

**CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
REZONING AND SPECIAL USE REPORT**

CASE NUMBER	RZR2019-00003 & SUP2019-00019
APPLICANT	TPA ACQUISITIONS 1, LLC c/o MAHAFFEY PICKENS TUCKER, LLP
CONTACT	SHANE LANHAM
PHONE NUMBER	770.232.0000
ZONING CHANGE	RM-12 TO RM-8
LOCATION	138 PAPER MILL ROAD
PARCEL ID	R5174 027
ACREAGE	14.48
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	116-UNIT TOWNHOUSE DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW FRONT ENTRY UNITS
DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION	DENIAL

ZONING HISTORY:

The property has been zoned RM-12 (General Residence, 3,600 Square Foot District) since 1970. In 2019, the City of Lawrenceville Zoning Ordinance was amended by deleting Article VII, Section 7.5, RM-12 (General Residence, 3,600 Square Foot District) in its entirety and replacing with Article VII, Section 7.5, RM-12 (General Residence District) and adding section 7.5.01, RM-8 (General Residence, Townhouse District).

PROJECT DATA:

The applicant requests rezoning of a 14.5-acre parcel from RM-12 (General Residence District) to RM-8 (General Residence, Townhouse District) zoning, along with a Special Use Permit to allow front entry units. The subject property is located along the northern right-of-way of Paper Mill Road east of its intersection with East Crogan Street. The property is developed with a single-family dwelling and accessory structures with undisturbed wooded areas in the rear. Access to the development would be via one main entrance on Paper Mill Road.

The applicant proposes to construct a 116-townhouse community with associated amenities, driveways and parking. The development would consist of attached townhomes with a

maximum of eight units in each building. They would provide on-street parking. Rear entry units would have access to the public street via the required alley. The applicant proposes one-car garages, which do not meet the minimum two-car garage requirement. The zoning district requires 22-foot wide units. Per the letter of intent, all units would be 20 feet wide, which does not meet the minimum requirements. Additionally, in lieu of all units having views to community open spaces, the applicant intends to provide a pool and cabana towards the entrance and common areas that may be considered pocket parks throughout the development. The site plan indicates that there would be one stormwater management area on the southeast corner of the property, and a proposed undisturbed common area on the north end of the property. The entrance to the development would have an acceleration lane and deceleration lane that may need additional review by the Engineering Department. Additionally, the side setback shown in the site plan is not consistent with the dimensional requirements in the RM-8 zoning district. The proposed development may require multiple variances if approved as submitted to the Planning and Development Department on August 5, 2019.

The property lies within the Neighborhood Mixed Use Character Area of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Future Development Map. The Character Area encourages the development of single-family attached residential uses that contain higher density types of housing such as townhomes. However, the proposed development does not meet the minimum requirements of the RM-8 zoning district and the overall intent of the zoning district, which is to have buildings oriented towards the street, with limited parking in the front, and to have high architectural standards.

The surrounding area is characterized by single-family and multifamily developments along this segment of Paper Mill Road. Immediately to the north of the subject property is a multifamily development zoned RM-12. Adjacent to the east are the Alexander Mill apartments zoned RM-12. To the south across Paper Mill Road are several properties zoned RM-12 developed with single-family dwellings and a few multifamily developments. Immediately to the west is a property zoned BG (General Business District).

The proposed development does not meet the intent of the Zoning Ordinance and would require multiple variances to allow encroaching into setbacks, smaller units, reduced parking, and reduced vistas. Given the aforementioned factors, the Planning and Development Department recommends **DENIAL** of the requested rezoning and Special Use Permit.

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Schedule a pre-design consultation with the Engineering Department to discuss how the City's Stormwater management requirements can be met.

All Development Regulations must be met.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

The electric utilities internal to the development must be placed underground.

The developer will have to sign an underground service agreement.

The developer will be required to pay the per unit fees for electric service to this development, even if they build all electric units. There will be a \$2,000 per unit fee for electric service.

The developer will be required to pay the lighting costs for this development, \$400 fee per light installation.

GAS DEPARTMENT

There is an existing 4" plastic gas main on the ROW of this property. It has ample capacity to serve the units proposed. The gas main would be installed at no cost and gas services would have to be applied for separately on our website under the "gas tap application". If the required mix of appliances is met with gas, then the tap would also be free. Additional information is available on the gas tap application.

There is also an existing house on the property with gas service. This would need to be requested to kill, if needed.

