



Trey Bodenhamer, Lex Alvarez, Jeff Drobney, Sam Hesley and Pat Ferris conducting a Planning Commission meeting

Planning Commission To Vote On Land Use Permits Throughout Kennesaw, Georgia

Kennesaw, Georgia Sept. 3, 2025

By: Raquel Grier, Jaidyn Bridgeforth, Caleb Drakes

Business and homeowners went before the planning commission at the City Hall Council Chambers in Kennesaw, Georgia on Sept. 3 to seek approval for land use and permit requests.

The meeting took place at 6:30 p.m. and was led by Trey Bodenhamer, head of the planning commission.

There were four agenda items that were considered for approval: a land use permit request to operate a home bakery (LU2025-05), a variance application submitted by a resident to continue working on his deck (VZ2025-02), a preliminary plat for the development of personal warehouses and storage spaces (PP2025-01), and an alteration to text amendment dedicated to short term rentals (MISC2025-01).

All items received unanimous approval, though that does not guarantee final approval.

Darryl Simmons, Kennesaw's planning and zoning administrator, explained the process of submitting a request.

Simmons explains that the request goes to the Planning and Zoning department for them to review and make sure the application is complete and follow it up with a staff analysis then a public notification. Once those steps are followed, the applicant is required to send legal aid to the Marietta Daily journal as well as a letter to everyone within 200 feet of the property.

Bodenhamer explained that his role, along with other volunteer commissioners, is to listen to the citizens' wants and dislikes and to then filter that information as a recommendation to the main city council.

A neighbor of Dahlia Akar, who sought approval for a land permit license, expressed her concern for traffic and the future of other commercial use in the neighborhood after the floor was opened to public comment.

Akar said she must attend two more meetings before getting her business off the ground. One of those meetings is likely to be the upcoming mayor and council meeting.

The new business items of the agenda will be heard by the mayor and council on Sept. 15, 2025.