Thanks for your interest in the City of Tallahassee's proposed neighborhood compatibility ordinance. The proposal adds development standards to new commercial and multi-family projects that are adjacent to existing residential neighborhoods. The goal is to improve compatibility between such new development and existing residential neighborhoods. This summary provides a status of the project. The public hearings have begun and are scheduled as follows:

- March 2 – Planning Commission voted to initiate the ordinance.
- April 6 – Planning Commission is scheduled to make a finding of whether the ordinance is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
- May 12 – The ordinance is scheduled to be introduced to the City Commission.
- June 16 – The City Commission is scheduled to hold its second and final public hearing.

The Planning Commission's motion at the March 2 meeting affects the ordinance in two ways. First, the Planning Commission did not support the good neighbor meeting which had been previously considered for multi-family residential projects. Second, the Planning Commission directed staff to evaluate the definition of the term "dense residential". That term defines how big a multi-family project must be for the new standards to apply. Initially, dense residential was defined as a residential building with four or more dwelling units. Planning Commission members indicated that they thought that definition was unduly restrictive to small scale multi-family residential buildings that are otherwise compatible with neighborhoods (if allowed by the zoning district). The latest draft of the neighborhood compatibility ordinance defines dense residential as a residential building developed at a density of greater than 8 units per acre.