Planning Commission Agenda

August 24, 2017—6:30 P.M.

City Council Chambers—Minnetonka Community Center

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes: August 10, 2017

5. Report from Staff

6. Report from Planning Commission Members

7. Public Hearings: Consent Agenda

   A. Aggregate side yard and rear yard setback variances to construct a second story addition at 3715 Huntingdon Drive.

      Recommendation: Adopt the resolution approving the variance (5 votes)

      • Final Decision Subject to Appeal
      • Project Planner: Drew Ingvalson

   B. Side yard and aggregate side yard setback variances for the construction of an attached garage at 4714 Caribou Drive.

      Recommendation: Adopt the resolution approving the request (5 votes)

      • Final Decision Subject to Appeal
      • Project Planner: Drew Ingvalson
C. Front yard setback variance for a second story addition onto the existing home at 4316 Camelot Drive.

Recommendation: Adopt the resolution approving the variance (5 votes)

- Final Decision Subject to Appeal
- Project Planner: Ashley Cauley

D. Conditional use permit for a microdistillery at 6020 Culligan Way.

Recommendation: Recommend the city council approve the request (4 votes)

- Recommendation to City Council (Tentative Date: September 11, 2017)
- Project Planner: Susan Thomas

8. Public Hearings: Non-Consent Agenda Items

A. Conditional use permit for a restaurant at 17420 Minnetonka Boulevard.

Recommendation: Recommend the city council approve the request (4 votes)

- Recommendation to City Council (Tentative Date: September 11, 2017)
- Project Planner: Ashley Cauley

B. Items concerning 11806 Cedar Lake Road.

Recommendation: Recommend the city council approve the request (4 votes)

- Recommendation to City Council (Tentative Date: August 28, 2017)
- Project Planner: Susan Thomas

C. Items concerning Shady Oak Crossing at 4312 Shady Oak Road.

Recommendation: Recommend the planning commission table the item.

- Recommendation to City Council (Tentative Date: September 25, 2017)
- Project Planner: Loren Gordon

9. Adjournment
Notices

1. Please call the planning division at (952) 939-8274 to confirm meeting dates as they are tentative and subject to change.

2. Applications and items scheduled for the September 7, 2017 Planning Commission meeting:

   Project Description: The applicant is proposing a sign variance to allow smaller text that required by code at 1000 Parkers Lake Rd.
   Project No.: 89037.17a          Staff: Drew Ingvalson
   Ward/Council Member: 3—Brad Wiersum  Section: 04

   Project Description: LandMark Construction Solutions is proposing to construct a home at 3136 Co Rd 101. The proposal requires: (1) floodplain alteration permit; (2) floodplain rezoning; and (3) floodplain setback variance.
   Project No.: 17020.17a          Staff: Susan Thomas
   Ward/Council Member: 3—Brad Wiersum  Section: 18
WELCOME TO THE MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

This outline has been prepared to help you understand the public meeting process. The review of an item usually takes the following form:

1. The chairperson of the meeting will announce the item to be reviewed and ask for the staff report on the subject.

2. Staff presents their report on the item.

3. The Commission will then ask City staff questions about the proposal.

4. The chairperson will then ask if the applicant wishes to comment.

5. The chairperson will open the public hearing to give an opportunity to anyone present to comment on the proposal.

6. This is the time for the public to make comments or ask questions about the proposal. Please step up to the podium, speak clearly, first giving your name (spelling your last name) and address and then your comments.

7. At larger public hearings, the chair will encourage speakers, including the applicant, to limit their time at the podium to about 8 minutes so everyone has time to speak at least once. Neighborhood representatives will be given more time. Once everyone has spoken, the chair may allow speakers to return for additional comments.

8. After everyone in the audience wishing to speak has given his or her comments, the chairperson will close the public hearing portion of the meeting.

9. The Commission will then discuss the proposal. No further public comments are allowed.

10. The Commission will then make its recommendation or decision.

11. Final decisions by the Planning Commission may be appealed to the City Council. Appeals must be written and filed with the Planning Department within 10 days of the Planning Commission meeting.

It is possible that a quorum of members of the City Council may be present. However, no meeting of the City Council will be convened and no action will be taken by the City Council.
1. **Call to Order**

Chair Kirk called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioners Sewall, Calvert, Knight, O'Connell, Powers, Schack, and Kirk were present.

Staff members present: Community Development Director Julie Wischnack, City Planner Loren Gordon, Assistant City Planner Susan Thomas, Planner Drew Ingvalson, Water Resources Technician Tom Dietrich, and Natural Resource Manager Jo Colleran.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

   Knight moved, second by Calvert, to approve the agenda as submitted with one additional comment provided in the change memo dated August 10, 2017.

   Sewall, Calvert, Knight, O'Connell, Powers, and Schack voted yes. Kirk abstained. Motion carried.

4. **Approval of Minutes**: July 20, 2017

   Knight moved, second by Calvert, to approve the July 20, 2017 meeting minutes as submitted.

   Sewall, Calvert, Knight, O'Connell, Powers, and Schack voted yes. Kirk abstained. Motion carried.

5. **Report from Staff**

Gordon briefed the commission on land use applications considered by the city council at its meeting of July 24, 2017:

   - Introduced an ordinance for items for the Mesaba proposal.
There will be a comprehensive plan steering committee meeting August 23, 2017.

The next planning commission meeting will be August 24, 2017.

6. **Report from Planning Commission Members**

Chair Kirk thanked staff for organizing the tour.

7. **Public Hearings: Consent Agenda**: None

8. **Public Hearings**

   A. **Expansion permit and shoreland setback variance for a second floor addition to the existing home at 2604 Crosby Road.**

Chair Kirk introduced the proposal and called for the staff report.

Thomas reported. She recommended approval of the application based on the findings and subject to the conditions listed in the staff report.

Michelle Weber and Jeff Ecker, owners of 2604 Crosby Road, applicants, appreciated the opportunity to speak. Mr. Ecker stated that staff provided a thorough and informative report. He commended Calvert for visiting the site and meeting with the applicants. Preserving the trees is a priority and was taken into account. The three oak trees are extremely important. He would appreciate the proposal being approved. The neighbors have been involved with the design process. He provided two letters in support of the proposal. The proposal would fit aesthetically better than what is there now.

The public hearing was opened. No testimony was submitted and the hearing was closed.

Schack visited the site and saw that the existing house is smaller than its neighbors. The proposal would be tight, but it would make the house fit in better with its neighbors.

Powers felt that the proposal is modest and suited to the area.

Calvert thought it would be very attractive and fit with the surrounding neighborhood.
Calvert moved, second by O’Connell, to adopt the resolution approving an expansion permit and shoreland setback variance for a second floor addition to the existing home at 2604 Crosby Road.

Sewall, Calvert, Knight, O’Connell, Powers, Schack, and Kirk voted yes. Motion carried.

Chair Kirk stated that an appeal of the planning commission’s decision must be made in writing to the planning division within 10 days.

B. Items concerning Midwest MasterCraft at 17717 State Highway 7.

Chair Kirk introduced the proposal and called for the staff report.

Thomas reported. She recommended approval of the application based on the findings and subject to the conditions listed in the staff report.

Sewall asked if the parking agreement identifies which spaces are included in the agreement. Thomas directed the question to the applicant.

In response to Chair Kirk’s question, Thomas explained that the Ike’s site has had a nonconforming use since the first restaurant opened decades ago. The site has never had enough parking to meet current ordinance requirements. A nonconforming business may continue to operate unless the site has been vacant for at least 12 months. When Ike’s applied to add outdoor seating, the city required Ike’s to obtain a parking agreement for off-site parking. Staff hoped that the parking agreement would continue.

Andy Larson, applicant, stated that he has owned the company for 15 years. He was confident the parking situation would work out. The intention is to reuse the existing signs and make them look nice. He and his architect were available for questions.

Sewall asked how boats would enter and exit the site. Mr. Larson said that there are garage doors on the west side of the property to provide access to shore. The rear of the building has room for a boat inside. The primary storage location will be the Crystal location. A lot of the boats would be delivered by water. His busy time would be opposite of the restaurant’s busy times.

In response to Chair Kirk’s question, Mr. Larson stated that the boats are 20 feet to 24 feet in length. The products are expensive because of the content, but only
a few of the boats are over 24 feet in length. The showroom would display a boat in the winter instead of having one outside.

The public hearing was opened. No testimony was submitted and the hearing was closed.

In response to Calvert’s question, Thomas explained that the proposed use would be required to have 12 parking stalls. The number of spaces provided would meet the demand for this use.

Chair Kirk thought that the proposal would be great. He hoped the business would be successful in the proposed location.

*Sewall moved, second by Powers, to recommend that the city council adopt the resolution approving final site and building plans with an expansion permit, conditional use permit, and variance for Midwest MasterCraft at 17717 State Highway 7.*

*Sewall, Calvert, Knight, O’Connell, Powers, Schack, and Kirk voted yes. Motion carried.*

This item is scheduled to be reviewed by the city council at its meeting on August 28, 2017.

C. Items concerning Mesaba Capital at 17710 and 17724 Old Excelsior Boulevard.

Chair Kirk introduced the proposal and called for the staff report.

Ingvalson reported. He recommended approval of the application based on the findings and subject to the conditions listed in the staff report.

Calvert asked about stormwater management. Ingvalson explained that there would be a chamber onsite to accommodate stormwater. Stormwater management requirements would be met. The site’s impervious surface requirement would be met.

Sewall asked for the maximum building height allowed in a B-1 District. Ingvalson explained that the height of the building would be restricted by the setbacks. The height requirement is the same for B-1 and R-5 zoning districts.

Ingvalson noted that the site meets parking requirements.
Della Kolpin of Mesaba Capital Development, applicant, introduced herself and Walker Methodist Vice President of Operations Anneliese Peterson. Ms. Kolpin stated that Ingvalson did such an amazing job that she could shorten her presentation. She stated that:

- The proposal would have 97 units including studio to two-bedroom and two-bath apartments.
- There would be common areas and support spaces.
- The site has many attributes including being located near a major intersection, commercial uses, families, schools, churches, and medical facilities.
- She explained the parking plan and parking agreement with South Lake Pediatrics.
- She provided photos of examples of the common spaces, bistro, coffee shop, library, screen porch, dining room, and wellness center. The wellness center would be open to the public.
- The outdoor spaces would be landscaped with pockets of landscape architecture. There would be wild flowers and stone benches. This would set the tone for future developments.

Ms. Peterson stated that:

- Walker Methodist has been providing services to seniors for 71 years. Their mission is to enhance the lives of older adults through care, respect, and service.
- They currently operate 12 properties.
- They provide independent living. The average age is in the 80s.
- The apartment is leased month to month and services can be increased as needed.
- Care suites are an enhanced assisted living product. There would be a one to five staffing ratio. This can be an alternate to skilled care. Apartments would be in a circle with a common space in between. That staff person is always within earshot.
- The units would be market rate. Each unit pays for rent and care. If a resident runs out of funds due to the increased need for care, residents can apply for an elderly waiver which helps the resident cover the cost of services. The goal is to keep residents in the same environment until the end of their life.
- Walker Methodist is 100 percent certified in the memory and music program. This program reduces residents’ anxiety and enhances
their ability to communicate.

- The facility is part of the Struthers Parkinson’s network so staff are trained in the protocols to care for someone with Parkinson’s.
- The Minneapolis office has a dental clinic which is open to all residents in all properties.
- Seventy percent of residents belong to the fitness center. The equipment is designed for older adults.

Calvert asked where the enclosed garden space would be located. Ms. Kolpin pointed out the location on the site plan. Walking trails would be attached to the garden.

Chair Kirk asked how many staff would typically be at the facility. Ms. Peterson answered that 10 additional administrative staff would be at the facility Monday through Friday. There would be 10 to 15 staff members during the day, 8 to 10 staff members in the evening, and 3 to 5 staff members overnight depending on the amount of needed care. Staff would park in the most inconvenient spots. The independent residents would have the indoor parking stalls. Parking would be available in the South Lake Pediatrics Lot half of the day on Saturdays, all day Sundays, and weekdays after 6 p.m.

Sewall asked what percent of residents have vehicles. Ms. Peterson stated that all of their properties have available indoor parking spaces for residents. The facilities range from 10 percent (in buildings operating for 5 years or more) to 50 percent (in newer buildings) of residents who have vehicles. A shuttle is provided for weekly trips to Target, grocery stores, and other outings. Sewall liked the shuttle option.

Gordon noted that the traffic study and parking study evaluated assisted and care residents to determine the number of trips. St. Therese has been a good comparison.

Powers asked why so much parking would be included if it would not be needed. Ms. Kolpin stated that the proposal meets ordinance requirements and prefers to error on the side of having too much parking rather than not enough. Gordon added that parking for an apartment building is required by ordinance to plan for possible future use of the facility.

Chair Kirk asked how many ambulance runs to the site would be typical. Ms. Peterson estimated zero to three a month. The model allows for residents to take advantage of homecare which can handle falls to prevent the emergency call. The goal, as a provider, is to have as few emergency calls as possible.
The public hearing was opened.

Karen McGowen, 17809 Old Excelsior Boulevard, stated that:

- The proposed development is not suited to the area because of the infrastructure around it. She is concerned with the traffic and high school traffic. Drivers make a u-turn around a divider to enter the daycare. Bottlenecks happen often.
- There would only be one access to the site. She did not see how a vehicle would turn around to exit the same access.
- There is no sidewalk on the side of the street that the building would be located. The area is landlocked.

No testimony was submitted and the hearing was closed.

Ingvalson explained that the proposal includes adding a sidewalk on the north side of Old Excelsior Boulevard. Gordon noted that there is no sign preventing a u-turn into Kinderkare. He will look into that.

Gordon noted that the proposal would rezone the site from office to residential. The proposed use would create less traffic than an office use.

Schack asked if a traffic study was done to evaluate St. Therese’s impact on traffic. Gordon stated that the traffic and spill over parking concerns expressed for St. Therese at the time it was proposed did not come to fruition. No traffic generation complaints have been received.

Schack asked if Applewood Pointe created any traffic complaints. Thomas explained that the only complaint received occurred when the facility first opened and numerous residents moved in at the same time. Those units are all owner occupied, so residents moved in all of their belongings.

O’Connell is in favor of the proposal. The rezoning would decrease the site’s density. An office use would generate a lot more traffic at the wrong time of day given the high school issue. The proposal fits the long-term plan. He confirmed with Gordon that the sidewalk and landscaping are conditions of approval.

Sewall frequents South Lake Pediatric and he has never had a parking problem.

Calvert thought the design would be very attractive.
Chair Kirk thought the size of the building might be a little large for the view from the single-family residences. The proposal would be an appropriate transition. It would be very attractive and a relatively quiet one. He supports the proposal.

Calvert shared his concern. She took pictures of the property from across the street to help visualize how the proposal would look. She was concerned with the mass. The building would be very attractive and is needed by a fast-growing demographic in the community.

**Powers moved, second by Knight, to recommend that the city council adopt an ordinance rezoning the properties from B-1 to R-5; approving preliminary and final plats; and approving final site and building plans with a variance associated with Mesaba Capital at 17710 and 17724 Old Excelsior Boulevard.**

**Sewall, Calvert, Knight, O’Connell, Powers, Schack, and Kirk voted yes. Motion carried.**

This item is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed by the city council at its meeting on August 28, 2017.

9. **Other Business**

A. **Concept plan review for Villa West at 16913 and 17101 State Highway 7.**

Chair Kirk introduced the proposal and called for the staff report.

Thomas reported. She recommends that commissioners provide comments, feedback, and direction that may lead to the preparation of more detailed development plans.

Schack noted that exiting the site and getting on Highway 7 was difficult. Thomas explained the proposed traffic pattern. Schack was concerned with traffic safety related to entering and exiting the site. Chair Kirk suggested switching the entrance and exit.

Powers preferred two entrances from Highway 7 to provide another opportunity if a driver missed the first entrance.

Sewall asked if it would be possible to access Sandy Lane or Clear Spring Road. Thomas stated that had been considered, but deemed unfeasible.
Calvert noted that some of the trees on the site are nice and some are dead. She asked if the trees on Highway 7 would be preserved. Thomas stated that would be a goal.

David Carlson, owner of Gatehouse Properties, applicant, stated that the proposal would address a need for empty nesters with main-floor living. There are very few units of this type on the market. He has done a similar project, Eldorado, across from Big Willow Park on Minnetonka Boulevard. The building has three units which were sold as soon as they hit the market. He was open to whatever access would work best. The proposal was created by a civil design engineer. The development size, density, and scope would be minimal compared to what could be done on the site. Thomas did a nice job describing the concerns expressed at the neighborhood meeting which were traffic access and screening to the adjacent property owners. He was available for questions.

Chair Kirk asked how close units 6 and 7 would be located to the residences on the south side. Mr. Carlson said that the units would be 20 feet from the property line.

In response to Sewall’s question, Mr. Carlson estimated the base price for the units to be $500,000 with an additional $25,000 for a 4-season sun room and $50,000 for a second story with loft.

Schack asked if he hoped to purchase additional land adjacent to the site. Mr. Carlson stated that the proposal and accesses would need to be approved before purchasing additional property.

Mr. Carlson explained that the cost for new construction is extremely high and it continues to rise. An individual 62 years of age or older may qualify for an FHA program known as a reverse mortgage. A qualifier may sell one’s current, paid-off house for $350,000, put that $350,000 into purchasing a new $600,000 residence, and there are no monthly payments. The interest accrues and gets paid along with the remaining balance when the residence is sold. This is an interesting way to provide affordable housing for a senior with obsolete living conditions or a residence in need of repair through financing instead of the purchase price.

Chair Kirk invited the public to provide input.

David Devins, 17100 Sandy Lane, stated that, generally, the neighborhood is in favor. There are not a lot of objections. He agreed with the issues staff
mentioned. He talked with the developer and land owner and everyone seems pretty amenable to work on things. The issues are the exit and entrance on Highway 7. He has lived there 25 years and accessing Highway 7 is not that scary once a driver is used to it. Spacing the in and out accesses would solve a lot of problems. There is a berm that has trees and landscaping between his property and the proposed site. He hoped the berm could be recreated. The developer seemed open to that. It would be in everyone’s best interests. He is the president of the homeowner’s association. The residents of his building are comfortable with the proposal and he is also. It would be a good use of the land. Addressing the Highway 7 accesses and landscaping would make it a good use for everyone.

No one else chose to speak.

Calvert agreed that there is a market for the product. She understood the enthusiasm. It would fit the property. She was glad the neighbors found it acceptable. Maintaining a berm and keeping some mature trees along Highway 7 and providing buffering for the adjacent properties would be important.

Chair Kirk agreed with the importance of preserving the trees along Highway 7. He suggested positioning the residences to make it possible in the future to possibly access Sandy Lane. He agreed that the proposal would be the right product for the area. The density of this proposal is more appropriate than the last proposal’s density.

Powers likes the proposed density and the proposal is attractive. He left the entrance and exit to engineers to find the best solution. He liked the product and the idea of providing one-level living. The developer is well established and reliable.

Schack saw it as a testament to the developer that the neighborhood is now supportive of the proposal. She agreed that avoiding the creation of horseshoes roads would be preferable. A decrease in price for new housing is unrealistic. Residents want different accessibility. These types of units are in high demand. She supports the proposal. She likes the plan. Access to the site is the biggest issue.

Chair Kirk suggested that staff provide the city council with an overlay of the existing neighborhood with the proposed accesses to review at its meeting.

O’Connell did not want to tie up this proposal on the hope that the property owner on the east might sell. He left the traffic issues to the experts.
Knight likes this proposal much better than the previous one. It is ideal. He was confident drivers would learn the location of the entrance and exit after visiting the site a couple times.

This item is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed by the city council at its meeting on August 28, 2017.

10. **Adjournment**

*Sewall moved, second by Calvert, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.*

By:  ____________________________

Lois T. Mason  
Planning Secretary
Minnetonka Planning Commission Meeting
August 24, 2017
Agenda Item 7

Public Hearing: Consent Agenda
Brief Description  Aggregate side yard and rear yard setback variances to construct a second story addition at 3715 Huntingdon Drive

Recommendation  Adopt the resolution approving the variance

Background

In 1982, the city approved the construction of a new home on the subject property. The subject home is located near the rear of the lot due to a wetland on the front side of the property. As proposed, the structure was compliant with required front yard, side yard, and wetland setbacks. However, the city approved the building permit for the home location with a non-compliant rear yard setback. (See below.) No variances or special approvals were received for the building location. Current staff can find no record of why this location was approved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front Yard</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>+/- 240 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Yard*</td>
<td>15 feet</td>
<td>15 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Yard</td>
<td>40 feet</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>36 feet</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*No aggregate side yard setback requirement at time of approval

In 2006, the planning commission approved side yard and aggregate side yard setback variances to construct a porch addition on the south side of the home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Approved</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Side Yard</td>
<td>10 feet</td>
<td>8 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate Side Yard</td>
<td>30 feet</td>
<td>23 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Though variances were approved, the porch was ultimately built in compliance with required setbacks.

Proposal

Boyer Building, on behalf of the property owners, is proposing to extend the existing porch and construct a second story addition over the existing, attached garage. As proposed,
the porch addition would meet all setback requirements and the second story addition would not change the footprint of the existing, non-compliant home. As such, two variances are necessary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate Side Yard</td>
<td>30 feet</td>
<td>28.9 feet</td>
<td>28.9 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Yard</td>
<td>40 feet</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff Analysis

Staff finds that the applicant’s request meets the variance standard outlined in city code:

PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE ZOND ORDINANCE: The purpose and intent of required setbacks is to ensure appropriate separation between structures and property lines or natural resources. The proposed second story addition would not change the footprint of the existing home and would maintain the existing building separations. In other words, the addition would not encroach further into the required setbacks than the existing home.

CONSISTENT WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The proposed variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan. The guiding principles in the comprehensive plan provide for maintaining, preserving, and enhancing existing single-family neighborhoods. The requested variance would preserve the residential character of the neighborhood and would provide investment into the property to enhance its use.

PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES: There are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance:

- **REASONABLENESS:** The requested variances are reasonable. The proposed second story addition would add livable space without changing the footprint of the existing home.

- **UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE.** Construction on the subject property is restricted by the current location of the home, required setbacks, and lot width.
  - The existing home does not meet current setback requirements. Any addition over this area would not meet the ordinance.
  - There is a wetland on the subject property. Staff suspects that the home was located near the rear of the property to ensure it would meet the 35-foot wetland setback. The wetland “pushed” the existing home into the required rear yard setback.
At the addition location, the lot is narrower than is permitted by city ordinance. The subject lot is only 100 feet wide at the addition area. Alternatively, city ordinance requires lots to be at least 110 feet in width at setback.

- NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER. If approved, the proposed project would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. The properties north and east of the property are:
  - 40 feet (north) and 100 feet (east) from the proposed addition;
  - On higher elevations than the addition; and
  - Buffered by existing vegetation.

**Staff Recommendation**

Adopt the resolution approving aggregate side yard and rear yard setback variances to construct a second story addition at 3715 Huntingdon Drive.

Originator: Drew Ingvalson, Planner
Through: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
### Supporting Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Project No.</strong></th>
<th>05098.17a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property</strong></td>
<td>3715 Huntingdon Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Applicant/Owner</strong></td>
<td>Kyle and Tatum Marinkovich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surrounding Land Uses</strong></td>
<td>All surrounding properties are zoned R-1 and guided for low-density residential.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Planning** | Guide Plan designation: low-density residential  
Zoning: R-1 |
| **Expansion Permit v. Variance** | An expansion permit is required for an expansion of a non-conforming structure when that expansion maintains the same setbacks as the existing non-conformity. A variance is required for expansion of a non-conforming structure when the expansion would intrude into one or more setback areas beyond the distance of the existing structure.  
By definition, a non-conforming structure is one that is not in full compliance with the regulations of the ordinance and either: (1) was legally established before the effective date of the ordinance provision with which it does not comply; or (2) became non-conforming because of other governmental action, such as a court order or a taking by a governmental body under eminent domain or negotiated sale.  
The existing home is not considered non-conforming because its reduced setbacks were approved by a variance, as is allowed by ordinance. Essentially, the home “conforms” to the side yard setbacks legally approved in 2006. Because it is not non-conforming, the applicant’s request is not eligible for an expansion permit and a variance is required.  
Additionally, the structure is also non-compliant with the rear yard setback. However, this non-compliance was not approved through variance or predating ordinance, but did receive a building permit from the city. |
| **McMansion Policy** | The McMansion Policy is a tool the city can utilize to ensure new homes or additions requiring variances are consistent with the character of the existing homes within the neighborhood. By policy, the floor area ratio (FAR) of the subject property cannot |
be greater than the largest FAR of property within 1,000 feet on the same street, and a distance of 400 feet from the subject property.

The second story addition would increase the property’s FAR from 0.08 to 0.10. Even with the FAR increase, the subject property’s FAR would be significantly less than the property with the largest FAR within 400 feet (0.37), thus complying with the McMansion Policy.

**Variance Standard**

A variance may be granted from the requirements of the zoning ordinance when: (1) it is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance; (2) it is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and (3) when an applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance. Practical difficulties mean that the applicant proposes to use a property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the ordinance, the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner, and, the variance if granted, would not alter the essential character of the locality. (City Code §300.07)

**Neighborhood Comments**

The city sent notices to 43 area property owners and received no comments to date.

**Pyramid of Discretion**

![Pyramid Diagram]

**Motion options**

The planning commission has the following motion options:

1. Concur with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made adopting the resolution approving the variances.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be denying the request. The motion should include findings for denial.
3. Table the request. In this case, a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should include a statement as to why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant or both.

**Voting Requirement**

The planning commission action on the applicant’s request is final subject to appeal. Approval requires the affirmative vote of five commissioners.

**Appeals**

Any person aggrieved by the planning commission’s decision about the requested variance may appeal such decision to the city council. A written appeal must be submitted to the planning staff within ten days of the date of the decision.

**Deadline for Decision**

October 23, 2017
Project: Marinkovich Residence
Applicant: Boyer Building Corp
Address: 3715 Huntingdon Dr
Project No. 05098.17a

This map is for illustrative purposes only.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
Lot 2, Block 1, HUNTINGDON POND, Hennepin County, Minnesota.

SCOPE OF WORK & LIMITATIONS:
1. Showing the length and direction of boundary lines of the legal description listed above. The scope of our services does not include determining what you own, which is a legal matter. Please check the legal description with your records or consult with competent legal counsel, if necessary, to make sure that it is correct and that any matters of record, such as easements, that you wish to be included on the survey have been shown.
2. Showing the location of observed existing improvements we deem necessary for the survey.
3. Setting survey markers or verifying existing survey markers to establish the corners of the property.
4. Showing elevations on the site at selected locations to give some indication of the topography of the site. We have also provided a benchmark for your use in determining elevations for construction on this site. The elevations shown relate only to the benchmark provided on this survey. Use that benchmark and check at least one other feature shown on the survey when determining other elevations for use on this site or before beginning construction.
5. Note that all building dimensions and building tie dimensions to the property lines, are taken from the siding and or stucco of the building.

STANDARD SYMBOLS & CONVENTIONS:
* Denotes iron survey marker, set, unless otherwise noted.
Proposed Second Story Addition Area
Proposed Second Story Addition
**PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES WORKSHEET**

By state law, variances may be granted from the standards of the city's zoning ordinance only if:

1) The proposed variance is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning ordinance;

2) The proposed variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and

3) An applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance standard from which they are requesting a variance. Practical difficulties means:
   - The proposed use is reasonable;
   - The need for a variance is caused by circumstances unique to the property, not created by the property owner, and not solely based on economic considerations; and
   - The proposed use would not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Describe why the proposed use is reasonable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The proposed addition will not extend beyond the existing building lines. It will not restrict views or use of any neighboring properties.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe:
- circumstances unique to the property;
- why the need for variance was not caused by the property owner; and
- and why the need is not solely based on economic considerations.

The previous owner received a variance to build this home originally. Because of the proximity to wetlands there is no basement or any other way to provide the needed bedroom space.

| Describe why the variance would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood |
| The bedroom addition is designed to enhance the appearance of the home and add to its better balanced scale. It will significantly improve the homes visual appearance and function. |

VARIANCE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF THIS WORKSHEET IS NOT COMPLETE
To: Planning commission  
City of Minnetonka MN  

Subject: Residence for Kyle and Tatum Marinkovich  
3715 Huntingdon Dr.

Kyle and Tatum purchased this 1983 vintage home in 2006. At the time they had no children, the home was secluded, and fit their needs completely.  
Today the Marinkovich’s have two active boys and wish to expand the home to meet their very active lifestyle.

The need for more recreation space is what is driving the decision to remodel this home. Because the home has no lower level, developing a recreation room becomes a challenge. After developing the current survey we quickly realized that any exterior expansion was going to be impossible.

The decision was to create a new master bedroom over the garage. Because of utility location and site logistics going over the garage seems the most logical plan. The existing 2nd story master could then be converted to a guest bedroom/play area for the boys. Because we need to remove the boys bath to gain access to the new addition, we also need to add another bath for the kids in the new addition. Added space is at a premium. We really need all the sqft over the garage to accommodate the space needs and add the kind of value they need to justify the investment.

We also want to use this opportunity to upgrade the exterior appearance of the home. By introducing a gable dormer in the front of the master suite and adding additional detail to the front entry, the new home will have better balance and grace.

Thanks for your consideration

Bob Boyer  
Boyer Building Corp  
Lic # BC002988
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2017-

Resolution approving aggregate side yard and rear yard setback variances for a second story addition at 3715 Huntingdon Drive

Be it resolved by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 The subject property is located at 3715 Huntingdon Drive. It is legally described as:

Lot 2, Block 1, Huntingdon Pond, Hennepin County, Minnesota.

1.02 In 1982, the city approved the construction of a new home on the subject property. The proposed home was complaint with the front yard, side yard, and wetland setbacks. However, the city approved a building permit for the home location with a non-compliant rear yard setback.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front Yard</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>+/- 240 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Yard*</td>
<td>15 feet</td>
<td>15 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Yard</td>
<td>40 feet</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>36 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No aggregate side yard setback requirement at time of approval

1.03 In 2006, the planning commission approved side yard and aggregate side yard setback variances to construct a porch addition on the south side of the home:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Side Yard</td>
<td>10 feet</td>
<td>8 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate Side Yard</td>
<td>30 feet</td>
<td>23 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Though variances were approved, the porch was ultimately built in compliance with required setbacks.

