck Kavanaugh  
Barbara Kelly  
Lula Howard

#### Policies & Procedures Committee

David Tomes, Chair  
Paula Wahl, Vice Chair  
Glenn A. Price, Jr.  
Jon Baker  
Steve Porter  
Chip White  
David Proffitt

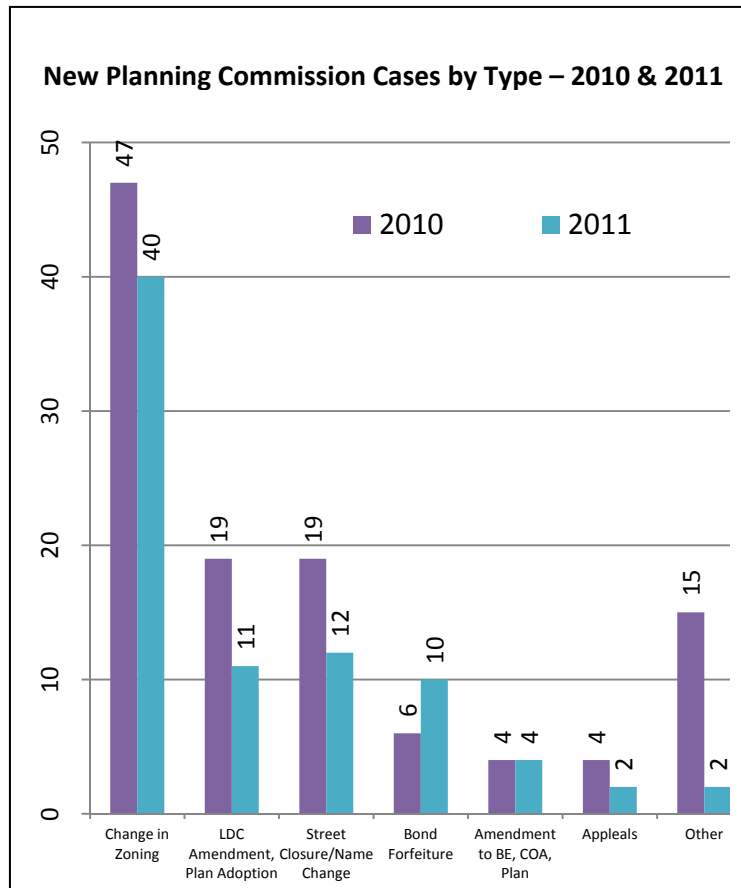
## 2011 Public Hearings

The Planning Commission conducted a total of 29 meetings in 2011 compared to 31 in 2010. This does not include committee meetings of any type. Twenty-four (24) were regular public hearings, two (2) were special public hearings conducted in the evening, and three (3) were special meetings.

The Commission spent a total of 78 hours (compared to 130 hours in 2010) conducting these meetings resulting in an average time per meeting of approximately 2 hours 41 minutes. The average meeting time for the 26 public hearings was 3 hours per meeting. The longest meeting lasted 6 hours 30 minutes and the shortest meeting was 5 minutes in length (special meeting to approve minutes).

## Workload – Planning Commission

- A total of 86 cases (compared to 122 cases in 2010) were considered by the Planning Commission during 2011. Eighty-one (81) were new and five (5) were repeat cases.



- Change in Zoning (CIZ) – Of the 40 CIZ cases, nine (9) were CIZ with development plans only, thirty-one (31) involved other requests, including Change in Form District (2); Preliminary Subdivision (1); Conditional Use Permit (6); Variance (22) and Waiver (46).

- Ninety-four percent (94% or 76 cases) of all new cases were approved or recommended for approval to the applicable legislative bodies. Three cases were denied (1 CIZ, 2 appeals) by the Planning Commission. Two (2) were continued or deferred and were not completed in 2011.

- Waivers - A total of 46 waivers were requested in 2011. All were part of CIZ proposals. The great majority of these waivers were associated with landscaping. Some were associated with sidewalk and design.

