



# City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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## TO THE MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL CITY OF HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

**SUBJECT:** Public hearing to consider amending the Zoning Ordinance by modifying the existing definitions of “minor family day home” and “major family day home.” Currently, a minor family day home is a child day care program offered in the home of the provider for one to five children while a major family day home is a program offering care for six to twelve children. In either case, the provider’s children do not count against the total number they are allowed to provide care for. The amendment would change the total number of children allowed in a minor family day home to one to four children while a major family day home would be allowed to have five to twelve children.

### **EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF HARRISONBURG PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON: July 8, 2015.**

On April 30, 2015, the State approved several changes to the Code of Virginia related to Family Day Homes (per the 2015 Virginia Acts of Assembly SB 1160 and HB 1570). Most of the provisions in the bill took effect July 1, 2015. The changes impacted the City’s existing Zoning Ordinance definitions for “minor family day homes” and “major family day homes.” The changes herein proposed by staff are to modify those definitions to align with the recent changes to the Code of Virginia.

Currently, a minor family day home is a child day care program offered in the home of the provider for one to five children while a major family day home is a program offering care for six to twelve children. In either case, the provider’s children and any children residing in the home do not count against the total number they are allowed to provide care for. As shown below, the proposed amendment would change the total number of children allowed in a minor family day home to one to four children while a major family day home would be defined as having five to twelve children.

*Family day home, minor:* A child day care program offered in the residence of the provider or the home of any of the children in care for one (1) through ~~five (5)~~ four (4) children under the age of thirteen (13), exclusive of any children who reside in the home, when at least one (1) child receives care for compensation. A minor family day home shall be considered a home occupation and therefore requires that a home occupation permit be granted by the zoning administrator; however, no conditions more restrictive than those imposed on residences occupied by a single family shall be imposed on the day home.

*Family day home, major:* A child day care program offered in the residence of the provider or the home of any of the children in care for ~~six (6)~~ five (5) through twelve (12) children under the age of thirteen (13),

exclusive of any children who reside in the home, when at least one (1) child receives care for compensation.

Staff recommends approving the proposed amendments.

Chair Fitzgerald asked if there were any questions for staff. Hearing none, she opened the public hearing. With no public present to speak she closed the public hearing and asked for a motion.

Dr. Dilts moved to recommend approval of the amendment as presented by staff.

Mr. Colman seconded the motion.

All voted in favor of the motion (6-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Alison Banks  
Planner