

**TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ZONING REGULATIONS
TO PERMIT DOG AND/OR CAT BOARDING**
Within the C-2, C-3, C-4, C-M AND M Zone Districts
Washington, D.C.

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

February 24, 2006

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on August 6, 1999, I find that the proposed text amendment to permit dog and cat boarding within the C-2, C-3, C-4, C-M and M Zone Districts subject to special exception review would not adversely affect any federal interests nor be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital.

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The District of Columbia Office of Zoning has referred to NCPC for comment a proposed text amendment that would permit dog and cat boarding within the C-2, C-3, C-4, C-M and M Zone Districts subject to special exception review. The amendment would replace similar provisions that took effect on July 11, 2005, and expired on November 8, 2005. The Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) had recently determined that such uses are not currently contained in the Zoning Regulations, and that permits issued for the six existing businesses were not in compliance with specific zone regulations. The Office of the Attorney General informed the Office of Planning (OP) that Certificates of Occupancy were subject to revocation. OP responded by proposing text that would allow established facilities to continue as matter-of-right uses, and any expansion or new facility to be considered as a special exception. OP recommended expanding the proposed definition of dog boarding to include cats, and adding a definition for “pet grooming” to assure that pet grooming not operate as boarding uses without proper BZA review and approval. I find that the proposed text amendment would not adversely affect any federal interests, and the proposal is not inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director