- Housing – A total of 263 new housing units/lots were approved in 2011 (compared to 1,091 in 2010). Of these, 207 were approved by the Planning Commission through actions related to discretionary reviews, 56 were approved at the LD&T committee level. This unit/lot count does not include revised

preliminary/development plans that were reviewed by the Planning Commission or its Committees in 2011.

### **Workload – Land Development & Transportation Committee (LD&T)**

- A total of 21 LD&T meetings (same as 2010) were held in 2011. The average meeting time was one hour per meeting compared to two hours per meeting in 2010.
- The Committee reviewed a total of 62 cases (103 cases in 2010), 59 of which were new cases.
- Of the 62 cases, 42 were change in zoning cases, 10 were street closures/name changes, 9 were preliminary subdivision plans and 1 was other type of case.
- Of the 62 cases, 54 cases were recommended to move forward to the full Planning Commission meetings. Eight were approved by the Committee as listed in the following table:

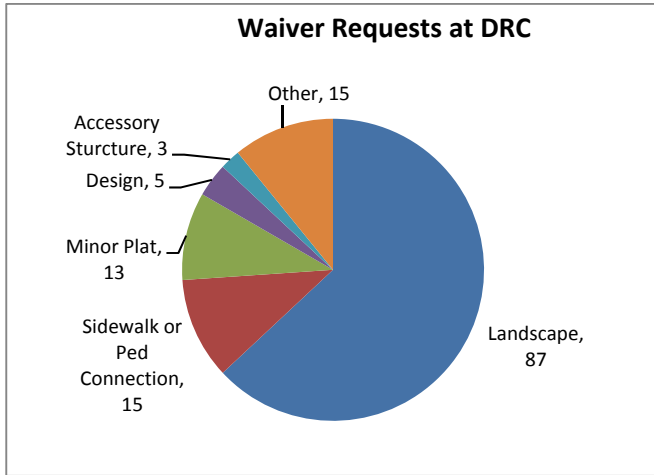
#### **Final Action taken by LD&T:**

| <b>LD&amp;T Final Approval Cases</b> |                 |                     |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Date</b>                          | <b>Case No.</b> | <b>Case Type</b>    | <b>Case Name</b>                   |
| 1/13/2011                            | 14652 & 14653   | New Subdivision     | Holloway Martin Subdivision        |
| 1/13/2011                            | 15106           | Revised Subdivision | Shakes Run Subdivision – Section 5 |
| 1/13/2011                            | 15237           | Revised Subdivision | Waterford Ridge Subdivision        |
| 2/10/2011                            | 15313           | Revised Subdivision | Chism Trail Subdivision            |
| 7/28/2011                            | 15476           | Revised Subdivision | Rock Springs Farm                  |
| 7/28/2011                            | 15791           | Revised Subdivision | Glenview Park – Phase 2            |
| 8/11/2011                            | 15476           | Waiver              | Rock Springs Farm (Section 5B)     |
| 9/8/2011                             | 16346           | Revised Subdivision | Notting Hills                      |

### **Workload – Development Review Committee (DRC)**

- A total of 24 meetings were held in 2011 compared to 23 meetings in 2010. The average meeting time was 1 hour 37 minutes per meeting compared to 2 hours 12 minutes per meeting in 2010.
- A total of 139 cases were heard by the DRC committee in 2011 (157 cases in 2010), 131 were new cases and 8 were old cases.
- Of the 131 new cases, 65 were single request cases, 66 cases had multiple requests.
- The great majority of cases (127 cases or 97%) were approved or recommended for approval either as new cases (121) or old cases (6). Two cases were partially approved with one or more requests being denied. One case was continued to 2012. One case was denied by DRC in 2011.
- The total combined requests (both stand alone or combined with other requests) were 266 in 2011, 138 of which were waivers, followed by development review requests with 63 cases (49

Revised Detailed District Development Plans, 8 CAT 3 plans, 3 Detailed District Development Plans, and 3 Community Facility Reviews).