1.04 Boyer Building, on behalf of the property owners, is proposing to extend the existing porch and construct a second story addition over the existing, attached garage. As proposed, the porch addition would meet all setback requirements and the second story addition would not change the footprint of the existing, non-compliant home. As such, two variances are necessary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate Side Yard</td>
<td>30 feet</td>
<td>28.9 feet</td>
<td>28.9 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear Yard</td>
<td>40 feet</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.05 Minnesota Statute §462.357 Subd. 6, and City Code §300.07 authorizes the Planning Commission to grant variances.

Section 2. Standards.

2.01 By City Code §300.07 Subd. 1, a variance may be granted from the requirements of the zoning ordinance when: (1) the variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of this ordinance; (2) when the variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and (3) when the applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance. Practical difficulties means: (1) The proposed use is reasonable; (2) the need for a variance is caused by circumstances unique to the property, not created by the property owner, and not solely based on economic considerations; and (3) the proposed use would not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

Section 3. Findings.

3.01 The proposal meets the variance standard outlined in City Code §300.07 Subd. 1(a):

1. PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE: The purpose and intent of required setbacks is to ensure appropriate separation between structures and property lines or natural resources. The requested variances meet this intent. The proposed second story addition would not change the footprint of the existing home and would maintain the existing building separations. In other words, the addition would not encroach further into the required setbacks than the existing home.
2. CONSISTENT WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The proposed variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan. The guiding principles in the comprehensive plan provide for maintaining, preserving, and enhancing existing single-family neighborhoods. The requested variance would preserve the residential character of the neighborhood and would provide investment into the property to enhance its use.

3. PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES: There are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance:

   a) REASONABLENESS: The requested variances are reasonable. The proposed second story addition would add livable space without changing the footprint of the existing home.

   b) UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE: Construction on the subject property is restricted by the current location of the home, required setbacks, and lot width.

      1) The existing home does not meet current setback requirements. Any addition over this area would not meet ordinance.

      2) There is a wetland on the subject property. The home was likely located near the rear of the property to ensure it would meet the 35-foot wetland setback. The wetland “pushed” the existing home into the required rear yard setback.

      3) At the addition location, the lot is narrower than is permitted by city ordinance. The subject lot is only 100 feet wide at the addition area. Alternatively, city ordinance requires lots to be at least 110 feet in width at setback.

   c) CHARACTER OF LOCALITY: If approved, the proposed project would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. The properties near the project, positioned north and east of the property, are:

      1) 40 feet (north) and 100 feet (east) from the proposed addition;

      2) On higher elevations than the addition; and
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2017-

3) Buffered by existing vegetation.

Section 4. Planning Commission Action.

4.01 The planning commission approves the above-described variances based on the findings outlined in section 3 of this resolution. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject to staff approval, the site must be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the following plans, except as modified by the conditions below:

   - Survey dated July 12, 2017
   - Building plan set dated May 20, 2017

2. Prior to issuance of a building permit:

   a) A copy of this resolution must be recorded with Hennepin County.

   b) The existing southerly deck must be shown on the existing conditions survey. This deck must be located outside of the drainage and utility easement.

   c) Erosion control and tree protection must be installed and inspected prior to the building permit being issued.

3. This variance will end on December 31, 2018, unless the city has issued a building permit for the project covered by this variance or has approved a time extension.

Adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on August 24, 2017.

Brian Kirk, Chairperson

Attest:

__________________________
Kathy Leervig, Deputy City Clerk
Action on this resolution:

Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent:
Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a duly authorized meeting held on August 24, 2017.

Kathy Leervig, Deputy City Clerk
MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION  
August 24, 2017

**Brief Description**  
Side yard and aggregate side yard setback variances for the construction of an attached garage at 4714 Caribou Drive

**Recommendation**  
Adopt the resolution approving the request

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Side Yard Setback (South)</td>
<td>10 ft.</td>
<td>28.7 ft.</td>
<td>6.8 ft.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate Side yard</td>
<td>30 ft.</td>
<td>38.6 ft.</td>
<td>16.7 ft.*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* requires variance

**Proposal**

The applicant, John Haertzen, is proposing to demolish an existing, detached, single-stall garage and construct an attached, two-stall garage on the south side of the home. The proposed attached garage would encroach into the required side yard and aggregate side yard setbacks. (See attached.) The following variances are required:

**Staff Analysis**

Staff finds that the applicant’s proposal is reasonable as:

PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE ORDINANCE. The proposal is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning ordinance. The intent of the side yard and aggregate setback requirements is to provide for consistent building lines within a neighborhood and to provide for adequate separation between homes. The proposed addition provides adequate separation between buildings after considering the location of the existing detached structure and dimensions of the lot.

CONSISTENT WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. The proposed variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan. The guiding principles in the comprehensive guide plan provide for maintaining, preserving and enhancing existing single-family neighborhoods. The requested variance would preserve the residential character of the neighborhood and would provide investment into a property to enhance its use.

PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES. There are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance:

- REASONABLENESS: The proposed variances are reasonable as:
The existing property does not have an attached garage. The residents are currently using a single-stall, detached garage that is located 8.5 feet from the south (side) property line.

At 22 feet by 24 feet, the proposed garage would be the smaller than the standard two-stall garage (24 feet by 24 feet) outlined in the City of Minnetonka Planning Commission Policies.

The proposed, attached garage would enhance the existing structure and would be an improvement from the current detached garage.

To accommodate the two-stall garage, the proposed garage addition would be setback only 1.7 feet closer from the side property line than the existing detached garage.

**UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE:** The absence of an attached garage, current non-conformity of the detached garage, lot shape, and lot size are all unique characteristics of the property.

- The subject lot was platted in 1955. The lot is approximately 15,000 square feet in area, which is 7,000 square feet smaller than what is required for lots within the R-1 district.

- The subject lot is only 100 feet in width. Current R-1 district standards require properties to have at least 110 feet in width at the front yard setback line.

- The subject home was originally constructed in 1957 without an attached garage. Currently, the residents of the property use a single-stall, detached garage on the lot to store their vehicles.

- The detached garage is setback only 8.5 feet from the side (southern) property line, encroaching into the side yard setback.

**NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER:** The subject home is the only house on Caribou Drive (within 400 feet of the subject home) without an attached, two-stall garage. The absence of an attached garage on the subject property makes the lot an “outlier.” Construction of an attached, two-stall garage would bring property into better conformity with the neighborhood character.

**Staff Recommendation**

Adopt the resolution approving a side yard and aggregate side yard setback variance for an attached garage at 4714 Caribou Drive.

Originator: Drew Ingvalson, Planner
Through: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
Supporting Information

Project No. 17017.17a

Property 4714 Caribou Drive

Applicant John Haertzen

Surrounding Land Uses All properties to the north, east, west and south are zoned R-1. The properties to the north, east and south are all guided for low density residential, and improved with single family homes.

Planning Guide Plan designation: low density residential
Zoning: R-1

Site Features The subject property was platted in its current configuration in 1955. It is just under 15,000 square feet in size. The property is improved with a 1,538 square foot, one-story building. The existing principal building encroaches into the northern side yard setback by 0.1 feet, but meets all other setback requirements. However, there is a 280 square foot, non-conforming, detached garage that is setback 8.5 feet from the side yard property line, 10-foot setbacks are required. (See attached).

Small lot By City Code §300.10 Subd. 7, properties that are defined as qualifying small lots are allowed lesser setbacks from property lines than “typical” properties. To be defined as a small lot, a property must be less than 15,000 square feet; have been a lot of record prior to February 12, 1966; and must be located in an area in which the average size of residential lots is less than 15,000 square feet.

Despite the property’s smaller lot size and the early platting of the property, it does not qualify as a small lot. The property is just under 15,000 square feet and was platted prior to February 12, 1966, but the average lot size of lots surrounding the neighborhood is approximately 18,600 square feet.

McMansion Policy The McMansion Policy is a tool the city can utilize to ensure new homes or additions requiring variances are consistent with the character of the existing homes within the neighborhood. By policy, the floor area ratio (FAR) of the subject property cannot be greater than the largest FAR of properties within 1,000 feet on the same street, and a distance of 400 feet from the subject property.
As proposed, the property would comply with the McMansion Policy. Currently, the property’s FAR is 0.13. The proposed garage and addition would increase the FAR to 0.14, still significantly below the largest FAR within 400 feet which is 0.24.

**Variance Standard**
A variance may be granted from the requirements of the zoning ordinance when: (1) it is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance; (2) it is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and (3) when an applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance. Practical difficulties mean that the applicant proposes to use a property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the ordinance, the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner, and, the variance if granted, would not alter the essential character of the locality. (City Code §300.07)

**Natural Resources**
Best management practices must be followed during the course of site preparation and construction activities. This would include installation and maintenance of erosion control fencing.

**Pyramid of Discretion**

**Motion Options**
The planning commission has three options:

1. Concur with staff’s recommendation. In this case a motion should be made approving the variance.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case a motion should be made denying the variance. This motion must include a statement as to why the request is denied.
3. Table the request. In this case a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should be made include a statement as to why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant or both.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood Comments</th>
<th>The city sent notices to 37 area property owners and received one comment, which is in support of the proposal.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voting Requirement</td>
<td>The planning commission action on the applicant's request is final subject to appeal. Approval requires the affirmative vote of five commissioners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeals</td>
<td>Any person aggrieved by the planning commission’s decision about the requested variance may appeal such decision to the city council. A written appeal must be submitted to the planning staff within ten days of the date of the decision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Decision</td>
<td>October 9, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subject Property

Project: Haertzen Residence
Address: 4714 Caribou Dr
Project No. 17017.17a

This map is for illustrative purposes only.
Existing Garage
Variance Application for:
4714 Caribou Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55345

Describe why proposed use is reasonable:
Our proposal is to replace an existing, detached one-car garage with an attached two-car garage. The existing garage needs to be torn down and replaced due to its current condition as the foundation is cracked throughout along with roof, siding and other issues. The request for a two car garage is reasonable given the home has four bedrooms and a one car garage is no longer practical as many households have multiple vehicles. Nearly every other home in the area has two or more garages and our home is the only property on the street with a detached garage. The proposal creates a safer and more secure entrance point into the home as well as reduces the chance for vandalism with cars no longer parked in the driveway.

The property was constructed prior to 1966 and is currently non-conforming from both the side yard and aggregate side yard setbacks. The proposal is asking for an additional 1.5 feet in order to accommodate the new structure. Our lot is 15,000sf in size, which is smaller than the current lot size requirement for new lots in the city. The property does not qualify for the small-lot exemption due to the average lot size of the homes around us though. The small lot exception requires 7-foot side-yard setbacks, which is essentially what we are proposing. Given we do have a small lot relative to others in the area and per the City Code, the proposed setback is reasonable.

Describe:
• Circumstances unique to the property
• Why the need for variance was not created by property owner
• Why the need is not solely based upon economic considerations

The property is a 100x150 (15,000sf) lot and is smaller than the required minimum lot size the city currently requires. There are some homes in the area with larger lot sizes, so the average size of the surrounding lots disqualifies our lot of being designated a “small-lot.” The requirement for a small lot setback is 7-feet, which is effectively what we are looking to obtain.

We purchased the home with the existing garage that was built prior to 1966 per permits found in the property records. The garage is currently 8.5 feet from the lot line and the property has a total aggregate side-yard setback of roughly 18.5 feet. The structure is currently non-conforming from the side-yard setback and aggregate setback requirements that were adopted after construction of the structure.

The garage is currently beyond repair as the foundation and slab are cracked throughout causing flooding. The roof is sagging and deteriorating and the fascia and siding are rotted or missing which allows animals to enter. We believe this proposal will provide a more practical and safe place for us to have our cars parked and to have space to store items like garbage and recycling cans, tools, lawnmower and snow blower.

Describe why the variance would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood:
Our property is actually the only home on the street without an attached garage and one of a few with one car garages. The proposal to attach the garage will not alter the character of the neighborhood as it will help us fit in better with the surrounding area. The garage height will be below the existing windows on the house, so the overall character of the house will be similar.
August 11, 2017

City of Minnetonka, Planning Division
Project No 17017.17a
14600 Minnetonka, MN 55345

We are writing in support of the request for variance for 4714 Caribou Drive. Evidently the plan is to construct an attached, two-stall garage. We would support that variance. We were fortunate to obtain a variance on our home, 4818 Caribou Drive, several years ago to construct an attached garage to the front of our home. It has been a wonderful addition to our home and we also believe to the neighborhood. These older homes often need the extra garage space that was not a part of the original home structure. Our “vote” is yes!

Bill and Marcia Anderson
4818 Caribou Drive
Minnetonka, MN 55345
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2017-

Resolution approving side yard and aggregate side yard setback variances for an attached garage at 4714 Caribou Drive

Be it resolved by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 John Haertzen has requested side yard and aggregate side yard setback variances to demolish an existing, single-stall garage to construct an attached, two-stall garage on the south side of the home.

1.02 The property is located at 4714 Caribou Drive. It is legally described as:

Lots 11, Block 1, Deerwood Hills First Addition, Hennepin County, Minnesota.

1.03 City Code §300.10 Subd. 5(c) requires a minimum side yard setback of 10 feet and an aggregate side yard setback of 30 feet. The applicant is proposing the following

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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1.04 Minnesota Statute §462.357 Subd. 6, and City Code §300.07 authorizes the Planning Commission to grant variances.

Section 2. Standards.

2.01 By City Code §300.07 Subd. 1, a variance may be granted from the requirements of the zoning ordinance when: (1) the variance is in harmony
with the general purposes and intent of this ordinance; (2) when the variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and (3) when the applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance. Practical difficulties means: (1) The proposed use is reasonable; (2) the need for a variance is caused by circumstances unique to the property, not created by the property owner, and not solely based on economic considerations; and (3) the proposed use would not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

Section 3. Findings.

3.01 The proposal would meet the variance standard as outlined in City Code §300.07 Subd. 1:

1. INTENT OF THE ORDINANCE. The proposal is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning ordinance. The intent of the side yard and aggregate setback requirements is to provide for consistent building lines within a neighborhood and to provide for adequate separation between homes. The proposed addition provides adequate separation between buildings after considering the location of the existing detached structure and dimensions of the lot.

2. CONSISTENT WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. The proposed variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan. The guiding principles in the comprehensive guide plan provide for maintaining, preserving and enhancing existing single-family neighborhoods. The requested variance would preserve the residential character of the neighborhood and would provide investment into a property to enhance its use.

3. PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES. There are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance:

a) REASONABleness: The proposed variances are reasonable as:

   1) The existing property does not have an attached garage. The residents are currently using a single-stall, detached garage that is 8.5 feet from the south (side) property line.

   2) At 22 feet by 24 feet, the proposed garage would be the smaller than the standard two-stall garage (24 feet
by 24 feet) outlined in the City of Minnetonka Planning Commission Policies.

3) The proposed, attached garage would enhance the existing structure and would be an improvement from the current detached garage.

4) To accommodate the two-stall garage, the proposed garage addition would be setback only 1.7 feet closer from the side property line than the existing detached garage.

b) UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE: The absence of an attached garage, current non-conformity of the detached garage, lot shape, and lot size are unique characteristics of the property.

1) The subject lot was platted in 1955. The lot is approximately 15,000 square feet in area, which is 7,000 square feet smaller than what is required for lots within the R-1 district.

2) The subject lot is only 100 feet in width. Current R-1 district standards require properties to have at least 110 feet in width at the front yard setback line.

3) The subject home was originally constructed in 1957 without an attached garage. Currently, the residents of the property use a single-stall, detached garage on the lot to store their vehicles.

4) The detached garage is setback only 8.5 feet from the side (southern) property line, encroaching into the side yard setback.

c) NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER: The subject home is the only house on Caribou Drive (within 400 feet of the subject home) without an attached, two-stall garage. The absence of an attached garage on the subject property makes the lot an “outlier.” Construction of an attached, two-stall garage would bring property into better conformity with the neighborhood character.
Section 4. Planning Commission Action.

4.01 The planning commission approves the above-described variance based on the findings outlined in section 3 of this resolution. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject to staff approval, the site must be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the following plans, except as modified by the conditions below:
   - Survey date stamped July 17, 2017.
   - Plans and elevations submitted with application and date stamped August 4, 2017.

2. Prior to issuance of a building permit:
   a) A copy of this resolution must be recorded with Hennepin County.
   b) The applicant must install erosion control fencing as required by staff for inspection and approval. These items must be maintained throughout the course of construction.

3. The applicant must avoid impacts to the adjacent neighbor’s row of shrubs.

4. Stormwater runoff from the proposed addition must be directed away from the neighboring property. This may be accomplished through the use of gutters.

5. This variance will end on December 31, 2018, unless the city has issued a building permit for the project covered by this variance or has approved a time extension.

Adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on August 24, 2017.

Brian Kirk, Chairperson
Attest:

______________________________
Kathy Leervig, Deputy City Clerk

Action on this resolution:

Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absen:
Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a duly authorized meeting held on August 24, 2017.

______________________________
Kathy Leervig, Deputy City Clerk
MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION
August 24, 2017

Brief Description
Front yard setback variance for a second story addition onto the existing home at 4316 Camelot Drive

Recommendation
Adopt the resolution approving the variance

Background
The existing home was constructed on the subject property in 1976. The site plan, which accompanied the original building permit, indicates that the home and attached garage would comply with the required 35-foot front yard setback. However, a recent as-built survey indicates that the existing garage was actually constructed 33 feet from the front property line.

Proposal
The property owners are proposing several additions onto the existing home: (1) a 4-foot addition onto the south of the existing garage; and (2) a second story addition over that addition and a portion of the existing home. The southern garage addition would meet the required side yard setback. However, a variance is needed to reduce the front yard setback from 35 feet to 30 feet.

Staff Analysis
Staff finds the applicants' request meets the variance standards as outlined in city code:

- **Reasonableness:** The requested variance would allow for a reasonable expansion of the home. By planning commission policy, a two-car garage measuring 24-feet by 24-feet is considered a reasonable use of a residential property. Since the existing garage is only 22-feet deep, the proposed variance would allow for a reasonably sized garage with additional living space above. The southern addition – which would make the garage wider – does not require a variance.

- **Unique Character:** The existing home was constructed 33 feet from the easterly front property line rather than the 35 feet indicated on the original building permit plans. This presents a unique circumstance not common to every R-1 property.

- **Neighborhood Character:** The requested variance would not negatively impact the character of the surrounding neighborhood, which primarily consists of two-story homes.
Staff Recommendation

Adopt the resolution approving the front yard setback variance for additions onto the home at 4316 Camelot Drive.

Originator: Ashley Cauley, Senior Planner
Through: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
### Supporting Information

**Project No.** 17016.17a  
**Property** 4316 Camelot Drive  
**Applicant** Property Owners, Andrew and Jamie Masur  
**Surrounding Land Uses** All surrounding properties are improved with single family residential homes, zoned R-1 and guided for low density residential.  
**Planning** Guide Plan designation: Low Density Residential  
**Zoning:** R-1  
**Site Features** The subject property is 24,542 square feet in size. It’s improved with a single family home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North setback (side yard)</td>
<td>10 ft; aggregate total of 30 ft</td>
<td>41 ft; 55 ft</td>
<td>41 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East setback (front yard)</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>33 ft</td>
<td>30 ft **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South setback (side yard)</td>
<td>10 ft; aggregate total of 30 ft</td>
<td>14 ft; 55 ft</td>
<td>10 ft; 51 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West setback (rear yard)</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>179 ft</td>
<td>179 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Right of Way**

During review of the applicants' proposal, staff discovered that a 25-foot temporary right-of-way easement – from 1968 – was not included on the submitted survey. The area encumbered by the easement is shown on the image to the left in yellow. Further review of the easement found that document contained no “trigger” for expiration of the easement. It is clear from old aerial photographs that the easement was intended for a cul-de-sac, which was later removed when the roadway was connected through to the north. Interestingly, when the home was constructed in 1976, the setback was not measured from the temporary right-of-way easement line, as is now typical practice. This is likely either due to the easement not being included on the original survey or the assumption that the easement was temporary.
Despite the physical removal of the cul-de-sac prior to the home’s construction, the easement was never extinguished or vacated. Rather than requiring a vacation of the easement, the city intends to record a release of temporary easement to clear the property title.

Expansion Permits and Variances

An expansion permit is required for an expansion of a non-conforming structure when that expansion maintains the same setbacks as the existing non-conformity. By definition, a non-conforming structure is one that is not in full compliance with the regulations of the ordinance and either: (1) was legally established before the effective date of the ordinance provision with which it does not comply; or (2) became non-conforming because of other governmental action, such as a court order or taking by a governmental body under eminent domain or a taking by a governmental body under eminent domain or negotiated sale.

The front yard and side yard setbacks of the existing/home and garage are not considered non-conforming because the reduced setback is the result of the home being constructed differently the approved site plan for the home.

McMansion Policy

The McMansion Policy is a tool the city can utilize to ensure new homes requiring a variance are consistent with the character of the existing homes within the neighborhood. By policy, the floor area ratio (FAR) of the subject property cannot be greater than the largest FAR of the properties along 1,000 feet of the same street, and a distance of 400 feet from the subject property.

By ordinance, floor area includes the sum of all the fully exposed horizontal area of a building, as measured from exterior walls and including attached garage space and enclosed porch areas, and one-half of the horizontal area of any partially exposed level such as a walkout or lookout level.

The largest FAR of the neighborhood is 0.19. As proposed, the property would have an FAR of 0.16, complying with the McMansion Policy.

Variance Standard

A variance may be granted from the requirements of the zoning ordinance when: (1) it is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance; (2) it is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and (3) when an applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance. Practical difficulties mean that the applicant proposes to use a
property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the ordinance, the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner, and, the variance if granted, would not alter the essential character of the locality. (City Code §300.07)

Natural Resources
Best management practices must be followed during the course of site preparation and construction activities. This would include installation and maintenance erosion control fencing.

Neighborhood Comments
The city sent notices to 48 area property owners and received no comments to date.

Pyramid of Discretion

Motion Options
The planning commission has three options:

1. Concur with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made approving the variance.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made denying the variance. This motion must include a statement as to why the request is denied.

3. Table the request. In this case, a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should include a statement as to why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant or both.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Voting Requirement</strong></th>
<th>The planning commission has final authority to approve or deny the request. Approval requires an affirmative vote of five commission members.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appeals</strong></td>
<td>Any person aggrieved by the planning commission’s decision about the requested variances may appeal such decision to the city council. A written appeal must be submitted to the planning staff within ten days of the date of the decision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deadline for Decision</strong></td>
<td>November 9, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OPTION A – 3 ft Eastern Border Variance ONLY – 4 ft. Southern Garage Extension w/ no variance needed
- Had official survey done of south and east lot line
- House is 15 ft. away from south lot line and 22 ft. away from east lot line
- Expansion is only going up, not out
- 7 stair steps created from upper level to get above garage
- 8 ft ceilings in new expansion, all vaulted with scissor roof trusses
- Total sq ft added approx. 650
- Roof and floor truss specs by others
- Use existing saddle of garage roof

- 8 x LL electrical adds
- 31 x electrical
- 7 x internet
- New build area
- Garage add-on w/ addt. floor space in expansion

PROCESS NEEDS TO GO AS FOLLOWS:

Construct entire expansion 1st
Knock down wall to new bedroom and create hallway through old master bedroom
Demo old master bath, get all utilities reconnected to new master bath
Create new laundry room and electrical connectivity
Create and finish WIC, transfer all items from old closet to new closet
Transfer items from old master closet to new WIC
Create new pantry

TRADES TO HIRE:

Electrical
Plumbing
HVAC
Low voltage
UPPER LEVEL EXISTING

LOWER LEVEL EXISTING

NEW EXPANSION

GARAGE WALL EXP

OPTION A - SOUTHERN FACING WALL

Ground Level
FIRST RETAINING WALL - 17.5 in x 7 in. x 6 in.
- 48 ft. x 12 in. / 2736 in. / 17.5 = 28 blocks across
- Hwy 55 Rental - 7" boot - $89/day, $356/week
- A-Z Rental - 10" boot - $92/day, $285/week

SECOND RETAINING WALL - 25 ft. x 12 in. = 300 in. / 17.5 = 18 blocks across
- 3 ft. 6 in. x 12 in. = 42 in. / 7 in. = 6 blocks tall
- Conjoined retaining wall

UPPER DECK
- 1st retaining wall - 3 ft. 6 in. high
- 2 blocks across x 6 blocks tall = 12 blocks

LOWER DECK
- http://www.homedepot.com/p/Pavestone-RockWall-Large-17-5-in-x-7-in-x-6-in-Pecan-Concrete-Retaining-Wall-Block-48-Pieces-35-Face-ft-Pallet-79824/204502327?cm_mmc=Shopping%7cTHD%7cG%7c0%7cG-BASE-PLA-D28O-OutdoorGarden%7c&gclid=CjwKEAjw7J3KBRCxv93Q3KSukXQSJADzFzVSv3OIOxQlWUy8UhN283cR8vUobfrbHQ4RU922EiS4whoCOKbw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2017-

Resolution approving a front yard setback variance for a garage and second story addition at 4316 Camelot Drive

Be it resolved by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 The property owners, Andy and Jamie Masur, have requested a variance from the city code to construct an addition to the existing garage with a second story addition.

1.02 The property is located at 4316 Camelot Drive. It is legally described as:
Lot 5, Block 1, CAMELOT ESTATES, Hennepin County, MN, Minnesota.

1.03 City Code §300.10, Subd. 5 requires a 35-foot front yard setback.

1.04 The existing garage at 4316 Camelot Drive was constructed 33 feet from the easterly, front yard property line.

1.05 The applicant is proposing to construct a first story garage addition and a second story living space addition. The proposal requires a front yard setback variance from 35 feet to 30 feet.

1.06 Minnesota Statute §462.357 Subd. 6, and City Code §300.07 authorizes the Planning Commission to grant variances.

Section 2. Standards.

2.01 By City Code §300.07 Subd. 1, a variance may be granted from the requirements of the zoning ordinance when: (1) the variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of this ordinance; (2) when the variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and (3) when the
applicant establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance. Practical difficulties means: (1) The proposed use is reasonable; (2) the need for a variance is caused by circumstances unique to the property, not created by the property owner, and not solely based on economic considerations; and (3) the proposed use would not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

Section 3. Findings.

3.01 The proposal meets the variance standard outlined in City Code §300.07 Subd. 1(a):

1. PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE: The purpose and intent of the front yard setback requirement is to ensure proper separation between right-of-way and principal structures. The proposed setback would still allow for a reasonable separation between the right-of-way and the structure. Further, the home would be located over 40 feet from the paved portion of Camelot Drive.

2. CONSISTENT WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The guiding principles in the comprehensive plan provide for maintaining, preserving and enhancing existing single-family neighborhoods. The requested variance would not negatively impact the existing residential character of the neighborhood and would provide investment into the property.

3. PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES: There are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance:

   a. REASONABLENESS: The requested variance would allow for a reasonable expansion of the home. By planning commission policy, a two-car garage measuring 24-feet by 24-feet is considered a reasonable use of a residential property. As the existing garage is only 22-feet deep, the proposed variance would allow for a reasonably sized garage with additional living space above. The southern addition – which would make the garage wider – does not require a variance.

   b. UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE: The existing home was constructed 33-feet from the easterly front property line rather than the 35-feet indicated on the original building permit plans. This presents a unique circumstance not unique to every R-1 property.
c. CHARACTER OF LOCATION: The requested variance would not negatively impact the character of the surrounding neighborhood which primarily consists of two-story homes.

Section 4. Planning Commission Action.

4.01 The Planning Commission approves the above-described variance based on the findings outlined in section 3 of this resolution. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject to staff approval, the site must be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the following plans, excepted as modified by the conditions below:
   - Survey, date-stamped August 11, 2017
   - Floor plans, date-stamped August 11, 2017
   - Elevations, date-stamped August 11, 2017

2. Prior to issuance of a building permit:
   a) Outstanding utility bills must be paid in full.
   b) A copy of this resolution must be recorded with Hennepin County.
   c) Install erosion control fencing as required by staff for inspection and approval. These items must be maintained throughout the course of construction.
   d) The city must release the temporary right of way easement.

3. Retaining walls exceeding 4-feet in height must be designed by a licensed structural engineer.

4. This variance will end on December 31, 2018, unless the city has issued a building permit for the project covered by this variance or has approved a time extension.

Adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on August 24, 2017.
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2017-   

Brian Kirk, Chairperson

Attest:

______________________________
Kathy Leervig, Deputy City Clerk

Action on this resolution:

Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent:
Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a duly authorized meeting held on August 24, 2017.

______________________________
Kathy Leervig, Deputy City Clerk
MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION
August 24, 2017

Brief Description
Conditional use permit for a microdistillery at 6020 Culligan Way

Recommendation
Recommend the city council adopt the resolution approving the permit

Introduction

Dashfire Bitters is a microdistillery specializing in the creation of single flavor and specialty bitters. Previously located in St. Paul, Dashfire recently moved to the manufacturing/warehouse tenant space formerly occupied by Lucid Brewing at 6020 Culligan Way. While city ordinance permits the distilling of bitters, Dashfire is proposing to start distilling spirits. This requires a conditional use permit.

Primary Questions and Analysis

A land use proposal is comprised of many details. In evaluating a proposal, staff first reviews these details and then aggregates them into a few primary questions or issues. The following outlines both the primary questions associated with the proposed microdistillery and staff’s findings.

- **Is the proposed distillery use reasonable?**

  Yes. The subject property is zoned I-1, Industrial. Microbreweries are conditionally permitted uses within this zoning district, as are “other uses similar to those permitted” in the district. While the brewing and distilling processes may themselves be different, microbreweries and microdistilleries are similar from a land use perspective.

- **Is existing parking adequate?**

  Yes. Given the size of the building and presumed manufacturing/warehousing uses within the building, 27 parking stalls are required. There are 41 striped parking stalls on the property and additional parking could easily be provided through additional striping of existing paved area.

