

5.02: Review Sketch Plan for proposed Plat “Regency Commons” generally located at 14725 Ramsey Boulevard NW (Project No. 16-108); Case of National Self Storage LLC

Presentation

Community Development Director Gladhill presented the staff report stating the purpose of this file is to review the official Sketch Plan prepared by Landform for the purpose of combining three (3) existing lots into two (2) buildable lots at the northeast corner of Ramsey Boulevard and Bunker Lake Boulevard. The three (3) parcels are identified as PID #27-32-25-22-0006, #27-32-25-22-0003, and #27-32-25-22-0002 (together referred to as the "Subject Property"). The Sketch Plan Review process affords the Planning Commission the opportunity to provide early direction on the layout of the proposed plat, before a developer prepares detailed Preliminary Plat plans. A key decision will occur at Preliminary Plat, in which the layout will be approved, subject to approving final construction plans and Final Plat documents. At that time, the City will review items including, but not limited to, Grading and Drainage Plans, Utility Plan, Landscape Plan, and Street Light Plan. Staff requested feedback from the Commission on the Sketch Plan.

Commission Business

Chairperson Levine requested further information on the location of this project.

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the project site with the Commission.

Commissioner VanScoy asked if the cul-de-sac issue had been resolved.

Community Development Director Gladhill reported staff sees a benefit to having a cul-de-sac, however the bank that currently owns the property does not see value in constructing a cul-de-sac. He anticipated some sort of hybrid cul-de-sac would need to be built to access the area. He discussed which plow truck would have to be used to access this area. He explained staff would need additional feedback from the Commission regarding the cul-de-sac.

Commissioner Bauer believed the cul-de-sac benefited the City more than the applicant. The recommended the City be responsible for the construction of the cul-de-sac given the fact the applicant was willing to donate the land.

Karen Albu, 14732 Limonite Street, reported she submitted a two-page letter to staff regarding the Sketch Plan. She hoped that the wildlife would be able to remain moving through this area.

Community Development Director Gladhill reported the next step for this case would be to hold a public hearing in the coming months in order to take comment from residents.

Commissioner Brauer inquired if the City had received a landscaping plan. He recommended conifers be planted on this property to provide additional screening.

Community Development Director Gladhill explained the City would be reviewing a landscaping plan in the next step.

Curtis Foster, 7121 148th Lane NW, asked how property values would be impacted by the proposed project.

Community Development Director Gladhill explained staff does not have any empirical evidence that the project would negatively affect property values. He believed there was enough separation that this would not be a concern. He explained City staff could speak with the Council anecdotally regarding the adjacent property values.

Commissioner Brauer stated he wouldn't mind living next to the proposed facility given the fact there would be little noise or traffic and there would be a good-sized buffer in place.

Chairperson Levine requested comment from the applicant.

Reid Schulz, Landform Professional Services, introduced himself to the Planning Commission. He discussed the success of Troy Halverson and National Self Storage. He thanked staff for their assistance with the Sketch Plan. He explained this plan was not requesting a variance within the buffer yard. He reported he was willing to work with the neighbors and would not be contributing to any of the drainage concerns. He described how a hammerhead turnaround was used and questioned the benefit of the hybrid cul-de-sac that was being proposed by the City. He explained he was more than happy to dedicate land to the City for a cul-de-sac but stated he would be seeking a reduction in the park dedication fees if this were to proceed. It was his recommendation that the cul-de-sac not be required.

Commissioner Bauer asked if the two large garage doors would accommodate semi-trucks.

Mr. Schulz indicated the two larger doors would allow for climate controlled access into the facility for patrons visiting the site during the winter months. He described how access would be controlled by the gates and noted now outdoor storage would be allowed.

Commissioner VanScoy questioned how the pond would be accessed.

Mr. Schulz described how maintenance vehicles would access the pond through the stub street.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated in the past there was openness for the applicant to dedicate property to the City. He explained he would be interested in holding further conversations with the applicant regarding the cul-de-sac. He understood the cul-de-sac would be awkward in shape, but the City saw value in completing this project. He recommended staff speak with the applicant and bring forward a recommendation to the Commission at a future meeting. He suggested the Public Works Superintendent attend the next meeting to review the cul-de-sac concerns in further detail with the Commission.

Commissioner Surma questioned how high the proposed building would be.

Mr. Schulz reported the building would be under 35 feet in height.

Commissioner Surma asked if the City had notified adjacent property owners to make them aware of the proposal.

Community Development Director Gladhill explained the City had notified property owners within 700 feet of the subject property.

Commissioner Surma looked forward to hearing from the Public Works Director but stated he did not oppose to leaving the roadway as is.

Commissioner Nosan questioned how many entrances to the site would have.

Mr. Schulz explained the property would have a full access of off Ramsey Boulevard and a right in right out off of Bunker Lake Boulevard.

Motion by Commissioner Bauer, seconded by Commissioner VanScoy, to approve the Sketch Plan and direct the Applicant to proceed to preparing a Preliminary Plat, with the considerations listed in this staff report and those raised by the Planning Commission, contingent upon review by City staff.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Bauer, VanScoy, Anderson, Brauer, Nosan, and Surma. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

5.03: Review Sketch Plan for Three (3) Lot Subdivisions at 7131 166th Avenue NW (Project No. 16-32); Case of CTW Group Inc.

Presentation

Community Development Director Gladhill presented the staff report stating the purpose of this file is to review the official Sketch Plan prepared by Advance Surveying & Engineering, Co. for the purpose of creating three (3) new lots at 7131 166th Avenue NW (the "Subject Property"). The Sketch Plan Review process affords the Planning Commission the opportunity to provide early direction on the layout of the proposed plat, before a developer prepares detailed Preliminary Plat plans. A key decision will occur at Preliminary Plat, in which the layout will be approved, subject to approving final construction plans and Final Plat documents. At that time, the City will review items including, but not limited to, Grading and Drainage Plans, Utility Plan, Landscape Plan, and Street Light Plan. Staff requested feedback from the Commission on the Sketch Plan.

Commission Business

Commissioner Bauer asked how much of a concern the rear yard of Lot 1 would be.