



RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Planning & Zoning Commission

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 | 6:30 pm

The Planning and Zoning Commission took the following action at this meeting:

**1. Three Metro Center at PID: 273-010449
21-156INF**

Informal Review

Proposal: Informal review and feedback for construction of two, four-story, multi-family buildings containing 265 units, amenity spaces, and associated site improvements. The 12.75-acre site is zoned Office, Laboratory and Research District and Planned Unit Development District.

Location: Southwest of Metro Place South ±2,400 feet west of the intersection with Frantz Road.

Applicant: Lori Bongiorno, M+A Architects

Planning Contact: Chase Ridge, Planner II, AICP Candidate

Contact Information: 614.410.4656, cridge@dublin.oh.us

Case Information: www.dublinohiousa.gov/pzc/21-156

RESULT: The Commission provided non-binding feedback on the proposal to construct two, multi-family buildings on a 12.75-acre site on Metro Place South. Members expressed mixed opinions regarding the residential use along I-270. The Commission sited concerns with the site layout, primarily regarding public access to the proposed open space. Members expressed that the project should be taller and denser, if residential is to be built on the site. Members generally agreed that the exterior of the buildings needed more masonry, and that the architecture should be more unique.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jane Fox	Absent
Warren Fishman	Yes
Mark Supelak	Yes
Rebecca Call	Yes
Leo Grimes	Absent
Lance Schneier	Yes
Kim Way	Yes

STAFF CERTIFICATION

DocuSigned by:

Chase Ridge, Planner II, AICP Candidate



~~Terraces, and Case 3 – Jerome High School Classroom. She inquired if any Commission member requests to have one of the cases moved to the regular agenda for discussion purposes. [No member requested that a Consent Case be moved to the regular agenda.]~~

CONSENT AGENDA

2. ~~Towns on the Parkway at PID: 273-008811, Amended Final Development Plan, 21-160AFDP~~

~~Amendment to permit terraces on select front-facing, end units for a recently approved attached, single-family development. The 11.61-acre site is zoned Bridge Street District, Sawmill Center Neighborhood and is located northwest of the intersection of Village Parkway with John Shields Parkway.~~

3. ~~Jerome High School at 8320 Hyland-Croy Road, Amended Final Development Plan, 21-162AFDP~~

~~Allowance for a ±11,550-square-foot modular classroom building. The 88.17-acre site is zoned Planned Unit Development District and is located northeast of the roundabout of Hyland-Croy Road and Brand Road.~~

~~Mr. Supelak moved, Mr. Way seconded approval of the Consent Agenda cases.~~

~~Vote: Mr. Way, yes; Mr. Fishman, yes; Mr. Supelak, yes; Ms. Call, yes; Mr. Schneier, yes.
[Motion approved 5-0.]~~

~~Ms. Call swore in those individuals intending to give testimony at the meeting.~~

NEW CASES

1. Three Metro Center at PID: 273-010449, Informal Review, 21-156INF

Informal review and feedback for construction of two, four-story, multi-family buildings that are cumulatively 258,000 square feet in size consisting of 265 units, amenity spaces, and associated site improvements. The 12.75-acre site is zoned Office, Laboratory and Research District and Planned Unit Development District. The site is southwest of Metro Place South ±2,400 feet west of the intersection with Frantz Road.

Staff Presentation

Mr. Ridge stated that this is a request for an Informal Review and nonbinding feedback on a proposal to construct two, four-story, multi-family buildings on a 12.5-acre site located on Metro Place South. The northern portion of the site is heavily wooded and sparse vegetation exists on the southern portion. Cosgray Creek runs along the southern property line, and I-270 is located immediately to the west. The site encompasses two zoning districts: Office, Laboratory and Research District and the Waterford Village Planned Unit Development District. The entirety of the site is within the Dublin Corporate Area Plan (DCAP), which calls for a mix of uses, including Residential, up to 30 dwelling units/acre. Additionally, it promotes walkability and increased amenities and vibrancy outside of typical office hours. This particular site is identified as Site 7 in the DCAP Plan, which calls for four to eight-story buildings as well as higher density, multifamily and hospitality uses. The site is surrounded by office buildings and, to the north, hospitality uses. The buildings within that area

range from four to nine stories in height and are typically constructed of glass, stone and concrete. There is a significant amount of surface parking immediately adjacent to the site.

The proposal is for construction of two, four-story buildings: Building A (159,084 square feet) and Building B (98,775 square feet) containing 265 dwelling units (1, 2, and 3-bedroom units), a centrally located courtyard, a pool, 387 parking spaces, and public open space on the southern third of the site. Access will be retained from Metro Place South. Conceptual architecture has been provided for the Commission's consideration. The four-story buildings will have a fifth floor amenity space on select corners. The buildings will be contemporary in design, utilizing dark, earth-tone colors, with a number of balconies on each elevation. The first-floor amenities include a lobby, fitness center and lounge area. Conceptual materials include a charcoal color fiber cement panel and Nichiha vintage wood cement panel. The DCAP recommends high quality materials, including but not limited to brick, stone, glass, metal, concrete and wood. Inspirational images of the open space and courtyard area were provided in the meeting packet. The following questions are provided for discussion:

- 1) Is the Commission supportive of the proposed land use based on the Community Plan and surrounding context?
- 2) Does the Planning and Zoning Commission support the conceptual site layout including building, parking, and open space locations?
- 3) Is the Commission supportive of the conceptual mass, scale and height of the building?
- 4) Is the Commission supportive of the proposed architectural character and building materials?