  At this time, Dashfire is not proposing a cocktail or sample room. If such area were proposed in the future, parking would need to be reevaluated.

Staff Recommendation

Recommend the city council adopt the resolution approving a conditional use permit for a microdistillery at 6020 Culligan Way.
Originator: Susan Thomas, AICP, Assistant City Planner
Through: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
Supporting Information

**Surrounding Land Uses**
- Northerly: Soo Rail line
- Easterly: Industrial property, zoned I-1
- Southerly: Industrial property, zoned I-1
- Westerly: Industrial property, zoned I-1

**Planning**
- Guide Plan designation: Industrial
- Zoning: I-1, Industrial

**Existing Conditions**
The 6020 Culligan Way building was constructed in 1979. Since its construction, portions of the building has been occupied by a variety of tenants including: a woodworking company, a wholesale food distributor, a gymnastics studio, and Lucid Brewing.

**“Other” CUP**
By City Code §300.20 Subd. 4(j), microbreweries are conditionally permitted uses in the I-1 zoning district. By City Code §300.20 Subd.4(l), “ other uses similar to those permitted … as determined by the city” are also conditionally permitted.

**CUP Standards**
The proposed microdistillery would meet the general CUP standards as outlined in City Code §300.21 Subd.2:

1. The use is consistent with the intent of this ordinance;
2. The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan;
3. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements;
4. The use is consistent with the city’s water resources management plan;
5. The use is in compliance with the performance standards specified in section 300.28 of this ordinance; and
6. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

The proposal would meet the specific conditional use permit standards for microbreweries as outlined in City Code §300.21 Subd.4(s):
1. Parking requirements: microbrewery, one parking space for each 1000 square feet of floor area. Taproom: one parking space for each 50 square feet of floor area.

**Finding:** Given the size of the building and presumed manufacturing/warehousing uses within the building, 27 parking stalls are required. There are 41 striped parking stalls on the property and additional parking could easily be provided through additional striping of existing paved area.

2. Shall have parking and vehicular circulation in compliance with the requirements of section 300.28 of this code and which items must be adequate to accommodate the restaurant.

**Finding:** No cocktail room or tasting room or restaurant is proposed. Parking and circulation standards would be met.

3. Shall only be permitted when it can be demonstrated that operation will not significantly lower the existing level of service as defined by the Institute of traffic engineers on the roadway system.

**Finding:** The proposed distillery is not anticipated to have any impact on existing traffic volumes or levels of service.

### Liquor License

The proposed distillery would manufacture spirits and sell directly to distributors. No on-sale or off-sale of spirits would occur at the site. As such, no city-issued liquor license is required. Rather, a state license is necessary.

### Motion Options

The planning commission has three options:

1. Concur with the staff recommendation. In this case a motion should be made recommending the city council adopt the resolution approving the conditional use permit.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made recommending the city council deny the request. This motion must include a statement as to why denial is recommended.

3. Table the requests. In this case, a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should include a statement as
to why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant, or both.

**Neighborhood Comments**
The city sent notices to 26 property owners and received no comments to date.

**Deadline for Action**
November 13, 2017
Project: Dashfire
Address: 6020 Culligan Way
Project No. 11006.17a

This map is for illustrative purposes only.
Resolution No. 2017-

Resolution approving a conditional use permit for a microdistillery
at 6020 Culligan Way

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 Dashfire Bitters is requesting a conditional use permit for operation of a microdistillery. No cocktail or sample room is proposed at this time.

1.02 The property is located at 6020 Culligan Way. It is legally described as: Lot 3, Block 1, Culligan Industrial Park.

1.03 On August 24, 2017, the planning commission held a hearing on the request. The applicant was provided the opportunity to present information to the commission. The commission considered all of the comments and the staff report, which are incorporated by reference into this resolution. The commission recommended the city council approve the conditional use permit, with variances.

Section 2. Standards.

2.01 By City Code §300.20 Subd. 4(j), microbreweries are conditionally permitted uses in the I-1 zoning district.

2.02 By City Code §300.20 Subd. 4(l), “other uses similar to those permitted … as determined by the city” are also conditionally permitted uses in the I-1 zoning district.

2.03 City Code § 300.21 Subd.2 lists the following general conditional use permit standards:
1. The use is consistent with the intent of this ordinance;

2. The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan;

3. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements;

4. The use is consistent with the city's water resources management plan;

5. The use is in compliance with the performance standards specified in section 300.28 of this ordinance; and

6. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

2.04 City Code §330.21 Subd.4(s) lists the following specific conditional use permit standards for microbreweries:

1. Parking requirements: microbrewery, one parking space for each 1,000 square feet of floor area. Taproom: one parking space for each 50 square feet of floor area.

2. Shall have parking and vehicular circulation in compliance with the requirements of section 300.28 of this code and which items must be adequate to accommodate the restaurant.

3. Shall only be permitted when it can be demonstrated that operation will not significantly lower the existing level of service as defined by the Institute of Traffic Engineers on the roadway system.

Section 3. FINDINGS.

3.01 While the brewing and distilling processes may themselves be different, microbreweries and microdistilleries are similar from a land use perspective. Microdistilleries are, therefore, considered a conditional use permit under City Code §300.20 Subd. 4(l).

3.02 The proposed microdistillery would meet the general and specific standards as outlined in City Codes §300.21 Subd.2 and Subd.4(s) and in the staff report associated with the applicant’s request.
Section 4. City Council Action.

4.01 The above-described conditional use permit is approved, subject to the following conditions:

1. Any delinquent taxes or utility bills must be paid prior to being spirit-distilling operations.

2. The addition of a cocktail or sample room will require a reevaluation of parking requirements.

3. The microdistillery must conform to all aspects of the City Code Chapter 8, Public Health and Public Nuisance Ordinances.

4. This resolution does not approve any signs. Sign permits are required.

5. The city council may reasonably add or revise conditions to address any future unforeseen problems.

6. Any change to the approved use that results in a significant increase in traffic or a significant change in character will require a revised conditional use permit.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on September 11, 2017.

___________________________________________________________________________
Terry Schneider, Mayor

Attest:

___________________________________________________________________________
David E. Maeda, City Clerk
Action on this resolution:

Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent:
Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a duly authorized meeting held on September 11, 2017.

______________________________
David E. Maeda, City Clerk

SEAL
Minnetonka Planning Commission Meeting

August 24, 2017

Agenda Item 8

Public Hearing: Non-Consent Agenda
MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION
August 24, 2017

Brief Description  Conditional use permit for a restaurant at 17420 Minnetonka Boulevard

Recommendation  Recommend the city council adopt the resolution approving the request

Proposal
Kai Tho, owner of Kai’s Sushi is proposing to operate a full-service sushi restaurant in the westernmost tenant space at 17420 Minnetonka Blvd. As proposed, the 1,880 square foot restaurant would occupy a currently vacant space within the multi-tenant shopping center.

The proposal includes a 120-square-foot addition onto the rear of the building to allow for refrigerator and freezer space. No other exterior building improvements are proposed at this time.

According to the submitted plans and the applicant’s narrative, the restaurant would have seating for approximately 40 people and would have five employees. The restaurant would generally be open:

- Monday – Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
  4:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.
- Sunday: 4 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The applicant has indicated that he intends to apply for a liquor license. Restaurants that serve liquor are conditionally permitted uses within the B-2, limited business district, zoning district.

Staff Analysis
Staff finds the proposed restaurant is reasonable:

- Staff was initially concerned about the amount of on-site parking and so commissioned a parking study. Ultimately, the study concluded that the anticipated parking demand could be accommodated on-site.
• The restaurant use would be complimentary to the village center and would occupy a currently vacant space.

• The restaurant would meet all conditional use permit standards outlined in the zoning ordinance for restaurants serving liquor.

**Staff Recommendation**

Recommend the city council adopt the resolution approving a conditional use permit for a restaurant at 17420 Minnetonka Boulevard.

Originator: Ashley Cauley, Senior Planner
Through: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
Supporting Information

Project No. 06027.17a

Property 17420 Minnetonka Boulevard

Applicant Kai Tho, owner of Kai Sushi

Surrounding Land Uses
Northerly: Parking lot, zoned B-2, guided commercial. The Sanctuary Townhome development, zoned PUD, guided for Medium Density Residential.

Easterly: Veterinary clinic, zoned PUD, guided commercial.

Southerly: Properties zoned B-2, guided commercial.

Westerly: Properties zoned B-2, guided commercial.

Planning Guide Plan designation: Commercial
Zoning: B-2, limited business district

Background Information
The 6,300 square foot neighborhood shopping center was originally constructed in 1952. Currently, the shopping center has three tenant spaces, two of which are occupied by a framing store and a take-out bread shop.

The existing parking lot has 43 parking spaces most of which are located in the rear of the building.

Parking Study A parking study was commissioned to understand:

1. Amount of available parking prior to the proposed development.

2. If the existing parking lot would be able to accommodate the anticipated increase in parking generated from the proposed use.

3. If signing improvements could potentially reduce internal circulation conflicts.

The full parking study prepared by SRF Consulting Group, Inc. is attached. The following is intended to summarize the study:

- By the parking standards provided in city code, the existing parking lot has a surplus of 15 parking stalls.
• The existing on-site parking could accommodate the proposed development and would still result in a parking surplus of between 5 and 13 parking spaces.

• The parking study suggested two site improvements to reduce internal circulation conflicts: (1) installation of one additional “more parking in the rear” parking sign; and (2) striping of two additional parking stalls at the rear of the building.

CUP Standards

The proposal would meet the general conditional use permit standards as outlined in City Code §300.21 Subd.2:

1. The use is consistent with the intent of this ordinance;
2. The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan;
3. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements; and
4. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

The proposal would meet the specific conditional use permit standards as outlined in City Code §300.21 Subd. 4(i):

1. Parking shall be in compliance with the requirements of section 300.28 of this ordinance;

   Finding: A parking study was commissioned to determine if there would be sufficient parking available on-site to accommodate the proposed use. The study concluded that not only could the additional parking be accommodated on-site, but there would still be a surplus of parking available.

2. Shall only be permitted when it can be demonstrated that operation will not significantly lower the existing level of service as defined by the Institute of Traffic Engineers on streets and intersections.

   Finding: Generally, high-turnover restaurants have a higher trip generation than small shopping centers. However, the generation of the proposed restaurant would still fall within the trip generation range of a shopping center.
3. Shall not be located within 100 feet of any low-density residential parcel or adjacent to medium or high-density residential parcels. The city may reduce separation requirements if the following are provided:

   a. Landscaping and berming to shield the restaurant use.
   
   b. Parking lots not located in proximity to residential uses; and
   
   c. Lighting plans, which are unobtrusive to surrounding uses.

**Finding:** The closest residential parcel is located 160 feet north of the proposed restaurant. The restaurant would be shielded from the residential area by both an existing parking lot and existing vegetation.

---

**Pyramid of Discretion**

This proposal:

**Motion Options**

The planning commission has three options:

1. Concur with staff recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made recommending the city council adopt the resolution approving the proposal.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made recommending the city council deny the request. This motion should include reasons for the denial recommendation.

3. Table the requests. In this case, a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should include a
statement for why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant or both.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voting Requirement</th>
<th>The planning commission will make a recommendation to the city council. A recommendation for approval requires an affirmative vote of a simple majority. The city council’s approval requires an affirmative vote of a simple majority.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Comments</td>
<td>The city sent notices to 61 area property owners and received no comments to date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Decision</td>
<td>October 23, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Location Map

Project: Kai's Sushi
Applicant: Kai Tho
Address: 17420 Minnetonka Blvd
Project No. 06027.17a

This map is for illustrative purposes only.
To: City Of Minnetonka

Statement for Proposed property for Restaurant
Property Address: 17420 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345

Property and its intended use
Proposed full service restaurant, dine-in and also take out.
Serving authentic Japanese cuisine, Sushi, RAMEN, Teriyaki (chicken, Shrimp, Salmon, Tofu), Tempura (chicken, shrimp, vegetable), Noodles, Rice Bowl

The restaurant also serves Beer & Wine on premises only.

The restaurant has a seating capacity of 40 person

Number of employees: Full Time 3
Part Time 2

Hours of Operations: Monday – Thursday 11am – 3pm
4.30 pm – 9,30 pm
Friday & Saturday: 11am – 10 pm
Sunday: 4pm – 9.30 pm

Kai Tho
586 W 78th Street
Chanhassen, MN 55317
Tel: 9173923005
7/3/2017
Parking Study
To: Ashley Cauley, Senior Planner  
City of Minnetonka

From: Tom Sachi, PE, Senior Engineer  
Matt Pacyna, PE, Senior Associate

Date: August 14, 2017

Subject: Kai’s Sushi Parking Study

Introduction

SRF has completed a parking study for the proposed Kai’s Sushi development generally located in the northeast quadrant of County Road 101/Minnetonka Boulevard intersection in the City of Minnetonka (see Figure 1: Project Location). The main objectives of the study are to determine if the existing parking supply is sufficient to meet the demand for the proposed land use and to identify potential parking opportunities, if necessary. The following information provides the assumptions, analysis, and recommendations offered for consideration.

Proposed Development

The proposed development, shown in Figure 2, consists of a 1,880 square foot-high-turnover sit-down sushi restaurant and a bar within a portion of the existing retail shopping center. The proposed development patron capacity is 40 seats. Other tenants within the shopping center include a framing specialty store and a bakery/restaurant. The shopping center has 43 parking spaces on site.

Parking Review

Existing parking surveys were completed to determine the amount of available parking prior to the proposed development. The surveys were conducted on both a weekday and weekend during the lunch and evening dinner hours when the proposed development peak parking demand is expected to occur. Results of the existing parking survey are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Existing Parking Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parking Information</th>
<th>Survey Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weekday 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit)</td>
<td>+27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kai's Sushi Location
Approximately 1,880 SF
To determine if the existing parking supply will meet demand for the site, a detailed parking review was completed using both the Minnetonka City Code as well as the *ITE Parking Generation Manual, Fourth Edition*. The following information summarizes the parking demand review.

1) The minimum parking requirement based on Minnetonka City Code (Chapter 3, Section 300.28) states that for a neighborhood retail center, the minimum number of parking spaces required is four and half (4.5) spaces per 1000 square feet of gross floor area.

2) Given that the proposed development includes 6,300 square feet of retail space, a total of 28 parking spaces are required based on City code, which results in a 15-space surplus.

3) The 85th percentile parking demand rates for the proposed development were reviewed to develop a parking demand range. Parking demand information for the proposed development is included within Table 2 for various time periods to determine if the existing parking supply is sufficient to accommodate the proposed development.

Based on this information, the existing shopping center parking supply meets the Minnetonka City Code. Additionally, there is expected to be a parking surplus between five (5) and 13 spaces based on the ITE 85th percentile parking demand and existing parking demand. Therefore, the existing parking on-site can accommodate the proposed development.

### Table 2. Proposed Development Parking Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parking Information</th>
<th>Demand Period</th>
<th>Weekday 12:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Weekday 6:30 p.m.</th>
<th>Saturday 12:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Saturday 6:30 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Demand</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Development Demand</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Parking Demand</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing Supply</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit)</td>
<td>+5</td>
<td>+10</td>
<td>+13</td>
<td>+12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The 85th percentile demands are based on the number of seats within the proposed development.

### Site Review

While the existing parking supply is expected to be adequate, signing improvements are offered for consideration to potentially reduce internal circulation conflicts. The improvements are shown in Figure 3.
Potential Site Improvements
Kai’s Sushi Parking Study
City of Minnetonka

Figure 3

Potential for two additional parking spaces

Proposed Additional Signing, similar to MUTCD R8-3hP

More Parking In Back

Potential Additional Sign Location

Minnetonka Boulevard
Resolution
Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 Kai Tho, on behalf of Kai’s Sushi, is proposing to operate a full-service sushi restaurant in a currently vacant tenant space within an existing shopping center. By city code, a restaurant serving liquor is considered a conditionally permitted use within the B-2, limited business, zoning district.

1.02 The property is located at 17420 Minnetonka Boulevard. It is legally described as:

Parcel 1:

The south 144 feet of that part of Lot 25 and 26, the Herzog Deephaven Acres, lying West of the East 150 feet and lying East of the West 50 feet of said Lot 26, Hennepin County, Minnesota.

(Abstract Property)

Parcel 2:

That part of Lot 26, the Herzog Deephaven Acres, lying North of the South 144 feet thereof and lying East of the West 50.0 feet of said Lot 26, Hennepin County, Minnesota.

(Abstract Property)

1.03 On August 24, 2017, the planning commission held a hearing on the proposal. The applicant was provided the opportunity to present information to the commission. The commission considered all of the comments received
and the staff report, which are incorporated by reference into this resolution. The commission recommended that the city council approve the permit.

Section 2. Standards.

2.01 City Code §300.21 Subd. 2 outlines the general standards that must be met for granting a conditional use permit. These standards are incorporated into this resolution by reference.

2.02 City Code §300.21 Subd. 4(i) outlines the following specific standards that must be met for granting a conditional use permit for such facilities:

1. Parking shall be in compliance with the requirements of Section 300.28 of this ordinance.

2. Shall only be permitted when it can be demonstrated that operation will not significantly lower the existing level of service as defined by the Institute of Traffic Engineers on streets and intersections.

3. Shall not be located within 100 feet of any low-density residential parcel or adjacent to medium or high-density residential parcels. The city may reduce separation requirements if the following are provided:

   a. Landscaping and berming to shield the restaurant use.
   
   b. Parking lots not located in proximity to residential uses; and
   
   c. Lighting plans which are unobtrusive to surrounding uses.

Section 3. Findings.

3.01 The proposal meets the general conditional use permit standards outlined in City Code §300.21 Subd.2.

3.02 The proposal meets the specific conditional use permit standards outlined in City Code 300.21 Subd 4(i):

1. A parking study was commissioned to determine if there would be sufficient parking on-site to accommodate the proposed use. The study concluded that not only could the additional parking be accommodated on-site, but there would be surplus of available parking even with the proposed restaurant occupancy.

2. Generally, high turn-over restaurants have a higher trip generation
than small shopping centers. However, the generation of the proposed restaurant would still fall within the trip generation range of a shopping center.

3. The closest residential parcel is located 160 feet north of the proposed restaurant. The restaurant would be shielded from the residential area by both an existing parking lot and existing vegetation.

Section 4. City Council Action.

4.01 The above-described conditional use permit is approved, subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject to staff approval, the property must be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the plans included in the staff report associated with the conditional use permit request including:

   • Applicant’s narrative dated July 3 2017
   • Site plan date stamped June 28, 2017
   • Floor plan date stamped June 28, 2017

2. Prior to issuance of a building permit for tenant finish, this resolution must be recorded with Hennepin County.

3. The restaurant must obtain all applicable food and liquor licenses from the city.

4. The city council may reasonably add or revise conditions to address any future unforeseen problems.

5. Any change to the approved use that results in a significant increase in traffic or a significant change in character would require a revised conditional use permit.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on September 11, 2017.

Terry Schneider, Mayor
Attest:

David E. Maeda, City Clerk

Action on this resolution:

Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent:
Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a meeting held on September 11, 2017.

David E. Maeda, City Clerk
MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION
August 24, 2017

Brief Description Items concerning 11806 Cedar Lake Road:

- Floodplain alteration permit;
- Conditional use permit to move over 1,000 cubic yards of earth;
- Rezoning removing area from the floodplain zoning district; and
- Preliminary and final plats.

Recommendation Recommend the city council adopt the ordinance and resolutions approving the request

Introduction

Richard Lindberry owns the property located at 11806 Cedar Lake Road. The property is approximately 3.25-acres in size. Of this area, roughly 27,600 square feet is considered upland; the remainder of the site is encumbered by large areas of both wetland and floodplain.

In 2014, the city considered a request to remove the existing buildings on the site and subdivide the property into two, conforming, single-family residential parcels. To accomplish this, floodplain area would be filled and compensatory area would be provided on-site. The floodplain fill and compensation would essentially reallocate the property’s upland area. With a positive recommendation from city staff and the planning commission, the city council approved a variety of applications to facilitate the subdivision, including: (1) floodplain alteration permit; (2) conditional use permit; (3) rezoning to remove area from the floodplain overlay zoning district; and (4) preliminary and final plats.

In 2015, the city council granted a twelve-month extension of the preliminary and final plat approvals.

In 2016, the preliminary and final plats approvals expired. Though the floodplain alteration permit and floodplain rezoning technically had no “expiration date,” it is staff’s opinion that the permit and rezoning were also void in 2016, as they were directly related to the preliminary and final plats.

Current Proposal

Jeff Martineau, on behalf of the property owner, is again proposing to divide the subject property into two, conforming lots. As previously proposed, floodplain area would be filled and compensatory area would be provided on-site. The areas of fill and compensation
vary slightly from those approved in 2016. The variation is based on the most current
floodplain regulations and staff’s interstation of those regulations.

**Staff Analysis**

A land use proposal is comprised of many details. In evaluating a proposal, staff first
reviews these details and then aggregates them into a few primary questions or issues.
The following outlines both the primary questions associated with the applicant’s request
and staff’s findings.

- **Is the proposed floodplain alteration reasonable?**
  
  Yes. Staff continues to find that the proposed floodplain alteration is reasonable
  for several reasons:

  1. The property has over 0.5-acre of upland area, well over the area necessary
     for two buildable lots. The intent of the proposed alteration is not to increase
     the buildable area of the site. Rather, the intent is simply to reallocate
     buildable area to provide for a more orderly subdivision.

  2. The proposed alteration would result in fill of roughly 30,300 cubic-feet of
     floodplain and creation of 31,300 cubic-feet of floodplain.

  3. The proposed alteration would not negatively impact adjacent properties or
     the hydrology of the floodplain.

  4. The proposed alteration would not negatively impact the surrounding
     wetland area.

- **Is the proposed plat appropriate?**

  Yes. With floodplain alteration as proposed, the resulting lots would meet all
  minimum standards of the subdivision and zoning ordinances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>West Parcel</th>
<th>East Parcel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lot Areas</td>
<td>22,000 sq.ft.</td>
<td>71,870 sq.ft. (1.65 acres)</td>
<td>69,260 sq.ft. (1.59 acres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildable Area</td>
<td>3,500 sq.ft.</td>
<td>6,815 sq.ft.</td>
<td>11,300 sq.ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot width at ROW</td>
<td>80 ft</td>
<td>125 ft</td>
<td>125 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot width at setback</td>
<td>110 ft</td>
<td>125 ft</td>
<td>125 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot depth</td>
<td>125 ft</td>
<td>&gt; 500 ft</td>
<td>&gt; 500 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numbers rounded down to closed 5 sq.ft. or 5 ft.
Staff Recommendation

Recommend the city council adopt the following for the property at 11806 Cedar Lake Road:

1. A resolution approving a floodplain alteration and conditional use permits.

2. An ordinance removing areas from the floodplain overlay zoning district.

3. A resolution approving preliminary and final plat.

Originator: Susan Thomas, AICP, Assistant City Planner
Through: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
Supporting Information

**Surrounding**
The subject property is surrounded by single-family homes.

**Land Uses**

**Planning**
Guide Plan designation: low-density residential
Zoning: R-1

**Existing Site**
The existing property contains three distinct natural resources: trees, wetland, and floodplain.

**Trees.** There are several mature trees on the site including, ash, elm, walnut, cottonwood, willow, spruce and oak. This area is not considered a woodland protection area. Of these, nine are classified as high-priority.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Classification</th>
<th>Number of Trees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High-Priority</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wetland.** The southern half of the property is almost entirely wetland. The Manage 1 wetland is hydrologically connected to Minnehaha Creek.

**Floodplain.** Over 80 percent of the property is considered 100-year floodplain area. Like the site’s wetland, this floodplain area is hydrologically connected to Minnehaha Creek.

**Proposed Sites**
As proposed, there would be allowable impacts to two of the three natural resources:

**Trees.** The proposed grading would result in removal or significant impact to two of the high-priority trees on the site. This level of removal/impact is allowed under the tree protection ordinance for two reasons: (1) the property would be developed at a density of less than 1 lot per acre; and (2) the removal would be less than 35%.
Based on the general grading plan submitted, the following tree mitigation would be required:

- 30 feet of mitigation for the removal of a 30 foot Norway spruce; and
- 7, 2-inch trees for the removal of 7 significant trees located outside the basic tree removal area

**Wetland.** No wetland impact is proposed.

**Floodplain.** The proposed grading plan would result in fill of roughly 30,300 cubic-feet of floodplain; 31,300 cubic-feet would be created.

**Grading**

In order to evaluate the impacts of anticipated grading, the city requires that all applications for subdivision illustrate general home footprints and an associated grading plan. If a subdivision is approved, final grading must occur in substantial compliance with the general plan. Specific grading plans would be reviewed in conjunction with the building permit applications for each of the new homes.

**Stormwater**

Under the city’s stormwater rule, stormwater management would be required given the site’s proximity to a wetland. Individual management plans would be required and reviewed in conjunction with the building permit applications for each of the new homes.

**Previous Requests**

In recent years the city has received floodplain alteration requests for which staff have recommended denial. These requests have included:

- Floodplain alteration to create a buildable lot.
- Floodplain alteration to create buildable area on an undeveloped lot which already contained twice the amount of required buildable area.
- Floodplain alteration to allow for construction of a two-story addition nearly doubling the value of an existing home.

The applicant’s request is considerably different than these previous requests. The subject property has nearly 0.5-acre of upland area, well over the area necessary for two buildable lots. The intent of the proposed alteration is not to increase the buildable area of the site. Rather, the intent is simply to reallocate buildable area to provide for a more orderly subdivision.

Neighborhood Comments

The city sent notices to 67 area property owners and received no comments to date.

Pyramid of Discretion

Motion Options

The planning commission has three options:

1. Concur with the staff recommendation. In this case a motion should be made recommending the city council approve the proposal based on the findings outlined the staff-drafted ordinance and resolutions.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case a motion should be made recommending the city council deny the proposal. The motion should include findings for denial.

3. Table the request. In this case, a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should include a statement as to why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant, or both.

Voting Requirement

The planning commission will make a recommendation to the city council. A recommendation to approve the requests requires only
the affirmative vote of a simple majority. City council approvals requires and affirmative vote a simple majority.

Deadline for Action  September 11, 2017
LOCATION MAP

Project: Lindberry, Richard
Address: 11806 Cedar Lake Rd
Applicant: Jeff Martineau

This map is for illustrative purposes only.
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

PROPOSED LOT LINE REARRANGEMENT AND CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY FOR

RICHARD LINDBERRY

OF LOTS 3 AND 8, BLOCK 3, GOLDEN ACRES
HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES SURVEYED:

Lots 3 and 8, Block 3, GOLDEN ACRES, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The survey shows the boundaries of the above described property, and the location of an existing house, two sheds, driveway and topography. It does not purport to show any other improvements or encroachments.

- Iron marker
- Existing contour line
- Denotes wetland delineation marker

Bearings shown are based upon an assumed datum.

GRONBERG & ASSOCIATES, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, LAND PLANNERS
445 N. WILLOW DRIVE, LONG LAKE, MN 55356
PHONE: 952-473-4141 FAX: 952-473-4435
PROPOSED GRADING PLAN FOR
RICHARD LINDBERRY
OF LOTS 3 AND 8, BLOCK 3, GOLDEN ACRES
HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES SURVEYED:
Lots 3 and 8, Block 3, GOLDEN ACRES, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

This survey shows the boundaries of the above described property, and the location of an existing house, two sheds, driveway and topography. It does not purport to show any other improvements or encroachments.

- Iron marker
- Existing contour line
- Proposed contour line
- Proposed spot elevation
= Denotes wetland delineation marker

Bearings shown are based upon an assumed datum.

NOTE:
The west lot has 5900 SF of proposed impervious surface. One inch of runoff over that area equals 458 CF of treatment required. A trench of 80 long X 1.5 deep X 12' wide or a rain garden of 21.5' x 21.5' x 1' deep would be required.

The east lot has 5900 SF of proposed impervious surface. One inch of runoff over that area equals 458 CF of treatment required. A trench of 80 long X 1.5 deep X 12' wide or a rain garden of 22.2' x 22.2' x 1' deep would be required.
PROPOSED GRADING PLAN FOR
RICHARD LINDBERRY
OF LOTS 3 AND 8, BLOCK 3, GOLDEN ACRES
HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES SURVEYED:
Lots 3 and 8, Block 3, GOLDEN ACRES, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA
This survey shows the boundaries of the above described property, and the location
of an existing house, two sheds, driveway and topography. It does not purport to show
any other improvements or encroachments.

- Iron marker
- Existing contour line
- Proposed contour line
- Proposed spot elevation
- Denotes wetland delineation marker

Bearings are are based upon an assumed datum.

NOTE:
The west lot has 5000 SF of proposed impervious
surface. One inch of runoff over that area equals
450 CF of treatment required. A trench of 9' long
x 1.5' deep x 3.4' wide or a rain garden of
21.5' x 21.5' x 1' deep would be required.

The east lot has 5900 SF of proposed impervious
surface. One inch of runoff over that area equals
492 CF of treatment required. A trench of 80' long
x 1.5' deep x 3.4' wide or a rain garden of
22.2' x 22.2' x 1' deep would be required.

GRONBERG & ASSOCIATES, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, LAND PLANNERS
445 N. WILLOW DRIVE, LONG LAKE, MN 55356
PHONE: 952-473-4141 FAX: 952-473-4435
Resolution No. 2017-

Resolution approving floodplain alteration and conditional use permits at 11806 Cedar Lake Road

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 Jeff Martineau, on behalf of property owner Richard Lindberry, has requested approval of a floodplain alteration permit and a conditional use permit, to allow movement of over 1,000 cubic yards of earth within the floodplain district, in conjunction with a two-lot subdivision at 11806 Cedar Lake Road.

1.02 The property is legally described as follows:

Lots 3 and 8, Block 3, GOLDEN ACRES, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

1.03 On August 24, 2017, the planning commission held a hearing on the proposal. The applicant was provided the opportunity to present information to the planning commission. The planning commission considered all of the comments received and the staff report, which are incorporated by reference into this resolution. The planning commission recommended the city council approve the alteration and conditional use permits.

Section 2. Standards.

