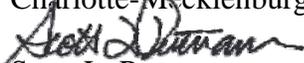


Charlotte Department of Transportation

Memorandum

Date: August 29, 2007

To: Keith MacVean
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department

From: 
Scott L. Putnam
Development Services Division

Subject: Rezoning Petition 07-138: Located on the southeast corner of East Independence Boulevard and Arena Boulevard

Consistency with Transportation Action Plan (TAP): The two goals of the TAP that most directly affected the staff's review of this petition define the integration of land use and transportation, and the provision of transportation choices.

- Goal 1 of the TAP relies on the Centers, Corridors and Wedges land use strategy to be implemented. This project site is located in a Corridor and does not appear to support the Centers, Corridors and Wedges land use strategy.
- Goal 2 of the TAP describes various connectivity and design features that are important for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Specific comments are identified below that need to be addressed for CDOT's support of the petition and to bring the site plan into compliance with the TAP and best practices for multimodal transportation.

Vehicle Trip Generation

This site could generate approximately 4,600 trips per day as currently zoned. Under the proposed zoning the site could generate approximately 5,800 trips per day. This will have a minor impact on the surrounding thoroughfare system.

We have the following specific comments that are critical to CDOT's support of the rezoning petition:

1. The proposed full movement access on Arena Boulevard closest to Independence Boulevard needs to either be removed or restricted to right-in/right-out movements only.
2. A stub connection needs to be provided to the adjacent parcel 157-027-13. According to the Independence Boulevard Land Use and Infrastructure Study, the joint right-in/right-out access may be eliminated with future roadway improvements to Independence Boulevard.
3. Any proposed driveways or internal street connections on Arena Boulevard must directly align opposite any similar access locations on the opposite side of the street.

We have the following specific comments that are important to CDOT's support of the rezoning petition. We would like the petitioner to give serious consideration to these comments/requests. These may require coordination with related CMPC issues.

1. 8-foot sidewalks and 8-foot planting strips need to be provided on Independence Boulevard and Arena Boulevard and 5-foot sidewalks and 8-foot planting strips on all internal streets. (TAP, best practices, and proposed *Urban Street Design Guidelines*)
2. The site plan needs to provide an internal system of sidewalks that connects the building entrance(s) to the sidewalk(s) along the street.

We have the following general comments that are provided to aid the petitioner in planning and subsequent permitting phases:

Independence Boulevard is a freeway (Class I thoroughfare) requiring a minimum of 350 feet of right-of-way. We request that the developer/petitioner convey right-of-way in fee simple title to meet this requirement, measuring 175 feet from the centerline of the roadway.

Adequate sight triangles must be reserved at the existing/proposed street entrance(s). Two 35' x 35' and two 10' x 70' sight triangles are required for the entrance(s) to meet requirements. All proposed trees, berms, walls, fences, and/or identification signs must not interfere with sight distance at the entrance(s). Such items should be identified on the site plan.

The proposed driveway connection(s) to Arena Boulevard will require a driveway permit(s) to be submitted to CDOT for review and approval. The exact driveway location(s) and type/width of the driveway(s) will be determined by CDOT during the driveway permit process. The locations of the driveway(s) shown on the site plan are subject to change in order to align with driveway(s) on the opposite side of the street and comply with City Driveway Regulations and the City Tree Ordinance.

Any fence or wall constructed along or adjacent to any sidewalk or street right-of-way requires a certificate issued by CDOT.

A Right-of-Way Encroachment Agreement is required for the installation of any non-standard item(s) (irrigation systems, decorative concrete pavement, brick pavers, etc.) within a proposed/existing City maintained street right-of-way by a private individual, group, business, or homeowner's/business association. An encroachment agreement must be approved by CDOT prior to the construction/installation of the non-standard item(s). Contact CDOT for additional information concerning cost, submittal, and liability insurance coverage requirements.

To facilitate building permit/driveway permit review and approval, the site plan must be revised to include the following:

- Dimension width of the existing and proposed driveways.
- New/reconstructed driveways must be drop curb ramp Type II- Modified driveways.
- Indicate the locations and widths of all adjacent and opposing driveways.
- Indicate typical parking module dimensions.
- Include a parking summary with figures for the numbers of parking spaces required and provided.
- Directional wheelchair ramps (two per corner) should be provided at all intersections of public and private streets.

If we can be of further assistance, please advise.

SLP

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