What is a Similar Use Determination?

A Similar Use Determination hearing before the Woodland Planning Commission establishes whether a proposed use should or should not be allowed in any given zoning district within Woodland City limits. The Planning Commission may rule that a use not specifically named in the allowed uses of a zoning district shall be included among the allowed uses if the proposed use is of the same general type and is similar to the allowed uses in that zone (see Woodland Municipal Code 17.76.040). Upon approval of a Similar Use Determination, the Planning Commission recommends to the City Council that the list of allowed uses for that zoning district be amended to include the new use.

When would a Similar Use Determination application be denied?

If the proposed use is deemed to be incompatible with the allowed uses in a given zoning district, it will be denied by the Planning Commission. In addition, when the proposed use is specifically listed in another zoning district, this section of the Woodland Municipal Code does not authorize the inclusion of that use in a district where it is not listed (WMC 17.76.040).

How do I apply for a Similar Use Determination?

Please see the Similar Use Determination checklist for a complete list of application requirements.