2.01 City Code §300.24 Subd. 9(c), states that in reviewing floodplain alteration permits, the city will consider whether the following general standards are met:

1. The magnitude of the alteration is appropriate relative to the size of the floodplain district.
2. The amount of any increase in buildable area is appropriate in comparison to the amount of buildable area before alteration.

3. The alteration will not negatively impact the hydrology of the floodplain.

4. Floodplain mitigation areas will not negatively impact adjacent properties.

5. The alteration will meet the intent of the city's water resources management plan and the subdivision and zoning ordinances;

6. The alteration will not adversely impact governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed public improvements; and

7. The alteration will not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

2.02 City Code §300.24 Subd. 9(d), states that a floodplain alteration permit will not be granted unless the following specific standards are met.

1. Water storage must be maintained and provided in an amount at least equal to that filled unless acceptable hydrologic engineering data has been presented and approved by the city engineer indicating that conditions have changed such that the floodplain characteristics will be maintained even with proposed floodplain fill.

2. Floodplain fill area must be located no more than 20 feet from any existing or proposed structure, except where required by the city engineer to achieve a required evacuation route.

3. Where floodplain alteration is required for construction of a driveway, the driveway must be no wider than 12 feet and must be located to minimize impact to the floodplain.

4. Floodplain alteration, including the creation of compensatory water storage, must not result in removal of regulated trees, adversely impact wetlands or existing wetland buffers, or be located within public easements. The city council may waive this condition if the proposed alteration would improve existing site conditions.

2.03 City Code 300.26 Subd.2 outlines the following general standards for conditional uses permit with the floodplain district.
1. The use is consistent with the intent of this ordinance;

2. The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan;

3. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements;

4. The use is consistent with the city's water resources management plan;

5. The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare;

6. Water bodies receiving runoff entering wetlands, floodplain or shoreland areas shall not be adversely impacted by the water quality of runoff;

7. No structure or fill may be placed which adversely affects the minimum required water storage capacity as defined in the water resources management plan of a property;

8. No structure subject to periodic inundation shall be designed for human habitation or shall the structure be serviced with public utilities;

9. Structures shall have a low flood damage potential and shall be firmly anchored;

10. Service facilities, such as electrical and heating equipment, must be located a minimum of two feet above the flood elevation defined in the water resources management plan;

11. There shall be no storage of materials which are flammable, explosive or otherwise dangerous to human, animal or plant life;

12. There shall be only minimal interference with wetland vegetation; and

13. Required approvals shall be secured from all appropriate jurisdictions, including the United States army corps of engineers, Minnesota department of natural resources, governing watershed district and the Lake Minnetonka conservation district. Any conditions imposed upon such approvals shall be met.
2.04 City Code §300.26 Subd. 4, states that a conditional use permit for activity with the floodplain district will not be granted unless the following specific standards are meet:

1. Approval of the permit will not have an adverse impact on the intent of this ordinance or the precepts of the comprehensive plan.
2. Efforts have been made to mitigate to the extent feasible adverse impacts on the subject property and adjacent properties.

Section 3. Findings.

3.01 The proposal would meet the general standards outlined in City Code §300.24, Subd. 9(c):

1. The area of floodplain alteration would minimal relative to the larger floodplain area surrounding Minnehaha Creek.
2. The property has over 0.5-acre of upland area, well over the area necessary for two buildable lots. The intent of the proposed alteration is not to increase the buildable area of the site. Rather, the intent is simply to reallocate buildable area to provide for a more orderly subdivision.
3. The alteration would not negatively impact adjacent properties or the hydrology of the floodplain.
4. The alteration would not negatively impact the surrounding wetland area.
5. The alteration would meet the intent of the city's water resources management plan and the subdivision and zoning ordinances.
6. The alteration would not adversely impact governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed public improvements.
7. The alteration would not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

3.02 The proposal would meet the specific standards outlined in City Code §300.24, Subd. 9(d):

1. The proposed alteration would result in fill of roughly 30,300 cubic-feet of floodplain; 31,300 cubic-feet would be created.
2. All proposed structures would be required to meet the minimum horizontal and vertical setbacks from the floodplain elevation.

3. The proposed alteration would result in removal of four significant trees. However, the alteration would improve existing site conditions. It would result in removal of existing non-conforming structures and in a development more characteristic of the surrounding area.

4. The proposed alteration would not adversely impact wetlands or existing wetland buffers, or be unnecessarily located within public easements.

3.03 The proposal would meet the general conditional use permit standards as outlined in City Code 300.26 Subd.2.

3.04 The proposal would meet the specific conditional use permit standards as outlined in City Code §300.26 Subd. 4.


4.01 The city council hereby approves the above described floodplain alteration and conditional use permits based on the findings outlined in section 4 of this resolution. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Floodplain alteration must be done on the entire site prior to issuance of any building permits. A grading permit is required for floodplain alteration work. Unless authorized by appropriate staff, no site work may begin until a complete grading permit application has been submitted, reviewed by staff, and approved.

   a) The following must be submitted for the grading permit to be considered complete.

      1) Evidence of filing the final plat at Hennepin County and copies of all recorded easements and documents as required under the preliminary and final plat approvals.

      2) An electronic PDF copy of all required plans and specifications.

      3) Final site, grading, tree mitigation, and wetland buffer restoration plans, and a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) for staff approval.
a. Final grading plan must:
   • Illustrate all alteration and mitigation work occurring in substantial compliance with Proposed Grading Plan, revised date August 4, 2017.
   • Minimize tree loss.
   • Show no wetland impact.

b. Tree mitigation plan must meet minimum mitigation requirements as outlined in ordinance. However, at the sole discretion of natural resources staff, mitigation may be adjusted based on site conditions.

c. Wetland buffer restoration plans must:
   • Show removal of the existing gravel driveway.
   • Include native plantings in the required 25-foot buffer.

4) A construction management plan. The plan must be in a city approved format and must outline minimum site management practices and penalties for non-compliance.

5) A copy of the approved MPCA NPDES permit, if required.

6) Evidence of closure/capping of any existing wells, septic systems, and removal of any existing fuel oil tanks.

7) Individual letters of credit or cash escrow for 125% of a bid cost or 150% of an estimated cost to construct streets and utility improvements, comply with grading permit, tree mitigation requirements, wetland buffer restoration requirements and to restore the site. One itemized letter of credit is permissible, if approved by staff. The city will not fully release the letters of credit
or cash escrow until: (1) an as-built survey of floodplain alteration and mitigation areas with associated calculations has been submitted; (2) vegetated ground cover has been established; and (3) required tree mitigation and buffer plantings have survived one full growing season.

8) Cash escrow in an amount to be determined by city staff. This escrow must be accompanied by a document prepared by the city attorney and signed by the builder and property owner. Through this document the builder and property owner will acknowledge:

- The property will be brought into compliance within 48 hours of notification of a violation of the construction management plan, other conditions of approval, or city code standards; and

- If compliance is not achieved, the city will use any or all of the escrow dollars to correct any erosion and/or grading problems.

b) Prior to issuance of the grading permit, install a temporary rock driveway, erosion control, tree and wetland protection fencing and any other measures identified on the SWPPP for staff inspection. These items must be maintained throughout the course of construction.

c) Permits may be required from other outside agencies including, Hennepin County, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and the MPCA. It is the applicant’s or property owner’s responsibility to obtain any necessary permits.

2. An as-built survey verifying compliance with the approved grading permit must be submitted prior to issuance of a building permit for the first new house within the development.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on September 11, 2017.
Terry Schneider, Mayor

ATTEST:

David E. Maeda, City Clerk

Action on this resolution:

Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent:
Resolution adopted.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a meeting held on September 11, 2017.

David E. Maeda, City Clerk
EXHIBIT A
Ordinance No. 2017-

An ordinance removing area from the floodplain overlay district
at 11806 Cedar Lake Road.

The City Of Minnetonka Ordains:

Section 1.

1.01 Jeff Martineau, on behalf of property owner Richard Lindberry, has requested approval of a floodplain alteration in conjunction with a two-lot subdivision at 11806 Cedar Lake Road.

1.02 The property is legally described as:

Lots 3 and 8, Block 3, GOLDEN ACRES, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

1.03 The proposed alteration would remove certain area from the floodplain overlay zoning district.

1.04 By City Code Section 300.24 Subd. 10(b), land may be removed from the floodplain overlay district only:

1. By zoning map amendment; and

2. If water storage will be provided in an amount compensatory to that removed or acceptable hydrologic engineering data must be presented which indicates how conditions have changed so that the floodplain characteristics can be maintained without compensation.

Section 2.

2.01 The proposed floodplain alteration would result in fill of roughly 30,300 cubic-feet of floodplain; 31,300 cubic-feet would be created.
2.02 The removal of the area from the overlay district would not compromise the public health, safety, and welfare.

Section 3.

3.01 Floodplain area on the property at 11806 Cedar Lake Road, and depicted on Exhibit A of this resolution, is hereby removed from the floodplain overlay district.

Section 4.

4.01 This ordinance is effective immediately.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on September 11, 2017.

______________________________
Terry Schneider, Mayor

ATTEST:

______________________________
David E. Maeda, City Clerk

ACTION ON THIS ORDINANCE:

Date of introduction: August 28, 2017
Date of adoption:
Motion for adoption:
Seconded by:
Voted in favor of:
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent: Wagner
Ordinance adopted.

Date of publication:
I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of an ordinance adopted by the city council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota at a regular meeting held on September 11, 2017.

David E. Maeda, City Clerk
AREA REMOVED FROM FLOODPLAIN OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICT

EXHIBIT A
Resolution No. 2017-

Resolution approving a preliminary and final plat at 11806 Cedar Lake Road

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01 Jeff Martineau, on behalf of property owner Richard Lindberry, has requested preliminary and final plat approval for a two-lot subdivision at 11806 Cedar Lake Road.

1.02 The property is legally described as follows:

Lots 3 and 8, Block 3, GOLDEN ACRES, HENNEPIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

1.03 On August 24, 2017, the planning commission held a hearing on the proposed plat. The applicant was provided the opportunity to present information to the planning commission. The planning commission considered all of the comments received and the staff report, which are incorporated by reference into this resolution. The commission recommended that the city council grant preliminary and final plat approval.

Section 2. General Standards.

2.01 City Code §400.030 outlines general design requirements for residential subdivisions. These standards are incorporated by reference into this resolution.

Section 3. Findings.

3.01 The proposed plat meets the design requirements as outlined in City Code
§400.030.


4.01 The above-described preliminary and final plats are hereby approved, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to release of the final plat:

   a) The following must be submitted:

      1) A final plat drawing that clearly illustrates the following:

         1. A minimum 10-foot wide drainage and utility easements adjacent to the public right-of-way(s) and minimum 7-foot wide drainage and utility easements along all other lot lines.

         2. Utility easements over existing or proposed public utilities, as determined by the city engineer.

         3. Drainage and utility easements over wetlands, floodplains, and stormwater management facilities, as determined by the city engineer.

      2) Documents for the city attorney’s review and approval. These documents must be prepared by an attorney knowledgeable in the area of real estate.

         1. Title evidence that current within thirty days before release of the final plat.

         2. Private easement if driveway culvert crosses property lines.

         3. Conservation easement over the Manage 1 wetland and required 25-foot wetland buffer and a drawing of the easement. The easement may allow removal of hazard, diseased, or invasive species, as well location of stormwater management facilities.

      3) Two sets of mylars for city signatures.
4) An electronic CAD file of the plat in microstation or DXF.

5) Park dedication fee of $5000.

6) All delinquent taxes and utility bills.

2. Subject to staff approval, the subdivision must be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the following plans, except as modified by the conditions below:

- Proposed Grading Plan, revised date August 4, 2017.

3. Floodplain alteration must be done on the entire site prior to issuance of any building permits. A grading permit is required for floodplain alteration work. Unless authorized by appropriate staff, no site work may begin until a complete grading permit application has been submitted, reviewed by staff, and approved.

a) The following must be submitted for the grading permit to be considered complete.

1) Evidence of filing the final plat at Hennepin County and copies of all recorded easements and documents as required in section 4.01(1)(a)(2) of this resolution.

2) An electronic PDF copy of all required plans and specifications.

3) Final site, grading, utility, tree mitigation, and wetland buffer restoration plans, and a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) for staff approval.

a. Final grading plan must:

1. Illustrate all alteration and mitigation work occurring in substantial compliance with Proposed Grading Plan, revised date August 4, 2017.

3. Show no wetland impact.

b. Tree mitigation plan must meet minimum mitigation requirements as outlined in ordinance. However, at the sole discretion of natural resources staff, mitigation may be adjusted based on site conditions.

c. Wetland buffer restoration plans must:

1. Show removal of the existing gravel driveway.

2. Include native plantings in the required 25-foot buffer.

4) A construction management plan. The plan must be in a city approved format and must outline minimum site management practices and penalties for non-compliance.

5) A copy of the approved MPCA NPDES permit.

6) Evidence of closure/capping of any existing wells, septic systems, and removal of any existing fuel oil tanks.

7) Individual letters of credit or cash escrow for 125% of a bid cost or 150% of an estimated cost to construct streets and utility improvements, comply with grading permit, tree mitigation requirements, wetland buffer restoration requirements and to restore the site. One itemized letter of credit is permissible, if approved by staff. The city will not fully release the letters of credit or cash escrow until: (1) an as-built survey of floodplain alteration and mitigation areas with associated calculations has been submitted; (2) vegetated ground cover has been established; and (3) required tree mitigation and buffer plantings have survived one full growing season.

8) Cash escrow in an amount to be determined by city staff. This escrow must be accompanied by a document prepared by the city attorney and signed by
the builder and property owner. Through this document the builder and property owner will acknowledge:

- The property will be brought into compliance within 48 hours of notification of a violation of the construction management plan, other conditions of approval, or city code standards; and

- If compliance is not achieved, the city will use any or all of the escrow dollars to correct any erosion and/or grading problems.

b) Prior to issuance of the grading permit, install a temporary rock driveway, erosion control, tree and wetland protection fencing and any other measures identified on the SWPPP for staff inspection. These items must be maintained throughout the course of construction.

c) Permits may be required from other outside agencies including, Hennepin County, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and the MPCA. It is the applicant’s or property owner’s responsibility to obtain any necessary permits.

4. Prior to issuance of a building permit for the first new house within the development, submit the following:

a) An as-built survey verifying compliance with the approved grading permit.

b) A letter from the surveyor stating that boundary and lot stakes have been installed as required by ordinance.

c) Proof of subdivision registration and transfer of NPDES permit, if required.

5. Prior to issuance of a building permit for any of the lots within the development:

a) Submit the following items for staff review and approval:

1) Final grading and tree preservation plan for the lot. The plan must:

b. Show sewer and water services to minimize impact to any significant or high-priority trees. No trees may be removed for installation of services.

2) A stormwater management plan. The plan must include runoff rate and volume control, as well as water quality treatment. Additionally, the plan must include a narrative documenting conformance with the city’s Stormwater Management Design Guidelines and Standards and Water Resources Management Plan.

3) A stormwater maintenance agreement.

4) Final utility plan. At least one set of new sewer and water services will be needed. A second water service may be necessary depending on the needs of the proposed home. If this is necessary, the old service must be removed back to the water main and the corporation stop turned off. The road must be repaired to match the existing section.

5) A construction management plan. This plan must be in a city approved format and outline minimum site management practices and penalties for non-compliance. If the builder is the same entity doing grading work on the site, the construction management plan submitted at the time of grading permit may fulfill this requirement.

6) Cash escrow in an amount to be determined by city staff. This escrow must be accompanied by a document prepared by the city attorney and signed by the builder and property owner. Through this document the builder and property owner will acknowledge:

- The property will be brought into compliance within 48 hours of notification of a violation of the construction management plan, other conditions of approval, or city code standards; and
• If compliance is not achieved, the city will use any or all of the escrow dollars to correct any erosion and/or grading problems.

If the builder is the same entity doing grading work on the site, the cash escrow submitted at the time of grading permit may fulfill this requirement.

b) Install a temporary rock driveway, erosion control, tree and wetland protection fencing and any other measures identified on the SWPPP for staff inspection. These items must be maintained throughout the course of construction.

c) Install heavy duty fencing, which may include chain-link fencing, at the conservation easement. This fencing must be maintained throughout the course of construction.

d) Submit all required hook-up fees.

6. All lots and structures within the development are subject to the all R-1 zoning standards. In addition:

a) Minimum setbacks are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setback From</th>
<th>Minimum Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Front property line</td>
<td>35 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side property line</td>
<td>30 feet aggregate, no side less than 10 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delineated Wetland Edge</td>
<td>35 feet to enclosed/covered areas, including screen porches 25 to feet decks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floodplain Elevation – Horizontal</td>
<td>20 feet to enclosed/covered areas, including screen porches. 10 feet to decks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floodplain Elevation – Vertical</td>
<td>2 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b) All lots within the development must meet all minimum access requirements as outlined in Minnesota State Fire Code Section 503. These access requirements include road dimension, surface, and grade standards. If access
requirements are not met, houses must be protected with a 13D automatic fire sprinkler system or an approved alternative system.

7. The city may require installation and maintenance of signs which delineate the edge of any required conservation easement. This signage is subject to the review and approval of city staff.

8. During construction, the streets must be kept free of debris and sediment.

9. The property owner is responsible for replacing any required landscaping that dies.

10. The city must approve the final plat within one year of preliminary approval or receive a written application for a time extension or the preliminary approval will be void.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on September 11, 2017.

Terry Schneider, Mayor

ATTEST:

David E. Maeda, City Clerk

ACTION ON THIS RESOLUTION:

Motion for adoption:  
Seconded by:  
Voted in favor of:  
Voted against:  
Abstained:  
Absent:  Wagner  
Resolution adopted.
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a duly authorized meeting held on September 11, 2017.

__________________________________________

David E. Maeda, City Clerk
MINNETONKA PLANNING COMMISSION
August 24, 2017

Brief Description
Items concerning Shady Oak Road Redevelopment:

1) Comprehensive guide plan amendment;
2) Rezoning,
3) Subdivision, and
4) Site and Building Plan review

Recommendation
Recommend the planning commission hear the staff report, conduct a public hearing, discuss the proposal and table the item.

Background
The city of Minnetonka purchased the property at 4312 Shady Oak Rd. in March 2015. In November 2016, after several neighborhood meetings and a developer interview process, the city council selected Ron Clark Construction to begin negotiations and propose a development concept.

A concept drawing and site plan were presented in February and April of 2017. In June 2017, following community and city feedback, Ron Clark Construction announced it would make modifications to the concept plan. The revised concept plan was submitted as a formal application on July 24, 2017 and presented at an open house on August 2, 2017.

Formal development plans were submitted to the city on July 24, 2017. The city council introduced the ordinance rezoning the property on August 14, 2017. At the meeting, council members commented on the following:

- **Building design** – the changes to incorporate a flat roof, 2-story features and the L-shape were positive changes.
- **Similar projects** - requested information about similar high-density residential projects that were adjacent to single-family neighborhoods. What are the views from the southwest in terms of existing trees?

Three neighbors also provided public comments regarding the following – traffic, desire for low density affordable housing, concerns about high density residential adjacency to single family homes, health concerns, and the building design is not forward looking.
Proposal

Ron Clark Construction is proposing a three-story, 49-unit apartment building on the property located at 4312 Shady Oak Road. The proposed apartment building would have underground parking, resident community room, exercise room, on-site manager’s office and an outdoor play area. The building would have a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments with rents expected to be between $800 and $1200 per month.

The proposal requires: (1) Comprehensive Plan amendment, (2) Rezoning, (3) Subdivision and (4) Site and Building Plan review. Specifically, the proposal requires approval of:

1) **Comprehensive Guide Plan Amendment.** The 2030 Comprehensive Guide Plan designates the site for commercial land uses. The proposal requires an amendment to high-density residential.

2) **Rezoning.** The property is zoned B-2 and R-1. The applicant is requesting a rezoning to Planned Unit Development.

3) **Subdivision.** The applicant is proposing to subdivide a portion of the adjacent and also city-owned residential property and allowance for stormwater management to occur on that property with an easement.

4) **Final Site and Building Plans.** By city code, site and building plan review is required for construction of any new building of the proposed size.

Proposal Summary

The following is intended to summarize the applicant’s proposal. Additional information associated with the proposal can be found in the “Supporting Information” section of this report.

- **Existing Site Conditions**

  The subject property is located along Shady Oak Road just south of Oak Drive Lane. The property is 1.63 acres in size and is occupied by a 25,680 square foot retail building. The site general slopes from east to west with a grade change at the lower level building walkout. Existing hardsurface covers approximately 89 percent of the property.

- **Existing Zoning and Guide Plan Designation**

  The property is currently zoned B-2, commercial. It is designated as commercial in the comprehensive guide plan.
• **Proposed Use**

As proposed, the 3-story apartment building would include 49 units with 1, 2 and 3 bedroom configurations. The building program schedule identifies 12 one-bedroom units, 23 two-bedroom units and 14 three-bedroom units. The building would have a footprint of 23,461 square feet and total gross building area of roughly 87,996 square feet, including underground garage space. The lowest garage level would include areas for building mechanical/electrical systems, trash, stairway and elevator accesses.

The three-story building is a flat roof design approximately 35 to 37 feet in height with shorter two-story areas at the north and south ends of the building which are 26 feet in height. The building would be faced with brick and composite materials. Two entry points are located along Shady Oak Road, a third on the south elevation and a forth on the west elevation from the surface parking lot.

The building would be served by 89 parking stalls which include 66 under-building garage spaces and 23 surface parking stalls on the west side of the building. The main vehicular access to the site and building parking areas would be off Oak Drive Lane. (See attached).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Shady Oak Crossings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Footprint</td>
<td>23,461 sq.ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Habitable Space*</td>
<td>87,996 sq.ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor Area Ratio</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>53 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Units</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stories</td>
<td>3 stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density</td>
<td>31 units/acre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• **Surface Water Management**

The existing site has no surface water management system. As proposed, a storm water treatment basin would be constructed on the adjacent city-owned property to accommodate the development. The storm water basin would be located in the rear yard of the existing home and north of the existing trees along the wetland edge. The storm water pond is sited to minimize impacts to the existing trees. The storm water pond would be required to meet surface water treatment minimums.
Primary Questions and Analysis

A land use proposal is comprised of many details. In evaluating a proposal, staff first reviews these details and then aggregates them into a few primary questions or issues. The following outlines both the primary questions associated with the proposed Shady Oak Crossings project and staff’s findings.

- **Are the changes to the comprehensive guide plan and zoning appropriate?**

  Yes. The comprehensive guide plan change from commercial to high density residential and rezoning from commercial to planned unit development are appropriate. The subject property is currently zoned B-2, commercial. Changing the zoning to PUD, planned unit development, would be considered a downzoning of the property. Downzoning of property generally means that the anticipated use and adjacent property impacts would be lesser than under the existing zoning. In this case, staff’s opinion is that the proposed 49-unit apartment building would have fewer negative impacts than the existing commercial building and tenants that may locate and operate within it would have on the surrounding neighborhood and commercial corridor. Those reduced impacts include the following:

  - Surface water management and treatment,
  - Garbage and refuse management,
  - Increase in green space,
  - Building and parking lot lighting spill and glare,
  - Clean up of a contaminated property,
  - Potential for a number of commercial businesses generating noise, odor and other potential nuisance conditions.

There is market demand for increased density and affordable housing. Since 2005, the city has studied a number of redevelopment options for the Shady Oak Road corridor and specifically for this property. Those options have ranged from commercial to a number of mid- and high-density residential alternatives. Again in 2016, the city conducted a specific engagement process for the property with the full intention of exploring redevelopment alternatives. Similar to the 2005 study, the alternatives generated by the neighborhood participants were mid- and high-density residential housing. In 2016, the city received four high density residential concepts through its Request for Information solicitation to the development community. Three of the four concepts were apartment concepts ranging between 69 and 72 units. The forth concept was the three story 56 unit Ron Clark apartment proposal. The city ultimately entered into negotiations with Ron Clark.
Locating higher density housing along more highly traveled roadway corridors and in close proximity to commercial services is good land use practice. The subject site is located along Shady Oak Road which is an arterial street. The location affords residents the ability of easy and convenient roadway and bus route access. Its location also provides the ability to walk or bike to commercial businesses and services along Shady Oak Road and downtown Hopkins. There are a number of high density residential housing units immediately adjacent to single family residential neighborhoods. This project would be as well. However, it’s location on the Shady Oak Road provides screening, buffering and less impactful use characteristics to the residential neighborhood that otherwise would not be possible if the property remained as a commercial use.

Planned unit development zoning is a commonly used zoning tool by the city to achieve specific objectives with a development project to further city goals. As defined in city code, “...PUD zoning may be considered by the city when it would result in one of the following public benefits:

a) Greater preservation of existing natural resources, in number or quality, than would otherwise be provided under non-PUD development;

b) Provision of affordable housing;

c) Provision of a housing type or target housing price that is desirable to the city;

d) A mix of land use types;

e) Development that is compatible with existing, surrounding development type and intensity that is no longer allowed in other existing zoning districts; or

f) Greater energy conservation through building and site design than would otherwise be achieved under non-PUD development;

g) Other public benefits as recognized by the city.”

The code further states that, “...a PUD may be approved when the following general standards are met:

a) The PUD results in at least one of the public benefits as outlined in section 2 of this ordinance;

b) The PUD is consistent with and advances the community-wide goals of the comprehensive plan; and

c) The PUD is appropriately integrated into existing and proposed surrounding development. This does not mean the PUD reflects the specific
standards of the surrounding area such as lot size, density, setbacks, or design. While integration may be achieved through such standards, it may also be achieved through continuation of existing land use types, architectural transitions, landscape buffering, or other means.

- **Is the proposed site and building design reasonable?**

  Yes. The applicant has proposed a three-story building, with underground parking that is an architecturally attractive and fits in the context of the Shady Oak Road commercial corridor. The building would be faced with brick and composite materials. The building would have a flat roof with two-story features at the north and south ends to soften the edges at Main Street and Oak Drive Lane intersections with Shady Oak Road. Apartment units would have glass sliding doors with a deck attached to the unit. The applicant has also proposed a landscaping plan that would over story trees along the street frontages to soften the building appearance. These features have improved the building aesthetics, impact and site functionality since the initial concept plan submittal. (See attached).

  The proposed project would extend the sidewalk along Oak Drive Lane from Shady Oak Road to the driveway. The applicant has proposed internal walkways to connect the sidewalk to building access points. A tot lot play area is proposed for residents on the west side of the building.

  The proposed site plan proposes fill to the existing grade on the west portion of the site to accommodate the proposed parking lot. A number of retaining walls are also required to accommodate the design. Portions of the improvements and fill are located over a significant sanitary sewer pipe. The designed pipe depth imposes limitations on the amount of fill that can be placed over it. As proposed, the site plan exceeds the design criteria. Staff is recommending the applicant prepare a revised site plan to address the design limits of fill over the sanitary sewer pipe.

**Summary Comments**

Staff generally supports the proposal. However, the proposed site design for the parking lot and associated grading could negatively impact the sanitary sewer pipe and requires changes. Staff has discussed the issue with the applicant. The applicant believes there is an acceptable design solution to resolve the issue. A revised plan will be prepared for review at a future meeting. Until a revised site plan is prepared and reviewed by staff, staff is not in a position to author specific resolutions and an ordinance for the commission to consider.

**Staff Recommendation**

Recommend the planning commission hear the staff report, conduct a public hearing, discuss the proposal and table the item to allow the applicant to provide a revised site plan.
Subject: Shady Oak Crossings, 4312 Shady Oak Road

Originator: Loren Gordon, AICP, City Planner
Supporting Information

Surrounding
Northerly: storm water ponding property; guided low density residential

Land Uses
Easterly: Single family residential in the city of Hopkins
Westerly: Single family residential; guided low density residential
Southerly: commercial retail in the city of Hopkins

Planning
Guide Plan designation: Commercial
Existing Zoning: B-2, commercial

Development Standards
The proposed development standards are included as the regulatory standards under the planned unit development ordinance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building Setbacks</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North property line</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South property line</td>
<td>10.4 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East property line</td>
<td>16.5 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West property line</td>
<td>48 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Setbacks</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floodplain</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Floor Area Ratio</strong></td>
<td>0.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impervious Surface</strong></td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Density</strong></td>
<td>31 units/acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Height</strong></td>
<td>36 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Previous Reviews and Public Engagement
The city has been actively involved in promoting redevelopment of the site. The following is a summary of meetings and open houses for the Ron Clark project.

City Council, Economic Development Advisory Commission and Planning Commission Meetings
August 14, 2017 - Joint EDAC/City Council Meeting
- Review of project financials
- Introduction of the rezoning ordinance

April 24, 2017 - City Council Meeting
- Concept plan review

February 27, 2017 - City Council Meeting
- Concept plan review

February 16, 2017 - Planning Commission Meeting
- Concept plan review

November 14, 2016 - City Council Special Meeting
- Shady Oak Road Redevelopment Developer Interviews

Open House and Neighborhood Meetings

August 2, 2017 – 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 5-7 p.m.
- Updated concept plan. Feedback collected via Minnetonka Matters. Additional feedback was collected via Minnetonka Matters. Please note, City of Minnetonka staff documented feedback from the April 6 meeting on the discussion forum using the "Minnetonka Matters" admin account.

February 15, 2017
- Presentation of concept plan

Shady Oak Road Redevelopment Study

April 7, 2016
- The third meeting discussed feedback we have received and more development option information.

February 11, 2016
- The second meeting discussed, in more detail, the possible redevelopment of the property.

January 13, 2016
- Discuss the future of the property including a general outline of a process that will take place over several months and potential changes to the property.

**City Actions**
The proposal includes the following applications: (1) Comprehensive Plan amendment, (2) Rezoning, (3) Subdivision and (4) Site and Building Plan review. Specifically, the proposal requires approval of:
• **Comprehensive Guide Plan Amendment.** The 2030 Comprehensive Guide Plan designates the site for commercial land uses. The proposal requires an amendment to high-density residential.

• **Rezoning.** The property is zoned B-2 and R-1. The applicant is requesting a rezoning to Planned Unit Development.

• **Subdivision.** The applicant is proposing to subdivide a portion of the adjacent and also city-owned residential property and allowance for stormwater management to occur on that property with an easement.

• **Final Site and Building Plans.** By city code, site and building plan review is required for construction of any new building of the proposed size.

