

ORDINANCE NO. 167



**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CITY PLANNING COMMISSION;  
PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES AND DECLARING AN  
EMERGENCY AND REPEALING ORDINANCES 158 AND 161.**

**THE CITY OF DETROIT ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** There is hereby re-established and re-created a City Planning Commission, herein referred to as the Commission, for the City of Detroit.

**SECTION 2.** The Commission shall consist of seven members who are *not* officials or employees of the City. Members must be residents of the City for at least one year. The Mayor shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Commission, with the right to take part in its discussions, but shall not have the right to vote. **Commission members will not be compensated.**

**SECTION 3.** Members of the commission shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the majority of the City Council, for terms of two years.

**SECTION 4.** Appointments to fill vacancies on the commission shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term and in the same manner as set forth for appointment of all Commission members, by the Mayor with the approval of the majority of the City Council. Any member of the Commission may be removed by the City Council, after hearing for misconduct or non-performance of duty. A member who is absent from three consecutive meetings, without an excuse approved by the Commission is presumed to be in non-performance of duty and the City Council shall declare the position vacant unless finding otherwise following the hearing. Removal of any member of the Commission shall be only upon a majority vote of the entire council of the city.

**SECTION 5.** At its first meeting of each calendar year, the Commission shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman who shall be voting members of the Commission to serve one year terms.

**SECTION 6.** The City Recorder shall act as secretary to the Commission. The secretary shall keep an accurate record of all Commission proceedings. All meetings shall be taped. Tapes will be kept at City hall and become City property. The Commission shall report the same to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council.

**SECTION 7.** A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall meet at least once a month. Meetings of the Commission shall be open to the public. Meetings other than at regularly scheduled times may be announced at a prior meeting and thereby make a part of the minutes records. The Chairman, upon his own motion, may, or at the request of three members of the Commission, by giving notice to the members of the Commission, call a previously unannounced special meeting of the Commission for a time not earlier than twenty four hours after the notice is given. Notice of a previously unannounced meeting shall be posted at City Hall and to the extent feasible, provided to interested persons at least twenty four hours prior to said meeting.

**SECTION 8.** It shall be the duty of the Commission, and it shall have the power, except as otherwise provided by law:

- A.** To make recommendations to the Council for revisions, additions and up dates of the city's currently adopted Comprehensive Plan and Development Ordinance as provided by respective ordinances.
- B.** To work as an advisory staff to the City Council in reviewing subdivision plats.
- C.** To review and suggest changes in planned unit development applications to insure consistency with the Development Ordinance and compatibility with surrounding developments.
- D.** To recommend and make suggestions to the City Council and to all other public authorities concerning the laying out, widening, extending and locating of streets and parking areas, sidewalks and boulevards, relief for traffic congestion, betterment of zones or districts limiting the use, height, area and bulk of the buildings and structures.
- E.** To recommend to the City Council and all other public authorities plans for regulation of future growth, development and beautification of the municipality with respect to its public and private buildings and works, streets, parks, grounds and vacant lots consistent with future growth and development of the City and its inhabitants sanitation, proper service of all public utilities and transportation facilities.
- F.** To study and propose, in general, such measures as may be advisable for promotion of the public interest, health, morals, safety, comfort, convenience and welfare of the City and within the Urban Growth Boundary.
- G.** To exercise any expressed or implied power, right or act pursuant to this ordinance.



- H. To exercise any expressed or implied power or duty which is now or may hereafter be assigned to it by Charter, Ordinance or Resolution of this City and the general laws of the state.
- I. To prepare and establish rules for the conduct of Commission meetings. Said rules shall be effective only upon approval by majority of the City Council.
- J. All recommendations will be made to the City Council: which retains the right to have the final decision in any matter.

**SECTION 9.** All recommendations, reports, and suggestions made to the City Council by the Commission shall be in writing. Said writing shall be signed and acknowledged by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

**SECTION 10.** The commission shall have no authority to make expenditures on behalf of the City, nor to obligate the City for payment of any sums of money, except as herein provided, approved and authorized by the City Council. All request for payment shall be submitted to the City Council at the next regularly scheduled meeting and moneys shall be expended for the Fund of the City budget directly affected.


**SECTION 11.** Repeals all and any planning ordinances that may be in existence.

**SECTION 12.** Emergency Clause. Whereas, it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, peace and safety of the Citizens of Detroit that this ordinance become effective at the earliest time possible, therefor, this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage by the Council and signature of the Mayor.

ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Detroit this 8th day of December 1998.

SIGNED by the Mayor this 8th day of December, 1998.

  
Martha Millican, Mayor

Attest:  
  
Alberta C. Phillips, City Recorder