

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: May 21, 2024
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director
THROUGH: Dr. Crystal Caldera, City Manager
SPONSOR(S): Councilor Will Bradshaw and Councilor Benny Martinez

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action on an Ordinance on a Request to Rezone Approximately 27-Acres of Land From R-1 (Single Family Dwelling) to a Planned Development District (PDD) with R-6 (Garden Home) District Base Zoning, Being Lot 1, Block 1, CB 4430C Good Samaritan Lodge Nursing Home Inc Subdivision, Parcel 1, Abstract 399, CB 4429, and Parcel 11, Abstract 432, CB 4430, Located at 6518 Samaritan Drive, Leon Valley, Texas (1st Read was Held on 03-19-2024; Second Read was Held on 04-02-2024)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to consider approval of a request to rezone an approximately 27-acre tract of land from R-1 Single Family Dwelling District to Planned Development District (PDD) with R-6 Garden Home District base zoning, located at 6518 Samaritan Drive, for a proposed development of 166 single family homes.

This PDD allows for flexible planning to:

1. Comply with the City Council's specific request and preference for a PDD across the Seneca West area properties.
3. Site Planning to allow for realistic future links to the adjacent properties for a potentially optimized Master Site Plan for the Seneca West properties.

History

- 1971 – Area was annexed
- 1984 – Request to rezone existing Good Samaritan Nursing Home property from R-1 to B-2 (Retail) – request denied
- 1985 – Request to rezone 44 ac. from R-1 to R-6 – request denied
- 2007 – Request to rezone 68.569 acres from R-1 to R-7 (Single-Family Medium Density) – request denied
- 2007 – Residents of Seneca West petition to amend City Master Plan to remove recommendation of R-6 to only R-1 – petition approved
- 2010- Request to rezone approximately 65.704 acres from R-1 to R-6 – request denied

- 2011- The City Manager presented a TIF – proposal denied

Variances

The applicant is requesting a lot width of 40' instead of the required 45' width. They will be keeping the 4,500 square feet lot area as required by the Code.

While the lots will have the required percentage of overall landscaping, the applicant intends to initially clear the property by the removal of 367 medium and 725 large trees. No heritage trees are to be removed, as there are none on the land. The applicant would normally be required to pay \$112,000 in fees in lieu of planting the 1,125 required number of trees; however, he is asking the City Council to reduce that amount to \$50,000.

Special Considerations

To meet the ingress/egress distance requirements of the Fire Code, the applicant is requesting the City provide an easement on its property at 6530 Samaritan for emergency access to the site. If the City does not agree to provide this emergency access easement, the developer will be required to fire sprinkle all homes.

The applicant is also requesting that any future deviations to the plan be internally approved by the Planning and Zoning Director for subsequent development applications or amendments, as long as the deviation does not exceed 10% from the current plan. This would allow for minor deviations due to topography, drainage, etc.

Streets/Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA)

The streets are proposed to have a 50' ROW, which meets the current code. The TIA indicates a total of 116 peak hour morning trips and 165 peak hour evening trips. Both Seneca and Grass Hill roads have the capacity for this amount of traffic in the 60' wide right of way portions of those streets.

If the property remained R-1 Single Family Dwelling District, there would potentially be 104 lots. The increase in traffic impact with the additional 62 homes would be an additional 0.5 vehicles per minute on both Seneca and Grass Hill roadways (see TIA on Page 6 of Proposed Project Plan).

The streets that would provide access to and from this proposed subdivision would be Samaritan, Seneca, and Grass Hill. Portions of all three streets need to be reconstructed to current code standards in order to carry the number of vehicles projected. The estimated cost for reconstruction of these streets is \$3,913,400. The applicant's share of the costs for reconstruction are estimated to be \$1,389,482. This cost is separate from the costs incurred by the developer to construct streets within the proposed subdivision. The city would be responsible for the remaining costs for reconstruction of the streets outside of the proposed subdivision.

City Master Plan

The current City Master Plan recommends R-1 Single Family Dwelling zoning for this area. Chapter 15 Zoning, Sec. 15.02.110 - Comprehensive planning activities states:

“The zoning administrator shall assist the planning and zoning commission in the development and implementation of the city's comprehensive master plan. There shall be no amendment made to this article which is not in compliance with the city's long-range comprehensive planning program and the city's master plan.”

However, the Code also states:

“Sec. 15.02.111 - Applicant qualifications

..... The planning and zoning commission or city council may, on its own motion, initiate proceedings to consider a change to the zoning on any property or to the regulations pertaining to property, when it finds that the public interest would be served by consideration of such a request.”

The applicant states:

“Although the current Master Plan calls for a recommended R-1 zoning, the majority of the surrounding zoning is R-6. Our proposed zoning and PDD is in sync with the majority of the surrounding neighborhoods. The proposed PD district fulfills the goals and objectives of the city's long-term vision of:

1. Increasing its citizenship
2. Increasing its tax-base
3. Economic Development Growth
4. Accommodating the design and construction that adapt to Market demand and affordability in this particular area of the City
5. This Development will have a substantial economic impact on the City. The approximate net impact of this proposed development on the City's Property Tax budget is approximately \$325,000 annually.”

FISCAL IMPACT:

The developer has paid all fees associated with the processing of this PDD. The development of a single-family housing subdivision will increase ad valorem and sales taxes in the city.

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended denial of this request.

APPROVED: _____ DISAPPROVED: _____

APPROVED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:

ATTEST:

SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC
City Secretary