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Public Testimony & Email Templates Feb-Mar. 2026

SAVE THE DATE:

The City Council Hearing is Tuesday, March 10th at 6:00pm

HOW TO HELP NOW

1. **BEFORE TUES, MARCH 10 at 12pm** — REGISTER TO TESTIFY LIVE:
<https://www.cityofboise.org/events/city-council/2026/march/city-council-meeting-1/>
2. ATTEND HEARING (Tuesday, March 10th at 6:00pm)
3. SHARE OUR MESSAGE (forwarding emails, sharing on social media, etc.)

Public Testimony Guidance

The City Council Hearing is Tuesday, March 10th at 6:00pm. Show up in person at Boise City Hall, 3rd Floor or sign up on zoom.

Sample Testimony Template

1. Introduction and Credibility (who you are and why you care)

Good evening City Council Members. My name is [NAME] and I live in [NEIGHBORHOOD]. I have lived in Boise for [TIME] and I care a lot about helping our city stay a place where people of different ages and incomes can live and thrive.

[Optional credibility add: I am a renter, homeowner, parent, senior, student, business owner, etc.]

2. Personal Connection (why this matters to you)

I am here today because [insert personal experience, example, or motivation].

For example:

- I have family members who want to live close by but cannot find a home in their price range
- I know young adults or seniors who are struggling to stay in Boise
- I want my kids or grandkids to be able to afford to live here
- I have watched neighbors get priced out of our area
- I have seen good infill projects that make sense but are blocked by rules or cost

3. Shared Values (align with Commissioners and Boise's goals)

I appreciate that Boise has already taken important steps to support more housing choices. Our city is doing better than most in the region and I want us to continue leading. I am not asking for major zoning changes. I am asking for continued refinements that support what the City has already said it values: attainable homes, walkable neighborhoods, and housing options for people at different stages of life.

4. Clear Policy Asks (what you want them to do)

Specifically, I support refinements that:

- Create parity and incentives for plexes

I support smaller home types getting build in Boise and treating smaller homes just like single family. Allow duplex, triplex and fourplex homes by right and recognize more home types in the code.

- Improve development processes

This includes removing making it easier for developers to build more homes by simplifying and streamlining processes wherever possible, especially for smaller home types.

- Right size parking requirements

Scale parking to unit count and allow less parking near transit options.

- Make small changes to allow more small homes

This means right sizing standards for smaller home types, allowing them more flexibilities, and modernizing standards to encourage more fo the same small homes already found in older Boise neighborhoods.

5. Why These Changes Matter (connect personal to policy)

These homes do not change neighborhood character. They help families stay together, allow seniors to age in place, and create starter homes for young adults.

[Insert a specific example or story here]

Examples:

- I know people in Boise who would choose a duplex or a small apartment in their neighborhood if it existed
- I know seniors who could stay in Boise with an ADU or small plex but have no options
- I know teachers, nurses, firefighters, or service workers who work in Boise but cannot afford to live here

6. Closing and Appreciation

I hope you will support these refinements so Boise can stay a welcoming and attainable place for current and future residents. Thank you for your time and your service to our city.

E-mail Guidance & Template

Send email to: citycouncil@cityofboise.org

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your work to support housing choice and affordability in Boise. The City has already made great progress in recent years and I appreciate your leadership. I want to emphasize that we would like to continue to see any and all possible policy changes to continue to advance and expand housing supply in Boise.

[Optional: Insert personal anecdote about why housing matters to you or your family]

I am writing in support of zoning improvements that help modest neighborhood compatible homes get built. These refinements will make it more feasible for residents and small local builders to add homes that people in Boise need.

My key requests are:

1. Create parity and incentives for smaller home types, so Boise can have more starter homes
2. Improve development processes to streamline and simplify how more homes can be built, especially for infill and smaller home types
3. Right size parking requirements, especially bike parking and other parking options near transit to reduce development and housing costs
4. Make small changes to allow more small homes such as design and other standards that allow more of these projects to pencil

These adjustments would support Boise residents across generations. Thank you for considering these refinements and for your service to our city.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]