

**DRAFT – DRAFT – DRAFT Resolution to be sent to:**

- Director of the Office of Planning, Eric Shaw (eric.shaw@dc.gov)
- Director of the Deputy Mayor's Office of Planning and Economic Development, Brian Kenner (brian.kenner@dc.gov)
- Mayor, Muriel Bowser (eom@dc.gov)
- Council Chair, Phil Mendelson (pmendelson@dccouncil.us)

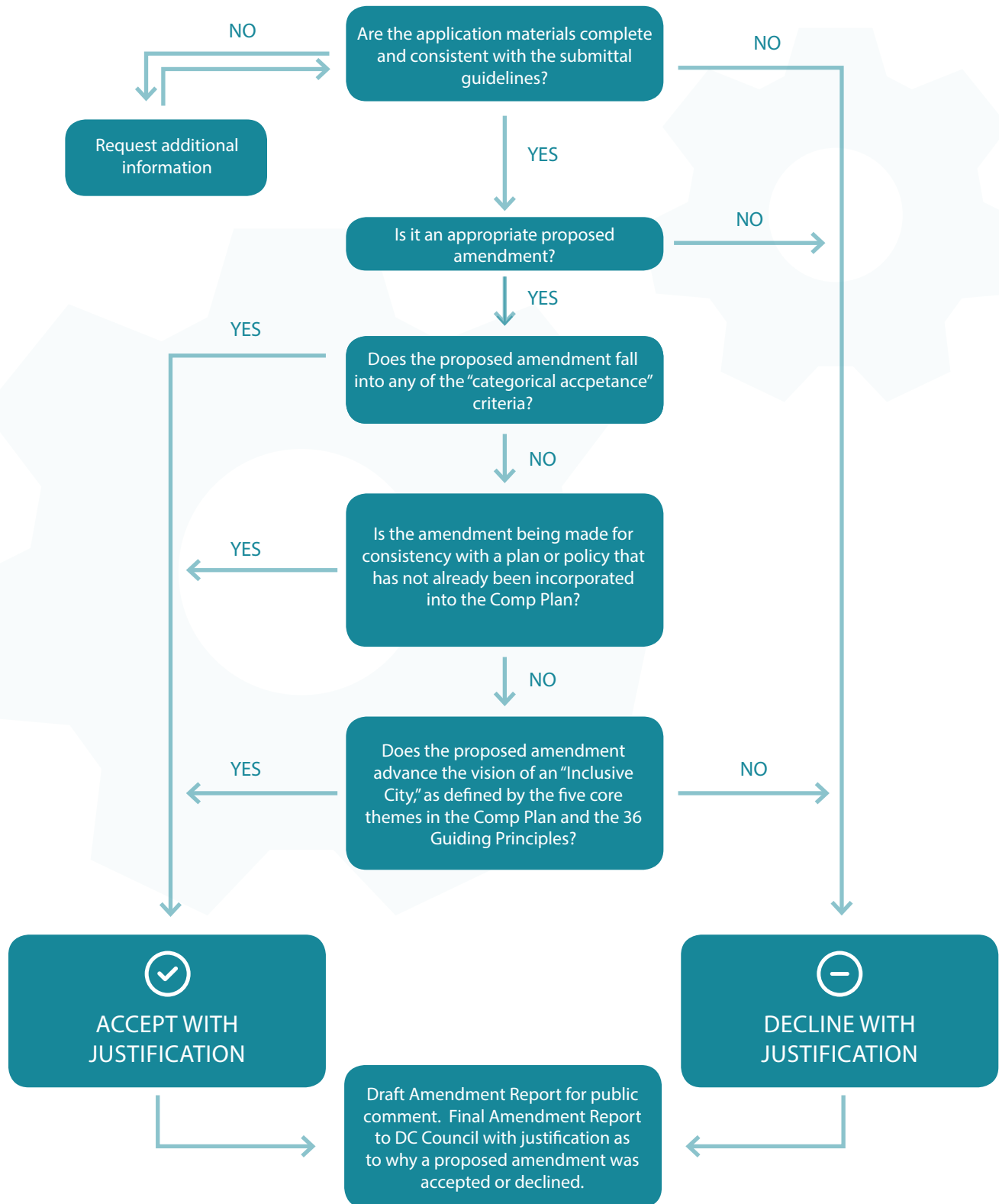
**Resolution Regarding the DC Comprehensive Planning Amendment Process (Framework Element)**

