



Frequently Asked Questions: Public Comment on Public Development and Waiver Applications

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Q: How can I find out which applications are open for final public comments at a Commission meeting?

A: The agenda for each Commission meeting includes a listing of public development and waiver of strict compliance applications that are subject to final public comment.

Q: When can I speak about these applications during a Commission meeting?

A: The public can provide written or oral comments on applications open for final public comment during the “Public Comment on Agenda Items” portion of the meeting. This is typically the fifth item on the agenda.

Q: Can I ask the Commission questions about these applications during the meeting?

A: Yes, the public is always welcome to ask questions about the applications during the meeting at which public comment is being accepted.

Q: Other than checking the webpage frequently, how can I find out when an application is complete and ready for final public comment at an upcoming meeting?

A: You can register for the Commission’s email notifications. Once an application is complete, you will receive an email providing information about the application and the date of the meeting at which final public comment will be accepted. To register, please email info@njpines.state.nj.us with the subject “Add to Public/Waiver Email List”.

Q: What happens if an application is deemed complete less than 10 days before the next Commission meeting?

A: The Commission ensures that there are at least 10 days between determination of application completeness and the final public comment opportunity at a Commission meeting. Therefore, if an application is deemed complete less than 10 days before an upcoming Commission meeting, the application will remain open for comment through the upcoming meeting and the next meeting. For example, if an application is deemed complete less than 10 days before the Commission's August meeting, the public can provide final oral comments on that application during both the August and September Commission meetings. In this example, written comments can be submitted at any point until 5 p.m. on the date of the September Commission meeting.

Q: Does this procedure increase application processing time?

A: The current public comment procedure resulted in an increased processing time of 30 days. The Commission's process reflects the importance of providing the public with ample time and opportunities to comment. It also emphasizes the need for applicants to provide all of the information necessary to complete their applications in a timely manner.

Q: Are the monthly Commission meeting dates and corresponding deadlines for application completeness, public comment and Commission action available in a schedule format?

A: The Commission posts a [Public Development and Waiver Submission Deadline](#) schedule each year to identify the public process deadlines associated with each Commission meeting.

Q: How can I get additional, specific details about a particular public development or waiver of strict compliance application?

A: Development application files are public information and open for public review. To review a particular public development or waiver of strict compliance application file, please call the Commission at (609) 894-7300 to schedule a file review appointment. When you call, please be sure to have the application number and/or block, lot and municipality information ready.