



TO: City of Charlotte Planning Commission
FROM: Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director
SUBJECT: Bylaws discussion
DATE: November 5, 2021

For your November Planning Commission meeting, we are requesting the Commission discuss whether it is willing to consider changes to its bylaws that would allow for greater flexibility in voting.

As you know, the Commission bylaws require all votes to be approved by a majority of the commission, and not a majority of those members representing a quorum for any given meeting. This means that it requires 5 affirmative votes to approve any item before the Commission.

This presents a practical difficulty when meetings have 5 or 6 people present, as there is little margin for disagreement. I believe it can also have a suppressing effect on dissent, because a member may be less likely to cast a negative vote if they alone would be the determining member.

If the Planning Commission is open to changing the bylaws, staff will return at a future meeting with proposed language for review.