Rezoning Petition 2014-019 Pre-Hearing Staff Analysis

December 14, 2015



REQUEST	Current Zoning: CC (commercial center) Proposed Zoning: CC SPA (commercial center, site plan amendment), with five year vested rights.
LOCATION	Approximately 26.47 acres located on the west corner of the intersection at Mallard Creek Road and Salome Church Road. (Council District 4 - Phipps)
SUMMARY OF PETITION	The petition proposes to allow up to 380 multi-family units at a density of 14.34 dwelling units per acre.
PROPERTY OWNER PETITIONER AGENT/REPRESENTATIVE	B&C Land Holdings, LLC Carolina Development Services, LLC Peter Tatge, ESP Associates, P.A.
COMMUNITY MEETING	Meeting is required and has been held. Report available online. Number of people attending the Community Meeting: 11
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	Staff recommends approval of this petition upon resolution of requested technical revisions and the outstanding issues related to water quality treatment facilities, building placement, lighting and transportation improvements.
	<u>Plan Consistency</u> The proposed multi-family housing is consistent with the <i>Northeast</i> <i>Area Plan</i> , which recommends residential and/or retail land uses.
	The petition is consistent with the Plan's recommended density of eight dwelling units per acre to include a mix of housing types, within a larger property area. Based on the approved and constructed 455 dwellings on 95.85 acres in Parcel 1, and the 380 dwellings on 26.47 acres proposed in this application for Parcel 2, the larger site would include 835 dwellings on 122.32 acres for a density of 6.83 dwellings per acre.
	 Rationale for Recommendation This site was identified in the District 4 Multi-Family Assessment as a priority site for a corrective rezoning due to the lack of design standards associated with the existing conditional zoning plan for the property. The petition has incorporated standards for this multi-family residential project that provide details on building and parking location, open space and buffers, street design and connectivity, and building form and design. In addition, the petition reduces the overall intensity of the site by eliminating 107,000 square feet of retail entitlement and reducing the total allowed number of residential units to 380 (422 currently allowed).

PLANNING STAFF REVIEW

- Background
 - In June 2011, Council requested an assessment of multi-family development within Council District 4 in response to a recent increase in multi-family development activity in this district. Staff completed a report in April 2013 that summarized the amount of existing multi-family development, future projections and market demand for multi-family residential development in District 4.
 - At their May 2013 dinner briefing, Council directed staff to move forward with the recommendations within the report, including corrective rezonings of selected parcels.
 - The subject rezoning site was one of the properties selected for a corrective rezoning to implement the Council District 4 Multi-family Assessment due to the site's lack of updated community design guidelines associated with the conditional rezoning plan for the property.

- This petition was originally a staff-initiated (conventional) request to rezone the site from CC (commercial center) to R-4 (single family residential), to allow all uses in the R-4 (single family residential) district.
- The City Council held a public hearing on this conventional request at its February 17, 2014 meeting. The Zoning Committee recommendation was deferred several times to allow additional time for the property owner and staff to work together to develop a mutually acceptable conditional site plan with specific design guidelines.
- To support this effort, the Planning Department hired a Charlotte-based design firm (DRG) to develop preliminary site plans using current development standards and regulations that have been implemented since the approval of rezoning petition 1999-33c. Staff held two design charrettes with the property owner and consultant, and met several times to work on site plan challenges and design guidelines.
- Subsequently, the property owner decided to undertake a conditional rezoning for the subject property.
- At the Zoning Committee's June 24, 2015 meeting, the committee recommended that the petition be returned to City Council for a new hearing to allow the conversion of the petition to a conditional rezoning as requested by the property owner.
- At its meeting of July 20, 2015, the City Council approved a new public hearing for the subject petition.

• Proposed Request Details

The site plan amendment contains the following changes:

- Up to 380 multi-family residential units at a density of approximately 14.33 dwelling units per acre (42 fewer units than 422 allowed under approved petition 1999-33c which currently governs the site), with five-year vested rights. Proposed development areas are identified on site plan as "Pods" A-D.
- Maximum 55-foot building height (not to exceed three stories).
- Proposed extension of Porter Creek Road, connecting to Salome Church Road, which will serve as the primary street running through the proposed development.
- This street will have will have six-foot sidewalks, eight-foot planting strips, and on-street parking. Buildings will be set back 27 feet from this street.
- A proposed private street network within the "Pods" connecting to the new internal public streets.
- Includes a series of concepts showing relationships between buildings, streets, courtyards, parking, and buffers.
- Provides street cross sections for public streets.
- Conceptual building elevations.
- Architectural standards identifying proposed treatments pertaining to building materials, roof pitch, building façade/articulation, and window arrangement.
- Proposed 50-foot and 75-foot buffers along property lines abutting existing single family
 residential homes to the south and west (Mallard Lake Subdivision). Any required buffers may
 be reduced by 25% with the installation of a six-foot high fence.
- Potential tree save areas identified.

