

Zoning in Montgomery County

Prepared for the Greater Olney Civic Association - Oct. 8, 2024

There are three common ways to modify zoning or what is allowed in a particular zone:

Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA)

Councilmember(s) introduce a ZTA to make a change to the Zoning Ordinance that applies Countywide for those zones included. Public hearing date is set and the process is similar to the process for a Bill - with Planning Housing, and Parks (PHP) Committee worksession(s) and full Council worksession(s).

Recent ZTA examples



ZTA 24-02 - Agricultural and Rural Zones - Campground Allows campground use (narrowly defined with limits on square footage, number of camp sites, distance from public roads and more) in Ag and Rural farming zones.



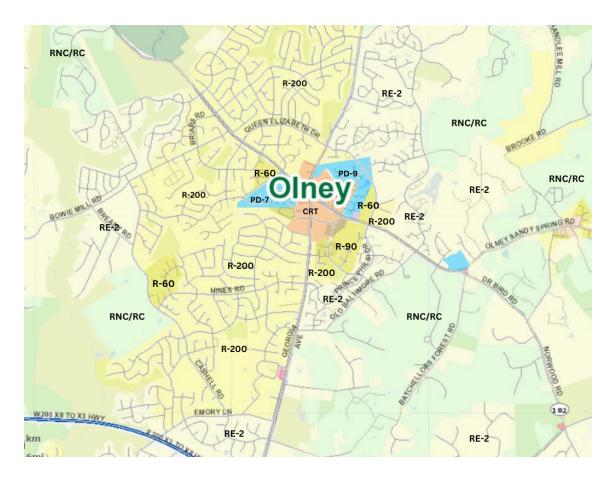
ZTA 24-01 - Household Living - Civic and Institutional Living Allows Religious institutions to build multi-family (narrowly defined with limits on height and density and a restriction against significant sewer and water infrastructure build-up) in certain Detached Residential zones.

Sector Plan/Area Master Plan

Sets zoning (as well as and often tied to specific transportation, environmental, school, park, libraries, and other goals) for a specific geographic area - and the goal is generally to do an update for each area every 25-30 years.

Local Map Amendment

A process to change zoning on a specific property that must go through the quasi-judicial Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings (OZAH) process and before the Council for final approval.



Olney-specific zones in summary

CRT - Commercial-Residential Town: Olney Town Center commercial properties

PD-7 and PD-9 - Planned Development: Mix of commercial and residential under 40-foot heights comprising largely of townhome and commercial areas to the west and east of Olney Town Center

- R-60 "Fairly dense" detached home zone with minimum lots of 6,000 square feet*
- R-90 "Medium density" detached home zone with minimum lots of 9,000 square feet*
- R-200 Less dense detached home zone with minimum lots of 20,000 square feet*
- **RE-2** Detached home zone in agricultural/rural settings with minimum lot of 87,120 square feet (2 acres)

RNC/RC - Allows for detached homes in agricultural/rural settings - RC with minimum lot of 217,800 square feet (5 acres) and RNC in small, limited clustered settings.

*Zones included in Planning's Attainable Housing recommendations