

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING REPORT
MARCH 26, 2013 – 9:00 A.M.
PARKING SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM
820 WASHINGTON STREET**



Members of the Columbia City Council conducted an Economic and Community Development Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 in the Parking Services Conference Room, 820 Washington Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Committee members are: The Honorable Sam Davis (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. and The Honorable Leona K. Plough and The Honorable Moe Baddourah were present.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Directional Signs [Proposed Text Amendment](#) – Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services recalled that Mayor Benjamin and Mr. Baddourah asked staff to work with the realtors and homebuilders to permit directional signs in the right of way; these are not real estate signs. We can allow for weekend directional signage Friday through Sunday. We created a policy in line with Richland County's policy to the extent possible to minimize confusion. There is an annual \$5 fee for each sign issued to the business owner or broker/agent associated with the sign to create more accountability. The ordinance indicates the size, locations and spacing for signs along with violations. They are only permitted in City right of ways; SCDOT is not amenable to allowing the signs in their right of ways. The next step is for a Council member to sponsor this and send it to the Planning Commission and then it will come back to Council.

There was a consensus of the committee to recommend approval of the draft ordinance to Council; send it to the Planning Commission for consideration at its meeting in May under the sponsorship of Mr. Baddourah; and to schedule the ordinance for the City Council Zoning Public Hearing in July.

2. Completion of the [Commercial Revolving Loan Fund](#) Code Revisions – Ms. Tina Herbert, Executive Director of the Office of Business Opportunities

Ms. Tina Herbert, Executive Director of the Office of Business Opportunities outlined the revisions made to the Code for the Commercial Revolving Loan Fund.

After an in-depth review through Sec. 8.7, there was a consensus of the committee to request an outline of the revisions to include the specific section references and use of the proper names for each funding source.

- **The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.**