

# City of Auburn, Maine

*"Maine's City of Opportunity"*

## Office of Planning and Development

To: Auburn Planning Board

From: Eric Cousens, Deputy Director of Planning and Development

Date: February 2, 2016

RE: Adaptive re-use ordinance



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The February 9, 2016 Planning Board meeting will feature a Public Hearing on an Adaptive Re-use ordinance amendment.

Last year, the Planning Board approved a lot split that allowed the Saint Louis Church in New Auburn to be sold to a separate entity that was interested in preserving the Church for a future use. At that time the Staff mentioned that they would prepare an Adaptive Re-Use Ordinance that would facilitate preserving certain structures and buildings throughout the City that were important to the community. The Planning Board has worked on this proposal for a number of workshops and public sessions and is ready to host the public hearing.

The proposed amendment would require an approval process subject to an initial review to determine if a structure is eligible to apply under the ordinance and then a complete Special Exception and Site Plan Review of a specific proposal. This draft attempts to address potential neighborhood compatibility concerns and to make it economically feasible to save structures that are important historic or cultural assets to the city.