Applicant Presentation

Lori Bongiorno, Director of Mixed Use, M+A Architects, 775 Yard Street, Columbus, Ohio 43212, stated that due to the long entry drive into the site, the overall site design is that of a secret garden that is connected to the leisure trails and outdoor space. The creek will be made a feature surrounded by various amenities, including a dog park and pickle ball court.

Commission Questions

Mr. Schneier inquired how the public would access the greenspace.

Ms. Bongiorno responded that there would be a walk from the drive to that area. Connections to the trails may be provided in a potential second phase.

Mr. Schneier noted that the area is not known for its walkability. A line on the site plan apparently denotes the pedestrian access, and presumably, people could also drive to that point. Will public parking be provided there?

Ms. Bongiorno responded affirmatively.

Mr. Way inquired if there were any limitations to developing the site to the south.

Ms. Bongiorno responded that she is aware of none.

Mr. Way inquired the reason that more of the available site was not used.

Ms. Bongiorno responded that area contains Cosgray Creek, a power line easement, and area for stormwater retention and a dog park.

Mr. Way stated that there is opportunity on the site for 380 units, but only 265 units are proposed. They appear to be leaving opportunity for further density/intensity to be added to the site.

Ms. Bongiorno responded that their intent is to develop only 265 units at this time and preserve the open space.

Mr. Ridge stated that there is also floodplain associated with Cosgray Creek, which limits the building area somewhat. It is not a significant area and was not designated on the site plan.

Commission Discussion

Ms. Call requested Commission members to comment on the discussion questions, which include:

- 1) Is the Commission supportive of the proposed land use based on the Community Plan and surrounding context?
- 2) Does the Planning and Zoning Commission support the conceptual site layout including building, parking, and open space locations?
- 3) Is the Commission supportive of the conceptual mass, scale and height of the building?
- 4) Is the Commission supportive of the proposed architectural character and building materials?

Mr. Way stated that he is supportive of residential use in the Metro Center area but is not sure this is the correct place for residential at this time. It seems to be an island, not connected to any other residential areas. Along the entire I-270 frontage from Tuttle Crossing to Sawmill Road, there is no other residential development. This portion of Dublin has a strong emphasis on commercial, hotel and office uses. Introducing residential development here is inconsistent. However, if there were a larger emphasis of residential in Metro Center, this would be consistent with that larger plan, which he would support. If there is a Phase 2 to this development, it could influence his view. However, a solitary island of residential development does not fit with the surrounding area. A hotel or offices would be more consistent with what exists in Metro Center. The DCAP indicates that Office Use is the preferred use. Concerning the conceptual layout -- he believes there is opportunity for more density and intensity on the site. The additional questions regarding architectural character and massing are secondary, as he does not believe this is the right use for the site.

Mr. Supelak stated that this is a challenging site tucked back in the corner. Essentially, he agrees with Mr. Way. In general, residential development is good, but it must be done carefully. There are some good ideas for the site design, including the secret garden; however, it does not connect to the existing fabric of the area. Density and intensity could affect how the site is laid out, as well as the mass, scale and height of the buildings. Any residential development near I-270 would need to be done with sensitivity. He is supportive of residential use here, but not with the proposed plan. Increasing its density and intensity would make the development more in context with its setting.

Mr. Fishman stated that he does not believe residential use is appropriate along I-270. As previous meeting minutes reflect, the intended uses are Office, Laboratory and Research. Typically, people do not want to live in areas that back up to a freeway. He is also concerned about the entry through Metro Center. As indicated in the meeting materials, the proposed multifamily is estimated to have 2.5 parking spaces per unit. If this development is approved, these will not be the only units developed there; there will be a subsequent phase, which will result in the need for many vehicles to access the site. The conceptual architecture has a commercial appearance. The units are clad in fiber cement board, and do not reflect the Dublin character. In summary, he does not believe this is the proper use for this area.

Mr. Schneier stated that the Commission has expressed the desire for mixed use, greenspace and density, but at some point, those become mutually exclusive. He is supportive of the proposed residential use here. He had an office in Metro Center for many years and would rather see some

residential here than another office building. It would provide more interest in the community. There is a form of residential here – hotels, so not everything in Metro Center is office. Although he is supportive of adding a residential use, this is a difficult site to develop. The applicant has made a good attempt at that. The proposed height is less than the Metro V building, in which he had an office. He would support a residential use in this area. Whether we prefer to have a large portion of open space or density in this area needs to be addressed.