**Preliminary and Final Plat**
The preliminary and final plat reorient the existing property line between the two city owned parcels. The property line readjustment provides room for the apartment parking lot and additional frontage for the single family home. (See attached). Staff has reviewed the request and determined that the proposal meets city ordinance.

**Stormwater**
As proposed, drainage from the site would be managed located in an open pond to the west of the building. As a condition of approval, a final stormwater management plan and specifications must be submitted prior to issuance of a grading permit. The plans must meet the standards of the city’s Water Resources Management Plan, incorporating rate control, volume control, and water quality treatment.

Stormwater reuse was researched, but was determined that it was not a feasible option due to financial limitations.

**Solar Energy**
Solar energy opportunities are not proposed but are always an option for the property.

**Utilities**
Public water, sanitary, and storm sewer facilities are available to the site from Oak Drive Lane. A 50-foot sanitary sewer easement extends along the west property line. The easement provides clearance for a 54-inch sanitary sewer pipe that services a large portion of the city.
Subject: Shady Oak Crossings, 4312 Shady Oak Road

Sidewalks

A sidewalk exists on Shady Oak Road which was newly constructed along with the roadway improvements. An additional sidewalk is proposed along the north side of the site.

Traffic and Parking Study

The city commissioned a traffic study to:

1. Understand existing traffic and parking conditions of the site;
2. Evaluate potential impacts of the proposed redevelopment; and
3. Address improvement options for any issues, if necessary.

In evaluating each of these items, the city’s traffic engineering consultants drew on general engineering principles, as well as specific observations of the existing site. (See attached). The study generally concluded the project would have no negative impacts to the surrounding roadway system. A few of the study’s key findings include:

- The level of service for traffic on Oak Drive Lane approaching Shady Oak Road at the development site is LOS “A” in the a.m. peak hour and LOS “B” in the p.m. peak hour with a maximum queue of two vehicles under existing conditions.

- The proposed site will generate 30 trip ends in the a.m. peak hour and 47 trip ends in the p.m. peak hour with almost all of the traffic using the Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road intersection. Very little if any traffic would use Oak Drive Lane to go west.

- With the development of the site, the level of service for traffic on Oak Drive Lane approaching Shady Oak Road at the development site is LOS “B” in the a.m. peak hour and LOS “C” in the p.m. peak hour. The average increase in delay is 3 seconds/vehicle and the maximum queue length is two vehicles.

Since the completion of the traffic study, questions have been raised about the desire to include left and right turn lanes on Oak Drive Lane at Shady Oak Road. The city explored this potential design change with Hennepin County as the expanded lanes would require changes to the newly constructed lane divider medians on Shady Oak Road. The County responded that it
would not approve the design. Further, traffic conditions do not warrant the change.

Parking

The city code requires 2 parking spaces per unit for multi-family developments with one of those spaces located in an enclosed structure. As proposed, the Shady Oak Crossings project would provide 89 of the required 98 parking spaces or a ratio of 1.82 parking spaces per unit and 0.89 spaces per bedroom. Although 9 spaces short of the traditional code standard it is more than the number of parking spaces per unit for other recently approved apartment projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shady Oak Crossings</th>
<th>Number of Spaces Required</th>
<th>Number of Spaces Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Underground</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Stalls per Bedroom</th>
<th>Stalls per Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Code Standard</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITE</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1.10-1.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shady Oak Crossings Proposed</td>
<td>0.89</td>
<td>1.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonka on the Creek</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlson Island</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ridge</td>
<td>.93</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland Bank</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transit

The site at 4312 Shady Oak Road is served by bus routes 12 and 670. The nearest bus stop is located directly across the street from the site at Main Street and 20th Avenue North in Hopkins. Bus route 12 connects Minnetonka riders to Hopkins, St. Louis Park, and Minneapolis with service every 12-30 minutes during the weekday between 6:00am-7:00pm. Express route 670 provides riders weekday express access to downtown in the morning and evenings. In addition, the proposed Southwest LRT Shady Oak Road station is approximately a half mile from the
proposed project. When completed in 2021, riders will have service to downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul.

**Building Design**

The proposed building would have a three-story appearance but have two-story features to soften the north and south building ends. (See attached). The proposed building would have a code-defined height of 36 feet as shown.

Building materials would include brick and composite materials. As a condition of approval, a final materials and color palate board must be submitted for staff review and approval.

**Natural Resources**

**Trees**

There are 38 significant trees on the site. As proposed, the project would remove 1 high priority tree and 15 significant trees. The subject proposal would meet the tree protection ordinance.

There are a couple opportunities to increase the tree preservation by reconfiguring the storm water basin to save high priority tree 4822 and tree 4828.

If tree 4822 cannot be saved through grading changes mitigation will be required for it and two significant trees (4804 and 4805) for a total mitigation of 48-inches or 24, two-inch trees. The landscape plan indicates that they will plant 40 deciduous trees so this will satisfy the mitigation requirement.

**Landscape Plan**

Generally, the landscape plan meets ordinance requirements and staff approves it with the following comments:

- Trees cannot be planted within the utility or sanitary easement line. These could be relocated to the adjoining city property.

- A final landscape plan be provided for review and approval by staff.

- Provide a final project and landscape value.

- Plantings surrounding the pond be of a native seed mix.

- Thirteen maples are specified consider substituting 5 with a different genus for added diversity.
Wetland Items

- A 16.5-foot buffer with conservation easement around the wetland is required.

Erosion Control

- Meet city standard erosion control requirements including compliance escrow and the installation and maintenance of erosion control devices during construction.

Affordable Housing

The project proposes all 49 units would be affordable to persons earning 60 percent of the area median income. Rents would also be required to meet certain affordability requirements.

The city’s current comprehensive plan contains policy language addressing affordable housing. The following is excerpt from the plan addressing the city’s position.

*Minnetonka has actively worked to provide opportunities for new affordable housing in the city. For example, a policy of the EDA is that 10 to 20 percent of new multi-family units should be available as affordable housing. Additionally, one of the criteria that the city Chapter V. Housing 2030 Comprehensive Guide Plan V-20 utilizes for considering land use plan changes is the inclusion of affordable housing in a project.*

*The city is working to achieve the 2010 Livable Communities Act goals and the 2011-2020 goal for new affordable housing as set by the Metropolitan Council. The city has met the 2010 Livable Communities Act goal for new affordable owner-occupied housing; however, it is behind the 2010 Livable Communities Act goal for the construction of new affordable rental housing. In spring 2008, the city will be 111 units short of achieving the 2010 Livable Communities Act affordable rental housing goal.*

*The 2020 goal is for the addition of 383 new affordable units between 2011 and 2020. Since the city is fully developed, these units will likely be added to the city’s affordable housing supply through infill or redevelopment opportunities. Additionally, in order to make the units affordable, it is probable that the units will be multi-family (either owner-occupied or rental) due to the high land values in the city.*
**Actions**

a. Continue working with developers to include affordable housing in their developments, where appropriate.

b. Continue to work with developers in the development process to ensure the long-term affordability of units.

c. Work with Homes Within Reach and other affordable housing agencies and developers to add more affordable housing units in the city. Collaborate and support applications for grants or other funding sources for affordable housing. Provide information to these agencies on homes or areas of the city where affordable units could be located.

d. Locate new affordable and senior housing near access to the transit system, as appropriate.

e. Encourage multi-family rental developments where affordable housing is currently being provided to extend their affordability contract, if it is expiring, in order to continue providing affordable rents.

f. Make sure affordable housing is distributed throughout the entire community to prevent concentration in one particular area of the city.

g. Promote the use of —green technologies, sustainable building techniques and design, and energy efficient products in new construction and redevelopment projects.

h. Support the implementation criteria for residential development, especially as it relates to affordable and mid-priced housing opportunities established in Chapter IV – 2030 Land Use.

As the city works to update the comprehensive plan, affordable housing issues are becoming more difficult to address. Recent housing data prepared by the city’s housing consultant suggests that in the past 5 years the city had 800 rental and 1000 owner occupied units drop out of the defined affordability range. A number of variables such as housing reinvestments, changing resident income levels and programs contribute to that loss. This further emphasizes that housing affordability continues to be a difficult issue for the city to address.
Motion Options

Typically, the planning commission has four options as noted below. For this project at this time, and as noted previously in the report, the only option staff recommending is to table the item.

1. Concur with the staff recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made recommending the city council adopt the rezoning ordinance, preliminary and final plat resolution, and site and building plan resolution, with variances.

2. Disagree with staff’s recommendation. In this case, a motion should be made recommending the city council deny the requested rezoning, preliminary and final plat, and final site and building plans, with variances. This motion must include a statement as to why denial is recommended.

3. Concur with some of staff’s recommendations and disagree with the others. In this case, a motion should be made recommending approval of the some and denial of the others. This motion must include a statement as to why denial is recommended.

4. Table the requests. In this case, a motion should be made to table the item. The motion should include a statement as to why the request is being tabled with direction to staff, the applicant, or both.

Neighborhood Comments

At the time of publication of this report, the city had received a number comments regarding the formal application that are included in the attachments. Notices were sent to 365 property owners in Minnetonka and Hopkins. In the last distributed email regarding this project, 756 emails were distributed, 34% of the 756 opened the email, 12% then linked to the information contained in the email.

Deadline for Action

Waived
LOCATION MAP

Project: Shady Oak Redevelopment
Address: 4312 Shady Oak Rd.
Monday, July 24, 2017

Loren Gordon
City of Minnetonka
14600 Minnetonka Blvd
Minnetonka, MN 55345

RE: Shady Oak Crossing Project Narrative

Ron Clark Construction is proposing a three-story, 49-unit apartment building on the property located at 4312 Shady Oak Road.

The proposed apartment building would have underground parking, resident community room, exercise room, onsite manager's office and an outdoor play area.

It is proposed to have a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments and they currently expect the unit rents to be between $800 and $1200 per month. (See attachments).

Zoning for the property is currently B-2, limited business district. The city’s comprehensive plan guides the property for commercial use.

Rezoning and Comprehensive Plan: The proposed residential use requires a rezoning and guide plan change.

The proposed housing component would qualify the project for public benefit under the planned unit development zoning district.

A complementary high density residential comprehensive plan re-guidance would align with the zoning density of 31 units/acre. (49 units/1.58 acre).
Building Design: The proposed 3 story building with a flat roof and two story components at each end represents significant first step in the redevelopment of the Shady Oak Road corridor between Highway 7 and Excelsior Boulevard.

This existing commercial building is dilapidated and unlikely to be a candidate for remodeling.

Other residential redevelopment in the area includes The Oaks of Mainstreet townhome development (late 1990s) at the corner of Shady Oak Road and Mainstreet.

The proposed apartment building incorporates a flat roof design and an articulated façade, underground parking and common building entry accesses.

Changes from Original design:
The proposed 3 story Apartment building has been redesigned in response to input from the neighbors, Planning Commission and Council.

The initial design presented at the ‘Request for Interest’ interview before the City Council was a 56-unit building with a gable roof. To address the collective concern for the overall size of the building we have reduced the number of units from 56 to 49 by removing two units from each end of the building and one unit from the outside corner. We also changed the gable roof to a flat roof.

These changes have reduced the building height to two stories as viewed from Shady Oak Road from the north, Main Street from the south and from the existing neighbors to the west.

Perimeter grades have been raised and retaining walls have been added to reduce the amount of exposed foundation from the base of the building. The building height as measured from average grade is now 35’-37’ compared to the original proposed building height of 52’.

The Community Open House on January 11, 2006 sponsored by the Cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka presented a Shady Oak Road Redevelopment Study that showed all residential options for this site to be three stories.
**Site Design:** Similar to the existing building, this proposal would site the apartment building toward Shady Oak Road while providing greenspace to separate the building from the sidewalk.

Surface parking and a tot lot are provided on the west side of the building.

Underground parking is accessed from Oak Drive Lane.

Site and building design considers the relationships of public and private spaces.

A strong relationship of the sidewalk, front yard space and the building’s first floor is essential for great spaces.

**Changes to Site Design:**

The original proposed site plans had the entrance to the parking garage coming directly from Oak Drive Lane without an opportunity for the stacking of cars entering on to Shady Oak Road.

The building now has shifted south to allow the garage entrance to come from the surface parking lot to the west to now have only one entrance from Oak Drive Lane. This change allows for the stacking of cars entering Shady Oak Road.

As the building exterior has changed to a flat roof for a more ‘Urban’ design the building placement is now toward and connected to the sidewalk along Shady Oak Road while providing greenspace to separate the building from the sidewalk.

Significant landscaping and retaining walls will be placed at the north end of the building to screen the parking garage entrance. All efforts will be made to protect the existing trees as well as adding additional trees, landscaping and fencing to screen the existing neighbors from the surface parking.
**Stormwater Management:**

The current property is covered with 1.22 acres of impervious surface and primarily drains to the wetland. The new development stormwater management system for the site will convey all site runoff to a new basin installed on the adjacent property to the West. The impervious area for the new development provides a 32% reduction from the existing site condition. The development will meet all management standards required by the City of Minnetonka, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and the MPCA NPDES Permit.

**Traffic:** The city consultant has prepared a traffic study of the area and it clearly shows that the new use will have less traffic than other currently allowed uses and the effect on the surrounding intersections is minimal.

We had discussions with the city and county about adding a right turn lane on Oak Drive Lane and the county said it was not needed and as such would not be allowed.

**Financing:** The project will be financed through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) 9% tax credit program. The tax credit financing program is a public/private partnership whereby the tax credit investor receives federal tax credits for a 10 year period which we are able to convert into Equity for the project, this allows for a small mortgage but in return the rents must be kept at a level set by MHFA for 30 years, with a Tenant’s income restricted to 60% of the Median Income for the County., which currently for a family of 4 is $54,240/year.

In addition MHFA does annual inspections of the property and require us to set aside about $250,000 in reserves at closing and to set aside another $22,050/year for major repairs and replacements. This assures that the building will be maintained at a high quality and continue to be an asset to the city for years to come.

If the project is approved by the city, we will be applying for tax credits in 2018 and if selected would plan to start construction on early 2019.
Professional Management: Steven Scott Management will be our management company, they are a highly respected local company.

We will have an onsite resident caretaker as well as a building manager who is at the building a minimum of 30 hours per week, along with a Senior Manager who oversees the building management.

As part of the maintenance and management of the building we are in each unit, normally monthly or bi-monthly to maintain equipment and to do a quick inspection to confirm no lease violations or undo wear and tear is happening.

Each resident in the household must pass extensive credit, criminal & housing history checks.

The leases are also very clear as to our right to evict or non-renew a tenant for either a major lease violation or continued smaller issues. They also sign a Drug-free/Crime-free lease addendum.

Smoking is not allowed anywhere in the building.
SUBMITTED PLANS
PLANT SCHEDULE - PHASE TWO ONLY

GENERAL NOTES PLAN SPECIFIC:

1. All plantings shall be true to name and size in accordance with American Nurseryman's Standards.
2. Sod limits are to the lot lines, street curbs on the north, east, and south side of building. On the west side of the building, sod 20 feet from either the building or behind curb. (Technology: 60-011-06-00003).
3. All plantings shall be guaranteed for one year (365 days) from date of acceptance. Landscape Contractor shall replace any dead or damaged plants at no additional cost to Owner during the guarantee period. Landscape Contractor shall make monthly site maintenance inspections and notify owner of maintenance deficiencies.
4. All trees shall be gapped at the discretion of the landscape contractor. Landscape contractor shall warrant plants to be plumb at the end of the warranty period. All trees shall be wrapped at the end of November of installation year.
5. All shrub beds and areas indicated as receiving mulch shall receive a 3" deep layer of shredded bark mulch free of leaves, twigs, and other extraneous debris over weed barrier fabric.
6. All areas where sod and mulch touch shall have commercial grade black poly edger as shown in details.
7. All single trees shall receive a 4" layer of shredded bark mulch free of leaves, twigs, and other extraneous debris over weed barrier fabric.
8. All areas outside the irrigation limits shall be seeded with MNDOT 25-131 and mulch with straw disc anchored. Any slopes greater than 3:1 shall be staked.
9. All maintenance beds around the building is 3 feet wide with 1" landscape fabric. Landscape maintenance bed around the building is 3 feet wide with 1" landscape fabric. All perennial areas to be excavated to a depth of 12 inches and backfilled with the planting soil mixture.
10. Planting soil to be a 1-1-1 mixture with 1 part peat, 1 part soil, and 1 part sand and installed as per detail drawings. All perennial areas to be excavated to a depth of 12 inches and backfilled with the planting soil mixture.
11. A performance base irrigation system shall be installed by the Landscape Contractor including sleeve as needed. RPZ shall be supplied to all areas within the irrigation limits. All areas outside the irrigation limits shall be blanketed with 2 side straw blanket.
12. Landscape Contractor shall make monthly site maintenance inspections and notify owner of maintenance deficiencies.
13. All plantings shall be guaranteed for one year (365 days) from date of acceptance. Landscape Contractor shall replace any dead or damaged plants at no additional cost to Owner during the guarantee period. Landscape Contractor shall make monthly site maintenance inspections and notify owner of maintenance deficiencies.
14. All shrub beds and areas indicated as receiving mulch shall receive a 3" deep layer of shredded bark mulch free of leaves, twigs, and other extraneous debris over weed barrier fabric.
15. All areas where sod and mulch touch shall have commercial grade black poly edger as shown in details.
16. All single trees shall receive a 4" layer of shredded bark mulch free of leaves, twigs, and other extraneous debris over weed barrier fabric.
17. All areas outside the irrigation limits shall be seeded with MNDOT 25-131 and mulch with straw disc anchored. Any slopes greater than 3:1 shall be staked.
18. All maintenance beds around the building is 3 feet wide with 1" landscape fabric. Landscape maintenance bed around the building is 3 feet wide with 1" landscape fabric. All perennial areas to be excavated to a depth of 12 inches and backfilled with the planting soil mixture.
19. Planting soil to be a 1-1-1 mixture with 1 part peat, 1 part soil, and 1 part sand and installed as per detail drawings. All perennial areas to be excavated to a depth of 12 inches and backfilled with the planting soil mixture.
20. A performance base irrigation system shall be installed by the Landscape Contractor including sleeve as needed. RPZ shall be supplied to all areas within the irrigation limits. All areas outside the irrigation limits shall be blanketed with 2 side straw blanket.
21. Landscape Contractor shall make monthly site maintenance inspections and notify owner of maintenance deficiencies.

Landscape Plan

SCALE 1" = 10'
Area Schedule (Gross Units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Gross Area</th>
<th>Unit Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit A1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>818 ft²</td>
<td>1BR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit A2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>801 ft²</td>
<td>1BR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit C1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1,015 ft²</td>
<td>2BR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit C2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,038 ft²</td>
<td>2BR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit D3b</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,367 ft²</td>
<td>3BR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit D4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,328 ft²</td>
<td>3BR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit D4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,337 ft²</td>
<td>3BR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand total: 49 units

Total Gross Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Gross Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>23,461 ft²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>23,410 ft²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>17,268 ft²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level -1</td>
<td>23,857 ft²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand total: 87,996 ft²
TRAFFIC STUDY
Memorandum

To: Loren Gordon, City Planner  
City of Minnetonka

From: Anthony Heppelmann, PE

Date: April 5, 2017

Re: Shady Oak Redevelopment  
WSB Project No. 1502-70

Introduction

This traffic impact study addresses a proposed redevelopment of the property at 4312 Shady Oak Road with a 54 Unit apartment building. The project location is shown on Figure 1. The development would replace the existing retail building on this site. The proposed site layout is shown on Figure 2. The proposed development would have access to Oak Drive Lane via two proposed access points, one to a 32 space surface parking lot and one to proposed underground parking. The primary issue for this project is the potential queues and delays on Oak Drive Lane at Shady Oak Road and the potential impact on safety and the proposed access to the site.

Existing Conditions

Shady Oak Road was recently reconstructed as a four lane divided roadway. The reconstructed Shady Oak Road has a median at the north entrance of Oak Drive Lane onto Shady Oak Road so this access only allows right-turns in and right-turns out. The southerly access of Oak Drive Lane to Shady Oak Road is full access. WSB set a video traffic counter at the southerly Oak Drive Lane access to Shady Oak Road in March, 2017. The am and pm peak hour turning movement volumes recorded at this intersection are shown on Figure 3. The peak hour traffic volumes on Oak Drive Lane are relatively low in both the am and pm peak hours.

Hennepin County conducted peak hour counts on Shady Oak Road near this intersection in 2004 and in 2012. The peak hour volumes in 2012 were lower than in 2004. In 2004, there were 940 vehicles per hour (vph) in the am peak hour and 1260 vph in the pm peak hour. In 2012, there were 815 vph in the am peak hour and 1063 vph in the pm peak hour. The 2017 peak hour volumes based on the most recent counts taken by WSB are 1253 vph in the am peak hour and 1712 vph in the pm peak hour. The reason current traffic counts are much higher than in 2004 and 2012 is because TH 169 was closed north of Bren Road when these counts were taken and Shady Oak Road is being used as an alternative route. Peak hour volumes on Shady Oak Road can be expected to decrease once TH 169 is reopened to traffic. The traffic operations analysis is based on the higher peak hour counts from 2017.
Figure 1
Project Location

Project Site
4312 Shady Oak Road
Figure 2
Proposed Site Plan

Figure 3
Existing (2017) Traffic Volumes

2017 AM (PM) Volume
The southerly access of Oak Drive Lane is 24 feet wide and has one inbound and one outbound lane at Shady Oak Road. WSB conducted a traffic operations analysis for the Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road intersection for the am and pm peak hours based on the traffic counts shown in Figure 3. The analysis was conducted using SimTraffic software which is a microsimulation model that models each vehicle through the intersection. The results of that analysis are shown in Table 1.

### Table 1
**Delay and Level of Service at Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road—Existing Conditions**

#### AM Peak Hour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Total Delay by Movement</th>
<th>LOS by Movement</th>
<th>LOS by Approach (Sec/Veh)</th>
<th>LOS by Interaction (Sec/Veh)</th>
<th>Appr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4: CSAH 61/Shady Oak Road &amp; Oak Drive Lane</td>
<td>L T R L T R Delay LOS</td>
<td>Delay LOS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NB</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### PM Peak Hour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Total Delay by Movement</th>
<th>LOS by Movement</th>
<th>LOS by Approach (Sec/Veh)</th>
<th>LOS by Interaction (Sec/Veh)</th>
<th>Appr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4: CSAH 61/Shady Oak Road &amp; Oak Drive Lane</td>
<td>L T R L T R Delay LOS</td>
<td>Delay LOS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NB</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>SB</td>
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<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EB</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intersection operations are evaluated in terms of average seconds of delay per vehicle for the intersection, and for each approach and turning movement. The average number of seconds of delay is broken into six ranges assigned letter grades A through F defining each level of service (LOS) as shown in Figure 4. The ranges for unsignalized intersections are narrower than the ranges for signalized intersections. This is because many factors including the intangible factors of driver discomfort and frustration are considered. A one-minute delay at a red light is perceived as being more tolerable than one minute waiting for a gap in traffic at a stop sign, especially when there are vehicles queued behind. It is generally recognized that LOS D is the lowest acceptable LOS for urban intersections. Intersection capacity is also defined in terms of queue lengths of stopped vehicles. A 100-foot queue is approximately equal to four cars.

The analysis shows the eastbound approach operates at LOS “A” in the am peak hour and LOS “B” in the pm peak hour with an average delay of 9 seconds/vehicle in the am peak hour and 13 seconds/vehicle in the pm peak hour. The analysis indicates there is potential for there to be up to two vehicles waiting at this intersection during the peak hours. Review of the video logs for the intersection revealed that there was never more than one vehicle waiting on the eastbound approach of Oak Drive Lane during either the am or pm peak hours when the counts were taken.
Traffic Forecasts

The estimated trip generation for the site is shown in Table 2 below. The estimated trips are based on trip generation rates from the Institute of Transportation Engineers Trip Generation Manual 9th Edition. The site is expected to generate 30 trips in the am peak hour and 47 trips in the pm peak hour.

Table 2
Site Trip Generation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description/ITE Code</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Expected Units (independent variable)</th>
<th>Calculated Daily Trips</th>
<th>AM Peak Trips - Total</th>
<th>AM In</th>
<th>AM Out</th>
<th>PM Peak Trips - Total</th>
<th>PM In</th>
<th>PM Out</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apartment 220 (adjacent street)</td>
<td>Dwelling Unit</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In order to develop the traffic forecasts with the proposed development the above site generated trips were added to existing counts.

In this study, WSB did not reduce the forecasts by the trips generated by the current use. The table below shows the trip generation for two other potential scenarios for this site. The estimated trips are based on trip generation rates from the Institute of Transportation Engineers Trip Generation Manual 9th Edition. The first row in the table below shows the potential trip generation of the current use if the building were fully occupied. The existing building has almost 26,000 square feet and would generate more than 1000 trips per day and 95 pm peak hour trips if the building were fully occupied. The second row in the table below shows the potential trip generation if the site were redeveloped as a pharmacy similar to an approved plan on the southeast corner of Shady Oak Road and Excelsior Boulevard. This would be an approved use under the current zoning. In this scenario the site would generate over 1200 daily trips and 129 pm peak hour trips. This is more than twice the number of trips generated by the proposed 54 unit apartment building.

Table 3
Alternative Trip Generation for the Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description/ITE Code</th>
<th>Units (independent variable)</th>
<th>Calculated Daily Trips</th>
<th>AM Peak Trips - Total</th>
<th>AM In</th>
<th>AM Out</th>
<th>PM Peak Trips - Total</th>
<th>PM In</th>
<th>PM Out</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Scenario—Existing Retail</td>
<td>1000 KSF</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>1,097</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Scenario—Pharmacy</td>
<td>1000 KSF</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>1,260</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Site Trip Distribution
Almost all of the trips are expected to use Oak Drive Lane to access Shady Oak Road. Unless there are major delays at Shady Oak Road there is no reason that a vehicle would find it convenient to use Oak Drive Lane into the neighborhood. At Shady Oak Road about half will turn right and half will turn left which is the pattern of the existing traffic at this intersection. Figure 5 shows the trips that would be added to the Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road intersection as a result of the proposed development.

Figure 6 shows the forecast traffic volumes with the proposed project.
Figure 5
Site Trips at Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road

Figure 6
Forecast Volumes at Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road with Development
Future Traffic Operations

WSB conducted traffic operations analysis of the forecast traffic volumes with the development to determine how delays, level of service and vehicle queues may change with the proposed project. Table 4 shows the results for one year after opening of the development. The analysis shows that the eastbound approach operates at LOS “A” in the am peak hour and LOS “C” in the pm peak hour with an average delay of 12 seconds/vehicle in the am peak hour and 16 seconds/vehicle in the pm peak hour. The increase in delay over the existing conditions is 3 seconds per vehicle on this approach. The analysis indicates that the potential queue length is still about two vehicles. However most of the time there would not be more than one vehicle waiting at the intersection.

Table 4
Delay and Level of Service at Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road With Development

AM Peak Hour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection Location</th>
<th>Appr</th>
<th>Through</th>
<th>Right-Turn</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NB</td>
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PM Peak Hour

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Intersection Location</th>
<th>Appr</th>
<th>Through</th>
<th>Right-Turn</th>
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<td>EB</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Table 4**
Delay and Level of Service at Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road With Development
Conclusions and Recommendations

The following conclusions and recommendations were reached from the analysis that was conducted for this traffic study of the proposed 54 unit apartment at 4312 Shady Oak Road.

- The level of service for traffic on Oak Drive Lane approaching Shady Oak Road at the development site is LOS “A” in the am peak hour and LOS “B” in the pm peak hour with a maximum queue of two vehicles under existing conditions.

- The proposed site will generate 30 trip ends in the am peak hour and 47 trip ends in the pm peak hour with almost all of the traffic using the Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road intersection. Very little if any traffic would use Oak Drive Lane to go west.

- With the development of the site, the level of service for traffic on Oak Drive Lane approaching Shady Oak Road at the development site is LOS “B” in the am peak hour and LOS “C” in the pm peak hour. The average increase in delay is 3 seconds/vehicle and the maximum queue length is still two vehicles.

- Based on the above WSB recommends that the access from the proposed development site be located at least 100 feet to the west of the intersection to allow traffic to exit the site without conflicts with traffic queued at the intersection. One access from the site to Oak Drive Lane is preferable to minimize vehicle conflicts.

- Separate right and left turn lanes on Oak Drive Lane at Shady Oak Road could slightly reduce delays but is not required to provide an acceptable level of service at this intersection.
PREVIOUS REVIEW MEETINGS
Calvert thought that it would be important that the project appear homogenous and not have the affordable housing building appear different than the other building.

Sewell thought that the project looks great. He favored managing the height. As the starting point for development in the area, it looks great and has a lot of great features.

This concept plan is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed by the city council at its meeting on March 6, 2017.

B. Concept plan review for the Shady Oak Redevelopment located at 4312 Shady Oak Road.

Chair Kirk introduced the proposal and called for the staff report.

Gordon and Wischnack reported. They recommended that the planning commissioners provide comments and feedback on the identified key issues and others the planning commission deems appropriate. The discussion is intended to assist the applicant with future direction that may lead to the preparation of more detailed development plans.

Wischnack explained that “low income” housing refers to a resident with an annual income of less than 30 percent of the area median income. Median income is $85,000 for this area. “Affordable housing” covers a range of up to 80 percent of the area median income. The proposed rent would be between $800 and $1,200 a unit which would be considered 60 percent of area median income. Wischnack refers to it as “workforce housing” and the worker typically earns between $40,000 and $50,000 a year. Tax credits would be used to offset the affordability of the project. The proposal would not be “Section 8 housing,” but Section 8 vouchers may be used to subsidize the rent.

Knight noted that the site has a fair amount of pollution. He asked if the adjacent site on the south side would be part of the proposal. Wischnack answered in the negative.

