



## Drive Throughs Zoning Study

### Planning Commission Questions for the Community

The Saint Paul Planning Commission asks for community input on the following questions during the comment period and public hearing for the Drive Throughs Zoning Study. The [proposed code amendments](#) would significantly restrict new drive throughs, especially those associated with fast-food and coffee shops, and would add design regulations to improve safety and convenience for all transportation modes. Any amendments would only apply to new or expanded drive throughs; existing ones could continue operating as they are. Input on the following questions would be helpful to the Planning Commission in considering the recommendations they will make after the public hearing.

- 1. What are positive aspects of drive throughs in Saint Paul? What are negative aspects?**  
What have you observed? Tell us about your experiences.
- 2. When are curbside delivery options a good alternative for drive throughs? When are they not?**  
Curbside delivery (also known as online pickup or takeout, without entering the building) has grown in popularity in recent years. Customers can place orders online and have items brought to their car, without a need to go inside the building or to use a drive through. Is curbside delivery a good substitute for drive throughs, especially considering the needs of people with limited mobility or with small children? Why or why not?
- 3. How should drive throughs be regulated differently for different uses like pharmacies, banks, fast-food restaurants, or coffee shops? How should they be regulated the same?**  
These uses provide different benefits to consumers and may have different impacts on surrounding streets and neighborhoods.
- 4. Should Saint Paul just prohibit new drive throughs? Why or why not?**  
This is not what is currently proposed, but should it be? Minneapolis [prohibited new drive throughs in 2019](#). Some other cities have severely restricted new drive throughs, almost amounting to a prohibition. (Note: Existing drive throughs would be permitted to continue in any case.)
- 5. Are there any potential unintended consequences to consider from full prohibition or tighter regulation of drive throughs?**