Rezoning Petition 2014-108 Pre-Hearing Staff Analysis

December 15, 2014



REQUEST	Current Zoning: B-2, general business Proposed Zoning: B-D(CD), distributive business, conditional
LOCATION	Approximately 1.4 acres generally located at the southwest corner of the intersection between Albemarle Road and Farm Pond Lane. (Council District 5 - Autry)
SUMMARY OF PETITION	The petition proposes the reuse of an existing 42,010-square foot building for a self-storage facility, truck rental facility and accessory office space.
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	Staff recommends approval of this petition upon resolution of outstanding issues. This petition is inconsistent with the <i>Eastland Area Plan</i> ; however, the proposed use will have minimal impact on the surrounding area, and the reuse of the existing building will support reinvestment in the Albemarle Road corridor.
PROPERTY OWNER PETITIONER AGENT/REPRESENTATIVE	U-Haul Real Estate Company U-Haul Company of Charlotte 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: 2

PLANNING STAFF REVIEW

Background

• The subject property is a former United States Post Office warehouse building that is currently used for a truck rental facility. The request will allow the majority of the building to be used for self-storage along with offices and the existing truck rental use.

• Proposed Request Details

- The site plan accompanying this petition contains the following provisions:
- Allows a maximum of 42,010 square feet for reuse of an existing building as a self-storage and truck rental facility, and related accessory office uses.
- Vehicular access provided via existing driveways along Farm Pond Lane and Albemarle Road.
- New façade elevations.
- 12-foot Class "C" buffer along a portion of the southern property edge.
- Proposed six-foot high screening fence along a portion of the southern property boundary.
- Proposed screening fence detail.
- Rooftop mechanical equipment will be screened from the view of the public right-of-way.
- Detail of the proposed screening for rooftop mechanical equipment.
- Maximum building height of 40 feet.
- Detached lighting will be limited to 25 feet in height. Any new detached or attached lighting will be decorative, capped and downwardly directed.
- Dedication of a 100-foot wide easement within the SWIM buffer near the western property boundary to Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation.

Existing Zoning and Land Use

- An existing building is located on the subject property which is zoned B-2 (general business) and is currently used for a truck rental facility. The surrounding properties are zoned B-2 (general business) and O-1 (office) and developed with commercial structures. The property to the southeast is zoned R-17MF (multi-family residential) and developed with residential multi-family dwellings.
- Rezoning History in Area
 - There have been no rezonings in the immediate area in recent years.

Public Plans and Policies

- The *Eastland Area plan* 2003 recommends retail and greenway/park/open space for the subject property.
- This petition is inconsistent with the Eastland Area Plan as the proposed storage facility is

considered an industrial use and not a retail use.

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS (see full department reports online)

- Charlotte Area Transit System: No issues.
- Charlotte Department of Neighborhood & Business Services: No issues.
- Transportation: No issues.
 - Vehicle Trip Generation: Current Zoning: 1,030 trips per day. Proposed Zoning: 100 trips per day.
 - Connectivity: No issues.
- Charlotte Fire Department: No comments received.
- **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools:** Non-residential petitions do not impact the number of students attending local schools.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services: No issues.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities: No issues.
- Engineering and Property Management: No issues.
- Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency: No issues.
- Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department: No issues.
- Urban Forestry: No issues.

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*.
 - Minimizes impacts to the natural environment by reusing an existing building.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- The petitioner should:
 - 1. Remove the commitment to dedicate land to to Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation for greenway, as the area is not located on the property to be rezoned.
 - 2. Remove the commitment for the screening fence, as it is not located on the property to be rezoned.
 - 3. Revise Note 2 under Architectural Standards to limit the maximum building height to 40 feet so that it is consistent with the information in the Development Data Table.

Attachments Online at <u>www.rezoning.org</u>

- Application
- Site Plan
- Locator Map
- Community Meeting Report
- Charlotte Area Transit System Review
- Charlotte Department of Neighborhood & Business Services Review
- Transportation Review
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services Review
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Review
- Engineering and Property Management Review
- Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency Review
- Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Review
- Urban Forestry Review

Planner: Solomon Fortune (704) 336-8326