

The Winston Overlay (WO) District was established in 2010 to set basic, supplementary design requirements for new and substantially redeveloped buildings in the core of Downtown Winston-Salem. Current district requirements establish the basic site and building design requirements of façade build-to lines, parking location requirements, and minimum standards related to door location and façade transparency on the ground floor of buildings.

Staff discussed expanding the WO District standards with the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership and the Planning Board in the fall of 2016. Expanded WO District standards would help keep Downtown Winston-Salem's standards in line those of our peer cities.

Proposed WO District revisions will focus on four key areas:

- Requiring residential units to be separated from street level to increase privacy for residents;
- Establishing basic design standards for parking structures to improve the integration of these facilities into Downtown;
- Prohibiting overstreet walkways over key streets to preserve ground-level vitality; and
- Tweaking signage rules for the district to allow flashing neon signs while generally prohibiting electronic signs.

The Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership and Planning staff will hold a drop in meeting on the revised WO ordinance on February 15, 2017 from 3:30-6:30 in the Planning conference room of the Stuart Municipal Building.

A copy of the proposed WO ordinance language is available [here](#).

Any interested citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting. For more information, contact Jason Thiel of the Downtown Partnership at 336-724-1399 or Kirk Ericson (Planning and Development Services staff) at 336-747-7045.