- Whereas, the DC Comprehensive Plan policies guide both private and public activities in the District, especially as it relates to future development and planning throughout the city;
- Whereas, the DC Office of Planning, an executive agency charged with planning and development in the District, announced a Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle that closed public comment in the summer of 2017 (plan.dc.gov);
- Whereas, OP has published a process for reviewing public comment during this Comprehensive Plan amendment cycle (<https://plandc.dc.gov/page/amendment-process>).
- Whereas, OP's written process indicates that before OP delivers any plan amendments to the City Council, OP would first share their planning policy changes with the public (attached flow chart).
- Whereas, OP's process as announced and in writing coincides with the District of Columbia ANC law. That is, executive agencies like OP are required to give notice to all ANC's at least 30 days before seeking changes to the city's comprehensive planning policies (§ 1–309.10(c) (1)).
- Whereas, on January 9, 2018, the DC City Council received from Director Eric Shaw, OP's formulated amendments to the Framework Element of the Comprehensive Plan;
- Whereas, the Framework Element of the Comprehensive Plan is the leading chapter of the DC Comprehensive Plan consisting of narrative and policies that set the direction for the rest of the plan and for all future development and planning for all neighborhoods in the District;
- Whereas, by delivering Framework Element amendments directly to the City Council, OP has chosen to bypass public review failing to fulfill its own written amendment process and has failed to follow the ANC law as well as failed basic transparent public review and decision making as it regards this key leading chapter of the Comprehensive Plan, public review of which is most needed;
- Whereas, and moreover, ANC-XXX/citizen/civic groups and other residents submitted resolutions with proposed amendments as it regards the Framework Element, however these resolutions and proposals received no acknowledgement with a response from OP as expected by the process and as required by the law in the case of ANC resolutions;

- Whereas, and further, since the Framework Element policy changes affect all District neighborhoods and all residents, the Office of Planning is required to host meetings and prepare documentation in accordance with the DC Language Access Act.

Therefore, be it resolved, we ask that before any Council action on OP's Framework Element amendments:

- OP staff take their formulated Framework Element planning policy changes to each Ward (at least two public meetings, plus any ANC/citizen/civic group meetings);
- OP pro-actively seek feedback from ANC's, civics/citizen groups, and all residents who will be affected, document this feedback, and then respond to this feedback in re-consideration of the amendments before re-submitting them to the Council per the ANC law and Comprehensive Plan amendment process prescribed by OP;
- OP must translate all notices and materials used to formulate the re-considered Framework Element amendments so that all residents, even limited-english speaking families can understand the proposed changes to these fundamental planning policies.



**Are the submission materials complete and consistent with the submittal guidelines?**

The online submission form will not allow incomplete proposals. The Office of Planning (OP) will make hard copy submission forms available. Should those forms be incomplete, OP staff will request additional information. Applicants should ensure their contact information is accurate and legible.

Incomplete proposals and proposals submitted after Open Call ends on May 26 will not be considered. OP is required to send all proposed amendments to DC Council with a justification as to why each proposal was or was not included in the draft amendment package.

**Is it an appropriate proposed amendment?**

The proposed amendment should be appropriate for the Comprehensive Plan in that it incorporates key content from recent plans, reflects current, new, or emerging issues and policies, changes a land use designation, or makes a technical correction. Proposed amendments may be deemed “inappropriate” if they are better addressed through other mechanisms that are outside the purview of the Comprehensive Plan. Examples could include proposed rezoning or fine-grained operational issues.

**Does the proposed amendment fall into any of the “categorical acceptance” criteria?**

Categorical acceptance applies to proposed amendments which (a) fix an error or clarify a statement found in the Comp Plan that has no impact on policy or regulation, (b) updates background information or data to make it current and/or factual, or (c) identify an action that is already complete.

**Is the proposed amendment being made for consistency with a plan or policy that has not already been incorporated into the Comp Plan?**

A primary goal of this amendment process is to integrate key, completed plans and policies into the Comprehensive Plan. OP has posted an “Amendment Roadmap” on [plandc.dc.gov](http://plandc.dc.gov), which provides a reference list of plans that will be considered for incorporation into the Comp Plan. These plans include recently approved Small Area Plans, citywide strategic plans, and other studies.

**Does the proposed amendment advance the vision of an “Inclusive City” as defined by the five core themes and the 36 Guiding Principles found in the Framework Element (Chapter 2) ?**

The five core themes and the 36 Guiding Principles are the backbone of the Comprehensive Plan. The five core themes are the following: (1) Managing Growth and Change; (2) Creating Successful Neighborhoods; (3) Increasing Access to Education and Employment; (4) Connecting the City; (5) Building Green and Healthy Communities. Proposed amendments should advance the vision articulated in the Guiding Principles. The themes and principles will not be modified during this amendment cycle.

**Accepted and Declined Proposed Amendments**

OP will release a Draft Amendment Report in the fall of 2017 detailing which amendments were accepted and why. The public will have a 60 day period to comment on OP recommendations. Following consideration of public comments and additional edits, OP will submit a Final Amendment Report to DC Council for review and approval, including justification as to why each proposed amendment was accepted or declined.