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**TO:** Members of the City of Fort Pierce Planning Board

**THROUGH:** Rebecca Grohall, AICP, Planning Director

**FROM:** Vennis Gilmore, Planning Analyst

**RE:** **Application for Conditional Use**  
**McLeod Dwelling Rental**  
**820 Atlantic Avenue**

**DATE:** December 29, 2017

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#### STAFF REPORT

**Owner/Applicant:** Michael McLeod , Cathy Wassylenko  
822 Atlantic Avenue  
Fort Pierce, FL. 34950

**Applicant's Request:** Approval of a Conditional Use to operate a Dwelling Rental, offering lodging for less than six months. The identified minimum rental period is identified as one (1) month.

**Location:** 820 Atlantic Avenue

**Parcel ID:** 2410-706-0020-000-8

**Current Zoning:** Single-Family Moderate Density Zone (R-3)

**Future Land Use:** Low Density Residential (RL)

**Surrounding Zoning:**

North	East	South	West
C-3	R-3	R-3	R-3

**Site Size:** .15 acres

**Utilities:** FPUA

## **Staff Analysis:**

### ***Request***

In accordance with Sections 22-22, and 22-76 of the City Code, the applicant is requesting the review and approval of a Conditional Use to operate a Dwelling Rental at 808 Atlantic Avenue, to offer lodging of less than six (6) months and a minimum of one (1) to guests. The subject property consists of a single-family residence. The single-family structure is a one-story single family home with a finished floor area of 1,149 square feet, containing two (2) bedrooms, one (1) bathroom and traditional support rooms. There is driveway for parking as well as a one (1) car garage in the rear; with access from the alleyway in the rear. There is On-Street Parking as well, along Atlantic Avenue. The neighborhood that the subject property is located in is historic; therefore several homes have no front-yard driveway but instead in the rear yard. The property is located within the Sample Oaks historic district. The property is zoned Single-Family Moderate Density Zone (R-3).

The property is located near the northwest corner of Atlantic Avenue and S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street; south of Orange Avenue. The site is surrounded by single family residences to the south, east and west. Properties to the north of the subject site are commercial. There is a sidewalk along the 50 feet of frontage along Atlantic Avenue frontage of the subject property.

### ***Dwelling Rentals***

Pursuant to City Code Section 22-3. - Definitions—Generally, the rental of any dwelling unit for less than six (6) months, is classified as a “Dwelling rental (dwelling unit)”, and defined as follows: One or more rooms connected together in a building, constituting a separate, independent housekeeping establishment, other than a motel/hotel, for purposes of rental on a daily, weekly, or longer basis, though less than what is otherwise provided for a dwelling, physically separated from any other rooms or dwelling units which may be in the building, and containing sleeping and sanitary facilities and one kitchen.

The State of Florida provides further classification of a dwelling is rented for periods of less than one (1) month, declaring the use a “Vacation rental”, and defined such use as any unit or group of units in a condominium or cooperative or any individually or collectively owned single-family, two-family, three-family, or four-family house or dwelling unit that is also a transient public lodging establishment but that is not a timeshare project, which is rented to guests more than three times in a calendar year for periods of less than 31 days or 1 calendar month, whichever is less, or which is advertised or held out to the public as a place regularly rented to guests.

A dwelling rental, as locally defined, is also a Vacation Rental if the duration of stays are less than one (1) month. The rental of a dwelling for periods at a minimum of one (1) month, but less than six (6) months is a dwelling rental, but not a Vacation Rental.

Table 1, below, presents general characteristics to clarify Dwelling Rentals, and the transitioning threshold for Vacation Rentals.

