#### Rezoning Petition 2016-094 Pre-Hearing Staff Analysis

July 18, 2016



REQUEST	Current Zoning: O-1 (office) Proposed Zoning: MUDD-O (mixed use development, optional), with five-year vested rights
LOCATION	Approximately 0.82 acres located on the east side of Johnston Road between Pineville-Matthews Road and Walsh Boulevard. (Council District 6 - Smith)
SUMMARY OF PETITION	The petition proposes to allow the redevelopment of the parcel north of NC Highway 51 for a climate controlled storage facility with ground floor office and leasable space.
PROPERTY OWNER PETITIONER AGENT/REPRESENTATIVE	Joon M. & Lenora Nam The Berry Company, LLC Tony Berry
COMMUNITY MEETING	Meeting is required and has been held. Report available online. Number of people attending the Community Meeting: 1.
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	Staff recommends approval of this petition upon resolution of outstanding issues related to parking, CATS and right-of-way dedication.
	<u>Plan Consistency</u> The petition is inconsistent with the <i>South District Plan</i> , which calls for office uses.
	<ul> <li>Rationale for Recommendation</li> <li>The subject site fronts Johnston Road with a large, multi-story parking garage on the property adjacent and to the rear of the site.</li> <li>The proposed use is compatible with the surrounding uses both from a land use and design perspective.</li> <li>The proposed multi-level storage building will be designed to resemble an office building and will help screen the view of the exposed parking deck behind it.</li> <li>The ground floor active uses and 4,000-square foot urban open space will provide an active streetscape along Johnston Road.</li> <li>The request enhances the pedestrian environment by removing back-of-curb sidewalk and replacing it with an eight-foot sidewalk and eight-foot planting strip.</li> </ul>

## PLANNING STAFF REVIEW

# Proposed Request Details

The site plan accompanying this petition contains the following provisions:

- Allows a 100,000-square foot storage facility, 1,000-square foot office and 4,000 square feet of leasable space for a total 105,000 square foot building.
- Provides 4,000 square feet of urban open space between the building and Walsh Boulevard.
- Proposes a minimum 24-foot setback from the future back of curb with a planting strip and eight-foot sidewalk along Johnston Road and provides an eight-foot planting strip and sidewalk along Walsh Boulevard.
- Access is provided from Johnston Road via two driveways as depicted on the site plan.
- Provides conceptual building elevations and specifies building materials as a combination of brick, stucco, synthetic stucco, decorative metal panel and glass.
- Requests the following optional provisions:
  - Allow wall signage up to 200 square feet or 10% of street facing elevation whichever is less.
  - Allow less than 100% active space along the ground floor, front elevation because of the drive aisles that serve the under-building parking.

#### • Existing Zoning and Land Use

• The subject property is zoned O-1 (office), and is improved with a vacant building previously

used as a day care and as a karate studio.

- Abutting to the northeast is a long, four-story parking deck associated with Charlotte Catholic High School, also zoned O-1 (office). Abutting to the southeast is a Walgreen pharmacy zoned NS (neighborhood services).
- Across Johnston Road to the west is the Treva Woods townhouse residential community zoned O-1 (office). Across Walsh Boulevard to the north is an office building for Charlotte Hospice and Palliative Care, zoned O-1 (office).
- Across Pineville-Matthews Road to the south, on both sides of Johnston Road is an office park development zoned O-1 (office), including two branch bank facilities.
- See "Rezoning Map" for existing zoning in the area.

# Rezoning History in Area

- There have been no rezonings in the immediate area in recent years.
- Public Plans and Policies
  - The South District Plan (1993) recommends office use, with specific language for the NC Highway 51 Corridor concerning traffic congestion: "In general, rezonings for low intensity multi-family and office development should be approved instead of retail development, which will generate significantly more trips than the other uses..."

## TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERATIONS

- This site is located in a Mixed Use Activity Center at the unsignalized intersection of a major thoroughfare and a local street. The current site plan replaces existing, narrow back of curb sidewalk with wider, buffered sidewalk.
- See Outstanding Issues, Note 5.
- Vehicle Trip Generation:

Current Zoning:

Existing Uses: 180 trips per day (based on 5,490-square foot fitness club). Entitlements: 200 trips per day (based on 8,200 square feet of office use). Proposed Zoning: 1,130 trips per day (based on 1,000-square foot office, 4,000-square foot

retail and 100,000-square foot storage facility).

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

- Charlotte Area Transit System: See Outstanding Issues, Note 4.
- Charlotte Department of Neighborhood & Business Services: 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.
- **Charlotte Water:** In relation to the parcel under review, Charlotte Water has water system availability for the rezoning boundary via existing eight-inch water distribution mains located along Johnston Road and Walsh Boulevard. Charlotte Water has sewer system availability for the rezoning boundary via existing eight-inch gravity sewer mains located along Johnston Road and Walsh Boulevard.
- Engineering and Property Management: No issues.
- Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Services Agency: No issues.
- Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department: No issues.

## OUTSTANDING ISSUES

## Site and Building Design

- 1. Amend the Development Data Table to change the maximum building height to read "Up to 65 feet."
- 2. Ensure that parking provided accounts for 4,000 square feet of leasable space at a rate of 1 space per 600 square feet.
- 3. Amend the elevations to meet Zoning Ordinance Section 9.8503(e) (i) and (ii) related to percentage of glass and expanses of blank walls.

#### Transportation

- 4. Provide and construct a new waiting pad for the existing bus stop on Johnston Road according to CATS standard detail 60.01B.
- 5. Revise the site plan to show right-of-way dedication two feet behind the back of sidewalk or at

the back of sidewalk where the building is located at the back of the walkway.

# REQUESTED TECHNICAL REVISIONS

- 6. Label the building setback on the site plan.
- 7. Change the requested zoning from MUDD-CD to MUDD-O, also add five-year vest rights or submit an amended application not requesting five-year vested rights.
- 8. Amend the Proposed Uses in the "Development Data Table" and Note 2 Permitted Uses to include the proposed self-storage use, office associated with the storage facility and the uses allowed in the leasable space, which are retail, office, and eating/drinking/entertainment establishments.
- 9. Delete Maximum Development from the "Development Data Table" and amend Note 3. Maximum Development should reflect a minimum of 4,000 square feet of retail, eating/drinking/ entertainment use, and/or office not related to the storage facility; 1,000 square feet maximum for the office associated with the storage facility; and 100,000 maximum for the storage facility for a total of 105,000 square feet.
- 10. Delete parking from the "Development Data Table" and delete Note 8 related to parking because the minimum Zoning Ordinance standard will be used.
- 11. Amend "Optional Provision" Note 9 to specify a minimum percentage of active space to be provided along the front elevation.
- 12. Delete the black/white elevation and move the building material labels to the renderings on Sheet RZ-2.

#### Attachments Online at www.rezoning.org

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

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