

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
TOURISM
MAIN STREET
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

November 5, 2013

RE: Support for Proposed Starkville Ordinance Review Committee

Dear Mayor Wiseman and Board of Aldermen:

The Greater Starkville Development Partnership Executive Council supports the proposed Starkville Ordinance Review Committee.

Enhancing the quality of life for Starkville residents is at the core of the mission of the Starkville Partnership, and ordinances encouraging, enhancing, and protecting community design, walkability, and aesthetics contribute to that mission.

However, it is evident that the sidewalk ordinance and the landscape ordinance, as well as others potentially, could benefit from a focused effort of review. It is imperative that this review process be conducted in a non-partisan, non-biased format, one in which individuals familiar with the process and those that have invested money in our community, can participate.

Therefore, the Partnership Executive Council supports the proposed Starkville Ordinance Review Committee, and we challenge the Mayor and Board to look beyond politics and controversy, and focus on the betterment and advancement of our community. This committee will allow stakeholders of the community from both sides of the issue to weigh-in on and compromise with a detailed scope and a focused goal of reviewing these extremely important pieces of city policy.

This is a proven, transparent approach to policy planning, and with a sincere focus and effort from committee members, will allow a positive process of input with community consensus. We urge you to put politics aside and agree on a process of review that will allow stakeholders to study and review these measures, rather than placing the burden on city staff that will ultimately become the target of partisan politics.

We strongly encourage you to support this proposed measure, and we look forward to assisting in the process in whatever way you request.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gregory

Chief Executive Officer

Greater Starkville Development Partnership