



EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

CENTURY CODE UPDATE

Honoring the last 100 years and planning for the next

City of Eau Claire moving into the second phase of the Century Code Update project – a process that will shape the future of the community.

The Century Code Update project marks the 100th year anniversary of zoning in the City. To mark the occasion and plan for the next century, Eau Claire is taking a critical eye to all its land development regulations and is in the process of updating and rewriting them to be more user-friendly, integrate graphics, illustrations, tables, and modernize districts and standards. The code update will address pressing community needs such the housing crisis, economic development and city expansion.

The last six months have been the project’s main public engagement phase. This included an open house kickoff, community online survey, social media pushes, educational videos, key community stakeholder interviews, National Night Out, Hmong and disability group engagements, and a neighborhood zoning workshop. City staff met with numerous City boards, committees, and commissions for input. Four meetings took place with the City’s land use decision-makers, that is, the City Council and Plan Commission, under their Zoning Advisory Policy Committee (ZPAC). Public feedback to date, code and nonconformities analyses, best practice research, and housing types and tree preservation visualizations were provided to ZPAC in various memos and reports. Summaries, presentations and materials from their meetings and other past public engagements can be viewed at <https://eau-claire-zoning-code-rewrite-hlplanning.hub.arcgis.com/pages/documents>.

The next phase, beginning in early 2024, will involve drafting initial ordinance language on zoning districts and allowed uses. Additional code sections will be drafted throughout the year. A development expert technical advisory committee will provide input at key stages during 2024 and the Zoning Policy Advisory Committee (ZPAC), which consists of City Council members and Plan Commissioners, will continue to provide strategic policy direction.

The next ZPAC meeting will be 4PM to 6PM on February 19th at LE Phillips Library. The public is invited to listen to the presentation and ZPAC member discussion regarding the first set of draft code sections. Immediately after the ZPAC meeting, the public is also invited to share their input on the proposed zoning districts and allowed uses at an open house (6:30PM to 7:30PM, February 19th at LE Phillips Library, Riverview Room, 3rd Floor). Check out the project website to stay engaged and learn more: <https://eau-claire-zoning-code-rewrite-hlplanning.hub.arcgis.com/>.

