

**To:** Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee

From: Kara Hahn, Landmark Planning & Regulatory Supervisor, Community Planning & Development

**Date:** October 31, 2024

RE: Proposed Amendment to Chapter 30 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code (DRMC) to Align with Bundle

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Landmark staff recommends approval of an amendment to Chapter 30 that would repeal Section 50, which is focused on excess parking in the Lower Downtown Historic District, and thus align with the proposed 2024 Text Amendment Bundle.

### **Denver Landmark Ordinance:**

Denver Landmark Preservation was created by the Denver City Council through the adoption of Denver's Landmark Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 30 of the DRMC) in 1967 to foster the protection, enhancement, perpetuation, and use of structures and districts of historical, architectural, geographic and/or cultural significance. Since then the ordinance has been updated numerous times, most recently in 2019, to ensure that Denver's Landmark Preservation program aligns with nationwide preservation standards as well as other city processes and policies.

### **Summary of Proposed Amendment of Chapter 30:**

Similar to the Landmark Ordinance, the Denver Zoning Code (DZC) is periodically updated. The Zoning Administrator provides a series or bundle of recommendations to Denver City Council outlining updates to the DZC. These amendments occur every few years and aim to keep the DZC modern, clear, and user-friendly. The 2024 Text Amendment Bundle includes cleanups and modifications to help reduce plan review times and simplify code enforcement by clarifying existing standards and procedures, simplifying existing development standards, reducing requirements, and eliminating conflicts with other city codes or state law. Part of the 2024 Text Amendment Bundle addresses excess parking.

In order to maintain alignment with the DZC, Landmark staff proposes an amendment to Chapter 30 of the DRMC: the removal of Sec.30-50 Parking, which focuses on excess parking in the Lower Downtown Historic District. This is a rarely used and out-of-date section of the Landmark Ordinance, and with the adoption of the 2024 Text Amendment Bundle, would contradict the DZC. Removing this section of the Chapter 30 would ensure appropriate implementation of the DZC, citywide policies, and sound preservation policy by reducing oversized parking lots downtown.

# **Public Comments:**

As of the date of this staff report, CPD has received no public comments.

## **Attachments Provided by CPD:**

- Amendment of Chapter 30 redline
- Draft Chapter 30 Repeal Bill