Chair Kirk asked who pays to have the site cleaned up. Wischnack explained that there are grants available. The city would apply for a grant to fund the cleanup. The city likes to have the redevelopment grading coincide with the cleanup.
Tim Whitten, of Whitten Associates, and Mike Roebuck and Mike Waldo, of Ron Clark Construction and Design, the development team, introduced themselves. Mr. Whitten stated that he is excited to work on the site since it is located in Minnetonka. He pointed out a large stormwater management easement located on the site. The site has a grade challenge and access restricted to Oak Drive Lane. The most efficient way to access the proposed three-story building with 54 units and structured parking would be straight in from the end. The site today is mostly impervious surface. There would be 59 enclosed parking stalls and 32 surface parking stalls. The grade dictated the site’s design. The proposal would reduce the site’s amount of impervious surface. A lot of green would be added. Even though the amount of stormwater runoff would be decreased, a rain garden would still be added to clean the stormwater. The concept plan shows the mass and scale of the building. The architectural features would provide a transition from existing residential to a commercial area. The focus would be to keep the main roof at a low pitch and stay within scale. Landscaping details would be worked out. Ron Clark is known for exceeding landscaping requirements. He was available for questions.

Calvert confirmed with Mr. Whitten that brick in brown tones and cement-board detailing would be the idea for the exterior.

Mr. Waldo explained that 54 units would allow for a full-time caretaker on site and on-site manager. He would like more than 54 units, but that would be a little tight.

Chair Kirk invited anyone present to comment.

Andy Braun, 4408 Crawford Road, asked for the purchase price of the site, the selling price of the site, the cost of the development, and how much profit would be expected from the rent of the units. He thought residents of the three-story building would be able to see his residence. He was concerned for his property’s value, public safety, and his wellbeing. “The record” shows that the comments were “less than three stories.” He asked if “Section 8” could apply.

Elizabeth Miller, 4408 Crawford Road, stated that she spoke on behalf of four of her neighbors. Her landscape would be degraded by the scope of the project. They received the information a couple weeks ago. The homeowners are invested for the future. A park or green space was off the table for discussion. The neighbors would take the loss on their property values, happiness, and safety.

Ann Aanestad, 4255 Oak Drive Lane, stated that she was concerned with the height of the proposed building. The surrounding houses are ramblers, one-story,
and modest-style houses. The underground parking would make the building four stories. It would not fit the housing in the area. The nearest park is over a mile away. There is not enough green space to accommodate 54 units. The proposal would cause grid lock in the area. The apartment building would not be appropriate in the area. It would not fit.

Chris Aanestad, 4255 Oak Drive Lane, stated that the building looks like it is four stories with the roof. It does not fit with the character of the neighborhood at all. He preferred owner-occupied. He did not know why townhomes would not be considered. He asked for the size of the lot and how many townhomes would be feasible. He thought 10 townhomes would allow the city to recoup its money. Traffic is a huge issue. This is the only access out of the neighborhood.

Kyle Holm, 4234 Oak Drive Lane, was worried about the stress 54 units would put on the school systems. The size of the building would be doubled. He asked if lowering the number of units could decrease rent because an on-site manager would not be funded. The rent would still be high. He is investing in his house. He agreed that something needs to happen on the site, but he is worried about his resale value.

David Cousins, 4531 Greenwood Drive, stated that he did not see a complete line of justification. He asked what more needs to be done with the process and how urgent is the redevelopment. He asked for the tax consequences for the city and county.

Mr. Braun asked if the $800 to $1,200 range included subsidies. He was concerned with headlights hitting a house near the site. He questioned why all options were not on the board to begin with.

Ellen Cousins, 4531 Greenwood Drive, requested that action be tabled for a couple years until the lite rail has been operating to see what would be the best use of the property. She saw no reason to develop the property. The proposal would ruin the neighborhood.

Mr. Braun said that the site is very visible on a main corridor. Something commercial that would be a public resource would be more appropriate than residential. Residential housing should be located further from the corridor.

Ms. Miller confirmed that commissioners had something that she previously submitted.
Nathan Toldts, 4231 Oak Drive Lane, stated that he was concerned with the size of the building, number of units, and traffic. He would prefer something smaller that would provide more of a transition to the single-family residences.

Receiving public comments was concluded.

Chair Kirk noted that this concept plan is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed by the city council at its meeting on February 27, 2017.

Chair Kirk explained that the planning commission looks at the land use issues of each proposal, not the financial aspects. Wischnack stated that the purchase price for both properties was $1.9 million. The sale price is unknown and will not be public information until it is included in the agenda report and reviewed by the city council for approval of the sale at a city council meeting. Of the $1.9 million paid for the Shady Oak project, $900,000 was returned to the city. When the city council purchased the property, the purpose was to solve a road improvement issue. The city council has purchased other properties for parks, but not this site.

Mr. Waldo explained that apartment buildings financed with tax credits or any other source is required to allow a Section 8 voucher to be used based on the rent being charged. He estimated 5 to 12 percent of the units would have a renter utilizing a voucher. He noted voucher users are some of the best tenants because the participants do not want to risk losing the voucher.

Gordon noted that the site is located in the Hopkins School District. The school district would be better able to estimate the number of school-age children in the area. Bus routes are planned during the enrollment process. He estimated that a school bus would travel past the site.

Gordon explained that redevelopment has always improved surrounding property values in Minnetonka. A residential apartment building pays the highest rate of property taxes. There is a commercial use underperforming next door. An underperforming commercial use next door could decrease surrounding property values.

Chair Kirk reviewed comments from the public including concern with the size of the building and traffic issues related to Oak Drive Lane and Shady Oak Road.

Calvert clarified that the site is currently zoned for a commercial use. Gordon confirmed that the site is guided by the comprehensive guide plan for commercial and its zoning district is B-2, which would allow offices, gas stations, and fast-
food restaurants with a drive-through window. The proposed zoning change would be a less intensive district than a commercial district.

Calvert asked how a 54-unit apartment building would fit with the city’s housing goals. Gordon reviewed the housing gaps analysis that projected 1,250 units would be located within a half mile of the Shady Oak SWLRT station.

Wischnack reviewed options considered for the site. The city’s goal of purchasing the site was not to make money. It was necessary for the Shady Oak Road improvement project. The city hopes to break even when it is sold.

Powers confirmed with Wischnack that a commercial use could apply to be located on the site, but never did. Wischnack explained that staff met with developers representing each type of use and all of them determined that the location would not be good for retail or commercial. A pharmacy may be the only viable commercial use.

Calvert confirmed with Wischnack that the adjacent house would not be included in the proposal.

Knight thought that the proposal probably is too big, has too many units, and would add to the traffic problems.

Calvert was concerned with the mass. She was excited that the building would be moved away from the road and create green space. Having an on-site manager is important, but she thought that the building would be too big.

Powers did not think the proposal would fit into the neighborhood. Headlights into the house and traffic on Oak Drive Lane are serious issues. He did not like the concept plan.

Calvert clarified that the proposal would provide “affordable housing.” She has no aversion to renters who utilize vouchers.

O’Connell stated that he knows of developments that provide Section 42 housing and the buildings are well maintained and attractive. He stated that multi-family housing should be located on a busy, arterial road. The issue with access to travel north is real and the proposal would increase that problem. The use of the site is better as multi-family residential than its current zoning. The site is an eyesore. It would benefit the neighborhood to fix it.
Sewell felt that apartments would be an appropriate use, but the scale of the building may not fit and could adversely impact the neighborhood.

Chair Kirk noted that the utility easement limits what can be done on the site. The proposed building would be too tall and long. There would be no transition from the proposed building to single-family residences. The entrance would need to be on the west side to provide better traffic flow. There should be no more than one driveway off of Oak Drive Lane.

Chair Kirk thanked the neighbors for their attendance.

9. Adjournment

Sewell moved, second by Calvert, to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

By: ____________________________

Lois T. Mason
Planning Secretary
Bergstedt moved, Wiersum seconded a motion to grant the license. All voted “yes.” 

Motion carried.

14. Other Business:

A. Concept plan review for the Shady Oak Redevelopment located at 4312 Shady Oak Road

Wischnack gave the staff report.

Mike Waldo, Ron Clark Construction, said the company really likes the site and has enjoyed working with the city. During the concept plan review process the developer was trying to understand what the neighborhood, planning commission and council was looking for. He felt that the apartment use was a great transitional zoning.

Tim Whitten, Whitten Associates, said currently pretty much the entire site was covered by impervious surface. There was an opportunity to add a lot of green space. The current building was a walkout on the west side. The proposal would put a parking structure in place of the walkout. He said there was an easement on the west side that defined the site. The building can’t go past that. A number of different options were looked at as they prepared to respond to the request for information. Everything they looked at came back to the same location on the property with one structured building. The solution they are looking at works hard to fit into the available space. The hope is to push the building close to Shady Oak Road to create an urban feel.

Whitten noted there were around 50 people who attended the neighborhood meeting and he was appreciative of the respectful discussion. In looking at the site there was a significant grade difference from the south to the north. The only realistic access was on Oak Drive Lane. This would work well since the site tipped that way. In the middle of the surface parking was the main entrance to the building. A lot of grade needs to be raised to provide the handicap accessibility. This provides the opportunity to cover the structured part of the building. The center of the building on the main floor would be the common area amenities. The idea was to promote direct access for residents to get to the Shady Oak Road sidewalk so they can take advantage of mass transit. There would be ample space for bikes in the building.

Ann Aanestad, 4255 Oak Drive Lane, said the roadway off Shady Oak Road was actually preferred but because property to the south of the proposed building was privately owned, it could not be purchased. Due to the reconstruction of Shady Oak Road there already was a lot of traffic
coming from the upper neighborhoods into her neighborhood. She said the proposed building would cause massive traffic concerns and was too big. The building was surrounded by wetlands that already were disturbed by the road reconstruction. She said the wetlands should be preserved. She asked that the city consider making it into a preserve area to preserve water quality and the wetlands.

David Cousins, 4531 Greenwood Drive, said the consensus at the neighborhood meeting was there wasn’t a lot of support for the project. The building as rendered looks nothing like the other buildings in the area. He said planning commissioners made comments about the site continually being looked at as some type of transitional site, but the height of the building was too much. There were several comments about too much mass. There were also concerns about the traffic situation. He suggested re-thinking what should be done with the site.

Elizabeth Miller, 4408 Crawford Road, said said she shared the same concerns as the other two testifiers including traffic issues. The area needed more community development as it was cut off from any nearby amenities such as parks. She felt that option was taken off the table from the very beginning. She said one of the planning commissioners agreed that the project would hurt neighborhood property values. Sustainable agriculture was something the city was lacking. Nationwide there are school to garden programs that are very positive to the community.

Kyle Holm, 4234 Oak Drive Lane, asked what the developer was thinking the roof peak height would be. His house’s roof peak height was 19 feet and he thought this was comparable to the rest of the neighborhood. He said the foundation size of the proposed building would double from the current building. He shared the concerns about traffic. The neighborhood was starting to turn over with a lot of young families so he liked the idea of gardening for the property.

Wagner noted the other property was not being included at this point and asked for more information about that. There had been a lot of discussion during the council study session about whether to include the other property as part of this project and the council seemed to be split on the issue. Wischnack said that on the original submission there were townhomes placed on the location. Because of the neighboring single family homes staff felt it seemed odd to place a twin home on the property. It could still be added to the plan.

Wiersum said the fact the city owned both the parcels it begged the question if there could be more creativity with the transition. He asked what options existed, given the easement, to bridge the two properties in a
way that made sense. Whitten said it would be a terrific opportunity to use both properties as one if not for the easement between the two. The variety of different site solutions would have been extraordinary. Wiersum asked what the dollar value was for the smaller lot. Wischnack said the average house value in the neighborhood was $205,000. Wiersum said while the ideas for a park were nice, $1.9 million for a one acre park seemed too spendy but maybe using the separated property creatively to create an amenity might take the sting out of the some of the options being considered.

Allendorf said his recollection of the council’s discussion during the study session was the same as Wagner’s. He thought the majority of the council was leaning on looking at a proposal that would use both properties not together, because of the easement, but the townhouse idea on the west property provided a good transition into the neighborhood. He asked if it was anticipated a traffic study would be done if the project moved forward. Wischnack said a traffic study along with all the environmental work and storm water analysis would be done if the project proceeded. She noted there had been discussion about gaining access off the Mainstreet and those discussions would continue.

Ellingson said during the neighborhood meeting it was pointed out it was possible to turn left or right on Oak Drive Lane but it was difficult to turn left especially during rush hour. He questioned how the traffic would be directed to Mainstreet.

Acomb said housing made sense for the site. She had concerns about the size of the building compared to the single-family homes and businesses in the area. The multi-level housing in Hopkins along Mainstreet doesn’t have such a large look. She drove the neighborhood earlier in the day and said it was a charming neighborhood. She thought it would be a great place to live given the proximity to the light rail station. There were parts of the plan she appreciates like the green space and the bicycle accommodations. She had concerns about circulation on the site and the two access points. She recalled the discussions about including the other property and at the time it was more appealing to her than it currently was. There’s no buffer between the building and the neighborhood. She liked the idea of having some open space.

Wagner said this location was studied by the council for a number of years. The council had always considered the area as part of the light rail walkshed. The discussion was about ensuring this site was attractive and blended in with what the future of the corridor will be. It will not fit in with the current strip mall or the empty lots. The council would love to have open space everywhere but that wasn’t why this particular parcel was
purchased by the city. He thought the site outlived its life as a commercial site and housing was appropriate. He was not as concerned with the 54 units because the other options looked had even more units. He liked the look that made it feel more “townhome-ish” versus the current look with one entrance that looked too “apartment building-ish.” He would like to have it feel more residential in the look.

Bergstedt said there were a lot of constraints on the site. When the city purchased the property, it was not done with the intention to have a park and he thought residential was appropriate. It looked like a very urban apartment building with its proximity to the road. If there was a way to soften the look and make it look more “townhome-ish” that would be good. His biggest concern was with the traffic. If people can’t easily and safely get on to Shady Oak Road then the number of units and how well the building was designed didn’t matter. He noted the site was a contaminated site and asked how that would be addressed with whatever was developed on the site and how that would be funded. Wischnack said the site cleanup was part of the negotiation. With other contaminated sites the city applied for available funding from the county, state and Metropolitan Council. Typically, the cleanup was done as part of the development process. The cleanup can’t be done without removing the building and contaminated soil. Currently staff was writing the response action plan. This had to be done regardless of how the site was developed.

Wiersum said a number of things had been looked at for the property. The proposal for 54 units was the smallest that was looked at other than the townhomes, which simply were not feasible. If done right, 54 units would work if the traffic works. He looked at the stacking on Oak Drive Lane as being an issue. He said looking at the multi-unit buildings the council approved during the last five years, many of them very attractive buildings, he has never driven by one and thought, ‘that’s smaller than I expected it would be. For him that was a challenge. With the peaked roof, even though from a zoning standpoint it was a three-story building, he could understand the concerns that it looked like a four-story building. He challenged the architect to make the building look smaller. He said the site could be developed as commercial, but residential was less intrusive. Whatever ultimately was approved would be a dramatic improvement over what exists today. He wouldn’t want to live next to what currently is on the site. The traffic study would tell a lot and would likely reveal some issues. He would like the building to have less scale and mass so it looked smaller.

Schneider said the use of housing and the potential to do workforce housing on the site was a great advantage for the city. It was very difficult to do and there was a certain critical mass needed to attract the attention
of the funders to make it happen. He thought 54 units was about the right number and would not push for a two-story building or a significantly different footprint. His guess was the traffic study would show the streets can handle traffic, and there would be a wait and a challenge with the people parked in the garage exiting during rush hour. He strongly suggested losing the efficiency of having the driveway go in direct but rather going in to the west. He would be willing to grant a parking variance because it would serve the neighborhood and make the development better. Having the driveway that close to the intersection was problematic. He also suggested widening the city street so there was a right turn in and left turn out. He said the current design while very attractive but lost some of the charm and “wow” factor that was initially shown. For him there were a couple of options. One was going forward with what was currently shown with a little less pitched roof to reduce the appearance. Another option would be adding a front porch and a patio to the first level units facing Excelsior Boulevard. This would be a huge benefit to the character and look.

Wischnack said the next steps would be to have more neighborhood meetings and another concept plan review.

15. Appointments and Reappointments:

A. Appointment of advisors for the 2017 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization

Schneider moved, Bergstedt seconded a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Powers, Ms. Frost, Mr. Kriedberg and Ms. Miller as advisors for the 2017 Minnetonka Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

16. Adjournment

Bergstedt moved, Wiersum seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Maeda
City Clerk
Schneider said he liked the natural look of the wood but in today’s environment it deteriorates rapidly. It looks good for a year or two. He suggested looking at something that was more stable that looks good long term.

Wiersum said the boardwalk between Crosby Cove and Grays Bay dam was particularly well done and was extremely durable given the amount of traffic. He suggested using that same material for this boardwalk. He asked if there was a place in the city that used the same lighting as was being proposed for this project. D. Ellingson said this would be the first LED lighting used in Minnetonka.

Bergstedt said he preferred the synthetic material for the boardwalk. He questioned the durability of wood and had even bigger questions about how slippery wood can become when it’s wet.

Wagner moved, Bergstedt seconded a motion to adopt resolution 2017-040 approving the conditional use permit, with wetland setback variances, for trails and boardwalks within required wetland buffers; and resolution 2017-041 approving the conditional use permit for installation lighting on an existing athletic field until 9:45 p.m. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

C. Continued concept plan review for the Shady Oak Redevelopment located at 4312 Shady Oak Road

Gordon, and City Engineer Will Manchester gave the staff report.

Tony Heppelmann, WSB & Associates, said he was directly involved with the Shady Oak Road reconstruction project. As soon as the city contacted his company to do the study, they went and put out video cameras to count the traffic. Simulation models are used to model the traffic. The modeled data is used to compare with the visual data. What the data showed was the 54-unit apartment building would increase the delay for drivers on Oak Drive Lane turning on to Shady Oak Road by three seconds. The traffic study also looked at what the traffic would be if the current building were fully occupied. He said in the p.m. peak hour it would generate almost three times the traffic amount compared with the apartment building. Other types of redevelopment like a Walgreens were also looked at and it was determined something like that would generate almost twice the amount of traffic compared with the apartment building. He said the apartment building would probably be the lowest traffic generator of anything that could be put on the site.

Heppelmann said currently the Oak Drive Lane is about 28 feet wide, only wide enough for a single vehicle approach so vehicles making a left turn
have the potential to block vehicles making a right turn. The study showed that at most there would be a couple vehicle queue. The information was provided at the open house and there was a question about when the counts were taken and if spring breaks might have impacted the count. He said WSB went out a second time and the counts on Oak Drive Lane were pretty much identical. The numbers on Shady Oak Road were up for unknown reasons. He noted the counts on Shady Oak Road were up about 70 percent from 2012 likely due to the diversion off Highway 169.

Wagner asked what could be expected in terms of stacking on Oak Drive Lane. Heppelmann said the model indicated the longest expected queue was two vehicles but there was enough room for four vehicles.

Schneider noted Heppelmann had said there was a potential for a vehicle making a left turn to block the ability of another vehicle to make a right turn. He asked if the recommendation was to put in a right turn lane. Heppelmann said currently the road isn’t wide enough to add a right turn lane so in order to accomplish this, the curb would have to be moved. Given that most of the time there weren’t vehicles on Oak Drive Lane at the intersection, he didn’t think the cost of moving the curb was justified. The study showed the average overall delay was about 16 seconds.

Wischnack continued the staff report. She said there were three questions staff was presenting to the council to help guide the council discussion.

1) Is the council comfortable with the proposed multi-family apartment building with the monthly rents falling in the range of $800-$1,200?
2) Is the council comfortable with this density (30-32 units per acre)?
3) Comments about the design of the building.

Tim Whitten, Whitten Associates, presented the revised concept plan.

Mike Waldo, Ron Clark Construction and Design, showed examples of the company’s buildings in other communities. He went over some of the changes to the plan meant to address concerns that had been raised at the neighborhood meetings.

Wagner noted a lot had changed through the process. The current plan was for affordable and tax credit housing. He asked if anything had change in terms of the viability of the project given the potential changes at the federal level. Waldo said there had been changes since they started working on the RFI at the beginning of the process. The election and the expectation of tax reform had reduced the value of the credits. The difference is probably round 10 or 11 cents less than a year ago. He said he thinks the credits will go back up two or three cents.
Wiersum asked if the amount of habitable square footage had changed from earlier concepts. He also asked if there had been a change to the mix of one, two, and three bedroom units. Waldo said 98 percent of the mixture was the same. He said the overall square footage was substantially the same.

Fartun Ahmed, 14528 Moonlight Hill Road, said she is a business owner in the city and her parents run a daycare near this site. She supports the project and asked the council to support it as well. Affordable housing is very important for the city and discussions about affordable housing need to happen. She said young people like herself think very differently than the older generation that lives in the city. A lot of her generation is not looking to settle down and buy homes right away. A lot of her peers have school loans that they are trying to pay off so affordable housing was important to them. She said she read a lot of the rhetoric that was on the Minnetonka Matters portion of the city website. Comments like “this is going to be another Blake Road” were very inappropriate. She grew up in Westside Village on Blake Road and she doesn’t use drugs or trash neighborhoods and the same could be said with a lot of people in that neighborhood. She said the racial inequality that exists in Minnetonka is something that needs to be discussed. Comments like “those people” refer to members of her community. It was important to have affordable housing for the law-abiding citizens who are very innovative and who want to contribute to the community. She said a lot of the parents who use her childcare center have had to move out of the city because they can’t find affordable housing. A lot of the young people who grew up in the city are looking for diversity, innovation and community building.

Paul Burgett, a Hopkins resident, said he was opposed the project. He agreed with Ahmed that affordable housing was a good thing. He thought it should have been part of the discussion for the 75-unit development off Highway 169 where it wouldn’t impact the neighborhood as much. He was opposed to the size of the building, which would be two-thirds the size of the Titanic. The huge building would be dropped into a neighborhood that wasn’t made for it. He supported affordable housing in the city but thought jamming this building into this neighborhood would hurt affordable housing going forward. He suggested townhomes would be a better fit for the site or that the city wait five to ten years to see what happens to the market.

Elizabeth Miller submitted a petition signed by people opposed to the plan. She asked the architect at the open house what the tangible size difference in height was between this plan and the previous plan. She said the architect had no idea. If the city was investing taxpayer money to the developer, she thought the developer should at least know the height of
the building. If the developer could not live without 54 units and the neighbors couldn’t live with 54 units there was a disconnect and maybe this wasn’t the right developer. She said she appreciated Acomb’s inquiry during the Minnetonka Hills Apartments’ discussion about if affordable housing had been considered for that development because that’s where Miller thought affordable housing should go. She noted a map was emailed to staff showing where affordable housing was located in the city. She noted there was a very high amount within a one-mile radius of this neighborhood and little in the rest of the city. There were affordable homes in the neighborhood through the Homes Within Reach program. She would like to see more of that type of housing. She said the traffic engineer didn’t take into consideration the increased traffic that would occur with the park and ride if the LRT is built. She lives on Bradford Road and turning onto Shady Oak Road is very dangerous. She asked for a traffic study in that area too. She noted there was no easy access to Junction Park. The trees shown in the drawing were 50 feet high and in reality it would take years for the trees to grow that high.

Jen Westmoreland Bouchard, 4640 Caribou Drive, said she seconded everything Ahmed said. She had noticed a dangerous and very harmful thread of rhetoric in the comments on the online petition and the Minnetonka Matters site as well. She asked those opposed to the plan that had valid concerns to talk with their neighbors who are conflating crime with affordable housing and disparaging members of the community who live on Blake Road. She said she was impressed with the clear communication coming from the city but she was noticing there were voices being left out of the conversation. Westmoreland Bouchard said another resident, Angelique Ellis, asked her to share her comments with the council. Ellis looked for months to find affordable housing in the city. She needed a space that would accommodate her as someone in a wheelchair. Ellis indicated there was a lack of affordable housing for people with disabilities.

Chris Aanestad, 4255 Oak Drive Lane, asked what the buildable area was for the property. He said staff indicated it was 30-32 units per acre. According to his calculations using 54 units, the buildable area was 1.2 acres. This equates to 45 units per acre. He noted 15 business owners had been knocked off the property. He questioned if the city wanted tax credits for developers or jobs and taxes collected from business owners.

Farhia Mohamed said she was a resident in Ward 3. She was supportive of the project. It was deeply disturbing that some of the neighbors leapt to unwarranted conclusions such as thinking an individual was unfit and undesirable due to their financial bracket. Everyone wanted to live in a safe and secure neighborhood. If the sole concern about the project had
to do with the landscape then the discussion should focus on what could be done to create conscientiousness behind the design. However if the opposition perpetuated racial segregation within the city, a city that was mostly white, then the city has failed. Race matters. She quoted a Somali proverb that translated meant a person doesn't enter a home simply because the door was open but rather a person enters a home because there was a welcoming face at the door. She said this was the community people want in Minnetonka.

Joyce Fiedler said she was a huge proponent of affordable housing. With her disappointment in the presidential election, her goal for the year was to find common ground in all she did. This plan was a good example. The people raising concerns about the building size, the number of people in it, and the traffic, had reasonable concerns. The people concerned about affordable housing also had reasonable concerns. She said the racial component should not be ignored. Everyone should recognize and listen to each other's concerns.

Jim Reinitz, 4252 Oak Drive Lane, said he was a member of the Ford site task force in St. Paul. He had not heard any discussion about the pollution on the Shady Oak Road site. He supported affordable housing in areas where people could walk or bike to their jobs. This would reduce pollution and help the ozone layer. He said affordable housing should be put all around the city not just in certain sections.

Steve Philbrook, 4222 Oak Drive Lane, said most of the neighbors did not have an issue with affordable housing. He didn't know anyone in the neighborhood who was a racist. His mother participated in the walk for peace march on Washington. He grew up as a hippie and was very liberal. His problem was the big monstrosity being shoved down the neighbors' throats. One can put pearls on a pig and it still will be a pig. He said the traffic in the area already was horrible and dangerous. Research had to be done to determine if the site was polluted. Further research was needed to study the traffic.

Ellen Cousins, 4531 Greenwood Drive, said she wanted the council to remember the times when they were surprised by how big other buildings were once they were built. Buildings on drawings look a lot smaller than when they actually are built. She also wanted the council to keep in mind this would not just impact people on Oak Drive Lane but also people on Bradford Lane, Crawford Road and the whole neighborhood behind. She said the traffic engineer reported traffic was 75 percent higher than it was in 2012. She wondered what the projection had been in 2012. She asked the council to take a step back and determine if the project should be built now or if it was better to wait to build the right project.
Abbey Holm, 4234 Oak Drive Lane, said she thought affordable housing was terrific. She had lived in affordable housing. She thought this specific site was not conducive to the size of the building being discussed. She noted she had a discussion with Wiersum and she appreciated his comments about compromise being about meeting in the middle. If the developer could not lower the number of units from 54 then there was no ability to make a compromise.

Tim Gustafson, 12340 James Road, said the renderings looked beautiful from the Hopkins side but not the Minnetonka side. He said it appeared the decision had already been made that the only solution was a multi-unit building. The options for other types of community projects like a public garden or expanding the park were not being considered. The taxpayers of the city had already paid for the property. Why not consider what the people would like to see on the property?

Wagner said the council had been discussing the Shady Oak Road corridor for over a decade and the corridor’s proximity to the potential light rail station. The council had been told that residential development generates less traffic than commercial development. With the desire to have a more walkable community, this area was probably at the edge of where housing could occur. He said he always thought this corridor could blend commercial services and housing. He thought multi-family housing for this property was appropriate. The site was close to transit, both current and future. He’s always been an avid believer that affordable housing should be near transit.

Wiersum agreed multi-family housing was appropriate for this site. In discussing the village centers the council had often discussed the notion of combining affordable housing with transit.

Acomb agreed multi-family housing was appropriate for the site for the reasons Wagner and Wiersum had mentioned. The city wanted a diversity of housing stock and affordable housing was something the city wanted to make sure was provided for. She thought affordable housing needs to be looked at throughout the city.

Ellingson noted there was a townhouse development just kitty korner from this site on Main Street so there already was housing close to the location. The road reconstruction took away parking in front of the buildings so it made it more difficult for commercial businesses. He thought housing was appropriate for the site. He thought one of the best things about the plan was it was 100 percent affordable housing.
Bergstedt said the city desperately needed affordable housing throughout the city so anytime it can be added, it was a good thing. This location being close to downtown Hopkins, good transit and possibly the LRT, made it very appropriate for some type of multi-family affordable housing.

Wagner said everyone would like R1 housing or a park on the site but for him that would be a massive underutilization of the property. There weren’t locations in the city that have characteristics of this property, being near transit. The city was falling behind on its affordable housing targets and affordable housing was appropriate for this site.

Schneider noted there was a comment that the property should be used for Home Within Reach homes. He was part of the steering group that created that program and serves on its board. While doable, it takes a lot of extra effort and resources. Nothing of any substance can be done quickly. There have been 40-50 homes built through the program in the city, but it has taken 12-15 years to do so. This plan would provide over 50 units immediately. He thought the walkability to transit and tying it in with LRT was critical but the proximity to downtown Hopkins was just as important. He said the concept and scope of the project was very appropriate. It was important to keep in mind the challenging tax credit financing and its connection with the feasibility of the project happening. There was a difficult process the developer has to go through so the profit earned was well deserved. People who thought the number of units could be cut in half didn’t understand the dynamics of affordable housing and how difficult it was, particularly in the tax credit market.

Wiersum thanked Ron Clark and his team for their work. He said he gets offended when people talk about developer greed because everyone wants to get paid. People have a right to make a living. Developers play a valuable role in the community. He noted he was paraphrased but paraphrased badly. He didn’t say compromise was having people get to the middle. What he said was the best compromises occur when nobody was happy. That’s where he saw the challenge with the plan. If somebody wins somebody was going to lose. The developer was saying to get a quality building, 54 units were needed. This would allow for fulltime management. This made sense. He said he was the one that said looking at other developments, none looked smaller than he expected. He was concerned about that for this site. It was a small site. It was ideally located for housing and well located for affordable housing. Getting this right was important because he didn’t want to build the wrong project in the wrong place where people got mad enough that general support for affordable housing diminished. He was hoping for a compromise that would make everybody unhappy and that the end result was a multi-unit building with
significant number affordable units that was scaled appropriately for this site. He thought the concept plan was a little on the high side.

