



MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Park and Recreation Department

MEMORANDUM

SENT ELECTRONICALLY THIS DATE

NO HARDCOPY TO FOLLOW

TO: Tom Drake, Associate Planner
Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Commission

FROM: Joe Mangum, Greenway Planner
Greenway Planning & Development Division

DATE: September 25, 2009

RE: Rezoning Petition # 2009-048 (6.87 acres at the corner of East 7th St. and Weddington Ave.)

This is the third correspondence (5/26/09, 8/28/09) from Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation (MCPR) regarding rezoning petition #2009-048. We suggest that these comments be incorporated into the Planning Commission staff review notes and written into the Pre-Hearing Staff Analysis to the fullest extent possible. These steps should ensure MCPR's notes are conveyed to and incorporated by the petitioner during plan revision.

The petitioner's properties are located in the Central III Park District in the vicinity of Briar Creek and Little Sugar Creek, both greenway corridors identified in the 2008 Mecklenburg County Greenway Master Plan. The properties are also within 1/3 mile of existing Chantilly Park, which is contiguous to Briar Creek, and 1/2 mile of existing Independence Park, which will connect to Little Sugar Creek by a greenway connector adjacent to Memorial Stadium. Both sections of greenway are targeted for development within the next five years. Therefore, accommodating pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between the proposed development and the park amenities is important. In addition, the proposed development is situated directly along an overland connection between the parks and greenways that was identified in the City's Seventh Street Developer Response Project.

The new road re-alignment and connection between Bascom St. and Cameron Ave. at East 7th

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Street presents an opportunity for pedestrians and bicyclists to navigate to the adjacent parks and greenways. MCPR recommends consideration that this intersection be signalized for pedestrian and bicycle traffic to safely cross East 7th St. These measures should include crosswalk markings, high visibility signage, curb cuts, and a traffic signal accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists such as a HAWK signal.

Feel free to contact me at (704) 353-1911 if you should have any further questions.

Copy to: James R. Garges, Director
Julie Clark, Division Director, Greenway Planning & Development
W. Lee Jones, Division Director, Capital Planning
Blaine Gregory, Senior Planner, Capital Planning
Nancy Brunnemer, Real Estate Program Manager, Real Estate Services
Brian Conroy, Park Planner, Central Park Region, Capital Planning
Gwen Cook, Greenway Planner, Greenway Planning & Development
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