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**City of Duluth Communications Office**

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**DATE: 11/10/2011**

**SUBJECT: Public Meetings to Address Rezoning of Downtown Duluth**

**BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator**

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## **Public Meetings to Address Rezoning of Downtown Duluth**

[Duluth, MN] – The Duluth City Planning Division proposes to rezone an area of Downtown from approximately Mesaba Avenue to North 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East and from Michigan Street to the alley above 2<sup>nd</sup> Street from Mixed Use-Commercial (MU-C) to the form districts, Mid-Rise Community Shopping and Office (F-5), Downtown Shopping (F-7) and Downtown Mix (F-8). Form districts are a type of zoning which focuses on the form of a building. The purpose of form districts is to regulate the building elements that contribute to a more pedestrian-friendly community, such as requiring windows along the front of buildings. Form districts were developed for all of the traditional shopping areas of the city (e.g., Spirit Valley, Lincoln Park, Downtown and Canal Park). Form districts allow for a wide mix of residential and commercial uses. The City of Duluth Planning Division invites the public to provide input on this proposal.

Two public meetings to discuss the proposed rezoning are scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2011 and Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 5:00p.m. Both meetings will be held in Room 303, in Duluth City Hall (411 West First Street). The public is highly encouraged to attend and be part of the discussion. The matter will then be considered by the Duluth Planning Commission at a public hearing on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in the third floor City Council Chambers in Duluth City Hall.

Zoning is the legal body of rules that cities create to regulate how land is developed and used to protect the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens. On November 19, 2010, new zoning regulations for the City of Duluth went into effect known as the Unified Development Chapter of the City of Duluth Legislative Code (UDC). The UDC was drafted to implement the City's 2006 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, which is the community's vision for how Duluth should grow and develop over the next 20 years.

For additional information, contact John Judd, in the City's Planning Division at (218) 730-5580.

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