Bergstedt commended everyone who attended the meeting and for people being respectful with those that didn’t share the same point of view. He said he found himself feeling strongly both ways. The city needs affordable housing and this was a fabulous location for affordable housing. The part that makes it difficult was what the neighbors were saying. When he looked at the size of the parcel, the mass of the building and the lack of green space, a lot of things that were done with other developments could not be done here. This would be a huge building on a very small parcel. He thought townhouses would be a nice transition into the single family neighborhood on each side. The problem was to do affordable housing required more mass to make it work economically. If the council decided it wanted less units, he believed the developer would not submit an application. They had put in a lot of effort to try and make the building look smaller.

Acomb said one comment that resonated with her was the need to look for common ground. She supported the importance of using affordability in this location. She also was concerned with the size of the building and the impact on the neighbors. Her desire was to do something that made the building smaller. She preferred a two story building even if this meant it couldn’t be 100 percent affordable units. This might be a compromise that needed to be made even if it meant the development couldn’t be with this developer. She thought that would be unfortunate and didn’t want to see that happen.

Ellingson said most of the other commercial buildings along Shady Oak Road were one story. The townhouses were two stories. To have a three-story building would be out of scale with the other buildings. He said his other concern was there already were traffic issues and access to Shady Oak Road. He didn’t want to create another access issue for those living in the building. The original proposal was a building that was over 300 feet long, equal to a football field. This seemed like a big footprint. He wondered why the roof couldn’t be flat. This would be one way to make it look smaller.

Wagner said this was a classic dilemma for the council. There were neighborhood concerns about size and density. There were council and community goals for affordable housing. There were constraints with the site no matter what went there because of the easement. He was thinking about this site and the Shady Oak LRT station in the context of a 100-year transformation. What is seen today won’t be what will be seen tomorrow. The question for the council was if this building was the start of the
inevitable transition in this corridor. Would the transition start in 2020 when this building might go up or would it start in 2030, or 2040 when the light rail station goes in. Eventually the area would become more dense. He would like to have 54 units on a bigger site but that wasn’t the hand the city was dealt here. He saw the corridor intensifying in use and that it would become more walkable. He said the size of other recent developments do not bother him as much as some of the other council members. He thought the new building on Plymouth Road looks nice and was a great addition to the Ridgedale area. He thought Cherrywood Pointe and Applewood Pointe would be good additions to the city. The city could wait to see if something else gets proposed, but the math probably would not change. He didn’t disagree with anything the neighbors said but in reality, it wasn’t going to become a garden.

Schneider said before Council Member Allendorf left the country, he shared his thoughts about this plan with him. Allendorf was very supportive of affordable housing and felt this was the right site but he felt the building was too big. He would be willing to add additional incentives from the city contribution, whether it be reduced price or a combination of things to allow the number of units to be reduced while still making it feasible to reduce the size. This still would not mean a story could be eliminated from the building but it could be made smaller.

Schneider said he was reluctant for the city to put more money into the project but with the shared pain that was discussed maybe that was something that should be on the table. The city did not want to get so prescriptive that the development just did not work because nobody would benefit from that. The question was trying to find the right balance in getting the building to be as palatable as possible without jeopardizing the feasibility. This was the direction he would give the developer. He suggested fleshing out the design perhaps taking into account Allendorf’s suggestion to see if something more palatable could be considered. He thought there was a solution in that mix. The reason he didn’t think going from a three story to a two story building was feasible was because it would eliminate the underground parking. The challenge was making the three stories compact and designed enough to become more attractive. He thought being more creative with the edges of the building while potentially losing a few units might work. While the neighbors might not like to look at the building it would be an asset to the neighborhood with all the noise, traffic, light and activity on Shady Oak Road. The challenge would be finding the right mix and this would require the developer working with staff, and perhaps an open-minded neighborhood representative who could contribute a perspective that would contribute to the process.
ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AND FOLLOW-UP
GUIDED HIGH-DENSITY with AREA LOW-DENSITY
PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED
Hi Julie, I see Ron Clark continues to try to finesse their way into approval.

Unfortunately I expect the council will approve the concept in regards to size/scope/fit as Ron Clark has played the chess game well.

I want to remind you that Ron Clark (and if approved by the council, then the council too) are blatantly ignoring the overwhelming position of the community. This alone should be grounds enough to deny the project.

If approved, the council will have gone rogue, and operating with total and complete disregard for the constituents of which it represents. and this sort of practice would be considered entirely unacceptable.

Square peg, round hole, its that simple

I think a few of our focuses could be:

   a. Apply to rezone to PUD High Density
      i. This application has been submitted

2. Current Comp Plan guides the property for commercial use.
   a. Apply to Ammend the comp plan.
      i. This application has been submitted.
3. Page 2 of the Project narrative states “represents significant first step in the
redevelopment of the Shady Oak Road corridor between Highway 7 and
Excelsior Boulevard.”
   a. The first significant step was rebuilding the road, which has had ‘mixed’
      results of positive and negative improvements. These details could be
      further defined.
   b. I think our neighborhood as a whole (both Hopkins and Minnetonka)
      doesn’t want to see ‘high impact’ development. As we prefer to keep the
      corridor ‘low impact/low scale’
      1. I know the city of Hopkins plans to keep it ‘low impact,’
         they’re very happy where its at and their Comp Plan actively
         and purposefully guides for this, as they instead guide to
         focus new developments near downtown and the light rail
         station.
   c. The only commercial property within Minnetonka along the corridor is the
      very SW most portion (the Freedom station and Dominos) everything else
      is low density residential.
      i. For these reasons, I don’t see what more
         ‘redevelopment’ they could be referring to…?
         1. Their comp plan clearly does not guide for new
            development, hence the ammendment…
4. They said they “needed” 56 units (from the previous concept) to make it “viable.” Now that its 49 units how can it still be viable?
   a. Perhaps a more modest design? perhaps its all part of their chess game strategy?

   New 2017 Qualifying Incomes: at or below $37,980 (family of 1) at or below $43,440 (family of 2) at or below $48,840 (family of 3) at or below $54,240 (family of 4) at or below $58,620 (family of 5) at or below $62,940 (family of 6) Projected rents — Including utilities: 1 bedroom = $848/month 2 bedroom = $1,017/month 3 bedroom = $1,175/month

5. “These changes have reduced the building height to two stories as viewed from Shady Oak Road from the north, Main Street from the south and from the existing neighbors to the west.”
   a. I don’t understand this, if its 3 stories, its 3 stories. Especially in the face of the Hopkins residence across the street, and the neighborhood to the west.

6. Mandates for publicly funded projects to meet LEED or other certifications for sustainability.
   a. Green materials, Solar/Geothermal, green roof, storm water abatement, green waste management.

7. I’d argue that ‘single band allocation is institutionalized segregation’ and is therefore unconstitutional and un-American.
   a. There should be mandates or incentives for ‘mixed affordability allocations/bands along with market rate’ tenants. I expect this is a more inclusive, integrated and transparent strategy for effective housing development.

8. All of the arguments made for the ‘merit/value’ of its location in the area, all reference resources provided by Hopkins, and no resources provided by Minnetonka. Where’s the burden/commitment from Minnetonka to provide resources/amenities/infrastructure for this development?

9. This only creates 49 units of the 144 units needed in the 51-80% AMI allocation. I’d argue the focus should be where the demand is greatest, in the lower AMI allocations. Why doesn’t this concept include those other allocations?

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https://metrocouncil.org/Housing/Planning/2040-Housing-Policy-Plan.aspx
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<th>(E) At or below 30% of AMI (Region = 49.9%)</th>
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This is much better, and not what the project represents.

Even with the existing supply of affordable housing, more than 282,000 low- and moderate-income households in the region are paying more than 30% of their household income on housing costs, and nearly 144,000 of those are paying more than half their income on housing.

With kind regard.

Andy Braun
From: Julie Wischnack  
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 12:26 PM  
To: 'andy braun'  
Subject: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Development

Thank you for your email Andy. I will share your thoughts with the commissions and council reviewing the proposal over the next few months.

Julie

From: andy braun  
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 4:26 PM  
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>;  
Subject: Re: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Development

Thanks Julie, much appreciated.

The intentions of affordable housing are neutral and non segregative. The disparate impact however of this particular implementation will be negative in that it isolates and then illuminates the tenants socioeconomic status. Ron Clark is literally proposing to segregate a group of people based solely on socioeconomic status. I personally can't support that, and I don't think the council should either. I'm sure everyone is in favor of supporting everyone, especially those in need. But I don't think anybody wants to draw attention to themselves (or others) because they are in need. This is why a development that is entirely comprised of affordable housing is poor execution. Id' argue that it should be a mix of all AMI ranges as well as market rate. This will ensure that its integrated and transparent. Its what fair to the tenants, neighborhood and community as a whole.

I'm hearing comments like "oh yeah, who ever would have thought the city would want to put up Projects" and "of course they put up the Projects right on top of Hopkins" and "those poor people are going to stick out like a sore thumb, good thing they're on the very outskirts of Minnetonka, and not on the Wayzata side." implying it fits better on the Hopkins side. I HATE hearing this rhetoric, its a terrible thing to have to face. But unfortunately I don't know if I can disagree with them, I mean this is their inner truth...Its not wrong...

I really think an 'integrated model' would alleviate/do away with this rhetoric, as opposed to the 'segregated' model presented by Ron Clark.

I'd also like express that if this was a private sale that I could understand a lesser regard for the input/virtue/position of the community, however because this is city owned property, that there should be especially careful attention payed to the input/virtue/position of the community. We know you guys and Ron Clark are hearing us and we appreciate that, but we're seeing only small incremental down-scaling of the
project. And we get that the city wants to make its money back, and that Ron Clark is a business. But there's just still too much of a disconnect between the proposal and community. There's simply not enough common ground nor enough of a compromise.

I mean, it's our land, why can't we do what we want with it?

I'd say let's split the difference. Two stories, bottom is light commercial, top is residential. We split the costs of the development right down the middle, the cities share is to be paid back interest free. Includes a modest public pavilion.

thanks for your attention.

Andy Braun

August 1, 2017

From: andy braun
Sent: Tuesday, August 01, 2017 3:48 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Re: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Development

Hi Julie, If we're being forced to move ahead with this concept, I think need to pay Ron Clark for their design, and put it out to bid. We need to see multiple bids especially since the property, improvements and development subsidy is heavily supported by public tax dollars. Special consideration and favor should go towards minority owned and non-profit developers.

thanks.

Andy Braun

On Tuesday, August 1, 2017, 4:00:02 PM CDT, Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com> wrote:

I will share your thoughts with the city council.

Julie

From: andy braun
Sent: Tuesday, August 01, 2017 4:13 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Re: RE: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Development

That's great and much appreciated.
Did you ever hear why Ron Clark is not designing/promoting it as a mix of Market Rate nor above 60 AMI? Is the design or amenities simply not appropriate/up to par for market rate or above 60 AMI tenants?

Do you, the council and the developer agree that a mix of Market Rate and all AMI ranges would promote transparent integration, as opposed apparent segregation? Shouldn't we all be promoting this especially because of the public subsidy?

thanks again.

Andy Braun

August 2, 2017

From: Elizabeth A
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2017 9:45 AM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>; Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Alisha Gray <agray@eminnetonka.com>; Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: traffic safety issue on bradford

Good Morning,

I hate to be having to complain to you guys-I know you're working hard to meet all kinds of demands and I'm sure it can be really hard. Ahead of these continued meetings with Ron Clark (which your residents overwhelmingly are against progressing with and hiring them), we still haven't seen any solutions to the traffic issue.

Getting out on to Shady Oak Road from Bradford (or Excelsior from the other exit) is dangerous. It forces our neighborhood to be extremely aggressive when trying to get out of the neighborhood. The street was not designed well enough to add 50 apartments to with out exacerbating an already frustratingly dangerous driving situation.

So that's our everyday. What about emergencies? How are they supposed to be able to get in and out when you and Ron Clark have double or tripled the traffic?

Exiting/entering on to Excelsior is even worse. It's down right terrifying when there's ice on the road.

I am really tired of going to these meetings, we don't want high density and we don't want 3 levels. I will keep calling in, emailing in and showing up to represent mine and my neighbor's concerns as long as I own my home.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Miller
As an aside, how is it fair to give most of the other high density residential sites in Minnetonka acres and acres of swamp and open land surrounding them but when building 'affordable/low housing' (whatever the kids call it these days) you literally build it on an acre with no buffer for the private residences surrounding it and no buffer to the busy street and the next city?

August 3, 2017

From: andy braun
Sent: Thursday, August 03, 2017 5:04 PM
To: Brian Kirk <bkirk@eminnetonka.com>; John Powers <jpowers@eminnetonka.com>; Deborah Calvert <dcalvert@eminnetonka.com>; David Knight <dknight@eminnetonka.com>; Sean O’Connell <soconnell@eminnetonka.com>; Rebecca Schack <rschack@eminnetonka.com>; Joshua Sewall <jsewall@eminnetonka.com>; Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment - RC Application.

Hi Brian, it was nice speaking with you last night at the open house.

I'm curious if anyone has assembled a pros/cons, cost/benefit, benefits/detriments analysis that we can use to more tangibly weigh the value of this application.

If not, I have, please see below. Id encourage you to refine and/or elaborate as you see fit.

Benefits/Detriments.

City:

Benefit:
1) Gets to fulfil 49 units of the 144 units needed in the 51-80% AMI category as defined by the Met Council
2) Slight uptick in tax revenue.
3) Gets out of landlord business.
4) Cleans up brownfield contamination.
5) Gets to recoup a 750k of its 900k investment from purchase of the land.
6) Majority of amenities are provided by city of Hopkins, alleviating Minnetonka’s responsibility for providing these amenities.
7) Keep the affordable housing tenants on the very outmost edge of the city’s border, and away from the core of Minnetonka’s more affluent neighborhoods.

Detriment:
1) Promotes amending the Comp Plan and Zoning regulations.
2) Promotes the needs of developer over the affordable tenants, local community and neighborhood.
3) Promotes segregation and isolation.
4) Promotes housing development in favor of, and while simultaneously driving out small business development.
5) Public tax dollars used to subsidize and pad the profit margins of private developers, in favor of alternatively supporting minority owned or non-profit developers.

6) Does not promote sustainability nor green building practices such as LEED certification, renewable energy, sustainable materials, comprehensive waste management, composting and zero landfill impact programs.

7) Provides only 49 affordable units of the overall 1,064 allocation set by the Met Council.

Developer:

Benefit:
1) Gets to develop ‘shortcut’ housing that does not comply with Minnetonkas common apartment conventions such as ample buffering, green space, road, park and emergency vehicle access.
2) Make their profit, while being unable or unwilling to develop truly affordable housing, relying on the taxpayer to provide a subsidy to make up the difference.
3) Gets to claim and promote their business as providing virtuous, positive, well integrated affordable housing development.
4) Does not have to compensate for the neighborhoods loss of property value.
5) Does not have to compensate for the neighborhoods loss of privacy.
6) Does not have to compensate for the neighborhoods increased road congestion and safety risk.

Detriment:
1) Identified as putting profits before affordability and integration.
2) Identified as not applying Minnetonkas’ common apartment conventions such as ample buffering, green space, road, park and emergency vehicle access.
3) Identified to not support sustainable nor green building practices.
4) Identified as providing false or misleading narratives about each subsequent concept proposals ‘minimal viability’.
5) At significant risk of hindsight concluding the project to be unsuccessful or otherwise missed opportunities to maximize potential.

Affordable Tenants (at 60 AMI or less):

Benefit:
1) Gain access to housing.

Detriment:
1) Provides only 49 units of the 1,064 allocation set by the Met Council
2) Minimal amenities, not consistent with what a market rate type design practices nor Minnetonkas’ common convention.
3) Systemic segregation and isolation based on socioeconomic status.
4) Knowing that their housing is causing a negative impact, and is unaccepted by the neighborhood and local community.
5) Pedestrians forced into immediate proximity to high traffic and unsafe areas.

Neighborhood and local community

Benefit:
1) Potential local economic uptick.

Detriment:
1) Invasive, aggressive, imposing presence that does not fit with the neighborhood.
2) High density not appropriate for the neighborhood.
3) Undermines the overall well-being of the neighborhood.
4) Loss in property value in the surrounding neighborhood.
5) Infringement on privacy, security and increased vulnerability.
6) Does not comply with the comp plan defined by Minnetonka nor Hopkins for this section of Shady Oak Road.
7) Does not comply with zoning regulations.
8) Promotes increased development of the corridor which it was not designed to accommodate, is not appropriate for nor welcomed into the neighborhood.
9) Promotes segregation and isolation based on socioeconomic status.
10) Does not support sustainable nor green building practices.
11) Promotes limited access to outdoor spaces and amenities.
12) Promotes unsafe outdoor environments, roadways and common spaces.
13) Promotes using roads designed for low traffic residential neighborhoods to be used for high density housing.
14) Promotes the disregard for community engagement and interest
15) Puts the need of the developer and city before the needs of the neighborhood and affordable tenants.
16) Does not promote local business development especially minority owned and non-profit.

Thanks.

Andy Braun

August 10, 2017

From: Elizabeth A
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2017 4:38 PM
To: Terry Schneider <tschneider@eminnetonka.com>; Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>; Brad Wiersum <bwiersum@eminnetonka.com>; Tony Wagner <twagner@eminnetonka.com>; Patty Acomb <pacomb@eminnetonka.com>; Dick Allendorf <dallendorf@eminnetonka.com>; Tim Bergstedt <tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com>; Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Fwd: Shady Oak Road Redevelopment Project Update

City Council Members,
The high density apartment building is too close to the busy road and too close to residents' back yards. Other high density in Minnetonka is surrounded by nice city owned land that is the way all apartments should be built here. Please remember that your constituents have been asking that we be heard all along and the fact is this is still a high density, multi-story. Ron Clark is not the builder we want. Ron Clark said they couldn't make it any smaller and then they did 3 times. Tell them to go back to the drawing board please because this 1 acre lot cannot reasonably support that many more humans. Thank you for hearing us, your neighbors as we weigh in to find a future that is fair.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Miller

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**August 13, 2017**

From: Elizabeth A  
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 2:42 PM  
To: Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>; Patty Acomb <pacomb@eminnetonka.com>; Terry Schneider <tschneider@eminnetonka.com>; Tony Wagner <twagner@eminnetonka.com>; Dick Allendorf <dallendorf@eminnetonka.com>; Brad Wiersum <bwiersum@eminnetonka.com>; Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>; Tim Bergstedt <tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com>  
Subject: Quick reminder -  

All,
Ahead of the meeting tonight, I wanted to engage you on the fact that your constituents are still strongly opposed to using our city's money and resources for the project proposed by Ron Clark on the stance that it will not serve to build community, there are significant safety hazards in regard to traffic, there is not enough buffers for a high density building on this site, 4312 Shady Oak.

No one from our community has budged, we do not want high density, multi-story to be installed with our own city funds. We do not like that Ron Clark lied or was deceiving when they told us multiple renditions ago that they couldn't make it any smaller, contradicting themselves months or weeks later with a scaled back image. We do not want our tax payer dollars going towards this company and believe that the city should have been looking for alternatives long ago.

To further the argument that this project is out of touch with the neighborhood, it thoroughly disagrees with Hopkins' plans for this corridor (between 7 and Excelsior).

This building should look toward the future and unfortunately, it is emblematic of the criticism that surrounds the city of Minnetonka in regards to the poor job we have done to take care of affordable housing needs. This is not a good place for affordable housing- the bus service is not great or good (much unlike all of the buildings going up near Ridgedale), access to jobs and recreation are limited, and there is scientific evidence that being that close to a busy road will eventually cause the inhabitants lung and throat damage.

Thank you so much for hearing your constituents and neighbors alike- we want to be heard and we want to work together to come up with solutions to the various problems surrounding this very important location, and the very important issue of affordable housing.

Regards,
Elizabeth Miller

From: Jeri Massengill
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 3:56 PM
To: Alisha Gray <agray@eminnetonka.com>; Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>; Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Terry Schneider <tschneider@eminnetonka.com>; Dick Allendorf <dallendorf@eminnetonka.com>; Tony Wagner <twagner@eminnetonka.com>; Brad Wiersum <bwiersum@eminnetonka.com>; Patty Acomb <pacomb@eminnetonka.com>; Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>; Tim Bergstedt <tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Shady Oak Road and Oak Drive Lane

Hello City Council and Staff - I wanted to pass this along as a visual example of my concerns about the safety of Shady Oak Road where it intersects with Oak Drive Lane. I'm very thankful it was not a child that got hit this time.
Photo taken Friday Aug 11. Photographer (my neighbor) said it looked like someone got hit trying to cross Shady Oak from Oak Drive Lane, and it wasn't during rush hour.

As you know, Oak Drive Lane is proposed as the only access to Ron Clark's proposed multi-family apartment building at this intersection. This proposed apartment is within just a few feet of a busy road where people routinely speed 10 to 20 miles over the 30 mph limit. Adding a nearly 50 unit apt building at this location, that can only be accessed via my residential street, will only increase the risks of accidents in this area and has the potential to substantially increase traffic past my house when people cut through the neighbor to avoid backups on Shady Oak Road. And since the proposed building is within just a few feet of the road, vehicle emissions will enter open apartment windows and the air intake units potentially causing health impacts to the residents.

I encourage all of you to consider a more suitable location for families within our beautiful city. This location offers no park or other safe open space for the children to run around and play. The tot lot will be of interest to only the youngest kids. I know we can do better and I respectfully ask you consider a more appropriate use for this parcel. Light commercial, low density residential (set-back from the road) or green space with access directly from Shady Oak Road are all better uses for this challenging parcel.

Best Regards,
Jeri Massengill
4272 Oak Drive Lane, Minnetona

August 15, 2017
On Tuesday, August 15, 2017, 9:03:39 AM CDT, andy braun < > wrote:

Hi Bob, it was a pleasure speaking with you last night after the council meeting. As you know, there is nobody in our neighborhood whom is particularly in favor of this development, in fact most if not all are in strong opposition. We believe that a development such as this deserves be something that we can all be happy to support and welcome with open arms. Instead it is something that we are all having to 'settle' for, and that nobody is actually happy with nor excited about.

We are doing an injustice to ourselves, our community and the eligible tenants, and are operating in stark contrast to the City's own Mission and Goals by promoting this development.

I'm curious if anyone on the Development Board, Staff, or Council has assembled a pros/cons, cost/benefit, benefits/detriments analysis that we can use to more tangibly weigh the value of this application.

If not, I have, please see below. I'd encourage you to refine and/or elaborate as you see fit.

As you'll see, it does not add up to a win.

From: andy braun
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 4:58 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Re: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment

Hi Julie, I'd like to know if you, staff, council or commission can please help us out with a very basic and on going concern we have.

I'm curious why this particular property is getting so much attention in the first place? What's the compelling reason to put so much focus on this property in particular?

I see the city of Minnetonka owns a lot of undeveloped land, much of which is located adjacent to the Village Centers as defined in the EXISTING comp plan.

Wouldn't one of those other parcels provide a fix for most if not all of the issues we're having at the 4312 location?

1) Immediate access to public transit
2) Increased buffering which is consistent with the other high density developments in Minnetonka
3) Not relying entirely on low density residential roads for access, including emergency vehicles.
4) Increased access to amenities, especially those supported by Minnetonka.
5) Not require a change to the Comp Plan and Zoning
6) Allow for a higher quantity of units.
7) Little to no negative impact and resistance on the local neighborhood.
8) Not be in stark contrast to the city of Hopkins comp plan and zoning.

Couldn't one of these other properties just as easily be sold for development? and that money be used to recoup the cost of the 4312 property, its clean up and preparation for its next phase of usage? Thus allowing us to turn the property into much needed green space or other uses?

Ultimately we're still waiting on the explanation about how the 4312 proposal MAKES SENSE or is a WIN. So far we have heard no explanation. We're doing everything we can to try to coax that out of you/staff/board/council....but still its yet to be provided.

Please help us out on understanding this, we feel we deserve at least to understand how its being justified.

Thanks and with kind regard.

Andy Braun

August 16, 2017

From: Julie Wischnack
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 9:57 AM
To: 'andy braun'
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Alisha Gray <agray@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment

Thank you for your email. There is a staff report being generated for next week’s planning commission meeting. Some of the questions below will be addressed by that report. If they are not addressed, or you don’t agree with the report findings, the public hearing portion of the meeting is specifically for that purpose: discussion and different points of view.

As far as selling other properties, that is a council decision and direction is necessary to move that way.

Julie

From: andy braun
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 11:43 AM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Alisha Gray <agray@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Re: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment
Hi Julie, I see in the Project Narrative that the project will be financed through the "Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) 9% tax credit program"
I'm looking to educate myself on the terms of that program.
Can you please point me to the specific documentation that you/RC are using as reference material? I'm finding a lot of different information online, and want to make sure I'm reviewing the same documents you are.

I've attached the 2019 Housing Tax Credit Self-Scoring Worksheet (for the 9% Housing Tax Credits as described in the project narrative), and the State of Minnesota Housing Tax Credit 2017 Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP), and the Housing Tax Credit Program Compliance Manual

Are these the correct documents?


Thanks,
Andy Braun

From: Alisha Gray
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 2:20 PM
To: andy braun; Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: RE: RE: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment

Andy-

If you have specific questions related to the tax credit program and where to find the application and reference materials contact MHFA at 651-296-9832.

There is a general landing page for available funding located at:

Best,

Alisha Gray | Economic Development and Housing Manager | City of Minnetonka |
14600 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN  55345 | p. 952.939.8285 | f. 952.939.8244| agray@eminnetonka.com

From: andy braun
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Alisha Gray <agray@eminnetonka.com>; Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Elizabeth A. < >
Subject: Re: RE: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment
Thanks Alisha, my question though I think is better suited for you guys, because its really focused on the unique attributes of this specific application.

that is, which form are you and RC using to Score, Qualify and Ensure compliance? Are they the ones I had previously attached?

Are there any forms I’ve missed specific to the 9% Housing tax credit as indicated in the Project Narrative?

For example, the information you pointed me to describing the 9% credit (See attached MHFA_1041358.pdf, from the link below) describes the program as "Low-Income Housing Tax Credit" and I understood that this term is quite distinct and different from "affordable housing." maybe I'm mixing my terms, but this is an example of why I think its important we're all using the same documents and terms, and why I'm asking for clarification and guidance.

Is this still a section 42 based proposal?

thanks.
Andy Braun

From: Alisha Gray
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 3:04 PM
To: andy braun
Cc: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>; Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: RE: RE: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment

Andy-

The developer applies for the tax credits through MHFA, not the city. Yes, this is considered a Section 42 project. An overview of LIHTC program is located on the website that I linked to in the previous email. All the scoring criteria and priorities are listed in the HTC’s Qualified Action Plan (QAP).

Again, all the tax credit information and forms are on the MHFA website: http://www.mnhousing.gov/wcs/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1358905254471&pagename=External%2FPage%2FEXTStandardLayout

Best,

Alisha Gray | Economic Development and Housing Manager | City of Minnetonka | 14600 Minnetonka Blvd. Minnetonka, MN 55345 | p. 952.939.8285 | f. 952.939.8244 | agray@eminnetonka.com

From: Julie Wischnack
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 3:24 PM
To: 'andy braun'
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Alisha Gray <agray@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: RE: RE: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment

You have the proper link in your email.

Julie

From: andy braun
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 3:25 PM
To: Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Spot Zoning - Ordinance

Hi Bob, Can you please help in understanding a few things?

We're really concerned about "Spot Zoning" that would be occurring if the Council approves the rezoning being applied for by Ron Clark with the 4312 Shady Oak Road, 49 unit, section 42 subsidized apartment development.

Is there an existing ordinance that prevents/protects against "Spot Zoning"? I have not found one.
If not, could you please introduce one ASAP?

I've spoken with Corrine Heine, a staff lawyer there, and she wasn't able to provide any insight into this matter as her role is support staff and council, and not the public :( please let me know.

thanks.

Andy Braun

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August 17, 2017

From: Becky Aspelund
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 8:58 AM
To: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Shady Oak redevelopment

Hi, Rebecca Aspelund here: 4237 Oak Drive Lane, Minnetonka Does anyone recognize the impact of heavy machinery, construction trucks, workers and all that goes with this apartment complex being built in our neighborhood on our small residential road. For what a year or more ? Can you imagine the traffic and congestion this will cause on our only access to go north on Shady Oak! What a nightmare trying to leave our homes with all those large trucks turning in and out on our little street.
Please reconsider this proposal, all it offers Us is a really long Nightmare!

Sent from my iPad

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From: Mark Bauer
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 10:38 AM
To: Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>; Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: 4312 Shady Oak Road

Hello my name is Mark Bauer and I live at 4266 Oak Drive Lane.

I am opposed to the Ron Clark development plan at 4312 Shady Oak Road for reasons stated below. I have spoken with many people in the surrounding area and the feeling is pretty consistent..

Traffic, height, high-density, noise/privacy, safety, quality of life, Minnetonka values, traffic residential road use, outside light rail radius, not in Mtka where may need more housing., Hopkins services & schools.

Please develop it..... BUT Not in this fashion
Mr. Ellingson,
This is in your ward (1) take a look around and see if you truly feel that a project of this nature belongs at this location.

Just want to be "on record"

Thank you,

Mark Bauer

From: Kathy Dols
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 11:42 PM
To: Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>; Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Shady Oak Road Redevelopment, 4312 Shady Oak Rd.

(I would have added this to my last email, but I did not hear back from my phone request to the Hopkins school district.)

Some of those in favor of this proposed development feel this area needs many additional affordable housing apartments. I feel this is not the case. There is research showing several affordable housing locations within close proximity to this site. Once again, the proposed building is too large/has too many apartments. Other areas of Minnetonka are severely lacking affordable housing in comparison to this area. As a guideline, we can use the number of students enrolled in the Free and Reduced Price Lunch program. My phone research to the school districts showed the Minnetonka school district has about 5.5% of the students enrolled and the Wayzata school district has approximately 12% of the students enrolled. In lieu of being able to talk to someone from the Hopkins school district, I looked up the program statistics at the Minnesota Department of Education which showed 40% plus of the students in the Hopkins school district were enrolled in the program. My conclusion from this is that Minnetonka doesn't need to locate all their affordable housing on the Hopkins border, which already has housing options, but rather needs to offer more of the affordable housing in the other school districts to better balance the housing throughout our City. I think, too, that some of the proponents of this affordable housing development were quite excited at the possibility of moving to Minnetonka and most probably thought that translated to the Minnetonka school district, not the Hopkins school district.

