



City of Portland, Oregon
Bureau of Development Services
FROM CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

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To: Mayor Wheeler
Commissioner Gonzalez
Commissioner Mapps
Commissioner Rubio
Commissioner Ryan

From: Rebecca Esau, Director R&E
Bureau of Development Services

**Regarding: Proposed Amendments to City Code Titles 24, 25, 26 and 27
Amending Appeals Boards**

I. RECOMMENDATION

Amend Titles 24, 25, 26 and 27 to:

- Allow board members to serve a third term if a board meeting hasn't been convened during their first two terms
- Update Code years to reflect the most current adopted codes

Amend Titles 25, 26, and 27 to:

- Clarify that appeals packages may not be altered from the administrative hearing
- Reduce the number of appeals board alternates from three to one

Amend Title 24 to:

- Remove the alternative technology advisory committee and direct alternative technology appeals to the relevant appeals board
- Allow the River Advisory Committee to appoint a subject matter expert to advise on floating structures

II. BACKGROUND

The Bureau of Development Services (BDS) promotes safety, livability, and economic vitality through efficient and collaborative application of building and development codes.

BDS administers the following Portland City Code (PCC) titles: Title 24, Building Regulations; Title 25, Plumbing Regulations; Title 26, Electrical Regulations; and Title 27, Heating and Ventilating Regulations.

BDS has four external Boards of Appeal (Building Code Board of Appeal; Plumbing Code Board of Appeal; Electrical Code Board of Appeal; and Mechanical Code Board of Appeal) that consist of community members with expertise in the relevant code who hear appeals of decisions rendered by the Administrative Appeal Board.

The four external Boards of Appeal are comprised of citizen volunteers (architects, engineers, community members, etc.) and often goes years without hearing an appeal. There is a need to clarify if the board has not met during the board member's term, then the board member automatically rolls into an additional term. The wording will also allow existing board members to opt-out, it is at the individual board members' discretion if they want to serve a third term. This change will use community resources more strategically, as it will lessen time spent recruiting new board members and will create more tenure on the appeals boards.