



**STATE OF DELAWARE  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING COORDINATION**

July 24, 2012

Mr. David Culver  
New Castle County Land Use Department  
87 Reads Way  
New Castle, DE 19720

RE: PLUS review – 2012-06-01; Ord. 12-057, Universal Design Standards text amendment

Dear Mr. Culver:

Thank you for meeting with State agency planners on June 27, 2012 to discuss the proposed plans for Ordinance Number 12-057 which is a text amendment to Chapter 40 of the UDC relating to Universal Design.

The Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) applauds the County's efforts to encourage housing that is aesthetic and usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or status in life. However, we note that House Substitute for House Bill 227 has been passed by the State Legislature. The Housing Authority encourages the County to incorporate the same standards as delineated in this Bill to avoid separate and possibly conflicting standards.

If the County decides to move forward with the text amendment, DSHA recommends the inclusion of the following two items which are typically included in Universal Design:

- A full bathroom located on the first floor.
- A bedroom, or room that can be easily converted to a bedroom, located on the first floor.

We strongly encourage the County to work closely with the DSHA in this very important effort. Please note that changes to this ordinance, could result in additional comments from the State. Additionally, these comments reflect only issues that are the responsibility of the agencies represented at the meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact me at 302-739-3090.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Constance C. Holland". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Constance C. Holland, AICP

Director, Office of State Planning Coordination