

**METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HEARING EXAMINER**

September 10, 2026

Case Number: 2026-CZN-834 / 2026-CPL-834

Property Address: 6509 Dean Road

Location: Washington Township, Council District #3

Petitioner: K and D Epic Holdings, LLC, by David Gilman

Current Zoning: D-S

Request: Rezoning of 1.73 acres from the D-S district to the D-1 district to provide for two detached single-family dwellings.

Approval of a Subdivision Plat to be known as Dean Road Estates, subdividing 1.73 acres into two lots.

Current Land Use: Single-family dwelling (vacant).

Staff Recommendations: Approval of the rezoning and platting requests.

Staff Reviewer: Kathleen Blackham, Senior Planner

PETITION HISTORY

The Hearing Examiner acknowledged the timely automatic continuance filed by a Councilor that continued these petitions from the August 13, 2026 hearing, to the September 10, 2026 hearing.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Hearing Examiner approve and find that the plat, file dated June 5, 2026, complies with the standards of the Subdivision regulations, subject to the following conditions:

1. Subject to the Standards and Specifications of Citizens Energy Group, Sanitation Section.
2. Subject to the Standards and Specifications of the Department of Public Works, Drainage Section.
3. Subject to the Standards and Specifications of the Department of Public Works, Transportation Section.
4. That addresses and street names, as approved by the Department of Metropolitan Development, be affixed to the final plat prior to recording.
5. That the Enforcement Covenant (Section 741-701, of the Consolidated Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) be affixed to the final plat prior to recording.
6. That the Site Distance Covenant (Section 741-702, of the Consolidated Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) be affixed to the final plat prior to recording.
7. That the Sanitary Sewer Covenant (Section 741-704, of the Consolidated Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) be affixed to the final plat prior to recording.

8. That the Storm Drainage Covenant (Section 741-703, of the Consolidated Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance) be affixed to the final plat prior to recording.
9. That the plat restrictions and covenants, done in accordance with the rezoning commitments, be submitted prior to recording the final plat.
10. That all the standards related to secondary plat approval listed in Sections 741-207 and 741-208 of the Consolidated Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance be met prior to recording the final plat.
11. That the plat shall be recorded within two (2) years after the date of conditional approval by the Hearing Examiner.

Staff recommends approval of the rezoning request, subject to the following commitment being reduced to writing on the Commission's Exhibit "B" form at least three days prior to the MDC hearing:

A tree inventory, tree assessment and preservation plan of all existing trees over 2.5 inches in diameter, shall be prepared by a certified arborist and shall be submitted for Administrator Approval prior to preliminary plat approval and / or prior to any site preparation activity or disturbance of the site. This plan shall, at a minimum: a) indicate proposed development; b) delineate the location of the existing trees, c) characterize the size and species of such trees, d) identify all heritage trees, e) indicate the wooded areas to be saved by shading or some other means of indicating tree areas to be preserved and f) identify the method of preservation (e.g. provision of snow fencing or staked straw bales at the individual tree's dripline during construction activity). All trees proposed for removal shall be indicated as such.

PETITION OVERVIEW

This 1.73-acre site, zoned D-S, is developed with a single-family dwelling. It is surrounded by single-family dwellings to the north, south, east and west, across Dean Road, all zoned D-S.

REZONING

The request would rezone the site to the D-1 district to provide for two detached single-family dwellings. "The D-1 district is intended for use in suburban areas. The D-1 district has a typical density of 0.9 units per gross acre which fulfills the lowest density residential classification of the Comprehensive General Land Use Plan. The D-1 District provides for estate-style development characterized by generous front yards for trees and a bucolic atmosphere, appropriately served by gently curving roadways. Under most circumstances, public water and sewer facilities should be present but are not mandatory. Development plans should incorporate and promote environmental and aesthetic considerations, working within the constraints and advantages presented by existing site considerations, including vegetation, topography, drainage and wildlife. Use of the cluster option when subdividing would maximize site advantages."

The Comprehensive Plan recommends suburban neighborhood typology.

Recommended land uses in this typology include detached / attached / multi-family housing; assisted living facilities / nursing homes; group homes; bed and breakfast; small-scale offices, retailing, and personal or professional services; small- and large- scale schools, places of worship, neighborhood

serving institutions / infrastructure, and other places of assembly; small-scale parks; and community farms / gardens.

