

**POLICY FOR POSTPONEMENT BY APPLICANT
OF A PROPERLY ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING**

Approved by the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors on May 12, 2010
Adopted by Planning Commission _____, 2016

An applicant may provide a written request to the Community Development Department, at least ten (10) days in advance, for postponement of a properly advertised public hearing for a land use-related matter. The scheduled hearing will be postponed. The County will advertise the postponement. The applicant will be responsible for all costs associated with public notifications required by federal, state or local law, regulation or policy, including but not limited to costs to postpone and re-advertise the hearing at a later date. If a written request for postponement is received by the Community Development Department less than ten (10) days before the public hearing, the public hearing will continue as scheduled. The Board of Supervisors shall open the public hearing and receive comments from persons requesting to speak. Upon completion of the hearing, the Board will take the following actions on the matter – approve the request as submitted, approve the request as amended by the Board, deny the request, table the request or continue the hearing until a later date to allow an additional opportunity for public comment.

EXCEPTION

In cases where an emergency prevents an applicant or his representative from attending the public hearing, the applicant shall provide a written request to the Board for postponement of the public hearing prior to the scheduled time for the hearing. The request shall be considered by the Board prior to the public hearing. If the Board concurs with the request, the hearing will be postponed, and no public comment will be taken. If the hearing is postponed, the applicant will be responsible for all costs associated with public notification required by federal, state or local law, regulation or policy.

PLANNING COMMISSION

On _____, 2016, the Planning Commission approved the use of this policy for its public hearings/