- The chart to the left shows specific types of waiver requests at DRC as well as the number of each waiver request. Landscape waivers account for 63% (87 requests) of all waiver requests, followed by sidewalk or pedestrian connection waivers (15 requests or 11%), minor plat waivers (13 requests or 9%), design waivers (5 requests or 4%), accessory structure waivers (3 requests or 2%) or other types of LDC waivers (15 requests or 11%).

### Workload – Site Inspection Committee

Site Inspection Committee conducted 14 site visits and inspected 36 sites on rezoning cases in 2011. On average, the Committee inspected 3 sites per visit.

### Workload – Planning Committee

The Planning Committee conducted seven meetings with an average meeting time of 1.5 hours. The Committee reviewed a total of 18 new cases: 12 cases on Land Development Code amendments, 5 cases on Neighborhood Plans/Area Studies and one other type of case.

### Workload – Policies and Procedures Committee

The Policies and Procedures Committee held five meetings during 2011 with an average meeting time of two hours per meeting. The Committee completed a revised draft of the Planning Commission Bylaws and Policies.

## Training

Planning & Design Services staff pursued several continuing education opportunities during 2011. With 5 certified planners on staff, it was important to provide/locate conferences and other resources offering credits through the AICP mandated Certification Maintenance (CM) program. Training requirements for various staff and citizen planners are:

### Certified Professional Planner (AICP)

- 32 credit hours during a 2-year reporting cycle (CM requirement)
- Minimum of 16 hours during each 2-calendar year reporting period (KRS 147A.027)

### Planning Professional

- Includes all Planner I, Planner II, Planning Coordinator, and Planning Supervisor positions
- Minimum of 16 hours during each 2-calendar year reporting period (KRS 147A.027)

### Citizen Planners (Planning Commissioners, Board Members)

- Orientation training – Minimum 4 hours within 1 year prior to appointment / or within 120 days of appointment (KRS 147A.027)
- Minimum 8 hours continuing education during each 2-calendar year reporting period (KRS 147A.027)

### Training Programs/Courses Presented

February 17, 2011 - Site Inspections, Conducted by Dawn Warrick; and Long Range Planning, Conducted by Ken Baker

April 21, 2011 - Presentation of 2010 Census Information, Conducted by Emily Liu

May 26, 2011 - KAPA Conference Presentation – Planners and Ethics, Conducted by Dawn Warrick

May 27, 2011 – Shape Up Kentucky: Integrating Health into Planning, Dawn Warrick and Steve Sizemore

June 2, 2011 - Integrating Health Into Planning, Conducted by Steve Sizemore and Dawn Warrick

September 29 – The Comprehensive Plan – Cornerstone 2020, Conducted by Chris French

October 12 – Planning for Solar Energy, APA sponsored audio/web conference

November 3 – Planning Commissioner Orientation, Conducted by Jon Baker

November 9 – Social Media and Ethics, APA sponsored audio/web conference

November 16 – Neighborhood and Specific Area Plans, Conducted by Ken Baker

December 15, 2011 - Site Inspection Procedures, Conducted by Emily Liu

November 30 – Area-Wide Rezonings, Conducted by Ken Baker and Emily Liu

## Staffing

Staffing levels within Planning & Design Services remained relatively constant through 2011 with the following exceptions:

- Phil Bills was formally appointed as Planning Director
- Assistant Director Dawn Warrick and Planning Coordinator Chris French resigned
- Steve Sizemore, Planner II, moved to Mayor Greg Fischer's Office
- Historic Preservation Specialist Debra Richards retired from a grant funded position
- Paula Vincent, Business Manager, moved offices due to a restructuring in the Finance Department.

## Notable Projects / Actions

Implement SIRE Agenda Plus

Resolution Completed – Incentives for “Green Building Projects”

Resolution Completed – Area Wide Zone Change (Renaissance Zone)

Resolution Completed – Evaluate commercial CUP's in R districts

LDC Amendments for Alternative Energy Production

SoBro Planned Development District

LDC Amendment – Underground Space CUP uses

Resolution – Allow athletic facilities in R districts with a CUP

Glenview Area Wide Zoning Change