



For information regarding this application contact Lindsey King; lking@co.marion.or.us; (503) 566-4162  
Marion County Planning Division; (503) 588-5038; 5155 Silverton Rd NE, Salem Oregon 97305

**NOTE:** The scheduling of a hearing and the mailing of this notice should not be construed in any way as a determination that the application has been deemed complete under the provisions of ORS 215.428.

In order to accommodate persons with physical impairments, please notify the Planning Division of any accommodations you may need as far in advance of the hearing as possible.

## **LAND USE HEARINGS – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Why did I receive this notice?**

You received this public hearing notice because a property owner in your area filed a land use application that requires a hearing OR the decision of a land use application for property in your area has been appealed. State law requires that we provide notice of land use hearings to the applicant(s) and property owners within a certain distance of the subject property.

### **If I attend, do I have to testify? And what if I cannot attend?**

We encourage interested citizens to participate in the land use and hearing process. You may come and simply observe. You may also send comments in writing (hard copy or electronic mail) prior to the hearing or submit them during the hearing as noted below. Written comments will be included in the record.

### **What will happen at the public hearing?**

Planning Division staff will present their report and recommendation. The hearings officer will then take testimony from the applicant, those in support, in opposition, and any general comments. The applicant will then be given an opportunity to present rebuttal. After all of the testimony, the hearings officer will close the hearing. However, anyone may request additional time to present more evidence, argument or testimony. The hearings officer will grant the request by continuing the hearing or leaving the written record open for at least seven days. Once the hearing and record is closed no further testimony or comments will be allowed, and the hearings officer will take the case under advisement. Please note that Marion County hearing rules prohibit the hearings officer from discussing a case with interested parties after the close of the hearing.

### **How do I testify?**

In the hearing room you will find a sign-up sheet for those wishing to testify and/or receive notice of the decision. If you have written comments that were not submitted prior to the hearing, sign up to speak and submit them at that time. When it is your turn, you will be called to the table. State your name and address and remember to speak clearly into the microphone as your testimony will be recorded as part of the public record. Please be concise and limit your testimony to approximately three minutes. The hearings officer may ask questions to clarify your comments. Please note if the hearing is the result of an appeal by someone other than the applicant, the order of testimony may be altered to require that the appellant present testimony first.

### **How long will the hearing take?**

The hearings begin at 4:00 p.m. as indicated in the notice, however, more than one case may be scheduled. You should plan to arrive at 4:00, but be aware that the hearing may not begin until later if two cases are scheduled. Most hearings are completed within an hour.

### **When is a decision made?**

Approximately 4-6 weeks after the public hearing and record is closed, depending on the complexity of the case, the hearings officer will issue a decision. She may approve or deny the case, may remand it to the Planning Division, or approve a modified proposal. For zone change applications she will issue a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

### **How will I be notified of the decision?**

If you attended the public hearing and/or requested a copy of the decision one will be mailed to you. Please note the hearings officer's decision can be appealed to the Marion County Board of Commissioners. Details of the appeal process are included in the decision or available from the Planning Division.

For more information, please contact the Planning Division at (503) 588-5038 or [planning@co.marion.or.us](mailto:planning@co.marion.or.us)