

# Rezoning Petition 2011-078 **PRE-HEARING STAFF ANALYSIS** January 17, 2012

**REQUEST** Current Zoning: R-5, single family residential and B-1,

neighborhood business

Proposed Zoning: NS, neighborhood services

**LOCATION** Approximately 0.91 acres located on the southwest corner of Central

Avenue and Westover Street.

**SUMMARY OF PETITION** The petition proposes to remodel and reconfigure an existing gas

> station/convenience store with a non-conforming drive thru car wash to accommodate a new convenience store facility, and to bring the

overall site into compliance with zoning requirements.

**STAFF** 

Staff does not support this petition in its current form. The request is RECOMMENDATION not consistent with the residential land use recommendation on a

portion of the site; however, it is consistent with the retail land use recommendation on the remainder of the site per the Central District

PROPERTY OWNER OTN Investments c/o Sam's Mart, LLC

**PETITIONER** Sami Nafisi

AGENT/REPRESENTATIVE J. Dean Prevette, PE

**COMMUNITY MEETING** Meeting is required and has been held. Report available online.

#### **PLANNING STAFF REVIEW**

## **Proposed Request Details**

The site plan accompanying this petition contains the following provisions:

- Removal of existing one-story, 1,234 square-foot brick convenience store and renovate area containing existing canopy with gas pumps.
- Removal of existing non-conforming car wash in the rear of property and construct new 3,010 square-foot convenience store.
- Closure of one of two access points onto Central Avenue, and close one of two access points onto Westover Street.
- Provision of a total of 12 parking spaces (including one handicap).
- Provision of a 20-foot Class "B" buffer along property lines abutting R-5 zoning and "planting areas" along Central Avenue and Westover Street.
- Installation of five-foot sidewalks connecting new building to Central Avenue and Westover Street.

# **Existing Zoning and Land Use**

A gas station/convenience store with canopy (constructed in 1984) operates on the portion of the lot zoned B-1, and an associated car wash (also built in 1984) is located on the remaining portion of the site zoned R-5. The car wash is a nonconforming use as it is not permitted in the R-5 district). The parcel is surrounded by a mix of single family and multi-family residential, office, retail, and commercial uses on properties zoned R-5, R-22MF, B-1, B-2(PED), O-1, O-2(PED), and MUDD-O.

## **Rezoning History in Area**

Rezoning petition 2008-071 was approved on June 16, 2008, allowing a B-2(PED) option to the approved Plaza-Central Pedscape Plan on approximately 0.64 acres located on the south side of McClintock Road between The Plaza and Nandina Street, for an eight-foot planting strip with

- an eight-foot sidewalk in lieu of a 16-foot sidewalk with trees in curbed planters. This request was in affiliation with a 24-unit residential project.
- Rezoning petition 2006-133 was approved on November 20, 2006, rezoning approximately 0.60 acres located on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Westover Street from B-1 to MUDD(CD) to allow a mixed-use development.

## • Public Plans and Policies

- The *Central District Plan* (1993) recommends retail uses on the portion of the parcel upon which the existing convenience store is currently situated, and residential uses on the portion upon which the non-conforming car wash is located.
- The request is consistent with the retail recommendation and inconsistent with the residential recommendation.

#### **DEPARTMENT COMMENTS** (see full department reports online)

- Charlotte Area Transit System: No issues.
- Charlotte Department of Neighborhood & Business Services: No issues.
- Charlotte Department of Transportation: CDOT requests the following:
  - 1. The revised site plan needs to shown eight-foot planting strips and six-foot sidewalks along Central Avenue and Westover Street.
  - 2. Central Avenue is classified as a major thoroughfare by the MUMPO Thoroughfare Plan, which requires 80 feet of total right-of-way. As such, CDOT requests that the petitioner dedicate 10 additional feet of right-of-way measured from the existing right-of-way line on Central Avenue into their site. The 40-foot transitional setback line needs to be measured from Central Avenue's new right-of-way as described above.

Current Zoning: 1,628 trips per day. Proposed Zoning: 1,953 trips per day.

- Connectivity: No issues.
- Charlotte Fire Department: No issues.
- **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools:** Non-residential petitions do not impact the number of students attending local schools.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services: No issues.
- Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency: No issues.
- Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department: No comments received.

# ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE SITE DESIGN (see full department reports online)

- **Site Design:** The following explains how the petition addresses the environmentally sensitive site design guidance in the *General Development Policies-Environment*.
  - This site meets minimum ordinance standards.

#### **OUTSTANDING ISSUES**

- The petitioner should:
  - 1. Provide standard conditional notes and site data table.
  - 2. Provide an 8-foot planting strip for street trees, a 6-foot sidewalk, and 5-foot strip to accommodate shrubbery along Central Avenue and Westover Street (streetscape requirements). Label these items on the site plan.
  - 3. Provide screening along the portion of the west property line abutting the property to the west zoned B-1. Screening should consist of a 10-foot landscape strip with trees and a fence. Label these areas on the site plan. Preferable fence materials include masonry columns and wood

- panels. Provide a detail/elevation of the proposed fence.
- 4. Proposed Class "B" buffer along the property lines abutting lots zoned R-5 (portion along west property line and along entire south property line) is 20feet in width (reduced with proposed fence). This buffer should be 20.25 feet wide.
- 5. Label zoning of surrounding properties on site plan.
- 6. Site plan should indicate locations of curb & gutter, sidewalks, planting strip, etc. on Westover Street.
- 7. Limit detached lighting to 25 feet in height including the base.
- 8. Add note that all lighting shall be fully shielded with full cut-off fixtures.
- 9. Add note that no "wall pak" type lighting shall be allowed.
- 10. Specify building materials.
- 11. Delete sheet showing only the existing site layout as the proposed site overlays the existing site layout on one sheet.
- 12. Address CDOT comments.

## Attachments Online at www.rezoning.org

- Application
- Site Plan
- Charlotte Area Transit System Review
- Charlotte Department of Neighborhood & Business Services Review
- Charlotte Department of Transportation Review
- Charlotte Fire Department Review
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services Review
- Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency Review

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