Tree Preservation / Heritage Tree Conservation

There are significant amounts of natural vegetation and trees located throughout this site. Due to their inherent ecological, aesthetic, and buffering qualities, the maximum number of these existing trees should be preserved on the site.

All development shall be in a manner that causes the least amount of disruption to the trees.

A tree inventory, tree assessment and preservation plan of all existing trees over 2.5 inches in diameter, shall be prepared by a certified arborist and shall be submitted for Administrator Approval prior to preliminary plat approval and / or prior to any site preparation activity or disturbance of the site. This plan shall, at a minimum: a) indicate proposed development, b) delineate the location of the existing trees, c) characterize the size and species of such trees, d) identify all heritage trees, e) indicate the wooded areas to be saved by shading or some other means of indicating tree areas to be preserved and f) identify the method of preservation (e.g. provision of snow fencing or staked straw bales at the individual tree's dripline during construction activity). All trees proposed for removal shall be indicated as such.

If any of the trees are heritage trees that would be impacted, then the Ordinance requires that the Administrator, Urban Forester or Director of Public Works determine whether the tree(s) would be preserved or removed and replaced.

The Ordinance defines "heritage tree" as a tree over 18 inches Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) and one of the Heritage tree species. Heritage tree species include: Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*), Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), Yellowwood (*Cladrastus kentukea*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioica*), Walnut or Butternut (*Juglans*), Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), American Elm (*Ulmus americana*), Red Elm (*Ulmus rubra*) and any oak species (*Quercus*, all spp.)

The Ordinance also provides for replacement of heritage trees if a heritage tree is removed or dies within three years of the Improvement Location Permit (ILP) issuance date. See Exhibit A, Table 744-503-3: Replacement Trees.

Planning Analysis

As proposed, this request would align with the Plan recommendation of suburban neighborhood, with a density of 1.16 units per acre. Development of these sites would result in a minor increase of recommended density of the D-1 district but staff finds this density would not negatively impact the surrounding neighborhood and land uses.

PLAT

This request would provide for approval of a Subdivision Plat, to be known as Dean Road Estates, subdividing 1.73 acres into two lots.

Site Plan

This site is developed with a single-family dwelling that is currently vacant and fronts on Dean Road. Both lots would be approximately 100-wide along the Dean Road frontage and gain access from this street.

Lot 1 would be 36,184 square feet and Lot 2 would be 34,147 square feet.

Streets

No new street is proposed.

Sidewalks

Sidewalks would not be required due to the exemption in Chapter 744.303.B.

Waivers

None requested.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Existing Zoning	D-S	
Existing Land Use	Single-family dwelling	
Comprehensive Plan	Suburban Neighborhood	
Surrounding Context	<u>Zoning</u>	<u>Land Use</u>
North:	D-S	Single-family dwelling
South:	D-S	Single-family dwelling
East:	D-S	Single-family dwelling
West:	D-S	Single-family dwelling
Thoroughfare Plan		
Dean Road	Primary Collector	Existing 60-foot right-of-way and proposed 80-foot right-of-way.
Context Area	Metro	
Floodway / Floodway Fringe	No	
Overlay	No	
Wellfield Protection Area	No	

Site Plan	N/A
Site Plan (Amended)	N/A
Elevations	N/A
Elevations (Amended)	N/A
Landscape Plan	N/A
Findings of Fact	N/A
Findings of Fact (Amended)	N/A
C-S/D-P Statement	N/A

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ANALYSIS

Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan recommends Suburban Neighborhood typology. The Suburban Neighborhood typology is predominantly made up of single-family housing but is interspersed with attached and multifamily housing where appropriate. This typology should be supported by a variety of neighborhood-serving businesses, institutions, and amenities. Natural Corridors and natural features such as stream corridors, wetlands, and woodlands should be treated as focal points or organizing systems for development. Streets should be well-connected, and amenities should be treated as landmarks that enhance navigability of the development. This typology generally has a residential density of 1 to 5 dwelling units per acre, but a higher density is recommended if the development is within a quarter mile of a frequent transit line, greenway, or park.

