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# MEMO

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Kelly Diekmann, Planning & Housing Director

**Date:** October 6, 2023

**Subject:** Planning and Housing Department Work Plan and Referrals

City Council recently requested an update on the Planning and Housing Department Work Plan and other referrals. Attached is a list of current Work Plan priorities and previous projects not prioritized for review (parking lot). Additionally, the list includes 13 issues listed as “new referrals” that have not been prioritized by City Council.

City Council adopted the current Work Plan February 2022 with minor adjustments and referrals since that time. Staff intends to bring the Work Plan to City Council for review and direction on October 24, 2023.

Work Plan List/Prioritized	Status	Projected Finish	Comment
ADUs	Public Outreach, draft final ordinance	CC update Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup> Adopt Ordinance December	
Duplexes	Public Outreach, draft final ordinance	CC update Oct. 10 <sup>th</sup> Adopt Ordinance December	
New Infill Townhome Standard	Started	Options to CC Fall 2023	
Identify priority Infill Redirection Area	Staff report November 2023	TBD Winter 2023/24	Council to select areas for outreach on zoning changes for infill
Pocket Neighborhood development standards (new)	Started	Options to CC Winter 2023/24	
Linc	Awaiting revised pro -forma	Winter 2024	
Reinvestment Dist. Update	Awaiting developer	Winter 2024	
Downtown Remote Parking ZTA for large residential projects	No schedule		
Downtown Subarea Planning- <i>Ames Main Street Request</i>	TBD	TBD	Ames Main Street creating proposal for downtown planning.
Walk and Roll Bike and Pedestrian Plan TAC	Fall 2023, as needed advisory and review team	Winter 2024	Working with Public Works
Subdivision Code Complete Streets Update	Awaiting Walk and Roll Plan		
Modify FS/VR zoning	No schedule		May relate to pending Housing Task Force Referral
Modify FS-RL and FS-RM zoning density and building standards	No schedule		May relate to pending Housing Task Force Referral
West Towne Mixed Use Rezoning	Ongoing with applicant	Winter/Spring 2024	
Sign Code Update	No schedule		
Downtown URA	Initiated Criteria changes on August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Public Hearing for URA criteria October 10th	
Zoning Code/Property Maintenance Code Amendments/Zoning Clean up	Follow up to Property Maintenance Code adopted Sept. 12th	Council to review staff report October 10th, adopt ordinance changes December 2023	
Other pervious CC initiated Zoning Text Amendments	As time permits	December 2023	affordable housing parking, electric charger exceptions

Non-Prioritized Items 2022	Status	Projected Finish	Comments
Demolition Criteria O-UIE-hardship elements			
Demolition Criteria O-UIE-sustainability evaluation			
Kurt Friedrich request regarding city incentives for residential development	NA	NA	Superseded by Housing Task Force Referral
Downtown Façade Program requirements	Completed	Completed	Council since 2022 has modified eligibility for historic features rehabilitation and increased the budget of the program to \$75,000 with grants of \$25,000.
Kurt Friedrich request regarding allowance to building duplexes	NA	NA	Part of citywide duplex proposal.
Staff initiated neighborhood association program review	Not started	None	Administrative as time permits.
Front Yard Fence and Landscape Accent referral	Completed	Completed	ZTA adopted by City Council July 2023.

<b>NEW REFERRALS (Non-Prioritized)</b>	No items have been prioritized		Comments
Climate Action Plan- Passive home & net zero ready standards			
Climate Action Plan- Policy for annexation and rezoning related to passive home & net zero ready standards			
Climate Action Plan- Tax abatement program to incentivize passive home and net zero			
Chataqua Ridgewood Neighborhood Historic District Grant	Referred to future agenda, will be part of Work Plan review		Request to fund nomination with matching grant, hire consultant
Downtown Façade Program Staff approval options			
Downtown AEDC Letter other issues- Flexibility and Sustainability, other priorities for future discussion	For future meeting		Multiple issues for design and review processes and building improvement and maintenance programs
Burgason Cedar Lane Waiver	Reviewed Sept. 26 <sup>th</sup> , tabled for policy discussion		
Administrative Exceptions to zoning standards with staff Approval	Staff Report Planned for October 24 <sup>th</sup> .		
Housing Task Force development review and incentives letter	Pending response, Fall 2023		City Manager
Affordable Housing Program Strategy	Council Workshop June 2023, tabled		
Other Ames Plan 2040 Implementation measures, growth areas sub-planning, commercial zoning updates, etc.			
Alliant request for development standards and connection fee deferral with substation development	Pending for memo		
Pullman Street Paving	Referred to future agenda		Review “Missing Infrastructure requirements, including paving gravel roads and sidewalks.