

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN
Ordinance No. 26-O-07

Date Introduced:

August 24, 2026

Sponsored by: Councilman William Montgomery, III and Councilman Darin Wassum

Public Hearing:

Amendments Adopted:

Date Adopted:

Date Effective:

AN ORDINANCE concerning

GROWTH MANAGEMENT REVISION

FOR the purpose of amending Chapter 302, Growth Management, of the Code of the City of Aberdeen to align with Maryland's policy of promoting and encouraging accessory dwelling units (ADUs) on properties containing a single-family detached primary dwelling. The amendments will support housing opportunities for Maryland residents and ensure compliance with state law requiring municipalities to exempt ADUs from residential development adequacy standards by October 1, 2026.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments
Chapter 302. GROWTH MANAGEMENT
Article II, Adequacy Standards for Residential Development
Section 4
Code of the City of Aberdeen (2010 Edition as amended)

EXPLANATION:

Italics indicate matter added to existing law.

((Double Parenthesis)) indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

Strike-Out indicates matter stricken from bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

* * * indicates existing unmodified text omitted from Ordinance.

Bold text within Appendix A, Tables 1-3, and Exhibits 1-3, indicate new matter added to existing law.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, that Section 302-4 (A)(3) of the Code of the City of Aberdeen (2010 Edition as amended), Chapter 302. GROWTH MANAGEMENT, Article II, Adequacy Standards for Residential Development, are repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Chapter 302. GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Article II, Adequacy Standards for Residential Development

§ 302-4 Standards enumerated.

Residential subdivision preliminary plats and site plans shall not be approved unless adequate public facilities are available to serve the development based on the standards set forth in this section:

* * *

A. School capacity. All approval of residential subdivision plans and site plans for development shall be subject to determination of adequate school capacity based on the standards stated below and the current projected use level described in the Harford County Annual Growth Report as determined by the current state formula for rating school capacity.

(3) Exemptions. The provisions of this section do not apply to housing for the elderly, *accessory dwelling units*, or to preliminary plats or site plans approved prior to the effective date of this article.

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SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, that Chapter 302. GROWTH MANAGEMENT, Section 302-4 (A)(3) of the Code of the City of Aberdeen (2010 Edition as amended), is repealed and reenacted, with amendments.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, that General Code Corporation, codifier of the Code of the City of Aberdeen, is authorized and directed, as part of the codification of this Ordinance, to make non-substantive edits to the codification of the provisions of this Ordinance to correct errors and ensure consistency in the codification scheme.

SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, that this Ordinance shall become effective at the expiration of twenty (20) calendar days following adoption.

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN

Patrick L. McGrady, Mayor

Adam M. Hiob, Council President

William H. Montgomery, III, Councilman

Tandra A. Ridgley, Councilwoman

Darin M. Wassum, Councilman

ATTEST:

SEAL:

Elizabeth G. Ward, City Clerk

Date _____