**Table 1 – Dwelling & Vacation Rental Definitions**

	<b>Dwelling Rental</b>	<b>Vacation Rental</b>
<b><i>Length of Stay</i></b>	Less than 6 months	30 days or less
<b><i>Lodging Type(s)</i></b>	Non-Transient (more than 30 days)	Transient Lodging
<b><i>State License Requirement</i></b>	If rented 30 days or less (Vacation Rental)	Division of Hotels & Restaurants – Vacation Rental License
<b><i>Public lodging establishment (ADA &amp; Misc. Regulations)</i></b>	If rented 30 days or less (Vacation Rental)	Public lodging establishment

***Zoning & Land Use***

The subject site is located within the Single-Family Moderate Density Zone (R-3) district which is designed to provide for areas of single-family dwellings with an average net density in conventional developments of approximately six (6) units per acre or less. Innovative residential developments, however, may have higher densities. Duplexes and certain nonresidential uses are allowed when appropriate conditions and safeguards indicated in this section are fulfilled. This classification can be effectively applied to areas serving as a transition between lower density single-family zones and residential districts with medium or high densities. Public water and sewer service should be available.

The Low Density Residential (RL) designation is intended for parcels that are best suited for lower density residential uses. The predominant development typology will consist of single family detached housing but can also contain duplexes and multifamily residences. Limited commercial uses intended to serve the neighborhood shall be allowed. Compatible public, quasi-public, and special uses including parks, churches, non-profit clubs, schools and daycare facilities shall also be allowed. This land use category ranges in density from 1 to 6.5 dwelling units per acre. This category combines the previously allowed Residential Suburban (RS), Residential Urban (RU) and Low Density Residential (RI) categories.

***Traffic & Parking***

The traffic generation from the proposed use is undetermined based upon numerous variables present, and the absence of complete data by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual. Review of similar uses of this scale, in comparison to impacts of a multifamily housing development, suggest an insignificant effect overall evaluation; however the absence of maximum occupancy, occurrence of short lengths of stay, and frequency of cleaning services are variables that may concentrate trips during seasonal months and weekends, causing elevated traffic impacts during such times.

Pursuant to City Code Section 22-60 (d), b. Motels, hotels and resort hotels shall provide 1.6 spaces for each unit 500 square feet or larger. The subject site features a one (1) car garage, on-street parking and driveway space.

### **Conditional Use**

The purpose of the conditional use process is to allow, when desirable, uses that would not be appropriate generally or without restriction throughout the particular zoning district, but which, if controlled as to number, area, location or relation to the neighborhood, would not adversely affect the public health, safety, comfort, good order, appearance, convenience and the general welfare. The use as presented features commercial aspects that are not generally appropriate for single-family, low-density environments.

The authorization of a Conditional Use to establish a dwelling rental for periods of less than six (6) months, but greater than one (1) month would provide an opportunity for consistency with zoning district and land use designation as the use becomes non-transient, minimizing the commercial nature of the use and potential impacts to the surrounding residential neighborhood. The further limitation of other leading effects of the use may provide greater assimilation of the short-term rental within a single-family district.

### **Technical Review Committee**

All affected departments have reviewed the proposed Conditional Use with regards requirements of the City Code. Findings from the review by corresponding departments and the associated responses by the applicant are provided for viewing by the Planning Board.

### **Staff Recommendation:**

The proposed use presents the provision of limited transient lodging accommodations to the general public, representing a limited commercial use that is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood of this location, and is generally consistent with the City's Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plan with appropriate restriction therefore; Staff recommends the Planning Board forward a recommendation to **approve** the request with the following conditions:

- 1) The maximum occupancy of the home does not exceed four (4) individuals; two individuals per bedroom, ensuring compliance with City Code Section 8.5-43. - Required space in dwelling units, based upon the size of each unit;
- 2) Registration of the property manager accessible at all times, to resolve complaints or violations of City Code;
- 3) Issuance of guide booklets (available from Code Enforcement) for renters regarding local rules and public service resources to minimize conflicts; and
- 4) The applicant files for and obtains St. Lucie County & City of Fort Pierce Business Tax Licenses within thirty (30) days of Conditional Use approval.
- 5) Limit no more than 2 vehicles (1 in the garage, 1 in the driveway or on-street parking).