

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Planning Commission

FROM: Wendy Rampson, Planning Manager

DATE: November 6, 2013

SUBJECT: **Amendment to City Planning Commission Bylaws**

Commissioner Peters has drafted amendments to the Planning Commission bylaws Article VIII, Public Hearings, to clarify the allowed speaking time at continued public hearings. Consistent with Article XIV, Amendment of Bylaws, a draft of the proposed amendments is being submitted to the Commission prior to scheduled action. The draft of the amendment is attached.

Staff recommends that the Commission review the proposed bylaw changes at the November 6, 2013 meeting and determine if they should be scheduled for an upcoming regular meeting.

Attachment: 11/1/13 Draft Amendment to Planning Commission Bylaws, Article VIII
Public Hearings

c: City Attorney's Office

**Amendment to the Bylaws of
The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission**

Article VIII Public Hearings

Section 1. In addition to those required by law, the Commission may, at its discretion, hold such public hearings or conferences as it decides will be in the public interest. Special accommodations, including a sign language interpreter, shall be made for people with disabilities, when requested at least two business days in advance.

Section 2. The public shall receive proper legal notice as to time and location of public hearings as required by law.

Section 3. An individual wishing to address the Planning Commission during public hearings may speak for three (3) minutes. The first person identifying him/herself as the petitioner, or as a person representing the petitioner or an organized group, may speak for five (5) minutes. Subsequent speakers identifying themselves as the petitioner, or as a person representing the petitioner or an organized group, may speak for three (3) minutes. The Chair may extend the speaking time further at his/her discretion.

Section 4. During public hearings, subject matter shall be limited to the topic under consideration. Commission response to the public's remarks shall be confined to clarification of the presented facts.

Section 5. At the discretion of the Chair, or by vote of a majority of the members present, public hearings may be continued to another date.

Section 6. If an item on the agenda which has a public hearing attached to it is postponed or continued at a later date, the public hearing on the later date will be deemed to be a continuation of that original public hearing..

Section 7. Members of the public may only be allowed to speak once during the entirety of a single public hearing, but shall not be precluded from speaking at multiple public hearings on separate agenda items. The Chair may entertain a motion from the Commission to modify this rule to allow a second turn at comment, as it pertains to an individual agenda item, as the Commission deems appropriate, by majority vote.