

TITLE 2: NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION 7: BUILDING AND ZONING CODES

**§ 7223. Zoning Advisory Council.**

(a) There is established in the Commonwealth a Zoning Advisory Council.

(b) *Purpose.* The Zoning Advisory Council is established to:

(1) Advise the Zoning Board on the appropriate components of the zoning plan.

(2) Advise the Zoning Board on any proposed initial regulations to implement this chapter.

(c) *Composition.* The Zoning Advisory Council shall consist of the mayors of Saipan and the Northern Islands; the special assistant for Carolinian Affairs; the special assistant for Indigenous Affairs; the chairman or designee of the board of the Marianas Public Land Corporation; the president or designee of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce; the Governor's special assistant for socioeconomic planning; the Chief of the Division of Environmental Quality of the Department of Public Health and Environmental Quality; the administrator of the office of Coastal Resources Management; the Historic Preservation Officer of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs; the chairman or designee of the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Development Authority; the chairman or designee of the board of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation; the president or designee of the Northern Marianas Technical/Professional Council; a representative of the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture; the director or designee of the Department of Natural Resources; the director or designee of the Department of Commerce and Labor; the director or designee of the Department of Public Works; the president or designee of the Northern Marianas Hotel Association; the president or designee of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Contractors Association; the chairman or designee of the board of the Saipan Farmers Cooperative; the managing director or designee of the Marianas Visitors Authority; and the chairman or designee of the board of the Public School System. In addition, the Governor shall appoint one member of the public representing fisheries and designate one member of the Zoning Advisory Council as chair of the Zoning Advisory Council, until such time as the Zoning Advisory Council elects its own chair. One staff member each from the Commonwealth House Natural Resources and Senate Resources and Development Committees shall be appointed by the respective committee chairmen to the Zoning Advisory Council.

(d) *Term.* All members shall serve until the Zoning Board submits its zoning plan. The Zoning Advisory Council shall then be disbanded.

(e) *Compensation.* The members of the Zoning Advisory Council shall receive no compensation, but shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses at established Commonwealth government rates for meetings actually attended.

(f) *Meetings.* All meetings of the Zoning Advisory Council shall be open to the public and the opportunity for public participation shall be provided.

(g) *Records.* A written record of all meetings shall be kept and made available for public inspection. Such records shall include clear statements of how and why decisions were made.

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**Source:** PL 6-32, § 1 (§ 7223); amended by PL 8-10, § 6; subsection (c) amended by PL 11-15, § 24.

**Commission Comment:** With respect to the references to the “Zoning Advisory Council” and the “Zoning Board,” see Executive Order 94-3 (effective August 23, 1994), reorganizing the executive branch, changing agency names and official titles, and effecting other changes, set forth in the Commission comment to 1 CMC § 2001; see also the comment to 2 CMC § 7211.

PL 11-15, § 24 changed “Marianas Visitors Bureau” in subsection (c) of this section to “Marianas Visitors Authority”. PL 11-15 took effect on June 17, 1998.