



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 2025

Neighbors and colleagues,

In Columbus, we understand that an affordable cost of living is about more than the cost of housing. It's also about being connected to good-paying jobs, reliable transportation and vibrant neighborhoods to make it easier, and more affordable, to build a life — and a brighter future — right here in our city.

For more than 70 years, Columbus' outdated zoning code held us back. It was written for a different time with antiquated rules that no longer reflect the needs of today's neighborhoods, families or economy, especially as pressure mounts to meet the growing demand for housing across our region. Last year, we took a historic leap forward by updating the zoning code along 140 miles of our city's primary corridors with new mixed-use zoning districts — unlocking the potential for tens of thousands of new housing units.

And that was just the beginning.

Our next area of focus will expand economic *and* housing opportunity by updating the zoning code for additional mixed-use corridors, industrial and warehouse areas, and business and institutional campuses like hospitals, universities and office parks. This work will help to attract and retain the kinds of jobs that sustain families, strengthen neighborhoods and fuel our city's economy. It will foster the conditions for new housing close to jobs, recreation and the services our residents need to lead healthy, fulfilling lives.

At the same time, we will also create the Columbus Growth Strategy, a citywide land use policy that is both a best practice and an essential element to ensure that our forthcoming zoning reforms are rooted in a cohesive policy foundation. Unlike the work that was already completed along our primary corridors — where existing land use policies provided sufficient direction — future areas of focus for Zone In will require new land use policies to extend our zoning updates to other parts of the city.

Community participation to inform the creation of the Columbus Growth Strategy will be integrated into the public engagement process for this next phase of Zone In, starting with mixed-use, industrial and warehouse, and business and institutional land uses to align with Zone In's current focus. Combined, these efforts will enable Columbus to continue to grow in ways that work for everyone — expanding access to jobs, housing, services and opportunity throughout our community.

I encourage all Columbus residents, property owners and stakeholders to learn more and get involved by visiting [columbus.gov/zoningupdate](https://columbus.gov/zoningupdate). There will be numerous workshops, pop-up displays and community events where you can connect directly with city staff and offer your insights and feedback to inform our work and future decisions.



---

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

This is our moment to shape the future of our city together, and we will continue to embrace fresh ideas, collaboration and innovation every step of the way.

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Andrew J. Ginther".

Andrew J. Ginther  
Mayor