

Comprehensive Plan Issues

Existing Character Area: Established Residential

Description: Typically an older neighborhood having relatively well-maintained housing, possessing a distinct identity through architectural styles, lot and street design, and having higher rates of home-ownership. These areas are typically located closer to the core of the community and may be located next to areas facing intense development pressures.

Development Strategy: Focus should be on reinforcing stability by encouraging more homeownership and maintenance or upgrade of existing properties. Vacant properties offer opportunity for infill development of new, architecturally compatible housing. Strong pedestrian and bicycle connections should be provided to enable residents to walk/bike to work, shopping, or other destinations in the area.

Proposed Character Area: Community Activity Center

Description: A focal point for several neighborhoods that has a concentration of activities such as general retail, service commercial, office professional, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open space uses easily accessible by pedestrians.

Development Strategy: Each Community Activity Center should include a relatively high-density mix of retail, office, services, and employment to serve a regional market area. Residential development should reinforce the town center through locating higher density housing options adjacent to the town center, targeted to a broad range of income levels, including multi-family town homes, apartments and condominiums. Design for each Community Activity Center should be very pedestrian-oriented, with strong, walkable connections between different uses. Road edges should be clearly defined by locating buildings at roadside with parking in the rear. Direct connections to greenspace and trail networks should be provided. The pedestrian-friendly environment should be enhanced by adding sidewalks and other pedestrian-friendly trails/bike routes linked to other neighborhood amenities such as libraries, neighborhood centers, health facilities, parks, and schools.

Goals and Policies:

Objective 3.1.3 – Promote the appropriate use of infill and redevelopment in established residential neighborhoods.

Objective 3.2.3 – Protect well-established neighborhoods from incompatible uses.

GOAL 7: LAND USE – To ensure the community’s anticipated growth occurs in a well-integrated yet organized fashion, which protects our community resources, promotes efficient use of infrastructure and transportation facilities, and supports quality economic development.

POLICY 7.5 – Available land shall be utilized in the most efficient manner while focusing on redevelopment of land where feasible.

Future Development Map Amendment Considerations *(Review Criteria)*

In reviewing and making a decision on a proposed amendment to the Future Development Map of the Comprehensive Plan, the City staff, Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the following standards. The proposed responses to these standards by staff are listed below.

(1) Whether a proposed Future Development Map amendment would result in a Character Area classification that is more consistent with the text and policies of the Comprehensive Plan than the current classification of the property on the Future Development Map.	
Applicant:	[see attached “Exhibit A”]
Staff:	No. The proposed Character Area classification is not consistent with the logical future development pattern of this area.