

**TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING REGULATIONS OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA TO PERMIT DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S
LICENSE ROAD TEST FACILITIES WITHIN SP, CR, AND ANY C-2 AND ABOVE, C-
M OR W-1 DISTRICT**

Washington, D.C.

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

April 28, 2005

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on August 6, 1999, I find that the proposed Text Amendment to the District of Columbia Zoning Regulations, to permit Department of Motor Vehicle Driver's License Road Test Facilities within SP, CR and any C-2 and above, C-M, or W-1 District, would not be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital, nor would it have an adverse impact on any federal interests.

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The Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia has taken a proposed action to approve a text amendment to the zoning regulations to allow future location of Department of Motor Vehicle Test facilities in other locations within the City of Washington, D.C. Previously, driver facilities were permitted as government uses and not subject to zoning. However, in 1990 the District Council passed legislation requiring any expansion of District governmental land use to be subject to zoning, which is stated in Chapter 1 of the DCMR.

The submitted text amendment complies with the District Council requirement and would identify other city zoning districts as areas where driver facilities would be allowed as a matter of right within the districts of SP, CR and any C-2 and above, C-M or W-1 districts only. No provision is sought for allowing the facilities in any residential or neighborhood shopping zone district. In addition, no such facilities would be allowed in any W-O district. This text revision to the zoning regulations includes the definition of the facility as a Driver's License Road Test Facility - a building and associated paved area used by the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles in connection with road tests or other tests of driving ability given to applicants for drivers' licenses or endorsements.

The federal interest is sufficiently protected by the text revision by allowing the land use essentially only in commercial or mixed use areas. The most significant, or potentially important

affected land use area regarding any federal interest, would be the W-O district of the waterfront areas. However, location of the subject facilities is specifically noted as a use that would not be allowed in the W-O district. Moreover, current provisions of the DCMR cite that any District of Columbia public building in the Central Area "...shall continue to require approval of the National Capital Planning Commission..." Consequently, staff believes the text amendment is acceptable.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director