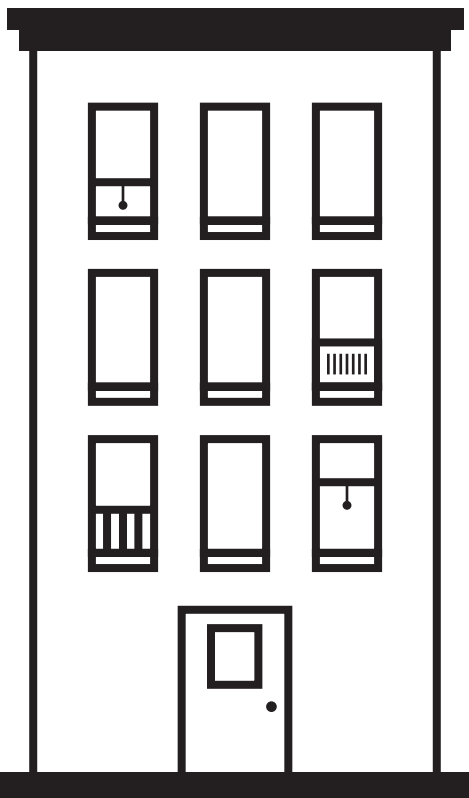

WHAT IS ZONING?

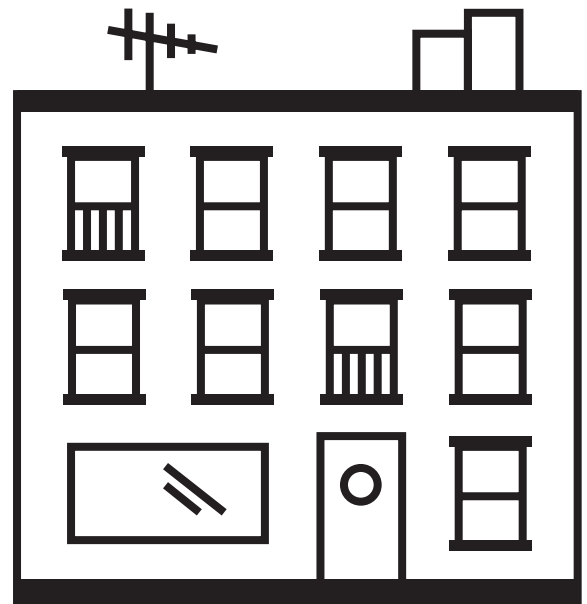
Zoning is a tool to set rules about what size buildings can be and what they can be used for. These rules affect how neighborhoods look and feel and how they can change in the future. For example, zoning can say skyscrapers can only be built in certain neighborhoods, or it can say that a sewage plant can't be built right next to people's houses.

WHY CARE ABOUT ZONING?

Because zoning sets rules about what can be built, it can encourage or discourage neighborhoods to change in certain ways. Right now, several organizations, including CAAAV, have gathered in the Chinatown Working Group to come up with a rezoning plan for Chinatown's future. CAAAV wants this zoning plan to reflect the needs of Chinatown's residents.



This means pushing for zoning regulations that promote affordability & discouraging policies that increase displacement.



HOW CAN REZONING HELP TENANTS?

Right now, rent regulated units are a huge source of affordable housing, but development pressures threaten to displace tenants and eliminate these units. Rezoning can reduce these development pressures by discouraging the luxury development and land speculation that drive rents up. A rezoning plan can also include other policies that help tenants, like strong anti-harassment laws and requirements for more affordable units in new buildings.

HOW CAN REZONING HELP SMALL BUSINESSES?

Rezoning can discourage the creation of big box stores that often drive out local businesses, helping preserve places that serve Chinatown's residents and make the neighborhood unique.

HOW CAN PEOPLE GET INVOLVED?

Contact Wai Yee at: wpoon@caaav.org to get involved with preserving Chinatown's affordable housing!