Pattern Book / Land Use Plan

The Comprehensive Plan consists of two components that include The Marion County Land Use Pattern Book (2019) and the land use map. The Pattern Book provides a land use classification system that guides the orderly development of the county and protects the character of neighborhoods while also being flexible and adaptable to allow neighborhoods to grow and change over time.

The Pattern Book serves as a policy guide as development occurs. Below are the relevant policies related to this request:

Conditions for All Land Use Types –Suburban Neighborhood Typology

- All land use types except small-scale parks and community farms/gardens in this typology must have adequate municipal water and sanitary sewer.
- All development should include sidewalks along the street frontage.
- Hydrological patterns should be preserved wherever possible.
- Curvilinear streets should be used with discretion and should maintain the same general direction.
- In master-planned developments, block lengths of less than 500 feet, or pedestrian cut-throughs for longer blocks, are encouraged.

Conditions for All Housing

- A mix of housing types is encouraged.
- Developments of more than 30 housing units must have access to at least one arterial street of 3 or more continuous travel lanes between the intersections of two intersecting arterial streets.
- Should be within a one-mile distance (using streets, sidewalks, and/or off-street paths) of a school, playground, library, public greenway, or similar publicly accessible recreational or cultural amenity that is available at no cost to the user.
- Should be oriented towards the street with a pedestrian connection from the front door(s) to the sidewalk. Driveways/parking areas do not qualify as a pedestrian connection.
- Developments with densities higher than 5 dwelling units per acre should have design character compatible with adjacent properties. Density intensification should be incremental with higher density housing types located closer to frequent transit lines, greenways or parks.

Detached Housing

- The house should extend beyond the front of the garage.
- Lots should be no more than 1.5 times the size (larger or smaller) of adjacent/surrounding lots, except in cases where lots abut existing residential lots of one acre or more in size. In those cases, lots should be no smaller than 10,000 square feet and no larger than 1.5 times the size of the abutting lot.

Red Line / Blue Line / Purple Line TOD Strategic Plan

Not Applicable to the Site.

Neighborhood / Area Specific Plan

Not Applicable to the Site.

Infill Housing Guidelines

Not Applicable to the Site.

Indy Moves

(Thoroughfare Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, Greenways Master Plan)

The Marion County Thoroughfare Plan (2019) “is a long-range plan that identifies the locations classifications and different infrastructure elements of roadways within a defined area.”

The following listed items describe the purpose, policies and tools:

- Classify roadways based on their location, purpose in the overall network and what land use they serve.
- Provide design guidelines for accommodating all modes (automobile, transit, pedestrians, bicycles) within the roadway.
- Set requirements for preserving the right-of-way (ROW).
- Identify roadways for planned expansions or new terrain roadways.
- Coordinate modal plans into a single linear network through its GIS database.



ZONING HISTORY

None

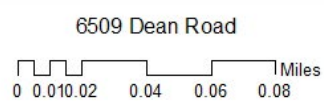


EXHIBIT A

Heritage Tree Conservation

Removal of any Heritage Tree is prohibited unless any of the following determinations are made before removal:

1. The Administrator or the city's Urban Forester determines that the tree is dead, significantly and terminally diseased, a threat to public health or safety, or is of an undesirable or nuisance species.
2. The Director of the Department of Public Works determines that the tree interferes with the provision of public services or is a hazard to traffic.
3. The Administrator determines that the location of the tree is preventing development or redevelopment that cannot be physically designed to protect the tree.
4. The site from which the tree is removed is zoned D-A and the tree is harvested as timber or similar forestry product.

Table 744-503-3: Replacement Trees		
Size of tree removed or dead (inches)	Number of Trees to be planted to replace a Heritage Tree	Number of Trees to be planted to replace an existing tree
Over 36 DBH	15	10
25.5 to 36 DBH	11	8
13 to 25 DBH	8	6
10.5 to 12.5 DBH	6	4
8.5 to 10 DBH	5	4
6.5 to 8	3	2
4 to 6	2	2
2.5 to 3.5	1	1



View looking south along Dean Road



View looking north along Dean Road



View from site looking southeast



View from site looking east



View from site looking northeast



View looking north from site