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department has a 12-inch ductile iron water line located on Paper Mill Road and will provide water service for this development.

Fire hydrants will not be allowed to be installed on a water line less than 8 inches.

Demands imposed by the proposed development may require upsizing or extensions of existing water mains in order to meet Gwinnett County Standards (City requirement) and fire flow demands. Any cost associated with such required improvements will be the responsibility of the development and will not be provided by this department.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

No Comment.

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS**

RZR2019-00003:

Approval as RM-8 (General Residence, Townhouse District) for a townhouse development, subject to the following enumerated conditions:

1. To restrict the use of the property as follows:
 - A. Multifamily attached dwellings.
 - B. The maximum number of units shall be 116.
 - C. The front facades must meet the RM-8 architectural standards set forth in the Zoning Ordinance.
 - D. All dwellings shall have a double-car garage.
2. To satisfy the following site development considerations:
 - A. The development shall abide by all applicable standards of the Development Regulations, unless otherwise specified in these conditions or through approval of a variance administratively or by the Zoning Board of Appeals, as appropriate.
 - B. Natural vegetation shall remain on the property until the issuance of a development permit.
 - C. All grassed areas on dwelling lots shall be sodded.
 - D. Underground utilities shall be provided throughout the development.
 - E. Building lots shall not be located within any required stream buffer or accompanying impervious setback area.
 - F. The electric utilities internal to the development must be placed underground.

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS**

SUP2019-00019:

Approval of Special Use for three front entry units, subject to the following enumerated conditions:

1. To restrict the use of the property as follows:
 - A. Multifamily attached dwellings.
 - B. The maximum number of front entry units shall be 92.
 - C. The front facades must meet the RM-8 architectural standards set forth in the Zoning Ordinance.
 - D. All dwellings shall have a double-car garage.
2. To satisfy the following site development considerations:
 - A. The development shall abide by all applicable standards of the Development Regulations, unless otherwise specified in these conditions or through approval of a variance administratively or by the Zoning Board of Appeals, as appropriate.
 - B. Natural vegetation shall remain on the property until the issuance of a development permit.
 - C. All grassed areas on dwelling lots shall be sodded.
 - D. Underground utilities shall be provided throughout the development.
 - E. Building lots shall not be located within any required stream buffer or accompanying impervious setback area.

STATE CODE 36-67-3 (FMR.) REVIEW STANDARDS:

1. Will the rezoning proposal permit a use that is suitable in view of the use and development of adjacent and nearby property? *Yes.*
2. Will the rezoning proposal adversely affect the existing use or usability of adjacent or nearby property? *No.*
3. Does the property to be affected by the rezoning proposal have a reasonable economic use as currently zoned? *Yes.*
4. Will the rezoning proposal result in a use, which will or could cause an excessive or burdensome use of existing streets, transportation facilities, utilities, or schools? *Yes.*
5. Is the rezoning proposal in conformity with the policy and intent of the City of Lawrenceville comprehensive plan? *Yes.*
6. Are there other existing or changing conditions affecting the use and development of the property, which give supporting grounds for either approval or disapproval of the rezoning proposal? *The proposed development does not meet the minimum standards for the RM-8 zoning district.*

ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION 13.3 REZONING PROCEDURE:

1. What are the existing uses and zoning of nearby property?
SEE PAGE 2.
2. What is the extent to which the property values are diminished by the particular zoning restrictions of the current zoning? *None.*
3. What is the extent to which the destruction of property values of the plaintiffs promotes the health, safety, morals or general welfare of the public? *None.*
4. What is the relative gain to the public, as compared to the hardship imposed upon the individual property owner? *The proposed zoning change is compatible with the recommendations of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Future Development Map but does not meet the Zoning Ordinance requirements.*
5. What is the suitability of the subject property for its current zoning? *It is suitable.*
6. What is the suitability of the subject property for the proposed zoning? *The property is at a location that makes the development viable pending requirements being met.*
7. How long has the property been vacant as zoned considered in the context of land development in the area in the vicinity of the property? *NA*
8. How does the property conform with or diverge from the Land Use Plan or other applicable local, state laws and ordinances? *The property meets the intent of the character area but does not conform with the Zoning Ordinance.*
9. What is the availability of adequate sites for the proposed use in districts that permit such use? *RM-8 is the only district that allows townhomes.*
10. What is the suitability of the site for the proposed use relative to the requirements set forth in the zoning ordinance (such as off-street parking, setbacks, buffer zones and open space)? *Not suitable.*