Ms. Call stated that she concurs with Mr. Supelak's comments. There could be a Phase 2, which would add more units. She believes that it should be possible for staff and the applicant to work together and arrive at a satisfactory plan for the applicant and the City. If the units were to be consolidated into a single building, it could allow for future expansion, consolidation of the open space, and the secret garden focus. She could be supportive of a residential use here, but the Commission would look at it critically, understanding that it is surrounded by Class A office space. That character must be retained, as it is the long-range plan of an anticipated Metro Place redevelopment. There is opportunity with the proposed massing. The Commission would review the architectural character in detail. She would recommend that the applicant pay careful consideration to Code-approved primary and secondary materials. She inquired if additional direction is sought from the Commission at this time.

Ms. Rauch responded that the Commission's input is helpful. The DCAP land use provisions include an opportunity for residential use on that site, and careful consideration will be given as to how that might be best achieved. It might need to be included holistically in a larger plan. Should the project move forward, a Preliminary Development Plan would be the next step.

Jim Russell, Ex. Vice President, Pizutti Companies, 629 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43215, stated that he appreciates the Commission's comments. He would like to provide additional background on this site. They agree with the Commission's recommendation for greater density, but there are some site challenges to the south, including power lines. They are under contract, however, for purchase of the Ashland property to the south. They anticipate presenting future concepts that will show connectivity, additional units and another access at Blazer Parkway. He has been with the Pizutti Company 24 years; they have owned this property longer than that and have been trying to market it as office for many years in partnership with the City of Dublin. During that timeframe, both the City and what is desired in developments has changed. People want to live closer to their work and take advantage of all the qualities incorporated into Metro Center. Those qualities, including the greenspace, make it a desirable area for residential. They constructed three of the office buildings in Metro Place, but their current intent is to create a mix of uses, which will provide the City an alternative to Bridge Park. They recognize the factors that the Commission has pointed out and have been working on ways to keep what is desired, including the greenspace and connectivity, and soften the views. They are excited about the opportunity to make something happen on this site, as vacant property is not beneficial for them or the City.

Mr. Way stated the City's vision plan is looking at options for Metro Center. It would be good to include mixed-use in that future thinking.

Public Comment

Ms. Rauch stated that no public comments were received on this case.

Mr. Russell indicated that they would work with staff on incorporating the Commission's comments into a revised plan. No additional input is sought.

Ms. Call stated that the next two cases would be heard together.

4. ~~Ayrshire Farms at PID: 274-012321, Final Development Plan, 21-114FDP~~

~~Development of a 30-lot, single-family subdivision with 2.43 acres of open space and associated site improvements. The 11.37-acre site is zoned Planned Unit Development District, Ayrshire Farms and is located southeast of the intersection of Shier Rings Road with Cosgray Road.~~

5. ~~Ayrshire Farms at PID: 274-012321, Final Plat, 21-115FP~~

~~Subdivision of an 11.37-acre parcel to establish 30 single-family lots, three open space reserves, and three public rights-of-way. The site is zoned Planned Unit Development District, Ayrshire Farms and is located southeast of the intersection of Shier Rings Road with Cosgray Road.~~

Staff Presentation

~~Mr. Hounshell stated that this is a request for review and approval of the Final Development Plan and Final Plat for Ayrshire Farms. In March 2021, City Council reviewed and approved a Rezoning/Preliminary Development Plan/Preliminary Plat application to rezone 11.37 acres Planned Unit Development (PUD) District – Ayrshire Farms for the development of 30 single-family lots, 2.62 acres of open space, and three public rights-of-way. The site is currently vacant. The request is for approval of multiple minor text modifications, and approval of the Final Development Plan and a recommendation for Final Plat approval to City Council. With Council's approval of the Preliminary Development Plan, they requested a number of updates to the development text. The Minor Text Modifications provide the clarification requested by Council. The site plan provided is for a 3.33-acre site, consistent with one of the Text Modifications. The revised density is 2.65 dwelling units/acre. Additionally, there are 2.39 acres of open space split between the three reserve areas. The modifications in acreage, density and reserve sizes are the result of additional right-of-way dedication, which is required along Shier Rings Road. It reflects no changes in the site plan; the lots and open space do not change. He reviewed the requested Minor Text Modifications. Staff recommends approval of the 14 Minor Text modifications, as they do not significantly alter the Preliminary Development Plan or rezoning, but provide only needed clarifications. Staff also recommends approval of the Final Development Plan with four conditions and a recommendation for Council approval of the Final Plat with two conditions.~~

Applicant Presentation

~~Michael King, 5884 Dunheath Loop, Dublin, OH, stated that he is the managing partner of MC Shier Rings, LLC. With him tonight are Joel Perry, Project Manager, American Structurepoint, and Gordon Berkebile, Landscape Architect, POD Design. He would like to thank staff, the Commission and Council for all their input over the past two years. They have invested much work, made many changes, and the result is a very nice product for the City of Dublin. This boutique development will be an addition to his community; he lives approximately .25 mile from this site within the Ballantrae community. He requests the Commission's final approval of the project.~~