Kathy Dols
4228 Oak Drive Lane

From: andy braun
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 12:11 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment
Julie, as this will be our last opportunity to provide feedback and guidance on this proposal I’d like to request documentation on the correspondence between Hopkins and Minnetonka regarding the coordination of comp plans, zoning and any other type of planning for this section of the Shady oak corridor between Hwy 7 and Excelsior Blvd. If you review the two cities' comp plan, you will see active and purposeful “maintaining of the downscaled, low level, low density, low impact development, and maintaining in its current state into the future”

I'd like to request an ordinance to prevent/protect against "Spot Zoning"

I'd like to request a 'first right of refusal public option' to 'buy back' this lot at the RC sale price, and put it into a public land trust.

I'd like to request that if approved we receive fair compensation for our losses as previously explained.

I think it's important to understand that this design is NOT consistent with the common convention/common practice design principles found in the rest of Minnetonka high density developments. And we argue that they should. Especially because it's public land and public financing. Why are affordable tenants less deserving of what market rate tenants receive? Especially when we’re paying the developer to bring it up to par? We’re providing them with all the money they need that they still can’t accomplish a meet-comp consistent with common convention? This is either because of deception or incompetence, or some reason not yet explained. Perhaps because the site simply has too many restrictions due to errors in oversite of the ‘pre-development improvement phase’ related to the road construction and storm water easement, which cannot be overcome?

We CAN NOT trust Ron Clark. They have proven to be dishonest and admittedly providing false information regarding the ‘minimal viability’ of each of the previous 2 design iterations. How can we allow them to go back on their word? They specifically told us that iteration 1 it was ‘minimally viable, that they could not reduce the scope in any way, its as small as they can go to be viable’ Then they came back with iteration 2 which was a ‘downscaled version, slightly reconfigured but with the same number of units, and again told us ‘minimally viable, that they could not reduce the scope in any way, its as small as they can go to be viable.’ Then a third time with a completely different look, somewhat augmented configuration and a 10% reduction in the number of units. And again tell us ‘minimally viable, that they could not reduce the scope in any way, its as small as they can go to be viable.’ So which one is it? Not all 3 can be true at the same time. This is either due to deception, incompetence or some other reason yet to be described. I understand the “iteratively sharpening the pencil” approach, especially as a “strategy for acceptance and approval” however they should have told us that to begin with. Coupling “this is just a concept” with “this is minimally viable” does not excuse their lack of accuracy or truthfulness. They promote that they’re a professional developer and we should hold them to a high standard of professional conduct. They are clearly professional scam artists as well, it seems this is their real expertise, because they seem to be doing a fine job of pulling the wool over our eyes.
This proposal clearly falls short on several items that are necessary for adequate design, acceptance and approval.

1) Too big/too invasive/too high density for the neighborhood/scale of the area.

2) No immediate access to public transit

3) Little to no buffering which is inconsistent with common practice of the other high density developments in Minnetonka

4) Relies entirely on low density residential roads for access, including emergency vehicles.

5) Little to no 'Cue' area for access on/off Shady Oak Road.

6) Little to no outdoor space or buffering for children/pedestrians/park access.(Shady oak is already dangerous enough especially for children, and Minnetonka is promoting that parks are provided across shady oak on the Hopkins side, as a positive design attribute)

7) Most/all amenities are provided by Hopkins.

8) Requires an amendment to the Comp Plan and Zoning

9) Does not conform with the ‘Village Centers’ model’

10) Significant negative impact to the local neighborhood which is being disregarded.

11) Stark contrast to the city of Hopkins comp plan and zoning.

12) Drives out local business. Does not promote minority or non profit based developers.

13) Does not promote green building practices.

14) Does adhere to the City’s Mission and Goals.

15) Promotes “spot zoning”

Can anybody argue that we’re so desperate for this particular development that we're willing to make so many sacrifices?! Especially when there are ample alternatives that are more accessible and don't have these inherent/unsolved/unsolvable problems?!

It's important to remind everyone that this is our government, and we expect accurate and thorough representation.
Its also important to understand how this proposal fits with our Mission and Goals.

Mission and Goals

In May 2011, the Minnetonka City Council revised the city’s mission, vision and strategic goals to help guide the city’s future priorities and policies [Is time to revise it again? Because clearly the bar has been set too high and they aren’t being followed]. The mission, vision and strategic goals are listed below.

Mission

Our purpose is to provide the core public services [forcing this development upon our neighborhood is not a core service, clearly overstepping the role of this government] our community residents and businesses [whom are being undermined and neglected] rely upon in their daily lives, while striving to preserve and enhance [Demolish and diminish] the distinctive character [what’s distinctive about a generic building, oh, its how it infringes on the neighborhood and forces unsafe outdoor access to recreation and transportation, yes that is distinctive character] that makes Minnetonka a special place to live. [its special all right, a special kind of neglect for the wellbeing of prospective affordable tenants and the neighborhood]

Vision

Minnetonka will be the community of choice [where’s the choice in this, for anyone? I couldn’t choose to live in this apartment, I don’t qualify. I can’t choose to put it in a more appropriate location, I can’t choose that it gets done to an appropriate scale, I can’t choose that it gets done with green building practices, I can’t choose to have my losses as a tax paying property owner be recouped. The tenants can choose to recreate in a tot lot, parking lot, back ally, small neighborhood street, abandoned gravel lot or push their stroller across a 4 lane county road? And then go where? Can choose to not risk merging onto a busy county road instead to ‘shortcut’ through a low density residential]
Can choose to have their bedroom windows open and let heavy traffic noise and smog comfort their babies to sleep? Can choose to walk out the front door, and fall down the retaining wall onto the sidewalk and into oncoming traffic? Can choose to chase balls and frisbees onto a county road? where people live [only because they have no other option and are forced to the outskirts of town], work [hard to commute without decent access to public transit], play [oh sure little Billy, lets go play catch in the street, or go play in the dumpsters in the back ally] and conduct business [or rather drive business out] in a naturally beautiful environment [which the neighbors have, you can see it, but you can’t have any nearby, the city determined you don’t deserve it.]

Guiding Principles

- We will focus on excellent **customer service** [by whitewashing and neglecting to accurately represent our feedback? By not answering many of my questions? Oh by serving Ron Clark first, as they're a bigger customer than we are?] by striving to do the right thing [Striving sounds like a disclaimer, where’s the commitment and accountability?], at the right time [now is the time to finally getting around to addressing the affordable housing issue, nows the time to neglect the interests of residence and prospective affordable housing tenants], for the right reason [Still waiting to hear what the right reasons for this proposal that aren’t primarily rooted in the interests of the city’s and developers bottom line].

- We will set the standard for **innovative leadership** [Innovative leadership would be steering Ron Clark to build GREEN, actually no, that’s not innovative, that is the state of the art, we’re clearly behind the times. The standard of innovative leadership in this regard is very low, I see no innovation nor leadership] by forging collaborative partnerships [Between the city and Ron Clark, and disregarding the neighborhood], adopting new technologies [The technologies of forcing your will upon the people through coercion?] and promoting effective service delivery [Services such as those provided primarily by Hopkins? Oh, services like fire, ambulance and waste management, they don’t even have decent access. Oh, services such as community support and fostering wellbeing? Not in this case]

- We will foster **open and inclusive communication** to encourage community involvement [what good is communication and involvement if our positions and feedback are disregarded, ignored and belittled?], and to maintain the trust and respect of those we serve. [I trust that the cities and developer’s interests are being served before the neighborhood and prospective affordable tenants, but the respect that you have to ‘serve yourself first’ but that is not the role of government]

- We will live our **shared values** [sure we can live our shared values, but what happens when the city and developer put their values before those of their constituents, oh I know, this] of authentic communication [authentic communication is not whitewashing and misrepresenting the feedback of the community], contagious enthusiasm [I see distain and frustration from all parties], shared success [Shared to whom? Certainly not the affordable tenants nor neighborhood], outcome focused teamwork [negative outcomes in this case, teamwork spelled with an “I” not inclusive of your constituents needs], adaptable
learning [learning how to not be accountable to your constituents] and innovation, [innovating ways to use brute force in favor of collaboration and problem solving] and healthy human relationships. [Healthy human relationships do not involve segregation, neglect, lowered standards of living, and infringing on property rights]

Goals

Responsible stewards [responsible to the city’s and Ron Clarks interests before the neighborhoods and prospective affordable tenants]

We will be responsible stewards of the city’s physical assets [By erroneously buying a property, then improving it with roads and storm water easement in a way that completely undermines any reasonable future development. Or by operating the property at near slum lord levels, or by not maximizing on the sites potential?] human capital [By dragging us through this process of hours of meetings, research and feedback which is disregarded, multiple phases of deceptive or incompetent ‘minimal viability’ downscaling] and financial resources by: [using public funds to buy then erroneously improve a property rendering it almost entirely unusable for development?]

• Providing good value for the dollars entrusted to us. [Value which is a benefit only to the developer in this case]
• Managing for the long-term to ensure the city’s ongoing ability to provide quality services at a reasonable price. [Long term of the developers bottom line? Long term of the cities tax base? Services such as emergency vehicles which have the quality of extremely poor access to this property? At a price which we have to ‘lose our hat on’ to resell the property, then pay to pad the pockets of the developer because they can’t or won’t develop a truly affordable building? Are we talking about “long-term” as in the “100 year plan” as cited in previous council meetings? Because based on the precedence set in this process, the city is forcing me to consider no longer paying my taxes due to the lack of representation. What value or purpose is there in government without representation? Oh I know, to promote for-profit interests before its constituents…that is a common trend, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. I guess I should expect no less than the status quo]
• Sustaining core services and continuing infrastructure investments, while living within our means. [Core services which can’t adequately access the property. Core services such as parks and rec, libraries and public transit which these tenants wouldn’t have adequate nor easy access to? Except for the services which are somewhat accessible but are provided by Hopkins.]

Natural environment

We will protect and enhance the unique natural environment of our community by:

• Carefully balancing growth and development with preservation efforts that protect the highly valued water and woodland resources of our community. [By
cramming and filling the entire parcel with high density housing. The closest immediate natural environment is provided by the private residence, not the city, and is only accessible by vision, and not physically. What good is protecting and enhancing a unique natural environment for these prospective affordable tenants if they don’t have adequate or reasonable access?

- Developing and implementing realistic long-term plans to mitigate threats to water quality, urban forests, and the unique natural character of Minnetonka. [long term plans which can be easily changed and undermined via a comp plan and zoning amendment. Maybe ‘realistic’ is a disclaimer that says ‘reality is whatever serves the city and Ron Clark the best today.’ The threat is the precedence that this type of development promotes, there is no mitigation in this case, only brute force of a self-imposed undermining of this goal. Or long term plans such as the “100 year plan” (cited in previous council meetings) well we’re all going to be dealing with millions of climate refugees, disease, water and food shortages, and complete social unrest if we’re not already dead, if we don’t implement significant sustainability practices NOW which this proposal completely neglects. If we’re looking at the “100 year plan” then our focus on this development is completely irrelevant. My proposal for year round-low impact-food production does address the “100 year plan” head on. We’d build one of those deep winter greenhouses on every street corner, back yard, front yard or any possible space if we knew what was good for us, but much like this apartment proposal, blatant oversight and short term thinking is the norm.]

- Taking an active role in promoting energy and water conservation, sustainable operations and infrastructure, recycling and environmental stewardship. [This is hilarious, couldn’t be a more blatant lie. This development is contrary to almost everything here, and certainly contrary to the spirit of this goal]

Public safety

We will maintain quality public safety for our residents and businesses by: [promoting the development of a property with extremely limited accessibility, direct exposure to a busy 4 lane county road, and no immediate access to sufficient outdoor spaces. Is it safe to build using entirely unsustainable practices?]

- Implementing appropriate recommendations in the Public Safety Management and Operations Study to address the evolving police, fire and emergency service needs of our community, including an aging and more diverse population. [Devolving in this case, falls well beneath the bar of common practice standards]
- Providing seamless, coordinated and integrated public safety services through common protocols and shared practices among departments and personnel. [I hope they build a helicopter pad because ambulance won’t be able to access when there are other emergency road vehicles on site]
- Leading collaborative efforts with other agencies to cost-effectively provide quality public safety services, with an emphasis on coordinated technology, equipment and programs. [and a deemphasis on building sites with adequate access. Perhaps you’re banking on drone-ambulances?]
Transportation

We will work to meet the **transportation** needs of our residents and businesses by:

- Providing and preserving a quality local street system, based on a financially sustainable plan for reconstruction and ongoing maintenance.  
- Collaborating with our state, regional and local partners in the timely development of shared highways and streets.  
- Actively participating in regional light rail planning and development to ensure that community needs and interests are served.  
- Pursuing shared sub-regional transit solutions with neighboring communities to improve service within the area.

Community development

We will support well-planned, responsible **community development** by:

- Carefully balancing individual property rights with community-wide interests, while respecting the unique character of Minnetonka’s neighborhoods.  
- Initiating programs and policies that broaden housing choices to both meet the needs of our aging population and attract young residents.  
- Actively promoting the vitality of designated village centers, which integrate uses and connect people to commercial, residential, employment, and public activities.
would the comp plan amendment turn this into a village center? This development does not promote the village center concept, in fact it undermines the intent of a village center. The intent of village centers has merit and value, let's maintain that traction and effort going forward.

- Supporting business retention and expansion and attracting new businesses to help our private sector be economically competitive. This is hilarious. This will drive out existing business, completely block out future business (except maybe home based business), but it does help Ron Clark's business, but does not support minority nor non-profit, nor green business, but that's cool, who cares about them anyway.

Recreation

We will provide excellent recreational amenities by: By landlocking affordable housing complexes from reasonable access?

- Offering a full range of programs for people of all ages and ability levels. But only if they have a car to get there.
- Responsibly maintaining our parks, trails and recreational facilities, while fairly balancing user fees with general community support. Oh that's great, parks that these tenants can't reasonably access unless they have a car. Whos going to feel comfortable pushing a stroller across a 4 lane county road? Or riding their tricycle in a gravel parking lot?
- Renewing, expanding and maintaining a trail system to encourage outdoor recreation, and improve the connectivity and walkability of our community. Where's the walkability to nearby parks? Where's the integration with trail systems?

I look forward to receiving feedback on these and all previously outstanding inquiries.

Thank you, with kind regard.

Andy Braun
4408 Crawford Rd.
Minnetonka MN, 55343

From: andy braun
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 1:02 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Re: 4312 Shady Oak Road - Redevelopment

please take note.
Peter Calthorpe: 7 principles for building better cities
Peter Calthorpe: 7 principles for building better cities
More than half of the world’s population already lives in cities, and another 2.5 billion people are projected t...

Andy Braun

From: Thursday, August 17, 2017 3:21 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Letter to City of Minnetonka with attachements

Julie and Loren, Please make sure this latter and all attachments get into the packet for the Planning Commission Meeting on Aug. 24th.
Thank you, Chris and Ann Aanestad

From: Thursday, August 17, 2017 3:22 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Fwd: [2/3]Attached Image

There should be 17 pages total.
Thanks again, Chris
Chris Aanestad
Commercial Account Manager
New Brighton Ford

From: Thursday, August 17, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>
Cc: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>
Subject: Fwd: [3/3]Attached Image
More attachments.

Chris Aanestad
Commercial Account Manager
New Brighton Ford

Dear City of Minnetonka,

The Ron Clark proposal remains basically the same. It did not address neighborhood concerns regarding traffic, safety, high density, noise, privacy, and height.

When asked if there is any apartment complex of this size that uses a small residential road to access their complex, Loren Gordon, Minnetonka’s city planner, said two examples are The Ridges and The Cliffs of Minnetonka. PLEASE go and look at these apartment complexes. They do not use residential roads to access them and the neighborhood behind these apartments is totally separated with a huge buffer of trees. Traffic from the apartments and from the neighborhood have their own roadways.

It is not acceptable anywhere else in Minnetonka to have a large apartment complex use a small residential road as their only access. It is not acceptable in this area either. Shady Oak Road is a busy road and Oak Drive Lane is a small local residential road not designed for massive traffic. There is a current permanent curb cut on Shady Oak Road that is used by the commercial businesses located on this parcel. It was built for reason—to keep traffic off of Oak Drive Lane. Any development that is built on this parcel needs to use the access from Shady Oak Road and/or gain access from the light at Main Street.

This proposal is unacceptable as the driveway to this project is directly across from the single-family home across the street on Oak Drive Lane and next to other single-family driveways in the neighborhood. It will set a precedent in Minnetonka that will allow large apartment complexes to be built on residential roads in neighborhoods. How would you like the driveway next to yours to be a driveway for 49 families and 100+ cars making multiple trips at all times of the day/night?

Also, any other Ron Clark development uses a major road and is not connected with a neighborhood. Their New Hope project, Compass Pointe, is just one example where access is off of West Broadway. It is NOT connected to the neighborhood.

This proposal is too massive for this area as Shady Oak Road is all low profile buildings. This massive apt. proposal leaves very little green space and residents would have limited access to parks. It is not a safe place for families with children to live, as Shady Oak Road is very busy.

Please vote “NO” to this proposal. Imagine your residential road being used by a massive apartment complex. It is not acceptable anywhere else in the city. Vote NO.

Hundreds of residents are against this proposal. You have received petitions, letters and phone calls regarding this. We want to keep our neighborhoods and community safe. This proposal will have a negative impact on our community.

Attached are many examples that prove that apartment complexes in Minnetonka are not attached to neighborhoods. It is a bad idea to start a precedent of building large apartment buildings in small residential neighborhoods using only residential roads to access them.

Sincerely, Ann and Chris Aanestad
8/16/2017
Traffic Issue for Oak Drive Lane

Traffic will and does backup to north access of Oak Drive Lane forcing residents of new building to cut through. This is NOT acceptable!

[Signature]

Date: 8/17/17
PARCEL ID: 1411722240011
OWNER NAME: Applewood Pointe Co-Op MkR
PARCEL ADDRESS: 12201 Minnetonka Blvd,
Minnetonka MN 55305
PARCEL AREA: 4.08 acres, 177,546 sq ft.
A-T-B: Abstract
SALE PRICE: $1,344,500
SALE DATA: 11/2015
SALE CODE: Vacant Land

ASSESSED 2016, PAYABLE 2017
PROPERTY TYPE: Cooperative Housing
HOMESTEAD: Non-Homestead
MARKET VALUE: $1,689,000
TAX TOTAL: $31,297.98

ASSESSED 2017, PAYABLE 2018
PROPERTY TYPE: Cooperative Housing
HOMESTEAD: Non-Homestead
MARKET VALUE: $1,665,000
TAX TOTAL: $30,457.72

Comments:
- No residential access
- Border by Bike Trail

The data [c] is revised [S] with no representations as to completeness or accuracy. It is furnished with no warranty of any kind, and [c] is responsible for no error or omissions. Hennepin County shall not be liable for any damage, injury or inconvenience from the data.

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**Ron Clark "Village Commons"**

**Property Card**

**Taxpayer Information**
- **Taxpayer Name:** VILLAGE COMMONS LIMITED PART
- **Mailing Address:** 7100 W 76 ST EDINA MN 55439

**Property Address**
- **Address:** 14125 VIRGINIA AVE
- **City:** SAVAGE MN 55378

**Parcel Information**
- **Use:** 112 Apt 4 units
- **Area:** 3.7316
- **Zoning:** VILLAGE COMMONS
- **Lot:** 001
- **Block:** 001

**Building Information**
- **Bedrooms:** 0
- **Bathrooms:** 0.00
- **Garage Lot #:** 10

**Miscellaneous Information**
- **School District:** 710
- **Taxing District Code:** 2107
- **Homesite Status:** N
- **Green Acres:**
- **Agr Preserve:**

**Assessor Information**
- **Estimated Market Value:**
  - **2016 Value:** $1,100,000.00
  - **(Payable 2017):** $1,100,000.00
  - **Land:** $800,000.00
  - **Building:** $300,000.00
  - **Total:** $1,100,000.00

**NO residential access.**

Wednesday, May 24, 2017
Scott County, MN
Property Card

Taxpayer Information

Taxpayer Name
CARVER CROSSING LP

Mailing Address
7500 W 78TH ST
EDINA, MN 55439-2517

Property Address

Address
1593 HARTWELL DR

City
CARVER, MN 55315

Parcel Information

Use
Apt 4+ units

GIS Acres
2.1

Net Acres

Deeded Acres

Plat
CARVER CROSSING

Lot
001

Block
001

Tax Description

Building Information

Building Style

Above Grade

Finished Sq Ft

Bedrooms

Year Built
Garage

Miscellaneous Information

School District
0112

Watershed District
WS.067 CARVER CO WMO

Homestead
N

Green Acres
N

Ag Preserve
N

Accessor Information

Estimated Market Value

2016 Values (Payable 2017)

2017 Values (Payable 2018)

Last Sale

Land
$175,600.00
$175,600.00

Date of Sale
7/9/2015

Sale Value
$750,000.00

Building
$646,700.00
$3,746,700.00

Total
$822,300.00
$3,922,300.00

N.O. Residential Access or in area.
- No residential access.
- Large natural buffer between adjacent neighborhood.
Music Barn Proposal

Location Map

Project: Music Barn Apartments
Applicant: Community Housing Corp of America, Shelter Corp
Address: 5740 & 5750 Shady Oak Rd
(09002.15a)

"Music Barn" No residential in area.
No residential housing in this area.
- No residential access
- Large fence between adjacent neighborhood.

* See attached "Reviews" for Ron Clark - Compass Pointe.

https://www.google.com/maps/place/Compass+Pointe/@45.0654754,-93.3739849,19z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x81eaf5908da1a463:0xf153a3c9f8e0c395!8m2!3d45.0654754!4d-93.3738661

8/14/2017
## Compass Pointe

6113 W Broadway Ave, New Hope, MN 55428

There are no available units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beds</th>
<th>Baths</th>
<th># of Units</th>
<th>Average SF</th>
<th>Availability</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Br</td>
<td>1 Ba</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>774 SF</td>
<td>None of these are available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Br</td>
<td>2 Ba</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>966 SF</td>
<td>None of these are available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Br</td>
<td>3 Ba</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1,378 SF</td>
<td>None of these are available.</td>
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</tbody>
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Below are rent ranges for similar nearby apartments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beds</th>
<th>Average Size</th>
<th>Lowest</th>
<th>Typical</th>
<th>Premium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Br</td>
<td>650-950 sq ft</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Br</td>
<td>1,020 sq ft</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Br</td>
<td>1,532 sq ft</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

844-586-5274 Apartments.com

https://www.apartments.com/compass-pointe-new-hope-mn/9wxhgp4/

5/24/2017
VERIFIED RESIDENT
Resident from 2015 - 2017
Recommended Property
Reviewed 05/18/2016

Reviewed 01/10/2016

Noise: 3
Safety: 5
Grounds: 5
Maintenance: 5
Neighborhood: 5
Office Staff: 5

It is ok. It is some place I can afford, with out being nickle and dime to death, we need more tenants to take better not abuse there rights. Sorry but we do not always have that much to say.

Write a reply...

VERIFIED RESIDENT
Resident from 2015 - 2016
Recommended Property
Reviewed 01/10/2016

Noise: 2
Safety: 3
Grounds: 3
Maintenance: 4
Neighborhood: 3
Office Staff: 4

So far it has been OK there are a few things that happen that staff has no control over its a few community members that don't parent there children. I feel we need Camden in the hall ways the trash room isn't being used properly the children are out of control.

https://www.apartmentratings.com/mn/new-hope/compass-pointe_9199332346275159532/ 5/24/2017
VERIFIED RESIDENT
Resident from 2016
Recommended Property
Reviewed 02/15/2016

3.0
Scale of 5

Noise: 3
Safety: 3
Grounds: 3
Maintenance: 4
Neighborhood: 5
Office Staff: 4

There have been some incidents in the summer. Police had to be called. There are children and of course they will be loud. Some bits much. The custodians could keep it more cleaner. When you put something on the walls and you use those Command strips, you can remove them. The paint will also come off.

Write a reply...

NO COMMENTS

VERIFIED RESIDENT
Resident from 2015 - 2016
Recommended Property
Reviewed 02/11/2016

5.0
Scale of 5

Noise: 5
Safety: 5
Grounds: 5
Maintenance: 5
Neighborhood: 5
Office Staff: 5

https://www.apartmentratings.com/mn/new-hope/compass-pointe_9109332346275159532/ 5/24/2017
VERIFIED RESIDENT:
Resident from 2015 - 2017
Not Recommended
Reviewed 02/09/2017

Noise: 1
Safety: 5
Grounds: 3
Maintenance: 1
Neighborhood: 3
Office Staff: 1

Good at first, then little by little I lost faith in the management. Complaints are not heard, most residents are disrespectful and leave trash and dirt directly after I notice one of the caretakers cleaning. Nothing is done to aid in this and non residents walk in freely by either waiting for the door to open or a resident jamming it open.

Write a reply...
Some of the residents that live there are not clean; there are unsupervised children that's outside and roaming the hallways. The hallways, and elevator are sometimes filthy, there is trash in the parking lot and playground, and the garage is very dusty, and some residents storage in the in the garage needs to be cleaned and organized. I think it should be some rules enforced to residents about maintaining the building or there will be consequences.

Write a reply...

NO COMMENTS
From: Kathy Dols  
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 4:10 PM  
To: Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>; Bob Ellingson <bellingson@eminnetonka.com>  
Subject: Shady Oak Road Redevelopment, 4312 Shady Oak Rd.

Like the police, aren't your interests to serve and protect the residents if your City? Ask yourself if this is the best and highest purpose for this property. The answer is no.

The density is too much for this tiny lot. The traffic concerns are great. I fear a tragic accident will happen with the addition of so many apartments on the site. Plus the congestion on residential streets Oak Drive Lane, James Road and Fairview Avenue and the added use of county road Shady Oak Road will change our somewhat quiet neighborhood into a traffic nightmare.

For the quality of life and safety of all concerned, I ask for a highly reduced number of homes on the 4312 Shady Oak Road site. As always, if this site must be residential then a low number of townhomes would be my choice.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathy Dols  
Minnetonka

From: Ann Aanestad  
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 6:26 PM  
To: Julie Wischnack <jwischnack@eminnetonka.com>; Loren Gordon <lgordon@eminnetonka.com>  
Subject: Website Info on Minnetonka. Shady Oak Road

Dear City Council and Planning Committee,

The following is from the City of Minnetonka website. We have new neighbors that moved here because of statements like these. The residents in the community purchased their homes with a yard to raise their family in a quiet neighborhood. The Ron Clark Massive apartment proposal on Oak Drive Lane destroys the neighborhood feel and "the characteristics that make Minnetonka truly a special community." This is just not the right place for a huge apartment building. It does not serve the neighborhood, nor is it safe for residents. The traffic to the neighborhoods and to anyone that uses Shady Oak Road will be congested and dangerous.

From the City of Minnetonka website:

Welcome New Residents

- Print
Dear New Resident:
On behalf of the city council, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the city of Minnetonka. The citizens of Minnetonka have a great deal of pride in their city. Minnetonka has a thriving business community, high quality office developments, and beautiful residential areas. There are dozens of ponds and three major creek corridors in the city. In addition, careful planning has allowed the city to maintain a significant amount of open space, park land and wetland areas. These characteristics help make Minnetonka truly a special community.
The community center, a part of the civic center complex on Minnetonka Boulevard and Williston Road, houses an active senior citizens program, as well as a beautiful banquet room and meeting rooms for the public's use. The city has numerous recreation programs and more than 40 public parks available to residents. In addition, there are many opportunities for citizens to participate in community recreational and volunteer activities.
I believe the quality of life in Minnetonka ranks among the highest in the metropolitan area. We are pleased that you have chosen our city as a place to live. If you have any questions or would like more information about Minnetonka, our staff would be pleased to assist you. The city hall phone number is 952.939.8200.
Sincerely,
Terry Schneider
Mayor
Throughout the summer and fall of 2016, the City of Minnetonka asked residents to provide feedback for a community-wide visioning and strategic planning project, Imagine Minnetonka. Residents of all ages were asked to share their response to the question: "How do you want your city to look and feel in the next 20 years?"
Hundreds of ideas were submitted in a variety of ways -- in-person, online and via social media -- before the community engagement period concluded in November 2016. Three strong themes emerged from the feedback that was received:

- **Character**: Participants stressed the importance of maintaining and preserving the features that give Minnetonka its unique character, including wetlands, parks and open spaces.
- **Connection**: Residents expressed an interest in the creation of more trails and sidewalks to safely connect the city, as well as more opportunities to connect with others and build relationships in the community.
- **Citizens**: The city received lots of feedback about the importance of protecting and preserving the outstanding quality of life currently enjoyed in Minnetonka, and the desire to ensure the same quality of life is available for all citizens in the years to come.

If the City of Minnetonka values "character" this proposal does not include access to parks and open spaces. No thought has been given to where children of all ages are going to play. The nearest park is over a mile away.
If the City of Minnetonka values a "safe connection" to the city, then this proposal should be build interior of Minnetonka where children have safer places to play and better opportunities for transportation.

If the City of Minnetonka values "feedback from citizens" and "quality of life" the city council has not listened to its taxpaying citizens in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Sincerely,
Ann Aanestad
If the City of Minnetonka values a "safe connection" to the city, then this proposal should be built interior of Minnetonka where children have safer places to play and better opportunities for transportation.

If the City of Minnetonka values "feedback from citizens" and "quality of life" the city council has not listened to its taxpaying citizens in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Ann Aanestad
SUMMARY OF TOPICS

APPLICATION AND PLAN FEEDBACK 1 Answers · 0 Replies
As a result of community and city feedback, Ron Clark Construction made modifications to the plan and submitted a formal application and final plans to the city on July 24, 2017. Please review the concept and architectural plans and the project narrative (attached above) and provide feedback on the following:

1. Do you feel that the revised building layout and design is the same, better or are you unsure?
2. Are there any design considerations that you feel were not addressed in the revised concept plan?

Melissa Greenwood · Citizen · (Postal Code: unknown) · Aug 11, 2017 6:25 pm
0 Votes

I feel the revised plan is an improvement. I am supportive of the project and hope it is a positive addition to our city which is in need of attractive, affordable housing.