• Existing Zoning and Land Use

- The rezoning site is currently vacant and bounded to the north and west by Interstate 85. It is part of a larger 136-acre tract rezoned to MX-2 INNOV (mixed use, innovative) and CC (commercial center), in order to allow 1,172 attached housing units and 107,000 square feet of retail/office space. The approved site plan (rezoning petition 1999-033c) divides development rights into Parcels I and II:
 - Parcel I (MX-2 INNOV) consisting of approximately 93.14 acres, allowing up to 750 attached homes at a density of eight (8) units per acre. The number of units was reduced in 2007 to 455 single family homes and 175 townhomes at a density of 4.75 units per acre.
 - Parcel II, which includes the subject petition, consisted of 42.21 acres and was initially rezoned to CC (commercial center), in order to allow 422 attached housing units at a density of 15 units per acre, and 107,000 square feet of retail/office. A subsequent rezoning in 2007 (2007-037) amended the site plan for approximately 12.87 acres of Parcel II from CC (commercial center) to INST(CD) (institutional, conditional) in order to accommodate Stoney Creek Elementary School.
- This section of Mallard Creek Road and Salome Church Road has residential uses, as well as undeveloped acreage, on properties zoned R-3 (single family residential), R-12MF (multi-family residential) and MX-2 (mixed use). In addition, institutional uses are located on properties zoned INST(CD) (institutional, conditional).

• See "Rezoning Map" for existing zoning in the area.

• Rezoning History in Area

• Rezoning petition 2015-133 proposes to rezone approximately 20.6 acres located on the west side of Salome Church Road, north of North Tryon Street and east of I-485, from R-3 (single family residential) and R-22MF (residential multi-family) to R-12MF(CD) (residential multi-family, conditional) in order to allow up to 228 residential dwelling units (multi-family, duplex, triplex, and quadraplex) at a density of 11.07 units per acre The public hearing for this request is scheduled for the December 14, 2015 City Council rezoning meeting.

Public Plans and Policies

• The petition is consistent with the *Northeast Area Plan* (2000), which recommends residential and retail land uses for this parcel. More specifically, the plan recommends that residential on the entire site rezoned in 1999, be developed at a density up to eight dwelling units per acre.

TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERATIONS

- Salome Church Road is classified as a major thoroughfare on the CRTPO Thoroughfare Plan and envisioned to be a five-lane facility in the future. Salome Church Road currently carries 6,800 vehicle trips per day, which can be adequately served by the two to three lanes that exist today. The primary transportation goal for this site is to implement the future design for Salome Church Road along the limits of the property so that the future capacity can be created with incremental development. This remains an outstanding item on the rezoning plan. The site will include a left-turn lane into the development and sidewalks along the frontage of Salome Church Road. The internal connection to Porter Creek Road is a requirement of the City's Subdivision Ordinance and also supported by CDOT.
- See Outstanding Issues, note 7.
- Vehicle Trip Generation: Current Zoning: 4,600 trips per day (assuming 107,000 square feet of retail) or 2,680 trips per day (assuming 422 multi-family units) Proposed Zoning: 2,425 trips per day

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS (see full department reports online)

- Charlotte Area Transit System: No comments received.
- Charlotte Department of Neighborhood & Business Services: No comments received.
- Charlotte Fire Department: No comments received.
- **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools:** The development allowed under the existing zoning would allow 54 students, while the development allowed under the proposed zoning will produce 50 students. Therefore, the net increase in the number of students generated from existing zoning to proposed zoning is zero. The proposed development is projected to increase the school utilization (without mobile classroom units) for Stoney Creek Elementary School from 125% to 128%. Utilization for Martin Middle School (98%) and Mallard Creek High School (132%) will not change.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services: No comments received.
- Engineering and Property Management: See Requested Technical Revisions, note 3.
- Charlotte Water: No comments received.
- Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency: No comments received.
- Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department: No comments received.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Environment

1. Environmental Features language should include a note that the water quality facility to be constructed on the site will be designed and landscaped as part of the overall site design. Such areas will be made aesthetically appealing through the use of grass, landscaping, water features, rain gardens or other like features.

Site and Building Design

- 2. Remove Architectural Standards Note g (related to the location of building envelopes) from the site plan.
- 3. Provide a minimum build-to line for all buildings.
- 4. Limit freestanding lighting to a maximum height of 20 feet as proposed development lies

adjacent to an existing single family residential subdivision.

- 5. Add a note that the buildings along the internal private driveways will be located at a build-to line of 14 feet from the edge of pavement.
- 6. Modify "5. Building/Parking/Private Street Relationship" diagram to show the location of the private drive.

Transportation

7. Commit to widening Salome Church Road to one half of its future width along the site frontage, including curb and gutter.

REQUESTED TECHNICAL REVISIONS

- 1. Under "Streetscape Landscaping Buffers and Setbacks" Note b, which references the "CC Area Plan" that no longer exists, should be removed from the site plan.
- 2. Remove Note e under "Streetscape Landscaping Buffers and Setbacks" which allows the buffer along the abutting property with the single family to be reduced by 25 percent.
- 3. Note that tree save area will be a minimum of 30 feet in width.

Attachments Online at www.rezoning.org

- Application
- Site Plan
- Locator Map
- Community Meeting Report
- Department Comments
- Transportation Review
 - Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Review
- Engineering and Property Management Review

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