

Comprehensive Plan Issues

Character Area: Neighborhood Activity Center

Description: A neighborhood focal point with a concentration of activities such as general retail, service commercial, professional office, higher-density housing, and appropriate public and open spaces uses easily accessible by pedestrians and bicycles.

Development Strategy: Each neighborhood center should include a mix of retail, services, and offices to serve neighborhood residents' day-to day needs. Residential development should reinforce the center by locating higher density housing options adjacent to the center, targeted to a broad range of income levels, including multi-family town homes, apartments, and condominiums. Design for each 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:

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 7.4 – Positive impacts on the built and natural environment shall be anticipated through only the highest standard of development throughout all parts of the community.

Standards for the Exercise of Zoning Power (Review Criteria)

In reviewing and making a decision on a rezoning request, the City staff, Planning Commission and City Council shall consider the following standards. The proposed responses to these standards by the applicant and staff are listed below.

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| (1) Whether a proposed rezoning will permit a use that is suitable, in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property. | |
| Applicant: | Yes, the proposed change is suitable and consistent with the surrounding patterns. |
| Staff: | Yes. The proposed zoning change is compatible with the use of the adjacent properties and the land use pattern along this portion of the Bemiss Road corridor. |
| (2) Whether a proposed rezoning will adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby property. | |
| Applicant: | No, the proposed rezoning will not adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby property. |
| Staff: | No adverse impacts. |
| (3) Whether the property to be affected by a proposed rezoning has a reasonable economic use as currently zoned. | |
| Applicant: | Yes, however the proposed change will only slightly broaden the range of allowable uses on this property. |
| Staff: | Yes. The existing R-P zoning has a reasonable economic use. However, the subject property is too small for any form of logical multi-family residential development, and this would have been the only real reason to maintain the existing R-P zoning. |
| (4) Whether the proposed rezoning will result in a use that will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities or schools. | |
| Applicant: | No. The rezone will not cause any burdens for the above concerns. |
| Staff: | No significant impact or change from development that is allowed under the current zoning pattern,. |

Attachment: VA-2022-01 agenda item packet - City Council (3352 : Rezoning VA-2022-01)